THE 24 HOUR PLAYS®: A BENNINGTON TRIBUTE TO NICKY MARTIN and SPENCER COX ’90 is a benefit, created and produced by a talented cast and crew of Bennington alumni and friends. Tonight’s performance is virtual, but the people involved have collaborated with an intensity and creativity that feels familiar to them from their time at Bennington. Proceeds from tonight’s performance benefit the Nicky Martin Scholarship for Performing Arts and the Spencer Cox ’90 Field Work Term Fellowship for Student Activists at Bennington College.

Nicky (Joel) Martin was a Tony-nominated and Obie Award-winning theater director and beloved faculty member at Bennington. Martin was an actor for most of his life, and turned to directing when he was in his early 40s. He was at Bennington from the late 1970s to the mid-1980s and inspired a younger generation of directors, actors, and designers whom he continued to work with throughout his career.

The scholarship is given each year to an outstanding student with need in an academic concentration in the performing arts. This year’s recipient is Hazel Peters ’22, who studies Drama and Audio Engineering.

Spencer Cox ’90 was an artist, performer, and activist who lent creative intellect and intense focus to help fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic, one of the most pressing social and public health crises of our time. His legacy represents the unbridled belief in the power of the individual to transform possibilities.

The fellowship is awarded on an annual basis to an outstanding Bennington College student in their junior or senior year who has already demonstrated a commitment to social activism through their Field Work Term or co-curricular activity. In 2021, the fellowship supported two students: Marley-Rose Liburd ’22, to continue her work developing The We Project, a racial justice student organization, and Sbobo Ndlangamandla ’21, for a project in her home country, the Kingdom of eSwatini, related to high school women’s health and empowerment.
THE 24 HOUR PLAYS® (Mark Armstrong, Artistic Director) has always made work about the most difficult moments in our lives, from 9/11 to Hurricane Sandy to the 2016 election, and the coronavirus pandemic is no different. When stay-at-home orders were first issued and theatres shut down across the country, The 24 Hour Plays team was determined to find a way to continue their tradition of making time-limited theatre without physically bringing people together—most recently with the highly acclaimed The 24 Hour Plays: Viral Monologues.

Since March 17, 2020, America’s finest theatre makers have come together to create over 350 original pieces for the weekly Viral Monologues series. Pairs of writers and actors collaborate to write, rehearse and record all-new works in just 24 hours. Follow The 24 Hour Plays on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and Youtube to see all-new monologues in 2021.

BENNINGTON COLLEGE is an innovative and distinguished liberal arts college in Bennington, Vermont that has, since its founding in 1932, dedicated itself to cultivating change-makers and culture-shapers. Bennington was the first to include the visual and performing arts in a liberal arts education, and it is the only college to require that its students spend a term—every year—at work in the world. Bennington students work intensively with faculty to forge individualized and hands-on educational paths around their driving questions and interests.

Rooted in an abiding faith in the talent, imagination, and responsibility of the individual, Bennington invites students to pursue and shape their own intellectual inquiries, and in doing so to discover the profound interconnection of things.

TONIGHT’S PERFORMANCE is a compilation of 15 live monologues, written and produced in just 24 Hours. Actors will perform these monologues LIVE. Musical interstitial performances and remarks have been recorded and will appear between live monologues. The show will include an intermission and is expected to be about two hours long.

SPREAD THE WORD! Share on social media using #Bennington24 and tag @24HourPlays and @BenningtonAlumni.

THE LINK you received is private to you. The show will remain available to watch for four days after tonight’s premiere.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to Mark Armstrong, Coleman Ray Clark, and everyone at The 24 Hour Plays® for their partnership in this endeavor.

Special thanks to the fundraising committee for the Spencer Cox ’90 FWT Fellowship for Student Activists. Remarks will be delivered this evening by Sekka Scher ’90, and Spencer’s family is in attendance.

Special thanks to Alexander Dodge ’93, who will deliver remarks in tribute to Nicky Martin.

Thanks also to Blaine Graboyes ’95, Danielle Rosenberg, and Kelly Nichols-Hoppe ’14, for all their work as producers—and Chris Boscia ’87 for hosting the after-show party.

