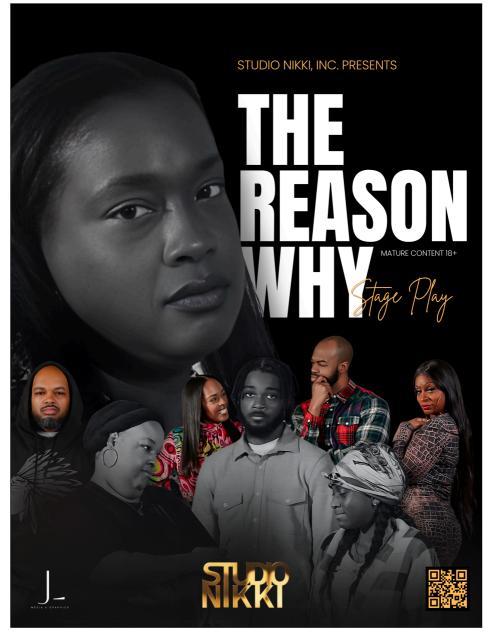
PLAYBILL®

BOWIE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS STUDIO NIKKI, INC Upper Marlboro, MD



STUDIO NIKKI, INC

PRESENTS

THE REASON WHY

BY
NICOLE MCKAY-ATKINSON

WITH

MICHAEL ATKINSON DR. ANGELA BRACEY ANTHONY BROWN RENEE BUTLER KIARA DAVIS TIMOTHY FLEMING KRYSTAL FLETCHER JOHN GREEN JO VEGA

LAURICE T. HARRISON JOHN H. LLOYD III KENDALL R. ROBERSON CARRA THOMAS

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC LARRY "STOMP" ATWATER

STAGE CHANGE MUSICIAN JUSTYN JOHNSON **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, WRITER & DIRECTOR**NICOLE MCKAY-ATKINSON

AUDIO DIRECTOR MARK DATCHER

STAGE MANAGERS
WILLIAM ATKINSON
MONICA NICOLAS
MICHELE SCHOOLER
CARRA THOMAS

SET ENGINNERKENNY NEWTON

FEATURING

JOSEPH "JoDaSho" JOHNSON JR. THE A-TEAM PRODUCERS GROUP

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JOHN H. LLOYD III

LIGHTING DIRECTOR
JERELL BENSON

	PROGRAM -
Scene 1	The Reason
Scene 2	Just Life
Scene 3	In Yo' Face
	INTERMISSION
Scene 4	
Scene 5	Lost
Scene 6	Really
Scene 7	Oh MyWhy?

IN LOVING MEMORY OF EXIE RUSSEL



CAST

Cast Members

Nadia Krystal Fletcher
Steve Timothy Fleming
Karen Renee Butler
Malik Michael Atkinson
Uncle Cephus John H. Lloyd III
Aunt Betty Laurice T. Harrison
Theresa Dr. Angela Bracey
Lowe Anthony Brown
Tammy Kiara Davis
Young Nadia Kendall R. Roberson
Mama Cee Carra Thomas
Ricky John Green
Work Wife Jo Vega
Spirit of Temptation Nikiah Wade



Michael Atkinson

as Malik

Is a loving husband and father of three. Technical Trainer by day, he enjoys spending his off-time doing community service and carpentry. Being part of this production brings Michael out of his comfort zone in the best way, and he is excited to support his sister-in-law and friend, Nikki.



Larry "Stomp" Atwater Jr.

Affectionately known as Stomp Dogg, Larry is one of the hardest-paying drummers in the Metropolitan area. Born and raised in D.C., Larry attended Senior High school, where he learned to read and write music and played in several bands. Larry was given his first break at his home church at only five years old. As his love for music and the drums progressed, he played in several Go-Go Bands, including Northeast Groovers, Raw Image, and the A-Team. He has also played with several national recording artists, such as Carl Thomas, Ginuwine, KeKe Wyatt, Lil Mo, 112, and Raheem DeVaughn.



Dr. Angela Bracey

as Theresa

A versatile talent shining on stage and screen. Catch her captivating performances in Eleanor's Bench, Swagger, 6888 (Six Triple Eight), The White Rabbit, Building A Love Like Ours, Home & commercials. She's graced screens on Netflix, Pure Flix, and Apple TV, while collaborating with Tyler Perry productions, featured films, and Off-Broadway gems!



Anthony Brown

as Lowe

Or Ant, is a father of two and a vast sports lover with a passion for acting. He regularly plays basketball when he is not working at the National Institute of Health (NIH). He thanks his family for their patience and support as he pursues his dream of becoming a full-time actor.



