PLAYBILL® The Chatham Playhouse

Chatham Community Players Chatham, NJ



ONE-ACT FESTIVAL

AN EVENING OF ONE ACT PLAYS BY THESE NEW JERSEY PLAYWRIGHTS:

SUSAN BROWN-PEITZ STEPHANIE BUCKLEY CAROLINE GRANT STEVEN HAYET JOHN AC KENNEDY ALEXIS KOZAK AKHIR STEWART JONAS WILCOX

JULY 25 - AUGUST 3, 2025

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ABOUT US

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ABOUT US



THE CHATHAM COMMUNITY PLAYERS OFFICERS 2025-2027

President: Jessica Phelan Vice President: Sarah Pharaon Secretary: Geneviève Anderson Treasurer: Chip Prestera Business Manager: Tom MacDonald Past President: Leslie Ellis

SPECIAL THANKS

The Library of the Chathams Christen Holly Photography Julia Cassisi - Chip Prestera - Meg Lunde

PRODUCERS' NOTE

In the years that we have produced *Jersey Voices*, "new" is a word that comes up a lot. New plays, new playwrights, new directors, new actors. Seven of our directors, four of our playwrights, and twelve of our actors are new to their roles in *Jersey Voices*, but you may recognize their names and faces. Some directors have been on our stage for years and are trying their hand at directing for the first time, some of our actors have previously had their plays performed at JV, some of our playwrights have acted and directed. "New" doesn't only mean brand-new faces, but familiar faces getting a chance to try their hand at a new creative outlet. Some are involved at Chatham for the first time ever, bringing new ideas, energy, and fresh perspectives. This blend of new and familiar is something that we are most proud of at *Jersey Voices*. Our goals have always been to foster new work, build community, and encourage creative collaboration. We feel so lucky to have playwrights who are excited to come to rehearsals and are open to working with a director and actors to make edits to their scripts, to have actors who have been onstage for years but want to take the risk of writing a play or directing for the first time. And, most of all, we feel lucky to have you, our audience, whether this is your 1st Jersey Voices or 31st.

Thank you for taking a risk on shows you have never heard of and supporting the amazing community of artists we have here in New Jersey.

Aaron and Jessica

Producer - Jessica Phelan Lighting Design - Jackson Gould Sound Design - Joe DeVico Set Painting - Joelle Bochner House Manager - Bob Denmark Graphic Design - Corina Lupp Publicity - Chris Furlong Outreach - Sarah Pharaon

PRODUCTION CREW

Producer/Stage Manager - Aaron Kellner Lighting Chair - Ed Whitman Set Construction - Roy Pancirov, Ed Whitman Paint Crew - Jeff Campbell, Corina Lupp, Scott Tyler Program, Box Office - Kathy Rex, Chip Prestera



Chatham Community Players is committed to making all reasonable efforts to ensure that its facilities, programs and services are accessible to, and usable by, all people, including those with disabilities. Please ask a staff member for assistance.

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presents

JERSEY VOICES 2025

ACT 1

DER FRÖHLICHE WANDERER

Written by Stephanie BuckleyDirected by Giovanna DiSantoGirl Erin FeithBoy Robert Colon

DIS/CONNECTED

Written by Susan Brown-Peitz Directed by Lauri MacMillan Assistant Directed by Kayla Fiore Claire Gloria Lamoureaux Ellie Jackie Jacobi Officer Kenny Nick Foil

PONCE DE LEÓN AND THE OLD DOG

Written by Alexis Kozak
Jim Eric WilliamsDirected by Jeanne Johnston
Rita Lori Smith

SIDEQUEST

Written by Steven Hayet Directed by Ann E. Pattan Daniel Nick Foil Gemma Dawn Collet Waiter Jonathan Wilcox AlpacaFan Jessie Thiele BlueSphynx Karen Koronkiewicz

ACT 2

KEEPER OF THE WORLD

Written by Akhir Stewart Directed by Leslie Ellis The Keeper Tasha R. Williams

TWO BIRDS, ONE'S STONED

Written by Jonas WilcoxDirected by Emma SchwartzBea Jodi Freeman MaloyNat Anna McCabe

WITH THIS RING

Written by Caroline GrantDirected by Brooke HarrschMother Holly HamptonJim Yves Turgeon

THE OLD CHURCH

Written by John AC Kennedy
Desmond Pierce V. LoDirected by Sarah Pharaon
Brian Michael Sasso

The audience is invited to stay for a brief talkback with the playwrights, directors, and actors after the performance.

