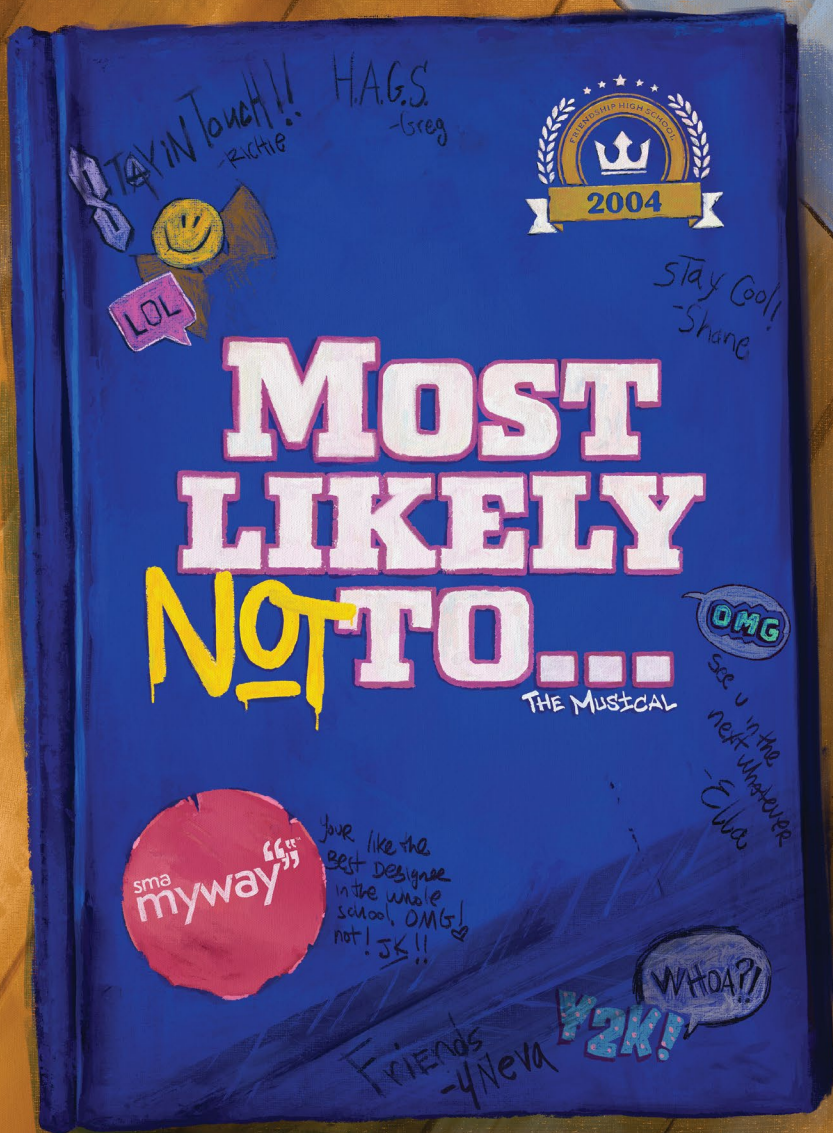


# PLAYBILL®

THE TIMES CENTER



# THE TIMES CENTER

Genentech

Presents

## MOST LIKELY NOT TO...

### WRITTEN BY

SHANNON DEVIDO ALLEGRA KEYS SHANE BURCAW HANNAH BURCAW  
& CHRISTINE TOY JOHNSON

### WITH INPUT FROM

BRIANNA ALBERS AMANDA CAMP JEREMY CAMP JAMES IAN  
JASMINE JACKSON KRISTEN RESENDEZ JOEL MANUEL  
AMBER-JOI WATKINS SAWSAN ZAKARIA

### FEATURING

SHANNON DEVIDO JESSY YATES RORY MAX KAPLAN DARILYN CASTILLO  
JOEL MANUEL JAMES IAN ANDREW CHAPPELLE  
SHANE BURCAW HANNAH BURCAW

### MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

MELVIN TUNSTALL III GREG DEAN BOROWSKY JAMES IAN  
PETER MILLS KATYA STANISLAVSKAYA ADAM PRYOR

### CREATIVE DIRECTOR

ADAM PRYOR

### PRODUCTION MANAGER

ERIK HOLDEN

### COMPANY MANAGER

WOODY BUCK

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

BRETT BOLES

### HAIR & MAKE UP

BRIAN STRUMWASSER

### STAGE MANAGERS

KAT WEST  
MAKENNA REMENARIK

### COSTUMES

LIZZIE DONELAN

### VIDEO SET DESIGN

AFPC TELEVISION  
& EVENT TECHNOLOGY

### LIGHTING

NICK CHIMIEMTI

### CASTING DIRECTOR

DANIELLE PRETSFELDER  
DEMCHICK, CSA

### MUSIC/VIDEO PRODUCTION

MICHAEL J. MORITZ JR

### PRESS

SYNEOS HEALTH  
GRAPEVINE PR

### ILLUSTRATIONS

RICHARD PELLEGRINO

### PHOTOGRAPHY

SHUTTERSTOCK  
CLIFTON MOONEY

### FOH MANAGEMENT

THE MAG EXPERIENCE

### CHOREOGRAPHY

SHANNON LEWIS

### EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

SMA COMMUNITY ADAM PRYOR  
SYNEOS HEALTH

### ACCESSIBILITY COORDINATOR

INDIEVISIBLE ENTERTAINMENT

### PRODUCED BY

KEVIN DUDA JON WEBER  
MALLORY HOWELL-JOSEPH

### DIRECTED BY

JOHN TARTAGLIA

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# MOST LIKELY NOT TO... THE MUSICAL

This first-of-its-kind musical comedy uses subversive satire, sharp wit and show-stopping songs to convey a fresh and startling look at life with a disability.

Set against the backdrop of a high school reunion, *Most Likely Not To...* upends assumptions about what people with disabilities can accomplish, despite being written off as the most likely not to.

Although one in four American adults lives with a disability, these sorts of ableist attitudes are pervasive, due to deep-seated societal norms that favor non-disabled people. As a result, our world remains wildly inaccessible. *Most Likely Not To...* parodies ridiculous real-world situations arising from ableism and inaccessibility as the characters travel cross-country to reunite with old friends and foes.

The show was written and performed by a group of creatives living with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) — a genetic neuromuscular disease that is often disabling. Support for *Most Likely Not To...* was provided by Genentech's SMA My Way program, which is an initiative that aims to support all people impacted by SMA by sharing lived experiences and building connections within the community.



To post about the show on social media, please use the hashtag #MostLikelyNotTo and tag @Genentech.

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# MUSICAL NUMBERS

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## ACT 1

### Scene 1: Preparing to Travel

Travel Day .....Company

### Scene 2: On the Airplane

Like We Care .....Cubby Vanderveer III, Flight Crew

## ACT 2

### Scene 1: High School Reunion

Take Me Back.....Company

SPACES ..... James, Greg

## ACT 3

### Scene 1: Diner

Start Again .....Samantha, Ella

### Scene 2: Headed Home

Take Me Back Reprise .....Company

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# CAST

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*In order of appearance*

Shane ..... Shane Burcaw

Hannah .....Hannah Burcaw

Samantha .....Shannon DeVido

Anna .....Darilyn Castillo

Overly Cheerful Flight Attendant ..... Natalie Weiss

Ryan ..... Rory Max Kaplan

Cubby Vanderveer III ..... Andrew Chappelle

Flight Crew ..... Cedric Leiba Jr, Yasmeen Sulieman, Natalie Weiss

Greg ..... Joel Manuel

James ..... James Ian

Ella .....Jessy Yates

Bev .....Alexis Loiselle

Penny ..... Sarah Dacey Charles

Ensemble ..... Lauryn Adams, Sarah Dacey Charles, Bryan Cortés,  
Cedric Leiba Jr, Alexis Loiselle, Phil Sloves, Yasmeen Sulieman, Jesse  
Swimm, Melvin Tunstall III, Natalie Weiss, Allie Williams

Please remain seated after the show  
for a panel discussion with the creators.



