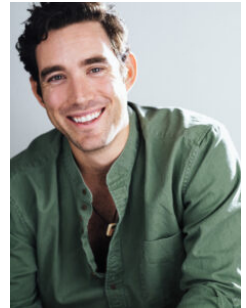




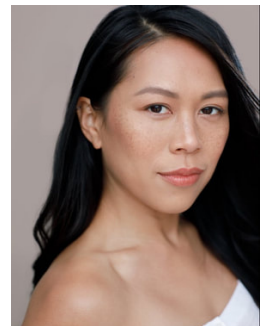
## Summer 2026 - Faculty

**Riley Shanahan (*Julius Caesar* Director)** is happy to be directing for the Summer Shakespeare Program. Riley is a theater artist and filmmaker with over sixteen years of experience acting, directing, writing, producing, and teaching. At A Noise Within, he played Mason/John in *Jane Eyre*, Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as well as Johnny in *Misalliance*. As a teaching artist, he has taught at nearly every level and in many different subjects including environmental science, theater, english, and more. Riley is passionate about theater education, specifically, because it allows kids to express themselves and helps them learn how to work as a team.



**Anthony Adu (*Romeo and Juliet* Scene Study)** AT A NOISE WITHIN: Ensemble, *The Skin of Our Teeth*; Ghost of Christmas Present / Ensemble, *A Christmas Carol*; Understudy Joey Percival, *Misalliance*. ELSEWHERE: *backstroke boys*, Faultline Theatre (Off-Broadway); *The Cherry Orchard*, South Pasadena Theatre Workshop; *Voices from a Pandemic*, Notch Theatre Company; *Pick Me Last*, La Jolla Playhouse; *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Colorado Shakespeare Festival; *DragON*, *The Christians*, Denver Center; EDUCATION: MFA in Acting from UC San Diego; Chautauqua Theatre Summer Conservatory.

**Nicole Javier (*Movement*)** is an actor, professor, and Resident Artist at A Noise Within. Previous shows at ANW include: *The Book of Will*; *A Christmas Carol*, *Animal Farm*, *Metamorphoses* and *All's Well That Ends Well*. She has also worked with TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego Repertory, South Coast Repertory, Provincetown Playhouse, Shakespeare Orange County, Aurora Theatre Company, Crowded Fire Theatre, and Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, where she originated the role of Luna in the 2024 American Theatre Critics Association New Play Award-winning play, *The Heart Sellers*. Nicole currently teaches at Pasadena City College. She received her BFA from Chapman University and MFA from UC San Diego.



**Ken Merckx (*Combat*)** has choreographed fights and taught actors combat for film and television, theatres, and universities all across the country. He is presently a faculty member at AMDA, UC, Santa Barbara, and Cal State, Fullerton. Ken is the resident fight choreographer the Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Great Lakes Theater Festival (Cleveland) and A Noise Within (Los Angeles). Mr. Merckx received his MFA, in Acting, from University of Illinois and his BA, in theatre studies, from the University of Washington.

**Hope Matthews (*Stage Management*)** With ANW: Stage Manager, *Exit the King*, Assistant Stage Manager, *One Man, Two Guv'nors*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Macbeth*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *Misalliance*. Production Intern for 23-24 season. Other Theatres: *It's All Your Fault*, *Tyler Price!*, The Hudson; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Independent Shakespeare Company; *Newsies*, 5 Star Theatricals; *Tartuffe*, *Once On This Island*, *Fefu and Her Friends*, CSUN Theatre. Hope is also the stage management mentor for the students at Westmark School. Education/Training: BA Theatre, CSUN.



**Additional faculty to be announced.**