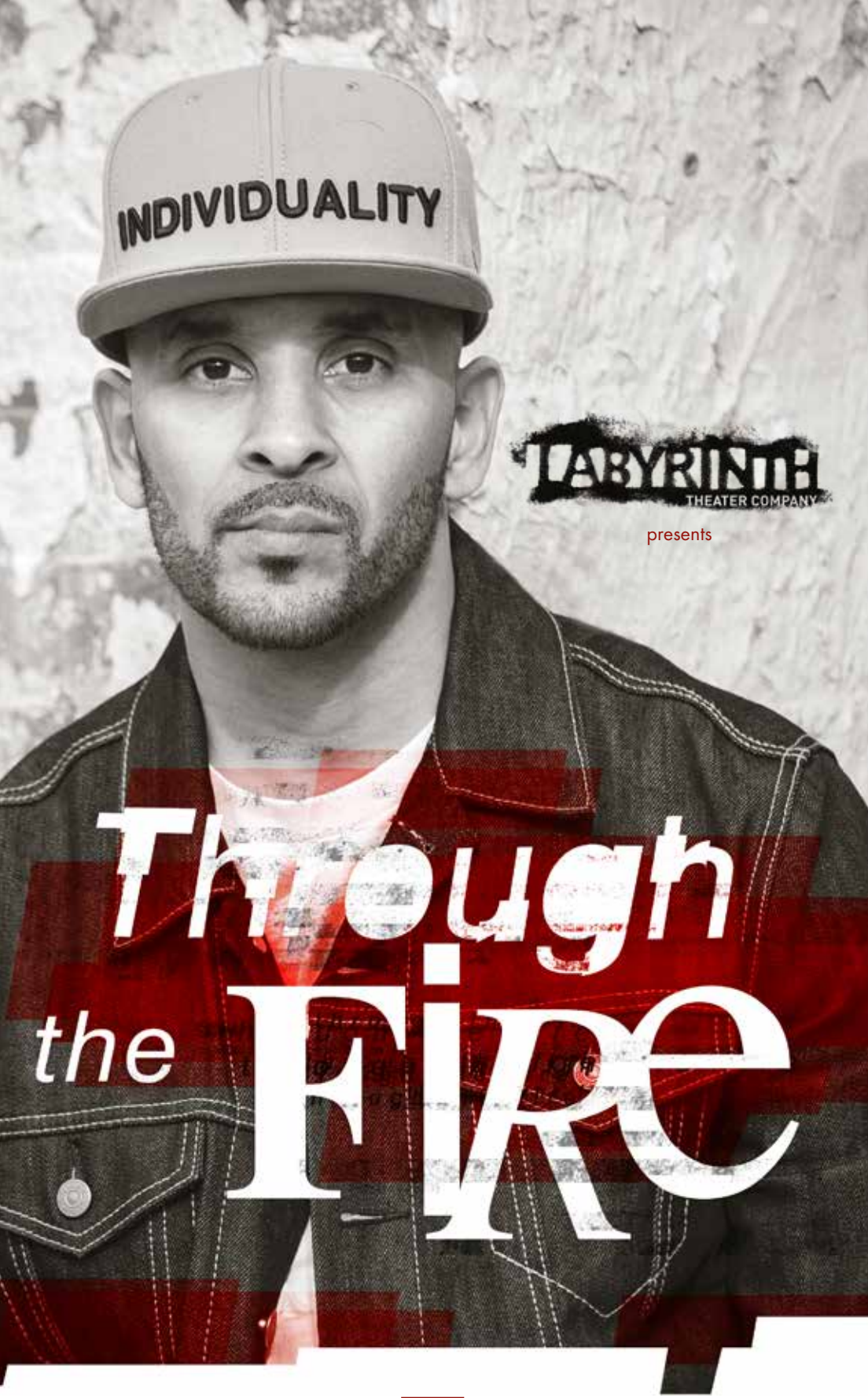



LABYRINTH
THEATER COMPANY

presents

# Through the Fire

59
59

THEATER B

JANUARY 25 – FEBRUARY 5

LABYRINTH THEATER COMPANY

presents

# Through the Fire

Written and performed by

**VICTOR ALMANZAR***

Directed by

**ELIZABETH CANAVAN**

Developed by VICTOR ALMANZAR and ELIZABETH CANAVAN

Original lyrics by VICTOR ALMANZAR

Original music by VICTOR ALMANZAR, SURYA BOTOFASINA and DORON LEV

## Cast

VICTOR ALMANZAR*

Keyboard Player ..... SURYA BOTOFASINA

Drummer ..... DORON LEV

## Creative Team

Playwright ..... VICTOR ALMANZAR

Director ..... ELIZABETH CANAVAN

Musical Director ..... DORON LEV

Projection Designer ..... IZMIR ICKBAL †

Costume Design ..... ALEXIS FORTE

Lighting Design ..... KIA ROGERS

Sound Design ..... TWI McCALLUM †

Production Stage Manager ..... CHRISTINE LEMME *

Assistant Stage Manager ..... REBECCA C. MONROE *

Live Sound Engineer ..... MIA WAGGONER

Producers ..... MOLLY COLLIER, KELLEY RAE O'DONNELL & SHAWN ALFRED RANDALL

## Production Team

Artistic Director ..... AARON ROMAN WEINER

Interim General Manager ..... ANDREW FRANK

Production Manager ..... ADRIAN WATTENMAKER

Covid Officer ..... KATIE FORREST

Photographer ..... MONIQUE CARBONI

**Run time: 1 hour, 30 minutes**

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION

* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Mangers in the United States.

† Member of United Scenic Artists. Designers in LORT Theaters are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

## VICTOR ALMANZAR

*Playwright/Actor*




Theater: Oswaldo in ***Between Riverside and Crazy***. Joey Fresco in ***Halfway Bitches Go Straight to Heaven***. Oscar in ***Grand Concourse***. Luis in ***Man in the Ring***. Herbert in ***Medea***. Some of his TV and Film: *11:55, Homeland, Power, Empire, Blue Bloods, Chicago PD, High Maintenance*. Before turning his attention to acting, Victor was a United States Marine. He was nominated for a Lucille Lortel Award and for an IRNE Award. Victor received his MFA from The Actors Studio Drama School and is now a proud lifetime member of the Actors Studio and LAByrinth Theater Company.

## ELIZABETH CANAVAN

*Director*

