

Zizi Ellison is an elementary-level ESL interventionist in PflSD and previously served as Vice Chair for the board of directors at Justice For Our Neighbors, where she wrote and delivered fundraising speeches and translated legal documents for immigrant families. Her career has taken her from teaching second grade in AISD to coordinating refugee education programs across Central Texas, and even supporting human rights monitoring efforts with the United Nations in Baghdad, Iraq. Fluent in Arabic, Farsi, Dari, and English, and is currently learning Pashto. Zizi has spent her career bridging language, culture, and community work, and has received the 2026 District Humanitarian of the Year and 2024 Teacher of the Year awards. On Saturdays, she volunteers with St. Stephen's tutoring program; on Sundays, she supports adult students as they prepare for their citizenship and civics tests. Zizi performed *Voices Of Our Neighbors* in 2024, winning Best of the Fest at FronteraFest, and returned in 2025 with a new sketch, *Anonymous*. She co-wrote *Voices Of Our Neighbors* alongside Aliaa Schreiner and Anthony Ellison.

Aliaa Schreiner is an accounting manager with over 8 years of experience in financial management, cash flow oversight, and treasury operations, currently pursuing the AFP Certified Treasury Professional (CTP) credential. Beyond her career in finance, Aliaa is a dedicated supporter of public education, generously decorating classrooms, donating snacks, and providing motivational prizes for students. She also volunteered as a tutor with St. Stephen's tutoring program. Aliaa performed *Voices Of Our Neighbors* in 2024, winning Best of the Fest at FronteraFest, and returned in 2025 with a new sketch, *Anonymous*. She co-wrote *Voices Of Our Neighbors* alongside Zizi Ellison and Anthony Ellison.

Anthony Ellison has spent more than 25 years performing, directing and teaching improv, starting at The Second City in Chicago. He holds an MFA focused on Hero's Journey story structure and brings that storytelling lens to every room he leads. He now directs ColdTowne Business Improv, where he designs and facilitates workshops that help sales teams, leaders and professionals build presence, listening and confidence in the unknown. His focus is simple: how you make people feel matters more than the words you use.