

Honolulu Theatre  
**HTY**  
for Youth

Tenney Theatre  
Nov 2024



By Danica Rosengren  
and The HTY Ensemble  
In Collaboration with Capitol Modern



## Aloha!

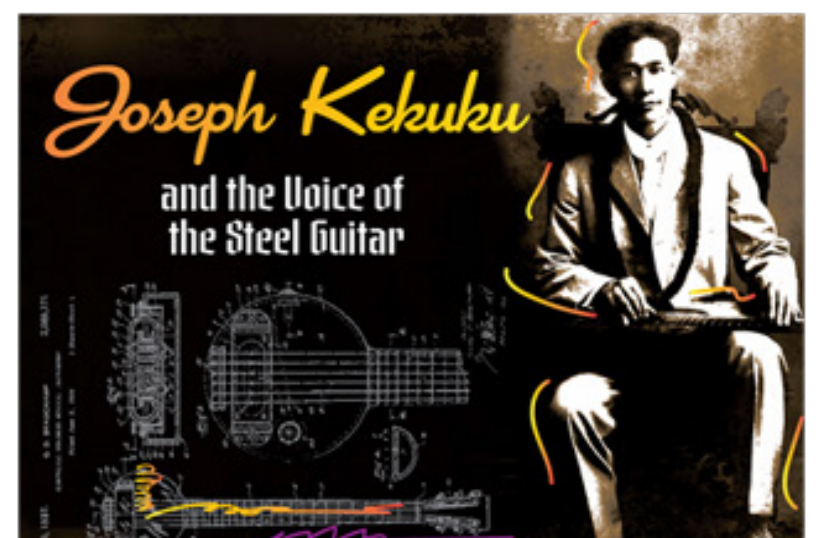
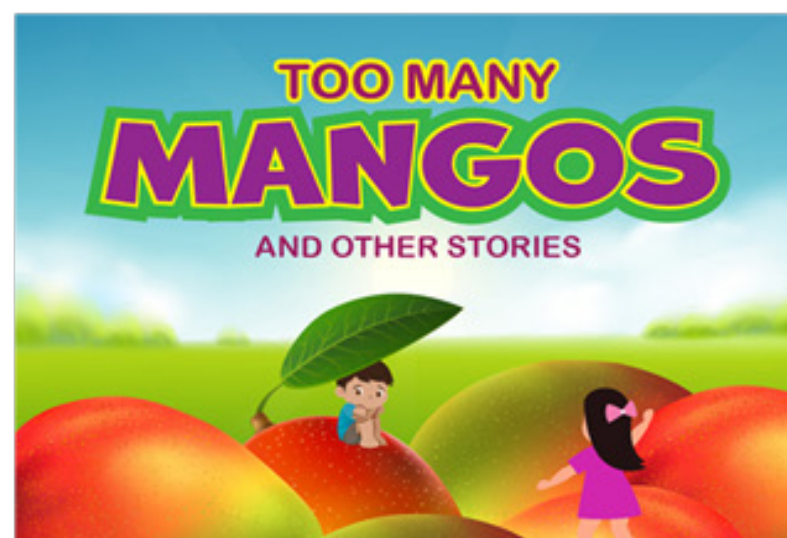
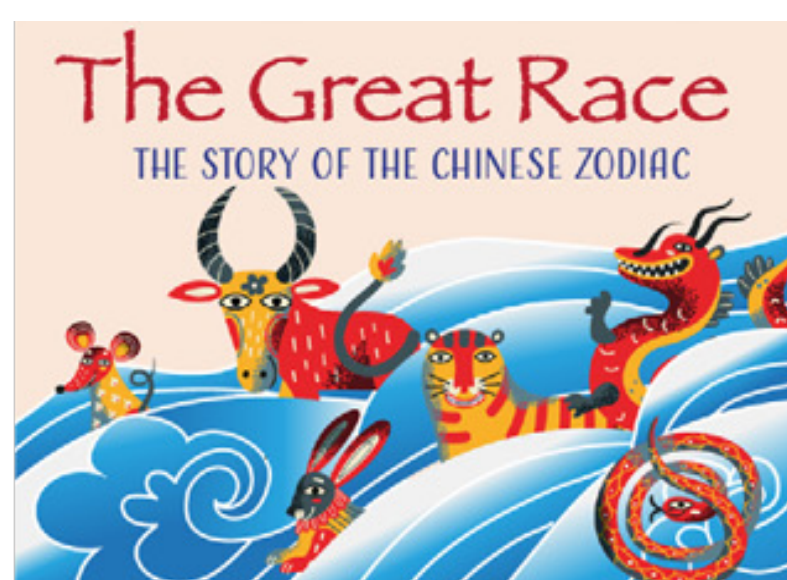
This season we celebrate 70 years of stories, families and fun at Honolulu Theatre for Youth! We are offering 9 original plays made for Hawai'i audiences by our company of professional theatre makers, and we hope this celebration will keep your family laughing and learning together all year long.