## A thank you from the SMA community

by Allegra Keys, poet and writer

The setup for *Most Likely Not To...* is not new and not unique to those living with a disability. Many of us may have avoided or dreaded our high school reunions because going might mean facing old bullies, problems and insecurities.

What makes this show special is the SMA community's spin on the story. Never before has a group of people with SMA gotten together to share their most ludicrous stories and then put them into a musical. So many details of my life and the lives of others with SMA are invisible to those outside of the community.

As disabled people living in a world not made for us, people with SMA regularly face absurd scenarios of ableism – discrimination in favor of non-disabled people – and often the perpetrators have no idea that they did anything wrong. The cringey situations in this show have all been plucked from real life. None of them had to be exaggerated.

The point of this show is to spotlight the difficulties of traveling with a disability and

the pervasiveness of ableism. By seeing everyday ableism on stage, our hope is that the audience will stop and consider whether they have ever done or said any of these things themselves.

That is what I want people to take away from *Most Likely Not To...* – to put themselves in these situations. If you laugh, that's great. If you felt a bit uncomfortable, even better. What are you going to do with those feelings?

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to Genentech's SMA My Way program for granting people with SMA a platform to speak about ableism in a space where we typically aren't given the opportunity to use our voices. Having been a model in the program's Double Take fashion show ahead of New York Fashion Week in 2022, I knew that whatever SMA My Way did next would be innovative gold, and I am happy I got to be a part of it.

This is how change happens.

sma  
myway



## Personal stories about relationships, parenting & community



SMA My Way is a collaboration between Genentech and the SMA community to support all people impacted by SMA.

Hear from fellow life travelers living with SMA, including authors, entrepreneurs, students, partners and more, and see how they're approaching life goals and celebrating individuality.





# JAMES IAN SPACES

SPACES is a first-of-its-kind musical collaboration, created by the SMA community through Genentech's SMA My Way program in 2021, to demonstrate that people with disabilities belong in all spaces.

Each creative component — song, music video and album art — was led by someone with SMA. SPACES uses the universal language of music to elevate the many voices of this community and celebrate our individuality.



Shannon DeVido



RAY IN TOUCH!!  
-RICHIE



Jessy Yates



Rory Max Kaplan



Darilyn Castillo



Joel Manuel



James Ian



Andrew Chappelle



Shane and Hannah Burcaw

Y2K!

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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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## SHANNON DEVIDO

Shannon is an actress, comedian, singer and writer. She is best known for her recurring roles on the TV series *Lucky Hank*, *Difficult People* and *Bridesman* as well as her starring role in the film *Best Summer Ever*. Shannon is an advocate for casting people with disabilities into complex roles, to break down stereotypes and increase on-screen representation.

## JESSY YATES

Jessy is thrilled to be here! She recently made history as the first wheelchair user to graduate from the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale. Select Yale credits include *Yell: A Documentary of My Time Here* by Jeremy O. Harris and the premier of Tom Waits' *Alice*. She has performed at The Public Theatre, BAM, The Kennedy Center, Williamstown Theatre Festival and Ars Nova. Her original work, *You're Going to Hell if You Laugh*, has been seen at Prelude Festival and BAM. TV Credits: *Me* (premiering on Apple+ this summer), *Law & Order: SVU*, *Speechless*. Training: Yale, NYU (PHTS).

## RORY MAX KAPLAN

RMK has performed on the Broadway stage as an original cast member of *A Bronx Tale the Musical*, and made his debut in *Jersey Boys*. TV appearances include: *Jersey Boys Live Stream* starring Nick Jonas (release TBD), Johnny Retch in *Big Dogs* (Prime Video), voice of Cameron in *Pokémon*. A recording artist in NYC, RMK has music out on all streaming services. Follow on Instagram @rorymaxkaplan for more info on new music and live performances. Represented by Brian Herrick with *The Hell's Kitchen*.

