



Rosa Evangelina  
Arredondo



Kimberli Flores



Sarah Nina Hayon



Jaime José Hernández



Rebecca Jimenez



John Leguizamo



Trey Santiago-Hudson



Bradley James Tejeda



Luna Lauren Velez



Juan Francisco Villa

## CAST & CREATIVE HEADSHOTS

## THE PUBLIC THEATER ANNOUNCES COMPLETE CASTING FOR NEW YORK PREMIERE OF *THE OTHER AMERICANS*

By John Leguizamo  
Directed by Ruben Santiago-Hudson  
In Association with Arena Stage

Cast Includes Rosa Evangelina Arredondo, Kimberli Flores, Sarah Nina Hayon, Jaime José Hernández, Rebecca Jimenez, John Leguizamo, Trey Santiago-Hudson, Bradley James Tejeda, Luna Lauren Velez, and Juan Francisco Villa

July 29, 2025 – The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) announced today complete casting for the New York premiere of **THE OTHER AMERICANS**, a gripping new play written by Emmy Award winner **John Leguizamo** and directed by Tony Award winner **Ruben Santiago-Hudson**. Following the play's Fall 2024 world premiere at **Arena Stage** in Washington, D.C., **THE OTHER AMERICANS** begins performances in The Public's Anspacher Theater with a Joseph Papp Free Performance on Thursday, September 11. The production officially opens on Thursday, September 25 and runs through Sunday, October 12.

Emmy Award winner **John Leguizamo** is Nelson Castro, a Colombian-American laundromat owner in Queens grappling with a failing business and buried secrets in his new play **THE OTHER AMERICANS**.

When his son Nick returns from a mental wellness facility after a traumatic incident, Nelson's world unravels. Committed to protecting his family and business, he tackles racial and identity challenges to achieve his dream, proving his success. Nelson must navigate morality's murky waters to salvage his future. Will he emerge victorious, or will his past consume everything he holds dear? Tony Award winner **Ruben Santiago-Hudson** directs this gripping tale of resilience.

"So great to be back at the greatest theater in America, with my new play developed by Oskar Eustis and Mandy Hackett! It's about the American dream when it smacks into the American reality while being Latino," said playwright **John Leguizamo**. "A laundromat mogul in 90s Queens has to confront his past as his son, who struggles with mental health issues, inadvertently undoes his web of lies."

The complete cast of **THE OTHER AMERICANS** includes **Rosa Evangelina Arredondo** (*Norma*), **Kimberli Flores** (*Understudy*), **Sarah Nina Hayon** (*Veronica*), **Jaime José Hernández** (*Understudy*), **Rebecca Jimenez** (*Toni*), **John Leguizamo** (*Nelson*), **Trey Santiago-Hudson** (*Nick*), **Bradley James Tejeda** (*Eddie*), **Luna Lauren Velez** (*Patti*), and **Juan Francisco Villa** (*Understudy*).

"*The Other Americans* is a beautifully written classic American drama. The Castro family are salt-of-the-earth hardworking people who made their way up from nothing and are trying to hold on to their share of the 'American Dream,'" said director **Ruben-Santiago Hudson**. But most importantly it's about family—the good, the bad, and the ugly. It's about the most sensitive and fragile parts of family, but also the most powerful and joyous parts. I cannot wait to share John Leguizamo's extraordinary new play with The Public Theater's wonderfully diverse audience."

**THE OTHER AMERICANS** features scenic design by **Arnulfo Maldonado**, costume design by **Kara Harmon**, lighting design by **Jen Schriever**, sound design by **Justin Ellington**, hair and wig design by **Anika Seitu**, prop management by **Natalie Carney**, fight direction by **Thomas Schall**, choreography by **Lorna Ventura**, and dramaturgy by **Jack Phillips Moore**. **James Latus** will serve as production stage manager and **Ana Muñoz** as stage manager.

