Image: Theatre alumni L’Oréal Roaché and David Wilkerson by Sydney Lee Photography.
The award-winning Department of Theatre & Performance Studies (TPS) offers a Bachelor of Arts with four concentrations: acting, design/technology, musical theatre, and performance studies. All four areas of study are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre. Our innovative and diverse season of student work includes plays, musicals, poetry performances, adaptations of classic literature, storytelling, improv comedy, and new works. We also offer a professional presenting series featuring acclaimed guest artists.

Performances are staged in two elegant venues on the Kennesaw campus: the recently renovated Stillwell Theater, our 315-seat proscenium house, and the Onyx Theater, our intimate black box space. The KSU Tellers, our unique storytelling ensemble and K.I.S.S., the TPS improv troupe, both perform regularly at local schools, professional venues, and national conferences and competitions. Education abroad experiences include the Gaiety School of Acting, Ireland’s National Theatre School; Montepulciano, Italy; London; and Paris.

Learn more: arts.kennesaw.edu/theatre.
Created by KSU Students, the 24-Hour Play Festival encompasses conception, creation, and performance in less than 24 hours. Inventive, unpredictable, and a ton of fun.

The 9th Annual Coming-Out Monologues

Directed by TPS Students
Produced in collaboration with the KSU LGBTQ Resource Center

Inspiring, celebratory, and thought-provoking, this performance features original coming-out stories from KSU and Atlanta-area communities, performed by KSU students.

Image: Theatre alumni Lindsey Bradford and David Wells by Sydney Lee Photography.
Original student works highlighting community, identity, and expression.

**K.S.U. Tellers Showcase**

**FALL** NOV. 6 | 8 p.m.
**SPRING** APR. 30 | 8 p.m.
Stillwell Theater | $5

Our resident improv ensemble creates performances on the fly. Side-splitting, surprising, and absolutely silly. This event may not be suitable for audiences under the age of 16.

**K.I.S.S. Improv Showcase**

**FALL** NOV. 12-13 | 8 p.m.
**SPRING** MAR. 25-26 | 8 p.m.
Stillwell Theater | $5

Our resident improv ensemble creates performances on the fly. Side-splitting, surprising, and absolutely silly. This event may not be suitable for audiences under the age of 16.

**K.S.U. Colors Showcase**

**FALL** DEC. 2-3 | Thurs. 7:30 p.m. & Fri. 8 p.m.
**SPRING** APR. 28-29 | Thurs. 7:30 p.m. & Fri. 8 p.m.
Onyx Theater | $5

The K.S.U. Tellers invite you to join them as they present their best solo performances from each semester.
Wondrous Strange
By Martyna Majok, Meg Miroshnik, Jiehae Park, and Jen Silverman

OCT. 5-10

Tuesday–Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Friday–Saturday 8 p.m.
Saturday 2 p.m. & Sunday 3 p.m.

Onyx Theater | $5-$12

Directed by Karen Robinson, Emily Denovich, Katie Nelson, and Veronica Sanders

Inspired by Kentucky ghost tales, this collage of short plays explores our endless fascination with hauntings, spirits, and paranormal happenings. *Louisville Insight* wrote that *Wondrous Strange* is “a sweet, creepy and hilarious horror-comedy-romance.” Originally commissioned by Actor’s Theatre of Louisville, this production is the Atlanta-area premiere.
Everybody
By Branden Jacobs-Jenkins

OCT. 26-31
Tuesday–Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Friday–Saturday 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m.
Stillwell Theater | $5-$20

Directed by Amanda Washington

Death shows up unexpectedly and tells Everybody his time is up. Everybody scrambles to find company. Who better than his life-long companions: Friendship? Kinship? Stuff? No one will go with him!

Branden-Jacob Jenkins’ audacious riff on the 15th century morality play Everyman is a provocative and wacky immersion in Everybody’s fight to cheat Death and confront life’s greatest mystery—the meaning of living. A celebration of live theatre that directly engages the audience every step of the way, Everybody was the 2018 Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and this production is the Atlanta-area premiere.

