

## FIA REED Webinar on Hair & Makeup

March 14, 2024  
from 7 to 9pm CET

As part of its ongoing commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion, FIA is organising a series of webinars focusing on racial equality and ethnic diversity and their impact on the professional lives of performers. These REED webinars are special opportunities for our members to come together and share experiences and best practices on how to make our industry and unions more diverse and representative of our societies.

This new edition will focus on Hair and Makeup. More specifically, on the lack of appropriate hair and makeup services for performers with darker skin tones and textured hair, and what performers' unions can do about it.

This third REED webinar will start with a testimony from Swedish-Nigerian performer, Kayo Shekoni, who will share her experience regarding hair and makeup over the course of her career. Four unions – AAEA, ACTRA, Equity UK and SAG AFTRA – will then be invited to take the floor to share good-practices, successful negotiations and provisions adopted to tackle the topic and bring change in our industry. The webinar will be moderated by Deena Aziz from CAEA, co-convenor of the FIA REED working group.

### Moderator

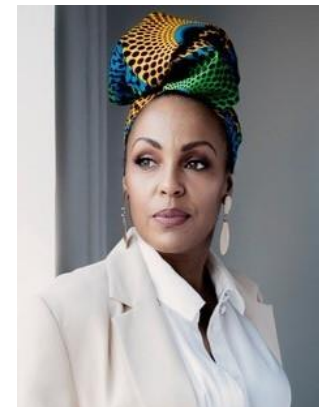
Based in Montreal, **Deena Aziz** (she/her/elle) has performed across Canada, in the US, and internationally for 30+ years. A proud member of Canadian Actors Equity (since 2003), she is currently serving her third term on Equity's National Council, where inclusion advocacy is central to her work on committee and contributions to collective bargaining.

Stage credits feature companies including Vancouver's Arts Club Theatre, Alberta Theatre Projects, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, the Stratford Festival, the Great Canadian Theatre Company, and Canadian Stage. Outside the rehearsal room, Deena works as a dramaturge, coordinator, and producer, and is an active champion for promoting equity and reform in the performing arts.



### Keynote Speaker

**Kayode Maria Shekoni Söderberg** (she/her), also known as Kayo Shekoni or simply Kayo, is a Swedish-Nigerian singer, dancer, actress and TV presenter. From her early success in pop with "Freestyle" to hosting TV shows like "Fort Boyard", Kayo radiates versatility. Over the course of her career, she has excelled in theatre, contributed to film soundtracks such as Disney's "The Lion King", released several albums, and played leading roles in musicals, always demonstrating her passion for performance and creativity. Kayo is a member of Scen & Film, the Swedish Union for Performing Arts and Film.



## Panellists

**Wydetta Carter** (she/her) is the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of Actors' Equity Association. Currently touring the U.S. as G.G. (Gran Georgeanna) in Broadway's *TINA, The Tina Turner Musical*, she has been a part of AEA governance for over 20 years and has led negotiation teams for some of the union's largest contracts. She is Co-Chair of the League of Resident Theatre's (LORT), Chair of the Chicago Area Theatre's (CAT) Committee, and Chair of the Principal Committee. Residing in Chicago, IL, she is the first national officer to be elected outside of the Eastern Region. She has been an active member of FIA for over 2 years.



**Michelle Hurd** (she/her) is known for her portrayal of Raffi Musiker alongside Patrick Stewart in the hit series *Star Trek: Picard*. She recently appeared in the rom-com *Anyone But You*, *Somewhere in Montana* and *The Plus One*. With an extensive list of credits, she has showcased her talent in various shows, including *Blindspot*, *Law & Order SVU*, *Hawaii 5-0*, *Ash vs. Evil Dead* and Marvel series *Daredevil* and *Jessica Jones*. Name a popular show and chances are Michelle has had either a recurring or guest role. Michelle has been actively involved in union service for years, including as SAG-AFTRA National Vice President in Los Angeles, and received the President's Award for her service in 2021. She had been an early and outspoken leader in the fight against sexual harassment and assault in the entertainment industry, playing an instrumental role in all of SAG-AFTRA's efforts in this area. Michelle is also a key member of SAG-AFTRA's work group on hair and makeup equity and a member of the 2023 TV/Theatrical Contract Negotiating Committee.



Dr. **Ian Manborde** (he/him) is Equalities and Diversity Organizer at Equity UK. He oversees all policy, strategy and campaigns activity, which relates to equality, diversity and inclusion. He joined Equity in 2017 following a long career as an educator of trade union officials and activists working in the UK and internationally.



**Jenn Paul** (she/her) is the Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) at ACTRA National, where she leads the development and implementation of proactive initiatives to support ACTRA's strategic goals and ensure the long-term sustainability of DEIB efforts on behalf of 30,000 performers across Canada. After nearly a decade working in film, television and agency environments as a Producer, Production Manager, Marketer and Film Distributor, Jenn is pleased to have shifted her focus to advocating for a more equitable and inclusive Canadian film and television industry.



You can consult ACTRA's hair and makeup equity we page [here](#).