

Actor **Miguel Acevedo** is a well-known face to community theater fans throughout Westchester County. In recent years, Miguel has had leading roles with the Clocktower Players, Harrison Players, Yorktown Productions, Armonk Players, Pleasantville Music Theatre. With Asbury Summer Theatre, he appeared in “West Side Story,” “Can-Can,” “Fiddler on the Roof,” “Our Time,” and performed and choreographed an additional four shows with AST including “Chess” and “She Loves Me.”

Mauro Contrastano is an accomplished musical theater actor and director, having performed in twenty-four productions and directing four musical revues for Asbury Summer Theatre from 1987 until 2007. Mauro has performed in productions with the St. Joseph's Players in Bronxville, Town Hall Community Theatre in Eastchester, Four Star Players in Yonkers, New Rochelle Community Theatre, and has performed and directed for Actors Conservatory Theatre in Yonkers. Mauro is currently the director of theater programming at the Pelham Manor Club, where he has directed and performed in a number of shows, including his most recent original show, “Plastically Challenged.”

Originally from Nashville, Tennessee, **Laura Leopard's** credits include *An Ideal Husband* at The Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey, *Quartett* at Brooklyn Academy of Music, *Amadeus* at the Barter Theatre in Virginia, and Claire in *Proof* at Mill Mountain Theatre in Virginia. She is also a founding member of Gotham Radio Theatre, which performs classics from theatre, literature and the silver screen with actors and sound artists performing live in vintage radio style. For the past several years, Gotham Radio Theatre has had a residency at the Lincoln Center Library for the Performing Arts.

Julia Breanetta Simpson, New Rochelle, vocalist / actress has appeared around the country at regional, dinner and stock theatres in such productions as *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Dreamgirls*, *For Colored Girls*, *One Mo' Time*, *Tintypes*, and *When the Nightingale Sings*. She has also appeared in off-Broadway theatres and other venues in New York including New World Stages, the Triad, and the Metropolitan Room. Ms. Simpson performs throughout the Tri-State area in her one-woman shows "Harlem On My Mind," "How Sweet the Sound," "Julia and the Duke," and her new show, "Classy and Sassy: A Cabaret Tribute to Lena Horne." Julia Simpson is the founder and CEO of Breanetta Productions, whose mission is to honor and celebrate contributions made

to society and world culture by African Americans through performances that inspire, educate and entertain.

Mary Thombs, music director, has served as Minister of Music for Asbury United Methodist Church in Tuckahoe since 2006, where she directs both the adult and children's choirs, plays the organ, and appears regularly as a soprano and violin soloist. She has been a member of the violin and voice faculties of the Riverarts Music Program in Hastings-on-Hudson since 1996 and served as head of the voice faculty at The Dwight Conservatory in NYC from 2005-2020; Mary has also served on the faculties of the Elisabeth Morrow School and the JCC Thurnauer School of Music.

Jonathan Riss of Yonkers, organist, is the music director at Irvington (NY) Presbyterian Church, Director of Choirs at Hastings High School and Farragut Middle School, as well as Music Supervisor for the Cultural Arts Playhouse in Plainview, NY. He is the 2013 recipient of the American Guild of Organists Choir Master Prize, and has toured the United States and Europe as guest accompanist for numerous international choral festivals. Mr. Riss holds degrees in Choral Conducting and Music Education from Temple University and Ithaca College, and earned the prestigious distinction of Fellow of the American Guild of Organists in 2016.

The Westchester Children's Chorus provides a community-based opportunity for students to further develop their vocal skills, musicianship and artistry through a shared engagement in singing. A diverse community of children comprise four auditioned ensembles spanning 1st - 12th grade. The commitment to artistry and performance by the staff of WCC creates a collaborative space with hands-on musical learning experiences, while bringing cultural events to the residents of Westchester and its surrounding areas. Cantus is an ensemble of 18 girls, grades 3 – 5, and is conducted by Erica Zimmerman.