She has originated many roles in Stephen Adly Guirgis's plays including ***Halfway Bitches Go Straight to Heaven*** and ***Between Riverside and Crazy*** (Pulitzer Prize), and appeared in Dominique Morisseau's ***Pipeline***, among others. Film: *1 Mile to You*, *Wild and Precious*. Liz wrote the short films *Father's Day* (Tribeca Film Festival), *Sleeping with Sharks* and plays ***Wherever You Go, I Go*** and ***Ladies in Waiting***. She is the recipient of the Dramatists Guild Foundation's 2021 Madge Evans and Sidney Kingsley Award for excellence in the theater chosen by the winning playwright Stephen Adly Guirgis along with Liza Colón-Zayas and Elizabeth Rodriguez.

## SURYA BOTOFASINA

*Keyboard Player*

Southern California native son. Based in New York for over the last decade. Surya Botofasina believes in OneLove thru music and all of its mediums. He is the musician, who is your favorite musician's comrade. He is an actor who has appeared on the critically acclaimed HBO shows *Boardwalk Empire* and *Vinyl*. Raised by the example of Alice Coltrane–with influences ranging from Sanskrit chanting, spiritual avant-garde, to classic hip-hop–Botofasina considers all music a blessing to be passed on to the next generations. He will release his debut album on Spiritmuse Records in late Spring 2022.

## DORON LEV

*Drummer*

Doron Lev is a drummer/percussionist, vocalist, Illustrator, and arts educator. He has recorded and performed with many artists such as Hip Hop legends Newcleus, Ski Beats, Beledo, Eyal Amir, Evil Giraffes on Mars, Esko Boogie, as well as his original releases. Doron has been a cast member of ***Break The Funk Spectacular!!***, ***The Radio City Spring Spectacular***, & serves as MD for ***Invincible*** & Rennie Harris ***Funkedified***. As an arts educator he teaches percussive arts in NYC & is on the teaching staff of University of West London, Zurich campus.

@Tanzwerk

## ALEXIS FORTE

*Costume Designer*

Theatre Design: ***Halfway Bitches go Straight to Heaven***, Atlantic Theatre Company; ***Our Lady of 121st Street***, Signature Theatre; ***Luna Gale***, Cleveland PlayHouse; ***Between Riverside and Crazy***, Atlantic Theatre Company and Second Stage, being transferred to Broadway in the fall of 2022. Film Design: *Resurrection* (premiering at Sundance 2022), *Something's Wrong With Rose* (Paramount+). Associate Design: *The Whale* (A24), *The Sky is Everywhere* (A24). Assistant Costume Design: *Ghostbusters Afterlife (Sony), The Glorias (Amazon), Little Women (Sony), Bad Times at the El Royal (20th Century Fox), The Front Runner (Sony), Mother! (Paramount)*, amongst others.