## DARILYN CASTILLO

Darilyn is a proud New Yorker and CCNY graduate. Credits: *Hamilton* (AndPeggy & Philip Company; Peggy Schuyler & Maria Reynolds), *The Lion King* (Nala u/s). TV: *The Crowded Room*, *And Just like That*, *Law and Order: Organized Crime*, *74th & 75th Tony Awards*, and *Boardwalk Empire*. Always trust your voice.

## JOEL MANUEL

Joel is a singer, athlete with the LA Galaxy Power Soccer Club, and actor who has been in multiple Chicago-area stage productions,

including *Our Town*, *Cinderella: At The Theater of Potatoes*, and *All Quiet On The Western Front*. In 2021, he received a 3Arts Make a Wave Award to support his theatrical work. Joel is an advocate for inclusive casting and is honored to be a part of the push for disability representation in the media.

## JAMES IAN

James is a singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, actor and writer. He is a passionate advocate for authentic representation of disabled actors in TV, film and other media. James' music, including SPACES, is featured on the iHeartRadio website and has been played on the radio. His filmography includes several movies, commercials, TV series and documentaries, including *The Allnighter*, *Pugsley*, *Kimboo* and *Inner Warrior*.

## ANDREW CHAPPELLE

Broadway: *Hamilton* (Original Broadway Cast), & *Juliet, Mamma Mia!* Tour: *Hamilton*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*. TV: *Scotty on the Starz!* critically acclaimed series *Blindspotting*, *Jlo* on Showtime's *Escape at Dannemora* and *Rafael* on Amazon's *The Tick*. Film: *Fanatic* (Outfest, Provincetown, Palm Springs and Newfest film festivals). He can be heard on the Grammy-winning certified diamond *Hamilton* original cast recording.

## SHANE and HANNAH BURCAW

Shane and Hannah are online influencers and public speakers. Together, they run a viral YouTube channel, *Squirmy and Grubs*, where they share their journey, relationship tips and more. Shane is also the author of three books, which are focused on life with SMA, and the co-founder of a non-profit organization, *Laughing at My Nightmare*, Inc., which is committed to supporting the disability community.

## ALLIE WILLIAMS

Allie is a classically trained vocalist and vocal teacher specializing in opera. She is a staunch disability rights advocate and works to destigmatize disability by sharing her daily life with her followers on TikTok. Her hobbies include music, gaming, art and make-up.

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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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## ALEXIS LOISELLE

Alexis is so honored to be part of this very special new musical! Recent credits include - North American Tour: *Legally Blonde*, Off-Broadway: *Fire Island*, *Sleepy Hollow*, Regional: *Escape to Margaritaville* (John W. Engeman Theater) and *Company* (RTOP). Huge thanks to my husband Jacob, my parents and ATB Talent!

## SARAH DACEY CHARLES

Sarah's 30-year career spans Broadway, TV and Film, with the following selected credits. TV: *The Blacklist*, *Prodigal Son*, *House of Cards*, *Jessica Jones*, *Law & Order: SVU*. Broadway/National Tours: *Les Miserables*, *9 to 5*, *Sunset Boulevard*. Regional: *Wit* (Vivian Bearing), *Passion* (Fosca). Best Actor award from LIFF. Feature film *Players* just dropped on Netflix.

## NATALIE WEISS

Broadway: *Everyday Rapture* (u/s Menonettes), Off-Broadway: *EmojiLand* (Construction Worker), National Tours: *Les Miserables* (swing), *Wicked* (ensemble/u/s Elphaba). Regional: *Into The Woods* (The Witch), *Ghost* (Molly), *Chess* (Florence). Recordings: *The Greatest Showman*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *The Incredibles 2*, TV: *American Idol Season 4*. Misc: "Breaking Down The Riffs®." BFA Penn State.