Renee Butler

as Karen

Is a comical motivator, encouraging others through love and laughter. Wife and mother of four, she often finds herself occupied as a football and T-ball mom! Philippians 4:5-6 is a staple for her life. As a long-time friend to and supporter of Nikki, Reneé believes this production "started from the bottom, now it's here!"



Kiara Davis

as Tammy

Or KiKi, is an adventurer who enjoys traveling, trying new things, dancing and acting. Wife and mother of two boys & a dog, she is always on a journey of evolving for herself and her family. Kiara is also a Realtor with MD/DC/VA Prime Realty Company!

www.KiaraDavisRealEstate.com



Timothy Fleming

as Steve

Mr. Family and Fitness is making his theatre acting debut in The Reason Why Stage Play. With his greatest aspiration of being an example for his children and a leader to his family, he is thrilled to be embraced by the TRW family.



Krystal Fletcher

as Nadia

Krystal was born and raised in Maryland. She's a phenomenal woman, wife, and mother to four beautiful children. She's always had the passion and motivation to write poetry and fictional stories. She's making a HUGE step into the acting world as a writer, actress, and director. She has written two books and the script for her short film, with a TV series currently in the works. She lives by the motto, "You do what you gotta do, to do what you want to do."



Laurice T. Harrison

as Aunt Betty

Is a graduate of Duke Ellington School of the Performing Arts. She is a Community Manager in DC by day and a comedienne of sorts after that. Living by the words, "The whole world's a stage," she hopes to catapult into other acting roles. Laurice has six beautiful children and two granddaughters.



Maurice D. Hughes Jr.

a native of Camp Springs, Maryland, has over 20 years of experience in education and executive protection. A graduate of Marshall University with a degree in Criminal Justice, he has served Prince George's County Public Schools for more than two decades and is Vice President of Stealth Private Protections. Maurice now brings his leadership, discipline, and passion to the stage in The Reason Why.



Joseph "JoDaSho" Johnson Jr.

Joseph is happy to be making his theatre debut as a professional singer with the cast of *The Reason Why*. A native Washingtonian, Joseph has acted in several on-stage plays, and sung in choirs, and bands over his 20-year career. Joseph has sung with Grammy award-winning artists such as Bilal and "Rev Run" of Run DMC and performs Go-Go, R&B and Gospel throughout the country. Joseph recently won an award for Best R&B Singer in the DMV. Joseph is currently part of the A-Team Producers Group and can be found hosting karaoke at multiple venues weekly in the DMV area.



John H. Lloyd III

as Uncle Cephus

is the Executive Director, Director of Arts, Web Developer, and Graphic Designer for Studio Nikki, Inc. John is also an entrepreneur, actor, artist, musician, powerlifter, and yogi. His passion for creativity and self-expression was ignited early in life through exposure to the performing arts. If you ever see him standing outside, just know—he's OUTSTANDING!



Kendall R. Roberson

as Young Nadia

is a twin, young actress and dancer with a natural love for performing. Known for her determination and vibrant spirit, she brings both energy and heart to every role. When she's not on stage, Kendall enjoys dancing, creating content, and spending time with animals. Recently, she began exploring theater more deeply through classes and performances, where she continues to grow her talent and passion for the arts



Carra Thomas

as Mama Cee

Moves to uplift people through teaching and helping others remember hope. God-fearing and family-oriented, she is surrounded by the love of her nieces, nephews, and godchildren, whom she holds dear to her heart. Also acting as a stage manager, she is elated to be part of this positive team.



Jo Vega

as Work Wife

Hailing from Washington, D.C., JoVega is a vibrant creative with a passion for beauty, expression, and storytelling. A dedicated federal professional, she balances her career with her love for fashion, hair, and travel. She has graced the runway for Harvey Star Washington and inspired local makeup artists. Now, she proudly joins the cast of The Reason Why stage play, excited to help bring its raw emotion and powerful message to life.



Nikiah Wade

as Spirit of Temptation

LCPC, NCC, PMH-C, TF-CBT, is a licensed clinical professional counselor and founder of Abundantly Well Therapeutic Services, LLC. A Washington, D.C. native and mother of four, she provides telehealth therapy for teens and adults and school-based therapy in Maryland. Certified in Perinatal Mental Health and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, she enjoys dancing, traveling, reading, family time, and theater.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Nicole McKay-Atkinson was raised in Hyattsville, MD. She graduated from North Carolina Central University, receiving her Bachelor of Arts in History in 1995 and her Master of Library Science in 1996. For as long as Nicole can remember, she has loved writing and creating due to her parents, John and Barbara McKay, keeping her in the library and at stage plays. She has always aspired to write books, hoping to be able to connect with and help people. In 2008, Nicole wrote two children's books, *The Adventures of Bug and Roofus: Clean Your Room Roofus* and *Lost in Woozy Doozy World*, which seek to instill discipline in children and help them to make the right decisions. Little did Nicole know that those children's books would be the catalyst to inspire her trilogy: *The Reason Why, More of the Same*, and *Nadia*, known as *The Nadia Series*.