JERSEY VOICES PLAYERS

Our Playwrights

Playwright (Dis/Connected) SUSAN BROWN-PEITZ
Playwright (Der Fröhliche Wanderer)
Playwright (With This Ring) CAROLINE GRANT
Playwright (Sidequest) STEVEN HAYET
Playwright (The Old Church) JOHN AC KENNEDY
Playwright (Ponce de León and the Old ALEXIS KOZAK Dog)
Playwright (Keeper of the World) AKHIR STEWART
Playwright (Two Birds, One's Stoned) JONAS WILCOX

Our Directors

Director (Der Fröhliche Wanderer) GIOVANNA DISANTO
Director (Keeper of the World) LESLIE ELLIS
Assistant Director (Dis/Connected) KAYLA FIORE
Director (With This Ring) BROOKE HARRSCH
Director (Dis/Connected) LAURI MacMILLAN
Director (Sidequest) ANN E. PATTAN
Director (The Old Church) SARAH PHARAON
Director (Two Birds, One's Stoned) EMMA SCHWARTZ
Director (Ponce de León and the Old JEANNE JOHNSTON Dog)

Our Actors

Claire (Dis/Connected) GLORIA LAMOUREAUX
Ellie (Dis/Connected) JACKIE JACOBI
Officer Kenny (Dis/Connected), Daniel NICK FOIL (Sidequest)
Girl (Der Fröhliche Wanderer) ERIN FEITH
Boy (Der Fröhliche Wanderer) ROBERT COLON
Mother (With This Ring) HOLLY HAMPTON
Jim (With This Ring) YVES TURGEON
Gemma (Sidequest) DAWN COLLET
BlueSphynx (Sidequest) KAREN KORONKIEWICZ

JERSEY VOICES PLAYERS

Our Actors (continued)

AlpacaFan (Sidequest) JESSIE THIELE
Waiter (Sidequest) JONATHAN WILCOX
Brian (The Old Church) MICHAEL SASSO
Desmond (The Old Church) PIERCE V. LO
Jim (Ponce de Leon and the Old Dog) ERIC WILLIAMS
Rita (Ponce de Leon and the Old Dog) LORI SMITH
The Keeper (Keeper of the World) TASHA R. WILLIAMS
Bea (Two Birds, One's Stoned) JODI FREEMAN MALOY
Nat (Two Birds, One's Stoned) ANNA McCABE

Our Production Team

Producer JESSIC	A PHELAN
Producer, Stage Manager AARON	I KELLNER
Lighting Design JACKS	ON GOULD
Sound Design JC	DE DeVICO

THEATER CREATIONS 2025

Calling all 7- to 10-year-olds who love performing! Come and be part of The Chatham Community Players Theater Creations.

Returning August 11th – 22nd

Monday - Friday 9 am - 11:30 am

Performing, imagination, and creativity in a theatrical experience for children!

Enrollment limited to 12 students.



For more information, visit ChathamPlayers.org. The Chatham Playhouse 23 North Passaic Avenue, Chatham, NJ

Visit ChathamPlayers.org for more info!

REACHING NEW AUDIENCES

For over 26 years, our Outreach program has brought people without access to live theater at The Chatham Playhouse to attend performances free of charge, with funding from grants and individual donors who share our vision for a world with unfettered access to the arts. Outreach provides busing and complimentary admission to our partners in youth and family programs, drug and alcohol dependence programs, physical injury rehabilitation, special education, schools, senior citizen homes, and AIDS foundations. For many, this is their first live theatrical experience. Please help support our efforts by recommending groups that might be interested in partnering with us by emailing *Outreach@ChathamPlayers.org*.

Chatham Community Players welcomes all newcomers!

No special talents or experience are required, so join the fun, make great new friends, learn new skills, and become part of our community. The more than 103-year-old Chatham Community Players is a not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization. Please visit **ChathamPlayers.org/Volunteer** for more information.