**THE OTHER AMERICANS** marks Leguizamo's return to The Public Theater following *Latin History for Morons*, his Tony and Lortel Award-nominated hit solo show that premiered at The Public in 2017, moved to Broadway, and was filmed for Netflix. Leguizamo previously appeared at The Public early in his career, performing in *La Puta Vida Trilogy* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, both in 1987. Santiago-Hudson has worked as an actor, playwright, and director at The Public and Delacorte Theater for more than 30 years. Santiago-Hudson's autobiographical play *Lackawanna Blues*, which he wrote and performed, premiered at The Public, for which he received an Obie Award.

Following a significant revitalization, The Delacorte Theater, home of Free Shakespeare in the Park, reopens in August 2025 with a production of Shakespeare's classic comedy **TWELFTH NIGHT**, also directed by The Public's Associate Artistic Director/Resident Director, Tony Award nominee **Saheem Ali**, and featuring an all-star cast of Public Theater alumni and debuts, including **b, John Ellison Conlee, Khris Davis, Peter Dinklage, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Lupita and Junior Nyong'o, Sandra Oh, Daphne Rubin-Vega, Moses Sumney**, and more. A new Public Works adaptation of **PERICLES**, with music and lyrics by **Troy Anthony** and directed by **Carl Cofield**, will close out the summer at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The Public Works concert experience will feature community members from the five boroughs of New York in the Bard's epic about losing and re-discovering faith.

The Public's 2025-26 Season continues with the Tony Award-nominated writer and director duo **Jordan E. Cooper** and **Stevie Walker-Webb's** return to The Public with **OH HAPPY DAY!**, featuring original music by Grammy Award-winning gospel artist **Donald Lawrence** for this biting new play about confronting the divine. The Public's collaboration with **Ma-Yi Theater Company** continues with the first of two plays in this season's residency, **DID YOU EAT? (밥 먹었니?)**, featuring playwright and performer **Zoë Kim's** autobiographical journey through love's many forms, directed by **Chris Yejin**. **THE SEAT OF OUR PANTS**, Obie Award winner **Ethan Lipton's** irreverently funny musical adaptation of **Thornton Wilder's** Pulitzer Prize-winning play *The Skin of Our Teeth*, makes its world premiere in a production directed by

Tony nominee **Leigh Silverman**. The fall season closes out with **INITIATIVE**, a world premiere play by Emerging Writers Group alumnus **Else Went** and directed by **Emma Rosa Went** following the intertwined lives of seven teens from 2000-2004 in "Coastal Podunk, California."

The Library serves food and drink beginning at 6:00 p.m. and closing at midnight. The Library is closed on Mondays and Sundays. For more information, visit [publictheater.org](http://publictheater.org).

## **BIOS:**

**JOHN LEGUIZAMO** (*Playwright, Nelson*). Award-winning actor, writer, and producer John Leguizamo has established a prolific career that defies categorization and spans film, television, theater, and literature. Leguizamo serves as the host and executive producer of MSNBC's hit travel show "Leguizamo Does America," and stars in the Apple TV+ series "Smoke." He will also appear in the upcoming Christopher Nolan film *The Odyssey*. He garnered a Golden Globe nomination for his performance as a sensitive drag queen in *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar*, and has more than 100 other film credits including *Carlito's Way*, *Moulin Rouge!*, and *Encanto*. Acclaimed for his one man shows such as *Ghetto Klown*, he garnered a Tony Award for his 2022 performance in *Latin History for Morons*. Leguizamo's Broadway debut was his one-man show, *Freak*, for which he received a Tony Award nomination. Leguizamo's play, *Spic-O-Rama*, received an Obie Award and an Outer Critics Award for Best Play of 1993.

**RUBEN SANTIAGO-HUDSON** (*Director*). Directing credits include *Jitney* (Tony, Outer Critics, Drama Desk), *Kunene and the King*, *Skeleton Crew* (Obie, AUDELCO), *Lackawanna Blues* (Drama Desk, Outer Critics, Obie, Helen Hayes), *Othello*, *The Piano Lesson* (Obie, Lucille Lortel, Callaway, AUDELCO), *The Happiest Song Plays Last*, *My Children My Africa*, *The First Breeze of Summer*, *Seven Guitars*, *Your Blues Ain't Sweet Like Mine*, *Two Trains Running*, *Gem of the Ocean*. Acting credits include *Seven Guitars* (Tony Award), *Stick Fly*, *Gem of the Ocean*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *How I Learned What I Learned*, *Lackawanna Blues*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Measure for Measure*, *Henry VIII*, *Ceremonies in Dark Old Men*.