## CEDRIC LEIBA JR

Broadway: *The Wiz* (Co-Producer). Paris: *Carmen La Cubana* (Théâtre du Châtelet). Off-Broadway: *Kingdom* (The Public), *Yellow Brick Road* (Lucille Lortel), *Sweet Charity* (HOLA Award, NHAT). Regional: *The MUNEY's West Side Story*, *Goodspeed's La Cage*, *TheatreSquared's Chad Deity*. Film: *Bros*. TV: *The Blacklist*, *High Maintenance*, *Pose*. Co-Founder of DominiRican Productions. @ceddynyc

## YASMEEN SULIEMAN

Yasmeen is a singer/songwriter who has written and performed internationally, with releases on MCA, Defected and more. Broadway: *Beautiful - The Carole King Musical*, *Paradise Square*, *Shucked*. Tour: *Little Shop of Horrors* (1st National). Off-Broadway: *Trevor*, *Junie B. Jones* (Lincoln Center), *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Regional: *Tale of Despereaux* (Berkeley Rep.). TV:

*Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* (Prime), *Hi-5* (TLC), *Love for Real* (Hallmark), *Half and Half* (UPN).

## LAURYN ADAMS

Lauryn is a proud native of Atlanta, Georgia, and a recent graduate of Spelman College! Pre-Broadway: *The Great Gatsby* (Paper Mill Playhouse). Regional: *West Side Story* (Estella & Dance Captain, Vanessa/Carla u/s), *In The Heights* (CSCT). Artists: Coi Leray, Kat Graham TV: *The First Lady* (SHOWTIME), *Fa-La-La-Lidays* (Disney). IG: @laurynadams\_

## BRYAN CORTÉS

Bryan was born and raised in Puerto Rico. He started his career as a dancer and later began training with acting studios in NYC. After graduating, Bryan joined the Spanish theater companies Repertorio Español and Teatro Circulo. He recently made his Broadway Debut in *New York New York*.

## PHIL SLOVES

Phil is humbled to join this incredible project. Broadway: *SpongeBob SquarePants* (Swing u/s Patrick & Krabs). Select Regional: *Spelling Bee* (Barfee), *Rock of Ages* (Lonny), *South Pacific* (Billis). Owner of Actor Reboot. Thanks to the Henderson Hogan team! Love to his wife, Jenn! IG/TikTok: @philsloves @actorreboot

## JESSE SWIMM

Broadway: *Mary Poppins* (u/s Bert), *School of Rock* (Original Cast). Regional: *Sweet Charity* (Oscar, Maltz Jupiter), *Mamma Mia!* (Sam, New London), *Billy Elliot* (George, u/s Dad, Goodspeed Opera House), *Rock of Ages* (Dennis Dupree, Argyle Theatre). Thanks to Kevin, The Mine, Mom and Dad. IG: jswimm1

## MELVIN TUNSTALL III

MT3 just wants you to go to Instagram and follow @mt3xbroadway for all things MT3 and Broadway! He's also one half of the composing team of Tunstall&Borowsky with Grammy nominee Greg Dean Borowsky, so in the words of Carole King, "always look at the names under the song title."

# INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

*Inclusive language isn't about saying the "right" thing, but rather about respecting diverse life experiences and being willing to learn from different perspectives. Below are some concepts that may provide a useful starting point for continuing the conversation after today's show.*

**ableism** - a harmful, often unconscious, mindset that devalues people with disabilities, due to deep-seated societal norms that favor non-disabled people.

**accessibility** - the design of products, devices, services, or environments to ensure independent usability by people with disabilities.

**authentic disability representation** - the depiction of people with disabilities as whole people, not defined by their disability.

**disability visibility** - the celebration of differences that is made possible by highlighting disabilities and the people living with them.

**infantilizing** - the act of viewing or treating an adult with disabilities as childlike, such as speaking only to their caregiver or companion.

**inspiration porn** - harmful objectification of people with disabilities for the purpose of conveying an uplifting message.

**internalized ableism** - when a person living with disabilities believes that their disability is something to be ashamed of or makes them inferior.