Monday Classes This Fall

Adult and Teen Cabaret Performance Classes

with multi-award nominated Cabaret Singer/Director Corinna Sowers Adler



Join us for a fun and interactive Cabaret Class! Classes meet Mondays, October 13 through December 6.

TEEN classes ages 12-18 meet 4-6 pm, \$525 **ADULT** classes ages 19 and up meet 7-9 pm, \$525

Only 12 spots in each class! Learn more & **REGISTER TODAY** at ChathamPlayers.org.

Both classes will culminate with a Cabaret Performance at the Chatham Playhouse

TEEN Performance is Friday, December 5 at 7 pm **ADULT Performance** is Saturday, December 6 at 7 pm

SUSAN BROWN-PEITZ

as Playwright (Dis/Connected)

Susan is thrilled to return to *Jersey Voices* (previous productions: *Open Door*, 2022, and *Making Amends*, 2024) and so thankful for the support of all at CCP, particularly Jessica, Aaron, John, Lauri and the talented actors who have boldly brought the plays to life. With a heartfelt shoutout to playwright friends at WWYA and to husband Tim, whose patience knows no bounds.



STEPHANIE BUCKLEY

as Playwright (Der Fröhliche Wanderer)

Stephanie is an English and Theater Arts teacher who started writing plays that celebrate the talents of her students. Her 10-minute play, *The Woman's Land Army*, appears in Stage Partners' collection *It's Her Say*. Her short plays, *Graven Images* and *Zoom For the Holidays* are published by Eldridge Plays and Musicals. Stephanie is a member of the Dramatists Guild.



CAROLINE GRANT

as Playwright (With This Ring)

Caroline is excited to be part of her first *Jersey Voices*. She previously had scripts produced by HB Studio and Plays & Pizza, and has studied playwriting with HB Studio and The Barrow Group in New York City. Originally from Myrtle Beach, SC, Caroline is honored to continue the tradition of southerners writing about dysfunctional family secrets.



STEVEN HAYET

as Playwright (Sidequest)

as Playwright (The Old

Church)

Steven is thrilled to be back at CCP after having *Date With Death* in *Jersey Voices* 2020. He is currently Playwright-in-Residence at Roaring Epiphany, an inclusion theatre company for actors with disabilities. His plays have been performed in 41 states and 12 different countries. He would like to thank his wife, Luci, for her love and support.



JOHN AC KENNEDY

John had a script performed by *Jersey Voices* exactly 10 years ago (*Wendy*), and his co-adaptation of *A Christmas Carol, Ebenezer: A Shadow Carol*, will be produced in Chester in December. John has directed multiple shows for Chatham and will be directing *The Drowsy Chaperone* here in April. This one is for missing friends. CBA



ALEXIS KOZAK

as Playwright (Ponce de León and the Old Dog)

Alexis teaches performance, playwriting, and technical theatre at Middletown High School South. His full-length holiday play, *Then One Foggy Christmas Eve*, was published this year. He loves theatre, soccer, reading, and his family...in no particular order. He grew up in Vineland and lives in Ocean Township.



AKHIR STEWART

as Playwright (Keeper of the World)

Currently a high school English teacher, Akhir (she/they) graduated a Michele Tolela Myers Fellow in Fiction from Sarah Lawrence College's MFA in Writing program. Their writing has been supported by the Kimbilio Fellowship, the Aspen Words Emerging Writers Fellowship and General Motors' Future Fiction Collective. *Keeper of the World* is their first foray into playwriting.

JONAS WILCOX

as Playwright (Two Birds, One's Stoned)

Jonas is so excited to have their play featured in *Jersey Voices* this year! They have previously directed and assistant directed for Theater Leadership for Change, and have performed in several school and community productions. This is the first time a play of theirs has been staged.



GIOVANNA DiSANTO

Director (Der Fröhliche Wanderer)

Giovanna's directing credits include *The Wolves* (Winner-Best Direction of a Play, BroadwayWorld Award), *The Heat* (Chain Theatre, NYC), *For A Barbarian Woman* (Hangar Theatre) and *Twelfth Night* (Ninety-Nine Cent Players). She is an Ithaca College alum, earning a dual degree in Theatre Studies and Integrated Marketing Communications. Associate Member, SDC.



