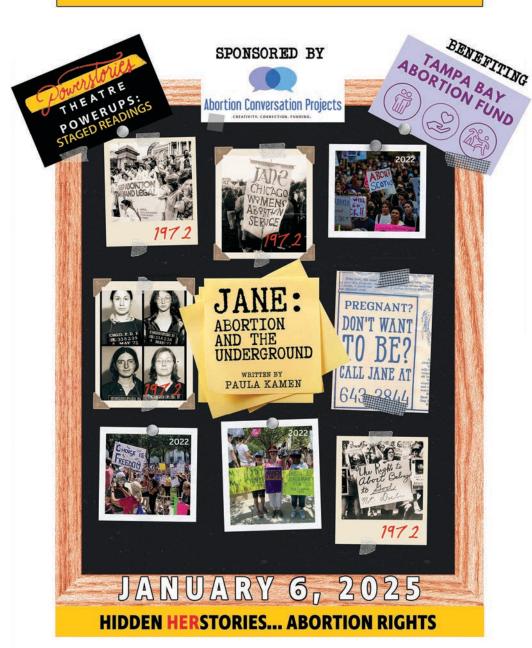
PowerUps

Powerstories Theatre
Powerstories Theatre of Tampa Bay Inc.
TAMPA, FL





REAL LIFE. ACTED OUT.

Jane: Abortion and the Underground

by Paula Kamen

Cast

| HEATHER | Fran Powers |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| NAOMI | Janice Creneti |
| MILLIE/YOUNG WOMAN 1 | Jenna Jane |
| NANCY/YOUNG WOMAN 2 | Suzy DeVore |
| JODY | Karla Hartley |
| ALICE | Janice Nepon-Sixt |
| RUTH | Janet Scaglione |
| MICKI | Fanni Green |
| SUNNY/YOUNG WOMAN 3 | Holly Marie Weber |
| LORI/YOUNG WOMAN 4 | Ivy Sunflower |
| DR. C/NICK | Landon Green |
| REVEREND PARSONS | Ned Averill-Snell |

Creative Team

| THEATRE FOUNDER | Fran Powers |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | Clareann Despain |
| DIRECTOR | |
| TECHNICAL SPECIALIST | Chris Corley |
| STAGE MANAGER | Vivianne Rodriguez |
| AD/PROJECTIONS OPERATOR | Clareann Despain |
| LOBBY MANAGER | Cheryl Flowers |
| MARKETING | Deb Kelley |

Jane: Abortion and the Underground is presented by special arrangement with Paula Kamen.

Running Time - 120 minutes with Intermission

Founder's Message: 2025 Message

As we embark on Powerstories' silver anniversary season, I am filled with immense pride and excitement. This milestone is a testament to the passion, dedication, and creativity of everyone who has been a part of our journey. Our theme for this season, "HIDDEN HERSTORIES," is particularly close to my heart. We will be shining a light on the untold stories of remarkable women who have made an indelible impact on our world.

I invite you all to join us in celebrating these powerful true stories, as we honor the voices that deserve to be heard and celebrated. Thank you for being part of the Powerstories family and for your unwavering support.

With delight, Fran Powers



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Tampa Bay Times



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POWERSTORIES ANGEL

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Fran Powers - Founder & Executive Director Clareann Despain - Artistic Director Deb Kelley - Director of Marketing Shannon Zettler - Manager of Administration Chris Corley - Technical Specialist

Cheryl Flowers - Lobby Manager Krista Blanchette - Director of Girls' Programs

Stefanie Coren-Marotta - Girlstories Leadership Theatre Teaching Artist Ivy Sunflower - Girlstories Leadership Theatre Teaching Artist

CREATIVE TEAM Read full bios at bit.ly/JanePowerUp





GIGI JENNEWEIN (DIRECTOR)



VIVIAN E. RODRIGUEZ (STAGE MANAGER)

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES



PAULA KAMEN (PLAYWRIGHT)

This play is not only based on a true story, as they say, but it also gives a direct voice to some of those that lived it. The monologues you will hear, between fictionalized scenes, are taken verbatim from my interviews with women (and one minister from the University of Chicago) who ran, used, aided and abetted the feminist Jane collective, known widely in those days as "the best-kept secret in Chicago" from 1969 to 1973.

Since I started this project, more than 30 years ago, some of the key players in Jane have passed away, showing the urgency of sharing their history. This is to not only illustrate the grim realities of the bad old days, but also to try to inspire us today with an example of the powerful things that happen when (pushy) women organize.

Since June 24, 2022, when Roe v. Wade was overturned with the Dobbs decision, the play has, sadly, also taken on a new level of gravity -- in addressing illegal abortion not as a historical artifact, but as a present-day reality, with severe new restrictions imposed in almost two-dozen states. Since Dobbs,, the play has marked sad milestones of being performed in states where abortion is basically outlawed, including in South Carolina, and with your production in Florida.

Today, Chicago, with its rich history of progressive organizing, once again, has become a refuge for care for thousands of women throughout the Midwest, and even the South. As in the past, it's been poor women, who can't afford to take off work and travel for days, who are suffering the most. (When abortion became legal in New York state in 1970, more affluent women in Illinois traveled there, leaving the poorer ones to seek care from Jane.)

As in the time of Jane, laws banning abortion have not stopped the practice, but have only flagrantly delayed it — with much more complexity and risk involved. In 2025, there are some states where it's dangerous to even be pregnant, where something as common as an incomplete miscarriage is increasingly becoming life-threatening.

I'm grateful to all the people interviewed — and to Powerstories — for this opportunity to spark these conversations and convey the easily forgotten inner dramas of their stories. I'm also amazed at the energy and dedication of this younger generation of actors and producers.

CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Read full bios at bit.ly/JanePowerUp





FRAN POWERS (HEATHER)



JANICE CRENETI (NAOMI)



JENNA JANE (MILLIE/ YOUNG WOMAN 1)



SUZY DEVORE (NANCY/YOUNG WOMAN 2)



KARLA HARTLEY (JODY)



JANICE NEPON-SIXT (ALICE)



JANET SCAGLIONE (RUTH)



FANNI GREEN (MICKI)



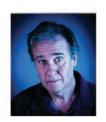
HOLLY MARIE WEBER (SUNNY/YOUNG WOMAN 3)



IVY SUNFLOWER (LORI/YOUNG WOMAN 4)



LANDON GREEN (DR. C/NICK)



NED AVERILL-SNELL (REVEREND PARSONS)

SPECIAL LIVE JANE ZOOM EVENT - JAN. 7 - 7 PM EST

All our theatre guests will receive a Zoom link on Tuesday, January 7 to join us for an intimate one-on-one conversation with the brilliant playwright, Paula Kamen, and three of the original Janes—Heather Brooks, Eileen Smith, and Diane Stevens. This is an incredible opportunity to hear firsthand accounts and insights into the powerful narratives we will bring to life on stage. Enjoy a unique chance to engage with the creators and pioneers behind these remarkable stories.











Paula Kamen

Heather Brooks

Eileen Smith

Diane Stevens

COMING IN MARCH





66 The history of all times, and of today especially, teaches that ... women will be forgotten if they forget to think about themselves.

VOICES OF VOICES

MARCH 27-30, 2025

HIDDEN HERSTORIES...

Powerstories Theatre @USF College of the Arts School of Theater & Dance 3837 USF Holly Dr., Tampa Supported by the Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners.

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Staging true stories to open minds and hearts and inspire action worldwide.

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