

Okieriete "Oak" Onaodowan^[1] (/ˈɒ.kɛdiˈɛtɪ oʊˈnɑːɒdəwɑːn/ *o-KED-ee-ET-ay oh-NOW-də-wahn*^{[2][3]}) is an American actor and singer known for his work in musical theatre and television. On the stage, he's known for originating the dual roles of Hercules Mulligan and James Madison in the 2015 Broadway musical *Hamilton*. He starred in *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812* as Pierre Bezukhov on Broadway in 2017. On television, he's known for the role of Dean Miller in the ABC drama and *Grey's Anatomy* spin-off series, *Station 19*. He also appeared in the main role of Ade in the Amazon Prime Video series, *Jack Ryan*. He returned to Broadway in 2023 as Nills Krogstead in *A Doll's House*.

Early life

Onaodowan was born in Newark, New Jersey, to Nigerian parents.^[4] He and his five sisters^[5] were raised in West Orange, New Jersey,^[6] He attended Gregory Elementary School and Roosevelt Middle School and West Orange High School, graduating in 2005.^[5] Onaodowan briefly played football for his high school, but he stopped after an injury during practice. As a result of the injury, Onaodowan started to explore acting as an alternative extracurricular activity.^[7] While attending high school, he began performing with the New Jersey Youth Theatre. After high school, Onaodowan auditioned for and was accepted to the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. He attended for one year.^[8]


Career

Onaodowan had roles in *Rocky the Musical* and *Cyrano de Bergerac* on Broadway and was in the ensemble of the first national tour of *American Idiot*.^[9] He had the leading role in Young Jean Lee's 2009 play, *The Shipment*,^[10] and played the title role in J.C. Lee's *Luce*.^{[11][12]}

By 2015, Onaodowan was an experienced stage actor.^[13] He also had several screen credits, including Lou in the feature film *Thanks for Sharing* and roles in the TV series *Gravity* and *Blue Bloods*.^[14] He originated the roles of James Madison and Hercules Mulligan in the musical *Hamilton* on Broadway.^{[15][16][17]} He won a Grammy Award as part of the cast album of *Hamilton*.^[18]

On July 11, 2017, he took on the role of Pierre in the musical *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812*, replacing the outgoing Josh Groban.^{[19][20][21]} He took his final bow in this musical on August 13, 2017.

Okieriete Onaodowan



Onaodowan in 2015

Born	<u>Newark, New Jersey, U.S.</u>
Other names	Oak Onaodowan
Education	<u>Rutgers University, New Brunswick</u>
Occupation(s)	Actor, singer
Years active	2010–present
Known for	<i><u>Hamilton</u></i> and <i><u>Station 19</u></i>

In 2018, he began playing the role of firefighter Dean Miller in the *Grey's Anatomy* spin-off *Station 19*. On November 11, 2021, he exited the series, and his character was killed off onscreen. *Deadline* reported that Onaodowan had asked to leave in order to pursue other opportunities.^[22]

In 2023, he made his return to Broadway as Nills Krogstead in the revival of *A Doll's House*.^[23] In February 2024, he played Buddy Bolden in the *Encores!* production of *Jelly's Last Jam*.^[24]

Credits

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2012	<i>Thanks for Sharing</i>	Lou	
2017	<i>Person to Person</i>	Lester	
	<i>The Super</i>	Cal	
2020	<i>Hamilton</i>	Hercules Mulligan / James Madison	
	<i>A Quiet Place Part II</i>	Ronnie	
2021	<i>Generation Wreck</i>	Brandon	
2023	<i>Molli and Max in the Future</i>	Moebias	
	<i>American Fiction</i>	Van Go Jenkins	