LESLIE ELLIS

Director (Keeper of the World)

Leslie is honored to be a part of this fantastic summer tradition at Chatham. She thanks Akhir for trusting her with her words, Tasha for brilliantly bringing them to life, and Jess and Aaron for granting her the opportunity to direct for the first time. She dedicates this piece to the memory of Robert Lukasik and hopes she's making him proud. Love to Alan.



KAYLA FIORE

Assistant Director (Dis/ Connected)

Kayla is thrilled to be making her CCP directing debut with *Jersey Voices*! She's a rising Sophomore at Ithaca w/ Directing Concentration. Favorite of her 22 directing credits include: *The Last Five Years, Freaky Friday,* and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical*! She thanks Jessica, Aaron, and Lauri for believing in her, as well as her family for always supporting her passion.

BROOKE HARRSCH Director (With This Ring)

Brooke is currently Moravian Academy's Director of Theatre Arts, where she champions arts education and empowers young performers. She thanks Jess, Aaron, and Sarah for their support, Holly and Yves for their drive, and Caroline for her powerful script. Visit brookeharrsch.com for credits.



JEANNE JOHNSTON

Director (Ponce de León and the Old Dog)

Jeanne has written two plays produced by Jersey Voices, Happily Ever After (2016) and Blow Gabriel Blow (2024), and is pleased to be directing at JV for the first time. Two of the 17 plays she has directed in the past received Perry Award nominations for best production of a play: Talley's Folly (Summit) and A Man for All Seasons (Westfield). Thanks to Joe!



LAURI MacMILLAN Director (Dis/Connected)

Lauri returns after previously directing *The Singing Woman* (2023) and *Bug Rescuing* (2018) for *JV*. She has thrice performed and twice written for *JV* and thanks you for supporting new live works. Other directing credits abound but will not be included due to the guidelines of space. My gratitude to Susan, Kayla, Gloria, Jackie and Nick along with the dedicated *JV* team.



ANN E. PATTAN

Director (Sidequest)

This is Ann's first time directing for *Jersey Voices*. She appeared in *The Music Man* (Alma Britt) in Summit. She teaches math and directs shows at CMS in Long Hill. Directing credits: *The Wizard of Oz, Finding Nemo* and *Newsies*. Other performance credits: *JC Superstar, Moon Over Buffalo, Fortinbras,* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown.* Love to Jason, Alex, and Rosie.

SARAH PHARAON

Director (The Old Church)

Sarah previously directed *Grape Nerds Reunion* for *Jersey Voices* and has appeared onstage in four *JV* productions. Also at CCP, she's appeared in *Time Stands Still, The Humans, August: Osage County, Angels in America, Bug, Rabbit Hole*, and *Crimes of the Heart*. Sarah chairs our Outreach program and produces our black box series, bringing small cast shows to our stage.



EMMA SCHWARTZ

Director (Two Birds, One's Stoned)

Emma is a director from UK. Theater credits include *Crazy Love, The Cherry Tree* at ATA, NYC, *The Power of Art* at The Secret Theatre, NY. *Twelfth Night, Merchant Of Venice, Antigone* and *The Comedy of Errors* – Winner of Best Ensemble at the So Many Shakespeares Festival 2021. Film: Z-MUMBA and Limbo - Momenti Productions. Emma is delighted to be part of *Jersey Voices*.



GLORIA LAMOUREAUX

as Claire (Dis/ Connected)

This is Gloria's fourth JV and she appeared in CCP's *Clybourne Park*. Other credits include *Natural Shocks, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, Arsenic and Old Lace, Peter and the Starcatcher, Shirley Valentine* (NJACT Best Actress) and *Good People*. She is a member of The Forge Theatre Development Lab at Hudson Theatre Works, and lives in Succasunna. Thanks to Lauri, Jess and Aaron.