**interabled relationship** - a romantic partnership between a disabled person and a non-disabled person.

**person-first language** - phrasing that emphasizes the person and implies their disability is only one part of who they are (e.g., "people with disabilities"), as opposed to **identity language** (e.g., "disabled people"), which embraces disability as a key attribute, like gender or race. Individuals may prefer one phrasing over another, so it's best practice to ask whenever in doubt.

**social model of disability** - the idea that disability arises from societal barriers, such as inaccessible infrastructure and ableist attitudes, rather than from the individual.



## Making air travel more accessible for people with SMA

By Sarah Bellish, Cure SMA

As you will see in the performance today, air travel remains unsafe and inaccessible for people with disabilities, especially for those with SMA who use a power wheelchair. Cure SMA has been on the forefront of this issue and is actively working to advocate for real and substantial change. We invite you to join our timely efforts!

Many people with SMA avoid or only reluctantly travel by air due to ongoing challenges, including lost or damaged wheelchairs, injuries during seat transfers and inaccessible lavatories. According to the Department of Transportation, more than 30 wheelchairs and scooters are lost, delayed or damaged on U.S. flights every day.

"Flying does not feel like a means of transportation as much as it feels like a horrible and unfair gamble," said an adult with SMA featured in Cure SMA's 2023 air travel report.

Recently, we shared this report with Congress and the Department of Transportation and organized a Hill Day where 110 SMA community members educated Congress

about their air travel challenges. We also engaged SMA community members from all 50 states to advocate for accessible air travel legislation through Cure SMA's advocacy tool, which was supported through a Genentech grant.

Congress is currently considering aviation legislation that includes Cure SMA's recommended provisions: better training for staff who support passengers with disabilities and their wheelchairs, updating accessibility standards and studies on allowing passengers to remain in their wheelchairs in the main cabin.

Please read more and join us in advocating for accessible air travel by scanning the QR code below.

**cure  
SMA**





## Finding my identity in stories

by Brianna Albers, writer and SMA My Way contributor

There were no disabled girls in my Saturday morning cartoons. There were no disabled girls on the big screen, fighting the bad guys for the greater good.

There were no disabled girls in the background of adventure movies and cult classics. There were no disabled girls in princess movies, even when media executives went out of their way to show that, look, anyone can be a princess! Yes, even you!

It's hard to find your passion in a world that tries to erase you. It's hard to find your passion when, most of the time, disabled people are relegated to hospitals and living rooms.

We don't go to prom. The Force isn't with us. And we certainly don't steal significant historical documents.

But that's a narrative. And a false one at that.

Disabled girls are everywhere. We go to concerts and poetry readings and midnight premieres. We climb mountains and write papers, and sometimes, if we're really, really lucky, we find someone who will take our wild dreams in stride — even the ones that have to do with significant historical documents.

We fall in love. We have families. We stare at the sky and feel, for one blinding moment, that we, too, are made of stardust. We rage and cry and, at the end of the day, we pick ourselves up and do it all over again.

The world tries to convince us that, no matter how loud we scream, our stories are swallowed by the void. But that's a narrative. And a false one at that.

# DOUBLE TAKE

An SMA My Way Initiative

Debuting ahead of New York Fashion week in 2022, Double Take was a first-of-its-kind fashion show led by the SMA community to increase disability visibility, break down stereotypes and champion adaptive fashion.

Through this show, which is available to watch online, the SMA community invited the world to do a double take, not because of their disabilities but because of their style and individuality.

Double Take was created through the support of Genentech's SMA My Way program, with custom adaptive fashion designed by Open Style Lab.





# DISRUPTING THE STATUS QUO

At Genentech, we embrace the increasingly diverse world around us, and we know that making medicines is just one way we can make a difference. We're passionate about applying our skills, time and resources to advance and boldly champion diversity, equity and inclusion.

Everything we do rests on our unshakeable belief that everyone deserves to have an equitable opportunity to live up to their human potential.

To deliver better outcomes for our people, patients, business and communities, we must be intentional and bold. That's why Genentech has committed to disrupting the status quo by fostering belonging, advancing inclusive research and health equity, and transforming society.