## IZMIR ICKBAL

*Projection Designer*

Izmir Ickbal is an international multi-disciplinary designer who has designed for numerous theaters and productions including the Classical Theatre of Harlem, Company One Theater Boston, The Tank, Yale Opera, BRIC House, 59E59 Theaters, NYTW Next Door, Dixon Place, National Black Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, Theater For A New Audience and Elm Shakespeare Company. Others include Auditorio de Tenerife (Spain), International Festival of Arts and The Esplanade Theatres, Singapore. Recently nominated for Best Scenic Design at the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards and the Elliot Norton Awards in Boston. MFA, Yale School of Drama. Member, USA local 829.
www.izmirickbal.com

## CHRISTINE LEMME

*Production Stage Manager*

Most recently: ***Brecht on Brecht*** (tbtb); LABYRINTH: ***100 Monologues, Sailor Song*** and ***Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner*** (Barn Series); 59E59 Theaters ***pondling*** and ***Manhattan Parisienne***.

## TWI McCALLUM

*Sound Designer*

Selected credits include: Broadway: ***Chicken & Biscuits, Company*** (assistant designer). Off Broadway: ***The Last*** (Atlantic Theater Company), ***Little Girl Blue*** (New World Stages), ***A Commercial Jingle for Regina Comet*** (Daryl Roth Theater). Regional: ***Justice*** (Arizona Theater Company), ***The Sound of Music*** (Dallas Theater Center), ***Stick Fly*** (Rep Theater St. Louis), ***Frankenstein*** (Kansas City Rep), ***Extinction*** (Baltimore Center Stage). Film/TV/Media: *The Girlfriend Experience* (STARZ; apprentice sound editor), *Dr. Death* (NBC; apprentice sound editor). Member United Scenic Artists 829 and Motion Picture Editors Guild 700. Special thanks to Yale School of Drama.

## REBECCA C. MONROE

*Assistant Stage Manager*

Rebecca C. Monroe has done a show before.

## KIA ROGERS

*Lighting Designer (she/her)*

Kia Rogers is a New York City based lighting designer. International credits: Lighting Designer for ***The Baby Monitor***, Rome and Cagliari, Italy 2021, and Belgrade, Serbia, 2019. Associate Lighting Designer for ***Slutforart/98.6*** in Gothenburg, Sweden, 2011. Film: *Georgia & Me, Happy Days,* and *Hot Angry Mom* web series. Awards: Outstanding Lighting Design for ***Real***, 2019. ***Jane The Plain***, 2014 - New York Innovative Theatre Awards, Outstanding Lighting Design for ***Mr. Toole***, 2016 - Midtown International Theatre Festival. Kia is a member of Rising Phoenix Repertory and a Creative Partner with Flux Theatre Ensemble since 2010.

## ADRIAN WATTENMAKER

*Production Manager*

Adrian Wattenmaker is an actor, director, and producer. Theater credits include: Atlantic Theater Company (assistant director, the premiere production of ***Between Riverside and Crazy***), Second Stage, LAByrinth Theater Company, HB Playwrights Foundation, Baltimore's Center Stage, and the Broadway Cast Recording of ***Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812***. He has taught at Brooklyn College, Lafayette College, University of Nevada-Reno, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts, and School of Creative and Performing Arts. Adrian served on the Drama Desk Nominating Committee and is a member of The Actors Studio PDU.

## MIA WAGGONER

*Live Sound Engineer*

A native Chicagoan, Mia has been around music her entire life. She began playing guitar and has a B.S. in audio engineering and sound production after attending Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. Mia has worked live sound at a number of venues and theaters, including the Elbo Room, the Sandlot, The IU auditorium, and the Jacobs Musical Arts Center. After moving to New York she is now a recording, mixing, and live sound engineer at Funkadelic Studios.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Maki Borden, Monique Carboni, Nat Cassidy, Liza Colón-Zayas, Angelina Fiordellisi and the staff of Cherry Lane Theatre, Stephen Adly Guirgis, Ari Issler, The entire LAByrinth Theater Company, Mimi Lam, Brett C. Leonard, Lucille Lortel Foundation, Aaron Louis, Chris McGarry, New York City Children's Theater, Dawn Orlando of Funkadelic Studios, Professional Artists Agency, Lidia Ramirez, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Ivan Romero, Thomas Sherman, Ben Snyder, Jessica Taskowitz, Stephanie Yankwitt, CSA, David Zayas Jr., David Zayas. Victor would like to thank: HIS WIFE Rebekah Almanzar and kids. His parents, brother and sisters. Chris Vine and Helen White from the Creative Arts Team.