JACKIE JACOBI

NICK

FOTL

as Ellie (Dis/Connected)

Jackie is happy to be back with *Jersey Voices* this season, having participated in the festival in previous years in many different capacities, including actor, director, and playwright. She's performed and directed across NYC and NJ, and is a published young adult novelist. Thanks and love to Lauri, Gloria, Jess, Aaron, and family.



as Officer Kenny (Dis/Connected), Daniel (Sidequest)

Nick returns to CCP for his second *Jersey Voices*. His recent foray into theater includes *Pericles* (Cleon/Lysimachus); *A Christmas Carol* (Fezziwig); *Dracula* (Seward); *Ms. Holmes* (Lestrade/Moriarty); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Benedick); and *Pride and Prejudice* (Bingley, NJACT nom). He thanks the cast of *Sidequest* for making this possible- and also Jenna, who is the best.



ERIN FEITH as Girl (Der Fröhliche Wanderer)

Erin is excited to return to CCP, previously appearing in JV and Steel Magnolias (Annelle). Recent credits: The Moors (Moorhen) at Wharton Community Players, Black Coffee (Lucia) at Lord Stirling Theater Co. and Grandma Sylvia's Funeral (Dori) with Stony Hill Players. Thanks to Jess, Aaron, and the JV cast/crew, as well as to her family for their support!



ROBERT COLON

as Boy (Der Fröhliche Wanderer)

Robert is a film and theater actor based in New York City. He recently performed 4000 Miles by Amy Herzog (Leo) in Nutley, New Jersey. His dedication to storytelling makes him a compelling presence both on and off the stage. When not performing, Robert is also a committed student and enjoys working on his studies while perfecting his craft as an actor



HOLLY HAMPTON as Mother (With This Ring)

Holly is thrilled to be making her CCP stage debut. She took an extended break from acting and is so happy to be back on stage. She recently appeared in Walking with Marcus (Kaitlin) and by day she runs a music/theater department at a private school. Holly thanks the cast, director, crew, and the CCP community for this opportunity. Endless love to Deandre, Maya and Quincy.



YVES TURGEON

as Jim (With This Ring)

Yves is an artist and teacher out of North Jersey, and is proud to be returning to the Chatham stage in With This Ring. Previously, they kicked off the One Weekend Only series with GPI (Doug) in 2023, and have since graduated from the William Esper acting conservatory in NYC. All donations this evening go toward an \$11k storybook bangle for their director, Brooke.



DAWN COLLET as Gemma (Sidequest)

Dawn is thrilled to return to the stage in Sidequest (Gemma) after a long hiatus. Favorite past roles include Grease (Frenchie) at MCT. She's deeply grateful to this incredible cast and production team, and to her husband, mum, and daughter for always cheering on her wild and wonderful ideas



KAREN KORONKIEWICZ

as BlueSphynx (Sidequest)

Karen Koronkiewicz (BLUE Sphynx) is thrilled to be making her debut at CCP! Past shows include The Triangle Factory Fire Project (Bostwick), Studio Playhouse, Class of 2005: A Killer Reunion (Rebecca), WHATCo, and Grandma Sylvia's Funeral (Mariorie) Stony Hill Players. As a current Chatham Borough Councilperson, she assures that no acting is done on the dais!!



JESSIE THIELE

as AlpacaFan (Sidequest)

Jessie is thrilled to be a part of this year's Jersey Voices! She previously appeared in the Sundays@7 reading of Hedda Gabler (Hedda). Past credits include Macbitches (Lexi) and The Real Thing (Charlotte) at Studio Playhouse, A Midsummer Night's Dream (Helena) at alphaNYC, and Pride and Prejudice (Elizabeth Bennett) at interACT Theatre Productions.



JONATHAN WILCOX as Waiter (Sidequest)

Jonathan is thrilled to be performing in his first Jersey Voices production. Previous roles include A Few Good Men (Jessup). Hair (Claude), Mama Mia (ensemble) and Annie (ensemble).



MICHAEL SASSO

as Brian (The Old Church)

Michael is excited to make his onstage debut at CCP, and to return to any stage after a ten-year hiatus from acting! Last season at CCP, he directed Tape and Lillian Whistles Back. Sasso is a fiction writer, educator, and (former) award-winning filmmaker. He thanks his family, friends, and caffeine for their continual support.



PIERCE V. LO as Desmond (The Old Church)

Jersey Voices 2025 is Pierce's third production at CCP, previously appearing in Bell, Book and Candle and Calendar Girls. Other theater credits include Pride and Prejudice. Fright Night and Thoroughly Modern Millie. Film and TV credits include Come Find Me, Run and Gotham. A Hong Kong boy born and bred, Pierce loves soup dumplings and his partner of 13 years.