Absolutely the best way to enjoy HTY is to become a member! A Family Membership (\$25 per month) includes two adult tickets plus tickets for all the children in your immediate family. For less than a single adult ticket you can bring your entire family to multiple performances and showings all season long.

Our greatest birthday wish is to have you and your loved ones with us this season-- that is the true celebration! Information on membership and tickets at [www.htyweb.org](http://www.htyweb.org)

**Mahalo,**

**Eric Johnson**  
Artistic Director





## Production Credits

### Created by

Danica Rosengren  
and The HTY Ensemble

in collaboration with Capitol Modern: The Hawai'i State Art Museum

### Directed by

Danica Rosengren

### Performed by

Jarren Amian  
Alysia Kepa'a

### Lighting Design by

Chesley Cannon

### Special Thanks

*We would like to gratefully  
acknowledge these partners who  
inspired us and helped us create  
our play.*

Solomon Enos  
Karen Ewald  
Jonathan Johnson  
and

The Department of Land  
and Natural Resources

### Original Music and Sound by

Jarren Amian

### Puppet Design by

Karen Kiefer  
Emily Wright

### Technical Director

Eric West

### Set and Prop Design by

Karen Kiefer

### Stage Manager

Sarah Danvers  
Kalā Muller

### Mahalo to Our Sponsor

Hawai'i State  
Foundation on Culture and  
the Arts

## Notes from Creator/Director, Danica Rosengren

**A**s the granddaughter of a biology teacher, a bird lover, an educator and an artist, I am drawn to telling stories inspired by our natural surroundings. When we first started developing the show, we learned from our friends at the Department of Land and Natural Resources that this year, 2024, was going to be Makahiki Nā Manu Nahele or the Year of the Forest Birds. This discovery made me excited about the possibility of our show being a part of the larger state celebration, and so we jumped right into learning about the forest birds of Hawai'i!

**T**he show actually started out as multi-sensory arts installation and performance at Capitol Modern: The Hawai'i State Art Museum. The art installation invited any museum-goer to enter into a Hawai'i forest from January to May of 2024. In addition, the space also housed immersive performances for neurodivergent young people. The museum performances were created with the HTY Ensemble and invited audience members to both explore the space and interact with puppets and props. Since May, we have transformed the installation into a fully fledged production.



**Danica (Nikki) Rosengren (Director/Creator)** (she|her) is a theatre artist, director, educator, activist, and arts administrator. She loves creating community-centered interactive theatre experiences for families, and received a Masters of Fine Arts focusing on just that. After receiving her MFA, she was hired as the Arts Education Specialist at the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. On weekends, you will probably find her hiking, surfing, or trying a new craft. You can learn more at [danicarosengren.com](http://danicarosengren.com)

## About the Ensemble



**Alysia-Leila Kepa'a** was born and raised in Nānākuli, O'ahu. She trains at the Hawai'i Conservatory of Performing Arts based at Windward Community College and is currently the Emerging Island Artist of 2024. Alysia is enjoying her second season as part of the HTY Resident Ensemble.



**Jarren Amian** was born and raised in Kalihi where he found his passion for theatre at Farrington H.S. He holds a B.A. in Theatre from UH Manoa and is enjoying his third season as part of HTY's resident ensemble. He has performed for many communities on and off island.



## About the Designers

**Chesley Cannon** (Lighting Design) has an MFA in Scenic Design from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and has studied stop-motion animation in England with the Aardman Academy and puppet construction in the Czech Republic with Puppets in Prague. He has been a resident designer and filmmaker at Honolulu Theatre for Youth since 2012.

**Karen Kiefer** (Set, Puppet, and Prop Design) has been creating HTY shows for many years. Previous collaborations include *Happy Sad Sad Happy*, *The Tiny Tree*, *Blue*, *Shhhh*, *Ouch! Sparkle*, *Happy*, and *Peter Rabbit*. Karen is a prolific artist who works collaboratively and extensively with the performing arts community including both stage and screen. When she's not creating theatre, she is teaching and creating fine art at her Kailua studio, riding horses, or out on the beautiful ocean canoe paddling.

**Iris Kim** (Costume Design) is HTY's resident Costumer. She enjoys combining her early childhood teaching experience and sewing skills to design costumes for HTY. She not only took her two children to plays but also enjoyed going to HTY shows herself as a child!

Iris' work can be seen in productions throughout the local theatre community, most recently in Leeward Community College's production of Lisa Matsumoto's *Once Upon One Time*.

**Emily Wright** (Puppet Design) is an Oahu-born actor and designer. She received her MFA in Acting from the University of Hawai'i and her Bachelor's Degree in Drama and English Literature from the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England. This is Emily's third season in HTY's Resident Ensemble.



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Artistic Associate

**Artistic Team**  
Jarren Amian  
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Sarah Danvers  
Serina Dunham  
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Iris Kim

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