



The Music Hall is an open, salon-style space that has all the resources that a writer might need. With a Steinway Baby Grand Piano, music stands, and plenty of seating, it is a perfect place for a rehearsal, workshop, or industry performance. The room is filled with natural light and sweeping views of the Empire State Building. Room capacity is 42.

Rehearsal Spaces

DGF is thrilled to welcome dramatists to rehearse, write, and create in one of our three beautiful rehearsal spaces at 520 8th Avenue: The Music Hall, Composers Corner, and Writers Den. Our spaces provide dramatists free access to a baby grand piano, two digital pianos, and various resources and equipment for writing, working, meeting, and presenting their material in rooms outfitted with HEPA air purifiers and comfortable seating options. Within the first 24 hours of announcing access to these spaces in early September, over 100 new user accounts were created on our online reservation booking platform, and since then, our rehearsal spaces have been flooded with requests to reserve space. Our reservation calendar can accommodate space requests up to three weeks in advance. We are delighted to offer these spaces to dramatists.

For more information and to reserve your space, visit our website at dgf.org.



The Composers Corner features a Yamaha CLP-785 Digital Piano, a comfortable couch, and table and chairs. The room is a great spot for solo, team, or group writing for rehearsals. Capacity is 12.



The Writers Den is a haven for writers, a quiet place to work at a beautiful wooden desk or in the comfortable leather chair. It is an ideal space to shut out the noise of the city and write or host a small rehearsal. The room features a Yamaha MODUS FO1 Digital Piano. Headphones are available for use at the reception desk. Room capacity is 4.

3 Questions with Michael R. Jackson

1 You first began work on your new musical *White Girl In Danger* as a Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellow in the fall of 2016. How did your experience as a fellow help influence the development of this piece?

"I came into the Fellows program wanting to start a new project because I had been working on *A Strange Loop* for so long and felt like it would be good to start something new. I had this little inkling of *White Girl In Danger* for a long time, and so I decided once I got into the Fellows that that would be a good starting point. The program was so helpful in getting feedback from everyone including Musical Theater chairs Michael Korie and Larry O'Keefe and all the visiting guest artists they brought in."

2 Who is your favorite "White Girl in Danger" both fictional and real?

"My favorite fictional 'White Girls in Danger' are Tori Spelling as Laurel Lewisohn in *Mother*, May I Sleep with Danger? and Jennifer Blanc-Biehn as Zanne Armstrong in *Friends 'Til the End*. My favorite real-life 'White Girl in Danger' is Lori Loughlin. I really enjoyed that whole arc."



Michael R. Jackson photo by Beowulf Sheehan

3 What is one thing you hope never changes about the theater?

"That we're able to do it safely and with each other in person."

White Girl In Danger opens Off-Broadway in spring 2023 at the Tony Kiser Theater.



Latoya Edwards and Michael R. Jackson preview a song from *White Girl in Danger* at DGF Salon. Photo by Rebecca J. Michelson.

Emergency Grants

DGF IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING DRAMATISTS IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE AND URGENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH ITS EMERGENCY GRANTS PROGRAM.

This can include major expenses such as urgent medical care, an unexpected loss of income, or support to pay for a car repair for artists needing to travel. Our Housing Grants are specifically related to rent, and mortgage needs, or toward costs associated with moving, finding housing, and/or assisting with essential home repairs.

We process these requests as quickly as possible. Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, in 2022, we have provided nearly \$1 million in emergency, housing, and mental health grants to dramatists. In 2023, DGF's goal is to meet and surpass the number of dramatists we supported this year.

Thanks to YOU

OUR COMMUNITY IS UPLIFTED

"I am so grateful for the DGF Housing Assistance grant. Having this assistance got me through the end of my financial need due to the pandemic. It has been a challenging time. Because of the generosity of DGF I am in a better position. I can focus on writing again." - Camille

"DGF helped me focus on my healing after an unfortunate accident left me with a traumatic brain injury. It's now been almost a year and I am writing again, have an upcoming production and signed with a new manager. This would not have been possible if I had to worry about paying bills while following doctor's orders

Artists are very lucky to have this support behind them." - Amy

**&
Now:**

A Message from DGF's Executive Director **Rachel Routh**

This year has been full of new beginnings. We welcomed new staff members, moved to our new home, ushered in new programs, and expanded our outreach to writers in notable ways. This was all made extra special as we celebrate our 60th year supporting writers.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, I am thinking about gratitude, particularly from our supporters. Your philanthropic support is of major importance to DGF and allows us to tirelessly advocate for dramatists. Perhaps one of the most immediate and necessary types of support we offer our writers is through our Emergency Grants and Steven Schwartzberg Grants for Mental Health and Wellness. In 2022 alone, we have been able to offer nearly \$1 million in grant funding to support dramatists' individual needs.

I am grateful to walk into our new home in Midtown Manhattan where we've opened three Rehearsal Spaces available to writers (completely free - thanks to you!) to develop their work. Never a day goes by without hearing a dramatist drafting a new song for their musical or applause following a presentation. Keep reading

to learn about our Music Hall, Composers Corner, and Writers Den, each equipped with everything one might need to create their next great show.

I am grateful to those who traveled near and far to celebrate our 60th Anniversary Gala last month in New York City, generously presented by Creative Partners Productions. We honored Fashion Designer Jeffrey Banks, DGF Board Member Barbara Olcott, and Playwright Paula Vogel, as well as heard performances from some of our industry's greatest artists, including DGF Fellows alumni Zeniba Now (2018-2019), Max Vernon (2013-2014) - who is making their Broadway debut this fall - and Madeline Myers (2016-2017).

Thank you to 2022 Tony Award-winner Michael R. Jackson (*A Strange Loop*), for updating us on his new musical, *White Girl in Danger*, which is set to open Off-Broadway this spring.

There is a lot to be grateful for - from the writers who entertain us and take us to new places, to our supporters, who help make the magic of DGF possible. Thank you as always for your continued support of dramatists. Your generosity allows us to champion and sustain our expanding theater community.

**With
Gratitude,** *Rachel Routh*



▲ Paula Vogel - DGF 2022 Gala Honoree

Hosted by Jennifer Simard, the evening featured appearances and performances by Bernadette Peters, Kate Baldwin, Heather Christian, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Lisa Kron, Andrew Lipa, Todd London, Samantha Massell, Madeline Myers, Zeniba Now, Clint Ramos, Stephen Schwartz, Max Vernon, Kara Young, Damon Daunno, Zachary Noah Piser, and Gretchen Cryer.



From Top Left: Andrew Lipa - DGF Board President, Barbara Olcott - DGF Board Member and 2022 Gala Honoree, Rachel Routh - DGF Executive Director, Zeniba Now, Bernadette Peters, Jeffrey Banks, DGF 2022 Gala Honoree. Photos by Rebecca J. Michelson.

Thank you!



As a queer, disabled artist living in NYC, COVID is still a very real and present danger in my life. As someone who is immunocompromised, I've had to be impeccably careful about where I go, who I go with, and how I behave in public spaces. For me, theater has not yet returned. As a result, I've struggled mightily with paying bills and keeping up with medical expenses. The DGF Emergency Grant allows me to take a breath. It allows me to stay in therapy, pay off the electric bill and dedicate time towards being an artist. This grant gave me a boost that kept me from overdrawing in my account every month. Being poor is expensive. The DGF emergency grant helps."

-Maggie, NYC



Thank you to Nicole Pandolfo, our writer. Nicole Pandolfo is a playwright and screenwriter. She was a DGF fellow in 2016-2017. www.nicolepandolfo.com