ERIC WILLIAMS

as Jim (Ponce de Leon and the Old Dog)

Eric is happy to be making his first appearance at CCP as part of *Jersey Voices*. He has recently been at Studio Playhouse in *Bernstein/Hamlet* (Constant Coquelin) and the Barn Theater's *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Oberon). Thanks to Mary Ann, Spencer, Zoë and Dylan for their encouragement, and Jeanne and Lori for their presence.



LORI SMITH

as Rita (Ponce de Leon and the Old Dog)

Lori is returning to her lifelong love, the theater, after working as a Union Side Labor Lawyer in NYC. She is excited to be in her first production at CCP. Recent credits include *King Charles III* (Prime Minister) and *Sweat* (Tracey) at Studio Playhouse. A shout-out to Greg, Della and Tess for their love and support!



TASHA R. WILLIAMS

as The Keeper (Keeper of the World)

Some past credits include *The Colored Museum, Danger Liaisons* (Merteuil), *Head Over Heels* (Gynecia), *American Son* (Kendra Ellis-Connor), *Amityville '74* (Alexis Russo), *Intimate Apparel* (Ester), *For Colored Girls* (Lady In Orange), *Sister Act* (Deloris Van Cartier), and *Doubt* (Mrs. Muller**Perry Award Winner 2016).



JODI FREEMAN MALOY

as Bea (Two Birds, One's Stoned)

Jodi last appeared on the CCP stage in this season's *Nine* and *Sideways*. Favorite roles include *The Plot* (Joanne) at Chester Theatre, *It Shoulda Been You* (Judy) at 4th Wall, and *Other Desert Cities* (Silda) at the Barn. Thank you to Emma and Anna for being the best and to the cast and crew of *Jersey Voices*. Always a joy to be a part of this! Love to Rich.

ANNA McCABE

as Nat (Two Birds, One's Stoned)

This is Anna's fifth appearance in *Jersey Voices* with CCP! In addition to *JV*, some of her favorite previous productions have been *Grapes of Wrath* (Aggie Wainwright), *Rabbit Hole* (Izzy), *Dream of a Burning Boy* (Rachel), and *Tiny Beautiful Things* (Writer). Anna would like to acknowledge and thank her support system both on and off of the stage.



AARON KELLNER

JESSICA PHELAN

Jessica returns for her seventh year as Producer but has been a *JV* participant since 2012. Previous onstage *Jersey Voices* credits include *Kidneys, Dave with Destiny, The Buffer, Romance 101, A Dog's Life,* and *The Incident Report.* She also directed 2016's *Paper Bell.* For the Bobs, always.

Producer, Stage Manager

Aaron has his BFA in Acting and MFA in Dramaturgy. His stage-managing credits include *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Summit Playhouse), *It's a Wonderful Life* (Wharton), *Peter & the Starcatcher* (Studio), and *Mary's Wedding, Constellations*, and many years of *Jersey Voices* at Chatham Players.



JACKSON GOULD

Jackson is excited to be designing his first production at CCP. Previous lighting design and stage management credits include *Footloose, Clue, The Little Mermaid*, and Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*. Jackson is pursuing his BFA in Drama in the Production and Design Studio at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

JOE DeVICO

Sound Design

Lighting Design

is an award-winning theatrical sound designer who has worked as designer on more than thirty productions both on and off Broadway. He has five Perry award nominations and two wins for Outstanding Sound Design. As a musician/composer, his music can be heard on TBS, TLC, TeenNICK and We Networks and in national spots for Coca-Cola and GE Capital.



THE CHATHAM COMMUNITY PLAYERS Participating in the annual 4th of July Parade

Producer





Season Subscriptions On Sale Now **4 Shows, \$79**

www.ChathamPlayers.org

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

by Lisa Lambert, on McKellar, Bob Martin, and Greg Morrison

Directed by John AC Kennedy

APRIL 17 - MAY 2, 2026

Things I Know to Be True

June 5-14. 2026

BY Andrew Bovell DIRECTED BY Sharon Garry