

WOOLLY MAMMOTH

Dear Mammoths

In 2012, I entered Woolly's doors to bear witness to Kristoffer Diaz's THE ELABORATE ENTRANCE OF CHAD DEITY and in the Fall of 2018, I first joined the "Herd" onstage in Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins's GLORIA. From that very first moment, I saw in Woolly a theatre that embodies a legacy that is fearless, and I knew I wanted to be part of the Woolly-verse. As one of the last in the American theatre landscape to maintain a Company of Artists, Woolly's unique relationship to risk and commitment to no holds barred storytelling made it an easy decision to become a Company Member in 2022. Most recently, I had the opportunity to take another leap forward in my artistic journey by debuting as a playwright with A FINE MADNESS this Spring.

[A gift of \\$120, \\$300 or even \\$1,500 ensures Woolly's legacy as a theatre that audaciously takes risks in not only the stories we tell, but also in how we bring these stories to life.](#)

WOOLLY WATERS THE ROOTS OF NEW WORK.



With MADNESS, I was not interested in making a play. I was interested in creating a theatrical event intended to smash the wall between spectator and performer. I wanted to revive a "happening", a form of theatre that died out in the 1950's – **and I couldn't think of a better place to rediscover an extinct theatrical form than Woolly Mammoth Theatre.** A FINE MADNESS began as a way for me to heal and reimagine who I might be. As a member of the first class of Woolly's **Weissberg Commissioning Artists**, I was given the freedom to discover and develop my voice and vision as a writer and explore my own writing process. I was given the opportunity to conceive a new way of sharing and experiencing stories and the support to see that vision through.

I knew that a New Work like A FINE MADNESS would be a scary endeavor for a theatre to undertake – and I wanted it to be scary. Woolly enthusiastically jumped on board, not with conditions or demands, but with unwavering support for me as a human being and artist, fostering an environment where my creativity and curiosity could flourish. Woolly Mammoth, through special initiatives like **The Weissberg Commissions**, is a leader in the work of nurturing, cultivating, and collaborating with theatremakers in a truly unconditional way.

Your donation of \$120 allows Woolly to continue investing in dreamers like me.

WOOLLY'S WORK MAKES AN IMPACT ON THE STAGE - AND BEYOND.

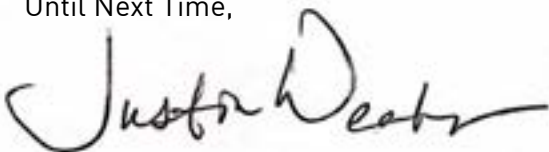
Woolly's workforce development program, the **Miranda Family Fellowship**, supports the next generation of **unapologetically bold Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), arts leaders**. The **Miranda Family Fellows** program is designed to provide talented candidates from historically excluded communities with the resources and training necessary to build their careers as arts administrators or theatre technicians. Miranda Family Fellows and Program Alums like Fatima Dyfan (Producer-in-Residence) and Ynika Yuag (Stage Manager) elevated the quality of A FINE MADNESS with their work while gaining even more excited to pursue directing especially as a dramaturgically-minded director. This next generation of arts administrators is ready to make an impact on the entire theatre industry as they transfer their skills into organizational leadership positions thanks to our network of generous supporters. Supporters who stand beside Woolly in its mission and who dare to share in our radical vision in turn empower the future of American theatre. Your donation of \$120 makes these opportunities possible.

WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE IS A SPACE FOR SHARING STORIES.

In a busy, buzzing world of labels, laws, and daily responsibilities, stories lead us home to ourselves. More than ever, we need vibrant spaces dedicated to sharing stories that force us to hold up a mirror to our shared humanity. **Woolly Mammoth is that space, and your gift supports the risk-taking, exploration, and innovation needed to continually bring bold stories and New Work to life on our stage and beyond.**

Please join me in supporting Woolly Mammoth by making a gift before June 30. I hope to see you next season as we bring A FINE MADNESS as a full production to our 45th season's line up. Thank you!

Until Next Time,



Justin Weaks

P.S. Thanks to our friends as the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation we have a \$10,000 match. [Double your support today!](#) If your gift and my letter has crossed paths, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting Woolly!

