



VICTOR SHARGAI  
LEADERSHIP AWARD

CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 17, 2022

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MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
WASHINGTON, DC

## Award Background

The Victor Shargai Leadership Award (VSLA) recognizes individuals, groups, or institutions whose outstanding service and creative leadership has strengthened the Washington, DC-area theatre community. Created to honor the legacy of beloved longtime theatre champion Victor Shargai and lift up a new generation of theatre leaders, the VSLA program was established by Theatre Washington in collaboration with Victor's husband and retired community development banker, Craig Pascal. Funds raised by this event support the work of Theatre Washington, including the Helen Hayes Awards, our signature program.



**We are thrilled to bring supporters of Washington DC's theatre community together to celebrate the importance of visionary theatre leadership.**

## 2022 Recipients



**Edgar Dobie** serves as the Executive Producer at the Tony Award-winning non-profit Arena Stage, which he has led for over a decade. Edgar's leadership has extended Arena's reach beyond its stages and into the community, demonstrating collaborative leadership and consensus-building as a champion of theatre throughout the area. His effective advocacy, personal generosity, and commitment to theatre in the life of our community exemplify the spirit of this award.



**Paige Hernandez** is a critically acclaimed multidisciplinary artist who works as a performer, director, choreographer, educator, and playwright throughout the Washington, DC area. She is the Associate Artistic Director at Everyman Theatre and the originator of B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT. Paige is a visionary in the arts, bringing together artists of wide-ranging talents across generations and genres. Her artistic integrity – reflected in a commitment to safe, equitable, and inclusive spaces for artists – is intrinsic to this award.

## About the Celebration

The inaugural Victor Shargai Leadership Award Celebration will be held at the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library on October 17, 2022**. The evening will feature presentations about awardees Paige Hernandez and Edgar Dobie, an open bar and hors d'oeuvres, and vibrant city views from the newly-renovated library.

The **Victor Shargai Leadership Award** is a celebration of the Washington, DC-area theatre community. In 2023, Theatre Washington will bring back the Helen Hayes Awards for the first time in three years. We will celebrate, recognize, and uplift our community's work and the urgent need to create theatre to tell essential stories. We will gather again as a whole community to acknowledge each other and our collective contributions to the vitality of our region.



## About Theatre Washington

Founded in 1984, Theatre Washington is a non-profit service organization whose mission is to support and uplift the DC region's vibrant theatre community.

Theatre Washington celebrates artistic achievement, supports professional development, and promotes equitable access to theatre. This is accomplished through a wide range of programs, including the annual Theatre Week festival, the Taking Care Fund, the Theatre Summit, and the Helen Hayes Awards.

Victor Shargai served as the chair of Theatre Washington's board for many years and supported the organization throughout his life. His husband, Craig Pascal, created the Victor Shargai Leadership Award in collaboration with Theatre Washington to support the organization's work and recognize leadership in the community.

## The Helen Hayes Awards

The Helen Hayes Awards, Theatre Washington's signature program, recognize outstanding achievements from more than 90 professional theatres and hundreds of theatre-makers across the Washington, DC area each year. Named for Helen Hayes—the legendary First Lady of the American Theatre and a Washington, DC native—the awards celebrate the artists and companies whose work makes the Washington, DC region a thriving, nationally recognized theatre community. The program also promotes and recognizes excellent theatre throughout the year through the Helen Hayes Recommends program.

Nominations for the annual Helen Hayes Awards are made at the end of a year-long process in which 40 volunteer judges on five panels attend as many as 200 eligible productions across the region, including dozens of world premieres, at theatres of all sizes. The Helen Hayes Awards are celebrated each spring at a festive awards ceremony and after-party attended by as many as 2,000 supporters and members of the Washington area theatre community.

## Sponsorships & Tickets

### The Victor Shargai Leadership Award Circle

All VSLA sponsorship packages include name recognition on print and digital materials for the VSLA Celebration and the 2023 Helen Hayes Awards.

#### \$20,000 Patrons

Ten Victor Shargai Leadership Award Celebration tickets

Four 2023 Helen Hayes Awards tickets

- Invitation to the 2023 Helen Hayes Awards Pre-Show Reception
- Opportunity to present at the 2023 Helen Hayes Awards

Four VIP tickets to a 2022-2023 Washington, DC-area theatre production

Dinner with the 2022 Victor Shargai Leadership Award recipients

#### \$10,000 Sponsors

Four Victor Shargai Leadership Award Celebration tickets

Four 2023 Helen Hayes Awards tickets

- Invitation to the 2023 Helen Hayes Awards Pre-Show Reception
- Opportunity to present at the 2023 Helen Hayes Awards

Four VIP tickets to a 2022-2023 Washington, DC-area theatre production

Dinner with the 2022 Victor Shargai Leadership Award recipients

#### \$5,000 Supporters

Four Victor Shargai Leadership Award Celebration tickets

Four 2023 Helen Hayes Awards tickets

- Invitation to the 2023 Helen Hayes Awards Pre-Show Reception

Two VIP tickets to a 2022-2023 Washington, DC-area theatre production

#### \$2,500 Friends

Two Victor Shargai Leadership Award Celebration tickets

Two 2023 Helen Hayes Awards tickets

#### \$1,00 Fans

Two Victor Shargai Leadership Award Celebration tickets

**\$175:** One Victor Shargai Leadership Award Celebration ticket

To purchase sponsorship or tickets, please visit

[theatrewashington.org/VSLA](https://theatrewashington.org/VSLA)

Or contact Amy Austin, President & CEO, Theatre Washington:

amy@theatrewashington.org • (202) 491-1685

*Theatre Washington is a 501(c)(3) organization. Portions of the sponsorship packages are tax-deductible.*