FUNKADELIC STUDIOS

LABYRINTH THEATER COMPANY

| | |
|---|---|
| Artistic Director | Aaron Roman Weiner |
| Interim General Manager | Andrew Frank |
| Leadership Committee | Carlo Albán, Victor Almanzar, Liza Colón-Zayas, Melisa McGregor & Kelley Rae O'Donnell |
| Fundraising Counsel | Eagle Valley Strategies, LLC / DJ Brumfield |
| HR/Bookkeeping | Lortel Foundation |
| Board Of Directors | John Ortiz - Chair<br>Liza Colón-Zayas, Susan Kahn, David Román, John Gould Rubin |
| Literary Manager | Florencia Lozano |
| Literary Team | Margaret Ladd, Mel Nieves, Kelley Rae O'Donnell, and Joey Palestina |
| Director of Education | Paula Pizzi |
| Education Team | Maggie Bofill, Monique Carboni, Dave Deblinger, Mel Nieves, and Justin Reinsibler |

## A *Note from* the Artistic Director

Thank you so much for joining us today. At a time when many of us have been experiencing others as threats, I'm grateful that theater remains an ever-potent reminder of what we share. Victor's play reminds us of our bonds while challenging how we perceive those around us. His journey has been remarkable and doesn't fit neatly into any boxes. That is exactly the kind of theater LAByrinth is meant to produce. LAB has 116 members, and Victor Almanzar and Elizabeth Canavan are two of them. They arrived at LAB via very different routes: one began in the Dominican Republic, the other in New Jersey. Liz is one of our longest standing members, and Vic one of our newest. But they are the latest in a long line of LAB members to come together and challenge each other to ask more from their artist selves. It begins with a car ride and a suggestion to put a life down on paper. Soon, an actor/writer is directing an actor/musician's first play. I'm endlessly grateful to be part of this member-driven ensemble that chooses the rewards of risk, and I'm very happy you're along for the ride.

## Mission

LAByrinth Theater Company, founded in 1992 as The Latino Actors Base, was created to deliberately interrupt the racial status quo by giving voice to artists of color and reflecting a world where color is the norm and not the exception. LAByrinth Theater Company is a diverse, impassioned, tightly knit ensemble of multicultural artists that empowers individuals and builds community by creating member driven, incendiary, new works of theater.

## LAByrinth Company Members

Julian Acosta, Carlo Albán, Victor Almanzar, David Anzuelo, David Bar Katz, Stephen Belber, Erick Betancourt, Maggie Bofill, Maggie Burke, Elizabeth Canavan, Bobby Cannavale, Monique Carboni, Mariana Carreño King, Max Casella, Raúl Castillo, Chris Chalk, Andrea Ciannavei, Beth L. Cole, Molly Collier, Peter Collier, Liza Colón-Zayas, Cusi Cram, Jill DeArmon, David Deblinger, John Doman, Maggie Flanigan, Marlene Forte, Marieke Gaboury, Kevin Geer (in memoriam), Bob Glaudini, Lola Glaudini, Charles Goforth, Yetta Gottesman, Craig "muMs" Grant (in memoriam), Stephen Adly Guirgis, Mark Hammer (in memoriam), Andrea Haring, Daniel Harnett, Sarah Nina Hayon, Mariana Hellmund, Stephen Mckinley Henderson, Philip Seymour Hoffman (in memoriam), Scott Hudson, Laura Hughes, Salvatore Inzerillo, Ron Cephas Jones, Russell G. Jones, Lisa Joyce, Greg Keller, Lyle Kessler, Jinn S. Kim, Margaret Ladd, Brett C. Leonard, Angela Lewis, Padraic Lillis, Trevor Long, Florencia Lozano, James Martin SJ, Chris McGarry, Melisa McGregor, Tomoko Miyagi, Jamie Mullins (in memoriam), Paola Lázaro Muñoz, Alfredo Narciso, Mel Nieves, Nyambi Nyambi, Deirdre O'Connell, Kelley Rae O'Donnell, Jason Manuel Olazábal, Wilemina Olivia-Garcia, Cheray N. Oneal, John Ortiz, Ana Ortiz, Joey Palestina, Gina Maria Paoli, Pedro Pascal, Mary Perez, Gary Perez, Manny Perez, Richard Petrocelli, Delilah Picart, Paula Pizzi-Black, Kristina Poe, Neil Tyrone Pritchard, Michael Puzzo, Joe Quintero, Shawn Randall, Lidia Ramirez, Justin Reinsilber, Joselin Reyes-Athanasios, Judy Reyes, Elizabeth Rhodes, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Brian Roff, Al Roffe, Melissa Ross, Yolonda Ross, John Gould Rubin, Daphne Rubin-Vega, Marshall Sharer, Jonathan Marc Sherman, Sarah Sidman, Narelle Sissons, Ben Snyder, Felix Solis, Ernesto Solo, Phyllis Somervile (in memoriam), Zach Spicer, Michael Stuhlbarg, Lucy Thurber, Viviana Valeria, Ed Vassallo (in memoriam), Luna Lauren Velez, Japhy Weideman, Aaron Roman Weiner, Webb Wilcoxen, Sidney Williams, Martha Wollner, Kara Young, David Zayas.