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers’ Unions: ACTORS’ EQUITY ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS, AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS, SAG-AFTRA through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear on this program.
The 24 Hour Plays®
Mark Armstrong, Artistic Director
Coleman Ray Clark, Deputy Director
Madelyn Paquette, General Manager
Kelcie Beene, Senior Production Manager
Anastasia Webb, Office Assistant
Mackenna Goodrich, Artistic Intern

Supporters
Sam Baber '92
Ira Cohen
Beverly Cox P'90
V. Hansmann MFA ’11
Ed Needham ’88 and Julie Tucker ’89
Nan Newton ’65
Estelle Parsons G ’22
Ellen Safir ’66
Darcy Stephens ’90
Nick Stephens ’77
Laura Walker, President

Sponsors
Alexander Dodge ’93
Claire Blaydon Florence ’90
Beth Karmin ’85
Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan ’91

 Supporters
Sam Baber ’92
Ira Cohen
Beverly Cox P’90
V. Hansmann MFA ’11
Ed Needham ’88 and Julie Tucker ’89
Nan Newton ’65
Estelle Parsons G ’22
Ellen Safir ’66
Darcy Stephens ’90
Nick Stephens ’77
Laura Walker, President

Thank You
Bennington College is deeply grateful to the following supporters who generously made this production and the Nicky Martin Performing Arts Scholarship and the Spencer Cox ’90 Field Work Term Fellowship for Student Activists possible with their philanthropy, time, and services.

Sustaining Sponsors
Annie Hubbard ’88
Sekka Scher ’90

Writers
Sofia Alvarez ’07 | Margot Connolly ’12 | Debra Eisenstadt ’91 | Jill Eisenstadt ’85 | Susie Felber ’93 | Lily Houghton ’17 | Modesto Flako Jimenez ’06 | Mitchell Lichtenstein ’78 | Maya Macdonald ’07 | Loren Segan ’84 | Jonathan Marc Sherman ’90 | Christiane Swenson ’20 | Phoebe VanDusen ’19 | Maia Villa ’15 | Catherine Weingarten ’13

Actors

Thank You
Bennington College is deeply grateful to the following supporters who generously made this production and the Nicky Martin Performing Arts Scholarship and the Spencer Cox ’90 Field Work Term Fellowship for Student Activists possible with their philanthropy, time, and services.

Sustaining Sponsors
Annie Hubbard ’88
Sekka Scher ’90

Writers
Sofia Alvarez ’07 | Margot Connolly ’12 | Debra Eisenstadt ’91 | Jill Eisenstadt ’85 | Susie Felber ’93 | Lily Houghton ’17 | Modesto Flako Jimenez ’06 | Mitchell Lichtenstein ’78 | Maya Macdonald ’07 | Loren Segan ’84 | Jonathan Marc Sherman ’90 | Christiane Swenson ’20 | Phoebe VanDusen ’19 | Maia Villa ’15 | Catherine Weingarten ’13

Actors

Sponsors
Alexander Dodge ’93
Claire Blaydon Florence ’90
Beth Karmin ’85
Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan ’91

Supporters
Sam Baber ’92
Ira Cohen
Beverly Cox P’90
V. Hansmann MFA ’11
Ed Needham ’88 and Julie Tucker ’89
Nan Newton ’65
Estelle Parsons G ’22
Ellen Safir ’66
Darcy Stephens ’90
Nick Stephens ’77
Laura Walker, President

The 24 Hour Plays®
Mark Armstrong, Artistic Director
Coleman Ray Clark, Deputy Director
Madelyn Paquette, General Manager
Kelcie Beene, Senior Production Manager
Anastasia Webb, Office Assistant
Mackenna Goodrich, Artistic Intern

Interstitial Performers
Jacqui Alpine ’17 | Shawn Brice ’91 and Johnny Calderon |
Andrew Lindsey Cohen ’91 | Camille and James Habacker MFA ’94 |
Matthew Hutchinson ’95 | John Kirk, Current Faculty |
Alice TM ’12, Beth Liebowitz, and Emily Climer ’12


#BENNINGTON24
Nature is Metal
Written by Debra Eisenstadt '91
Martha: Brandi Nicole Wilson '00

Welcome and Opening Remarks
Mark Armstrong, The 24 Hour Plays Artistic Director
Laura Walker, Bennington College President

Meanderizing Minds
Written by Loren Segan '84
KK: Kaiya Kirk '20

Baby, Just Say Chess
Written by Maya Macdonald '07
Daniel: Joel Marsh Garland '97

I Want to Work at Home Depot
Written by Catherine Weingarten '13
Daniel: Daniel Coelho '19

Remarks: Alexander Dodge '93

A TOTAL LOSS
Written by Mitchell Lichtenstein '78
Maxine: Carla Gómez Klein '89

Expert Opinion
Written by Phoebe VanDusen '19
Misery Princess: Mae Mitchell '10

Remarks: Sekka Scher '90

“In the Cards”
Written by Susie Felber '93
Jenny: Julia Prud’homme ’87

Jello
Written by Lily Houghton '17
Movie Star: Molly Tarlov '08

Ten Minute Intermission


#BENNINGTON24