**ROSA EVANGELINA ARREDONDO** (*Norma*) appeared on Broadway in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Off Broadway credits include *I Walked Across the Ocean Floor and Harlem Song*. Film/TV credits include *The Secret Art of Human Flight*, *Pinball*, *Still Alice*, *Baby Girl*, *Feel the Noise*, "So Help Me Todd," "Roswell New Mexico," "Mare of Easttown," "When They See Us," "Quantico," "Ordinary Joe," "The Equalizer," "Blue Bloods," "Blacklist," "The Good Wife," and others. Dedicated to all the immigrants in 'la lucha' for the American Dream.

**KIMBERLI FLORES** she/her (*Understudy*) is a New York-based actor. Theater: *365 Plays/365 Days* (The Public), *Native Gardens* (The Old Globe), *Pulse* (Guthrie Theater). TV: "Daredevil" (Netflix), "The Blacklist" (NBC), "Will Trent" (ABC), "NCIS: New Orleans" (CBS), "Chicago P.D." (NBC), "Blue Bloods" (CBS), "Bull" (CBS). Film: *The Lost Bus* (Apple), *In the Heights* (Warner Bros.), *Shine* (Amazon). Training: MFA Acting, USC; Shakespeare: BADA at Oxford; William Esper Studio.

**SARAH NINA HAYON** (*Veronica*) is a bi-coastal actress and three-time Drama Desk Award nominee, known for her commitment to new works she has originated numerous off-Broadway and regional roles. Theater highlights include *The Other Americans* (Arena Stage), *English* (Berkeley Rep, Mina Morita), *Richard III* (Shakespeare in the Park, Robert O'Hara), *Wintertime* (Berkeley Rep, Les Waters), and *Seascape* (A.C.T., Pam Mackinnon). Film/TV credits include "The Other Two," *Fairyland*, "FBI," "For Life," and "13 Reasons Why." Hayon is a proud graduate of NYU's Tisch, and a longtime member of LAByrnth Theater Company.

**JAIME JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ** he/him (*Understudy*). Public Theater debut. Regional credits include *John Proctor Is the Villain* (The Huntington) and *The Hombres* (Gloucester Stage/Teatro Chelsea). TV credits include "Power Book II: Ghost" (STARZ) and "S.W.A.T." (CBS). Hernández is a founding member of Teatro Chelsea. Repped by Kreativ Media Partners. [jaimejosehernandez.com](http://jaimejosehernandez.com) @jaimejose.hernandez

**REBECCA JIMENEZ** she/her (*Toni*) is an actor and writer from Miami, based in New York City. Off-Broadway: *Comedy of Errors* (The Public Theater's Mobile Unit), *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord* (WP/Second Stage). Regional: *Indian Princesses* (La Jolla Playhouse), *The Other Americans* (Arena Stage). NY: *Superstitions* (New Ohio), *Sketchy Eastern European Show* (The Players Theatre). Film: *The Spanish Lesson*. She has developed work with New York Theatre Workshop, Roundabout, Page73, Playwrights Horizons, Ojai, Playwrights Realm, and others. BFA from SUNY Purchase.

**TREY SANTIAGO-HUDSON** (*Nick*). Public Theater Debut. Other theater credits include *Toros* (Second Stage) and *Awake* (*The Barrow Group*). Santiago-Hudson recurs on the Apple TV+ hit comedy "Shrinking," Other TV credits include: "The Walking Dead," and NBC's "New Amsterdam." Film credits: *You Hurt My Feelings* for A24 and *Vineyards* for Fam4Media. An acting major at Binghamton University, he also studied at Stella Adler and Oregon Shakespeare.