Founded more than 40 years ago, Genentech is a leading biotechnology company that discovers, develops, manufactures and commercializes medicines to treat patients with serious and life-threatening medical conditions. The company, a member of the Roche Group, has headquarters in South San Francisco, California.

**Genentech**  
A Member of the Roche Group



## Why co-creation matters

by Adam Pryor, senior product PR manager at Genentech

Nothing in my career has been more fulfilling than working with the SMA community on our SMA My Way programs SPACES, Double Take and *Most Likely Not To...*

I'm deeply honored to have been entrusted by this community time and again to help authentically amplify their voices on the national stage and advance public discourse around disability visibility.

When we first started collaborating with the SMA community on these programs, we committed to following the "nothing about us, without us" rule very closely, which meant that we engaged members of the community at every stage of the creative process – from early planning discussions to every important decision along the way.

As a result, the community was free to chase the social issues they care about in a way that felt authentic to them.

Having a seat at the table also meant that the SMA community could bring a level of nuance to the portrayals of people with disabilities that is rare in art and media.

With *Most Likely Not To...*, we stuck to those ideals, truly letting the community lead the ideation, writing and performance of this new musical. And they really went for it, setting their sights on taking down ableism with absurdist humor in a first-of-its-kind musical.

What you see on stage today is wholly a testament to this community's cleverness, creativity and charm, which never cease to amaze me.

I'm so proud to have overseen these projects, which not only advance equity and inclusion for people living with SMA, but rather intend to lift up everyone with a disability.

# STORIES WITH HEART

  
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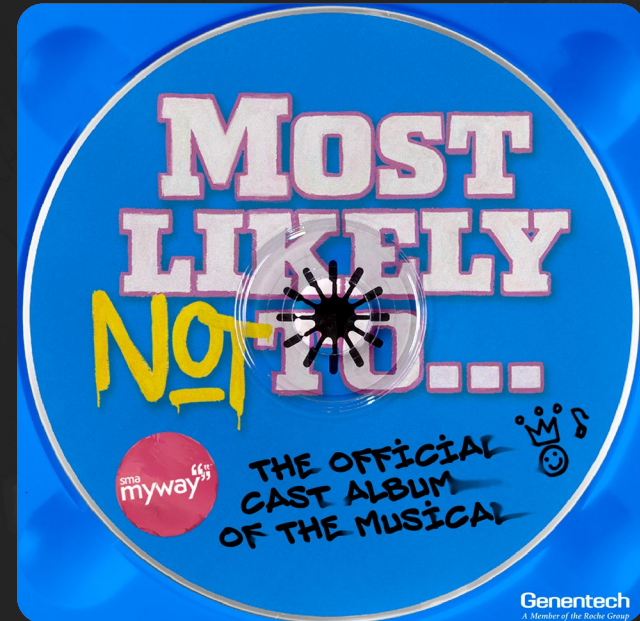
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**STREAM YOUR FAVORITE SONGS  
AFTER THE SHOW!**



**Most Likely Not To...**  
Cast Recording

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Featuring “Take Me Back,” “Travel Day” and more!  
with Allie Williams singing the role of Samantha

At Syneos Health Communications, we tell the fractured, resilient, uniquely human stories of health — stories that can only be told with heart.

*Most Likely Not To...* and other SMA My Way programs represent the pinnacle of what we can achieve when we act as an extension of the community, following their lead and cultivating an understanding of what matters most.

Thank you, Genentech and our SMA community partners, for your trust, and congratulations on your groundbreaking work to destigmatize disability.



Cure SMA leads the way to a world where everyone impacted by spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) is empowered to lead independent, successful, and fulfilling lives.

Since 1984, we have grown to be the largest U.S.-based network of individuals, families, clinicians, and research scientists working together to advance SMA research, provide support programs, and educate public and professional communities about SMA.



Make today a breakthrough.



[cureSMA.org](http://cureSMA.org)