LAByrinth Theater Company is grateful to the following institutions for their generous support:

The Waldman Foundation
The Howard Gilman Foundation, Inc.

Thanks to all of the generous individual donors for their continued support.

NYC Cultural Affairs

LAByrinth's Productions are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Council on the Arts

NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council

## CURATOR'S NOTE

It is an honor to welcome LAByrinth Theater Company with ***Through The Fire***, created and performed by their longtime company member, Victor Almanzar. LAByrinth has been a vital force in the NYC theater ecosystem since its founding in the early '90s and it is exciting to have them landing with us as their new home base. This developmental production is just the beginning of what we anticipate will be a long and fruitful collaboration.



Val Day
Artistic Director
59E59 Theaters

## 59E59 THEATERS STAFF

**ELYSABETH KLEINHANS** President/Founding Artistic Director
**VAL DAY** Artistic Director
**BRIAN BEIRNE** Managing Director
**ELIZA JOHNSON** Finance Associate/Office Manager
**CATE PUGLIA** Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
**MELISSA SHAWCROSS** Technical Director
**ARIEL ESTRADA** Director of Marketing
**CRISTINA GREENFIELD** Marketing Manager
**MELINDA GRABER** Digital Marketing Associate
**BETHANY SHARP** Marketing and Ticketing Coordinator
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**CLAIRE WOJCIECHOWSKI** Press Representative
**BARBARA IAMS KOREIN** Archivist
**ELIZABETH RUELAS** Theater Manager
**COLLEEN MORGEN** House Manager
**CARLOS CONILL** Facilities Manager
**JOHNATHAN PRICE** Facilities Assistant
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**LLOYD MULVEY** Box Office Manager
**CRAIG SCHENKER** Box Office Associate
**ANDREA ARVANIGIAN** Box Office Associate
**JORDAN ELMAN** Box Office Associate
**ANNA BONGARDINO** Usher
**ANNE RUTTER** Usher
**BENJI SILLS** Usher
**CHRISTIAN MIRANDA** Usher
**FLOWER RIOS** Usher
**ISRAEL ORENGO** Usher
**ITAI ADAM VAGNER** Usher
**JOSCA MOORE** Usher
**JOVIAN DIXON** Usher
**LILY WELSH** Usher
**MICIAH WALLACE** Usher
**NATALIE LILAVOIS YUSTY** Usher
**RICHARD RODRIGUEZ** Usher
**TAYLOR BROADARD** Usher
**VICTORIA PARKER** Usher
**JOHN D. IVY** Theater Technician
**KAT KHELLBLAU** Theater Technician
**SAM DAVIS** Theater Technician

## NEXT IN THEATER B — FEBRUARY 9 – MARCH 6




*Directed by*
**MARK JASTER**
*and*
**SABRINA SELMA MANDELL**

*Devised by*
**HAPPENSTANCE THEATER**

**A CHARMINGLY INDULGENT COMEDY OF MANNERS!**

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

59E59 Theaters reside on the traditional homelands of the Lenni-Lenape People on the Lenape Island of Mannahatta. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of the land who were forcefully removed during colonization resulting in erased and excluded peoples and culture. We are grateful for the opportunity to work on the land and honor their elders, past and present alongside future generations for their stewardship and continuing relationship with their territory.

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