**BRADLEY JAMES TEJEDA** he/him (*Eddie*) is a native Tejano from San Antonio, Texas. Education: B.A., University of the Incarnate Word; M.F.A., Yale School of Drama. Recent credits: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Opera House Arts in Stonington, Maine); *The Other Americans* (Arena Stage); *Born with Teeth* and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival). Broadway: *The Inheritance* (also Geffen Playhouse, Audible production). Off-Broadway: *The Night of the Iguana* (Signature Theatre/La Femme Theatre Co.). TV/Film: "Blue Bloods," "FBI," "Alternatino," Apocalyptic Artist Ensemble's *Julius Caesar*.

**LUNA LAUREN VELEZ** (*Patti*). Public Theater debut. Theater: *The Happiest Song Plays Last* (Second Stage), *Into the Woods* (Broadway), *Intimate Apparel* (Roundabout), *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Old Globe), *Water by the Spoonful* (Mark Taper Forum). TV: "New York Undercover" (ALMA Award), "Oz" (ALMA Award), "American Rust," "Dexter." Film: *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* (Imagen Award), *Transformers: Rise of the Beast*, *The First Purge*, *City Hall*, *America Adrift*, *Shaft*, *I Like It Like That* (Independent Spirit Award nomination). For Mami, familia siempre. Instagram: @lunalaurenvelez

**JUAN FRANCISCO VILLA** he/el/his (*Understudy*). Public: *Oedipus El Rey*. Off-Broadway: *The Play About My Dad*, *The Gentleman Caller*. Regional: *Our Dear Dead Druglord*, *Hamlet*, *Mojada*, *2666*, *Hillary and Clinton*. Film: *To Leslie*, *Baby Talk*, *The Last Days of the Lab*. TV: "Law & Order: SVU," "Monsters: The Lyle and Erik Menendez Story," "General Hospital," "Blue Bloods," "Little Demon," "Chicago PD." Nyitba Award, Best Solo Show: *Empanada for a Dream*. Thanks to John Leguizamo and my Colombian family for their continued support and inspiration. IG @juanempanadavilla

**THE PUBLIC** continues the work of its visionary founder Joe Papp as a civic institution engaging, both on-stage and off, with some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Conceived over 60 years ago as one of the nation's first nonprofit theaters, The Public has long operated on the principles that theater is an essential cultural force and that art and culture belong to everyone. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public's wide breadth of programming includes an annual season of new work at its landmark home at Astor Place, Free Shakespeare in the Park at The Delacorte Theater in Central Park, the Mobile Unit touring throughout New York City's five boroughs, Public Lab, Public Works, Public Shakespeare Initiative, and Joe's Pub. Since premiering *HAIR* in 1967, The Public continues to create the canon of American Theater and is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning musicals *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda and *Hell's Kitchen* by Alicia Keys and Kristoffer Diaz. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 64 Tony Awards, 195 Obie Awards, 62 Drama Desk Awards, 64 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 70 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antonyo Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. [publictheater.org](http://publictheater.org)

The Public Theater stands in honor of the first inhabitants and our ancestors. We acknowledge the land on which The Public and its theaters stand—the original homeland of the Lenape people. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory. We honor the generations of stewards and we pay our respects to the many diverse indigenous peoples still connected to this land.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

**THE OTHER AMERICANS** begins performances in The Public's Anspacher Theater with a Joseph Papp Free Performance on Thursday, September 11. The production officially opens on Thursday, September 25 and runs through Sunday, October 12.

Tickets are available now and can be accessed by visiting [publictheater.org](https://publictheater.org), calling **212.967.7555**, or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street.

The Public's Joseph Papp Free Performance initiative will offer free tickets to the performance on Thursday, September 11 through TodayTix. The Lottery will open for entries on Thursday, September 4 and will close at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10. Winners will be notified by email and push notification anytime from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and if selected, winners will have one hour to claim their tickets.

The performance schedule is Tuesday through Sunday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 p.m. (*There will be no 1:30 p.m. performance on Saturday, September 13 or Sunday, September 14.*)

The performance on Sunday, September 28 at 1:30 p.m. will **require patrons to wear masks**. The **Audio Described** performance will be on Saturday, October 4 at 1:30 p.m. The **American Sign Language Interpreted** performance will be on Friday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m. The **Open Captioned** performance will be on Sunday, October 11 at 1:30 p.m.

The full performance calendar can be found at [publictheater.org](https://publictheater.org).

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