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2010	<i>Gravity</i>	Sam	Episode: "Old People Creep Me Out"
2012	<i>NYC 22</i>	Anton Barke	Episode: "Turf War"
2014	<i>Blue Bloods</i>	Damon Williams	Episode: "Forgive and Forget"
2016	<i>Ballers</i>	Anthony	2 episodes
	<i>Law & Order: Special Victims Unit</i>	Cash Lewis	Episode: "Broken Rhymes"
2017	<i>Girls</i>	Raneed	Episode: "Painful Evacuation"
	<i>The Get Down</i>	Afrika Bambaataa	3 episodes
	<i>She's Gotta Have It</i>	Slick Willie	Episode: "#DaJumpoff (DOCTRINE)"
2018–2021	<i>Grey's Anatomy</i>	Dean Miller	5 episodes
	<i>Station 19</i>		Series regular: 59 episodes
2019	<i>BoJack Horseman</i>	Mike (voice)	Episode: "The Kidney Stays in the Picture"
2020–2021	<i>Robot Chicken</i>	Abraham Lincoln / Night King / Grim Reaper / various (voice)	2 episodes

2020	<u><i>Social Distance</i></u>	Reggie	Episode: "Delete All Future Events"
2021	<u><i>Tuca & Bertie</i></u>	Timbourine Toucan (voice)	2 episodes
2022	<u><i>Billions</i></u>	Leon Sherald	Episode: "Hostis Humani Generis"
	<u><i>Jurassic World Camp Cretaceous</i></u>	Mr. Gold (voice)	2 episodes
2023	<u><i>Jack Ryan</i></u>	Adebayo 'Ade' Osoji	6 episodes, Season 4
	<u><i>Scavengers Reign</i></u>	Station Chief (voice)	Episode; "The Signal"

Stage

Year	Show	Role	Notes
2009	<u><i>The Shipment</i></u>	Omar / Michael	<u>The Kitchen</u>
2010	<u><i>The Last Days of Judas Iscariot</i></u>	<u>Pontius Pilate</u>	Richmond Shepard Theatre
	<u><i>Neighbors</i></u>	Sambo Crow	Off-Broadway
	<u><i>Langston in Harlem</i></u>	Cuban Balladeer	
2010–2011	<u><i>Ruined</i></u>	Simon	<u>Huntington Theatre Company</u>
			<u>La Jolla Playhouse</u>
			<u>Berkeley Repertory Theatre</u>
2011	<u><i>American Idiot</i></u>	Rock & Roll Boyfriend / Ensemble u/s Favorite Son	US National Tour
2012	<u><i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i></u>	Pastry Cook / Cadet / Sentry u/s Cuigy u/s Musketeer u/s Carbon de Castel-Jaloux	Broadway
2013	<u><i>The Brothers Size</i></u>	Oshoosi Size	<u>Old Globe Theatre</u>
	<u><i>Luce</i></u>	Luce	Off-Broadway
2014	<u><i>Rocky the Musical</i></u>	Dipper Riley / Apollo's Cornerman u/s Apollo Creed	Broadway
	<u><i>Hamilton</i></u>	<u>Hercules Mulligan</u> / <u>James Madison</u>	<u>The 52nd Street Project, Workshop</u>
	<u><i>The Royale</i></u>	Fish	<u>Old Globe Theatre</u>
2015	<u><i>Hamilton</i></u>	<u>Hercules Mulligan</u> / <u>James Madison</u>	Off-Broadway
2015–2016			Broadway
2016	<u><i>Frozen</i></u>	<u>Kristoff</u>	Pre-Broadway Workshop ^{[25][26]}
2017	<u><i>Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812</i></u>	<u>Pierre Bezukhov</u>	Broadway (replacement)
2023	<u><i>A Doll's House</i></u>	Nills Krogstead	Broadway

2024	<i>Jelly's Last Jam</i>	Buddy Bolden	Off-Broadway Encores!
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Awards, nominations and recognition

Year	Award	Category	Work	Result
2016	Grammy Award	Best Musical Theater Album	<i>Hamilton</i>	Won
	Broadway.com Audience Choice Awards	Favorite Breakthrough Performance		Nominated

Onaodowan was included in the Forbes 30 Under 30 Hollywood & Entertainment list in 2016 for his acting in *Hamilton*.^[27]

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External links

- [Okieriete Onaodowan \(https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3916460/\)](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3916460/) at [IMDb](#)
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