Nicole's sons, John Green [as Ricky, left], Drew Atkinson [as Pizza Boy, middle], and niece, LaKendal Burch [as Young Nadia, right], have made their acting debuts in *The Reason Why*. Each of her teenage family members has a personality greater than one could imagine. In their ways, they have quite literally inspired Nicole and aided her in not giving up on her dreams. They are teachers to her as much as she is to them.







Nicole expresses her heartfelt gratitude to her devoted husband, William Atkinson, as the Bar Tender. She cherishes his unwavering support throughout their journey, both in their personal life and professional endeavors. His love and encouragement have been instrumental in her growth and success. She feels truly blessed to have her husband by her side.



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STUDIO NIKKI

An enchanting world of captivating performances and transformative journeys. Join us as we ignite young talents to thrive in the vibrant realm of performing arts. Be part of our community, where creativity knows no bounds! Donate today at www.studio-nikki.com.



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Springbreak (SPGBK) Watches is a designer watch company, based out of North Carolina, that provides a fantastic variety of impactful, unique, & colorful watches. We draw strength and inspiration from our community & culture, our beautiful childhood experiences growing up in Fayetteville, and our strong passion for education (hence the name "Springbreak"). Each watch and watch band in our collection is symbolic & named in honor of a school or community located in our hometown.

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KIARA DAVIS REAL ESTATE

At Kiara Davis Real Estate, the focus is on you. Serving Clinton, MD and nearby communities with MD Prime Realty, Co., Kiara helps homebuyers find the right place to call home and guides sellers in showcasing their property to achieve the best results. Known for her responsive service and genuine care, she goes beyond the transaction to build lasting relationships. Explore more at www.KiaraDavisRealEstate.com



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FUTURE EVENTS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Nikki McKay Enterprises, Inc. and **Studio Nikki, Inc.** want to first thank God for all that He has done. Secondly, we offer a special thank you to Tiffany Green and Cayla Burch for all of your help.





We also thank all of the talented individuals who worked tirelessly to bring The Reason Why to the stage and all of you who supported this production. A special thank you to the Porter Sanford III Performing Arts Center, as well!

Be on the lookout for "The NEG Stage Play" and "The Reason Why" (Drama Series) coming to a stage and television near you!

Finally, please follow Nikki McKay on Facebook at Nikki McKay Atkinson on Instagram @StudioNikki2023 and visit www.studio-nikki.com for more information on upcoming productions and books.

BE BLESSED!

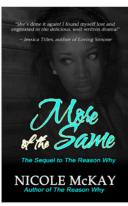


The Nadia Series



His addiction...sex. The drug...his wife.

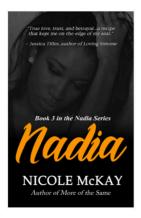
On the outside, Nadia has the ideal life. However, looks can be deceiving, as she struggles to survive in her marriage to Steve, her husband of ten years. Friends are there to encourage and strengthen Nadia through her journey of spiritual highs and emotional lows, but only Nadia can determine her destiny. Will Nadia ever find the way out, or will she succumb to the torment of her lust-filled marriage?



Thrust into a world outside of her comfort zone, Nadia prepares to divorce her narcissistic husband, Steve. Inspired by loneliness, Nadia travels the road of reckless decision making, while trying to discover herself.

While soliciting the help of her best friends, the tables turn. Nadia realizes that one is also in need of guidance, as she live in her own world of deceit and denial.

Will Nadia be able to maintain her sanity and help her best friend, as she struggles through this new phase of her life, or will she compromise her integrity and self-destruct in the process?



Can Nadia Escape The Web Of Lust, Betrayal and Deceit? Making aggressive power moves to rid herself of previous hurts and scars, she sets the tone for her life with Kyle, but her turbulent past has other plans. Trust, now more than ever, is a chore for Nadia as she sifts through what she sees, as opposed to what she feels. Nadia's life begins to spiral out of control as her past has its dirty hands entangled into her uncertain future.

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