Images, top to bottom: Theatre students Caro Kok, Adrien Kay, Amarih Matthews, and Sebastian Lopez. Images by Lauren Liz Photo.
THE SPITFIRE GRILL
Music and Book by James Valcq
Lyrics and Book by Fred Alley
Based on the film by Lee David Zlotoff

NOV. 16-20
Tuesday-Thursday 7:30 p.m.;
Friday 8 p.m.; Saturday 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Onyx Theater | $5-$12 IN-PERSON

Directed By Timothy Ellis
Music Direction by Amanda Wansa Morgan

A parolee arrives in a small Wisconsin town and
struggles to find her place in a community of troubled
souls who gather at a run-down diner. Her presence
sparks re-connections and reconciliations that bring
the community together. Featuring a gorgeous score
inspired by American folk music, THE SPITFIRE GRILL
offers a heartwarming story about finding redemption
and building meaningful relationships in one’s new home.
Sometimes we run away to land exactly where we are
supposed to be.

THE SPITFIRE GRILL is presented by arrangement with
Theatre alumna Jess Ford by Lauren Liz Photo.
And So We Walked:
An Artist’s Journey Along the Trail of Tears
Written and Performed by DeLanna Studi

**FEB. 9-12**
Wednesday–Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday–Saturday, 8 p.m.
Stillwell Theater | $12-$25

Directed by Corey Madden

Frank, heartwarming, and inspiring, *And So We Walked: An Artist’s Journey Along the Trail of Tears* is a story about a contemporary Cherokee woman and her father who embark on an incredible 900-mile journey along the Trail of Tears to truly understand her own identity and the conflicts of her nation. The six-week journey retraces the path her great-great grandparents took in the 1830’s during the forced relocation of 17,000 Cherokee from their homelands. This powerful, multi-faceted dramatic memoir draws on extraordinary interviews, historical research, and the artist's personal experience to convey the complexities and conflicts with which the Cherokee wrestle.

Coordinated with *Walk in Beauty*, an exhibition highlighting Native American artists at KSU’s Zuckerman Museum of Art, January 11–February 12.

**Special Event:** Join us for a public reception at the Zuckerman Museum of Art from 6-7:30 p.m., followed by an 8 p.m. performance of *And So We Walked: An Artist’s Journey Along the Trail of Tears* on February 12.
Image: DeLanna Studi, courtesy of the artist.
Left to right: Theatre students Richard Gibson and Adrian Mendoza Trejo by Lauren Liz Photo.
MOTHER ROAD
By Octavio Solís

FEB. 22-27
Tuesday–Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Friday–Saturday, 8 p.m.
Saturday 2 p.m. & Sunday 3 p.m.
Onyx Theater | $5-$12

Inspired by The Grapes of Wrath, this modern epic picks up generations later when William Joad must find a blood relative to inherit the family land in Oklahoma that was abandoned in Steinbeck’s novel. Learning that the only surviving descendant is the young Mexican American Martín Jodes, Joad convinces him to travel from California across the American heartland to Oklahoma. During their journey, these two men forge an unexpected bond as they grapple with the brutal past and strive for a hopeful future. An inventive and engrossing tale of American identity, immigration, and the ties that bind.

World premiere produced by Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Artistic Director Bill Rauch, Executive Director Cynthia Rider. Mother Road was produced in a developmental production by Goodman Theatre, Chicago in the New Stages Festival, Robert Falls, Artistic Director, Roche Schulfer, Executive Director. Commissioned by the National Steinbeck Center and first read as part of the National Steinbeck Festival.
Image: Theatre student Brooklyn Norrington by Lauren Liz Photo.
THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL

Based on the series by Stephen Hillenburg
Book by Kyle Jarrow

Songs by Yolanda Adams, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry of Aerosmith, Sara Bareilles, Jonathan Coulton, Lady Antebellum, Cyndi Lauper, John Legend, Panic! At the Disco, They Might Be Giants and T.I. And Songs by David Bowie, Tom Kenny & Andy Paley. Additional Lyrics by Jonathan Coulton. Additional Music by Tom Kitt

Musical Production Conceived by Tina Landau

Nickelodeon, SpongeBob SquarePants, and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Viacom International Inc.

APR. 7-17

Thursday 7:30 p.m.; Friday–Saturday 8 p.m.; Sunday 3 p.m.

Stillwell Theater | $14-$20

IN-PERSON

Directed by Amanda Wansa Morgan

The power of optimism really can save the world!

Adapted from the beloved animated series SpongeBob SquarePants, this colorful and vibrant musical is an uplifting tale of overcoming the odds and celebrating the joy of life. SpongeBob and the sea creatures who inhabit Bikini Bottom are confronted with the total annihilation of their world. All hope seems lost, but our unlikely hero saves the day. An affectionate and timely satire of our individual and political foibles that affirms community, teamwork, and trust in one’s full potential. This production is the Atlanta-area premiere.

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com.
Genesis Redux

APR. 21-23
Wednesday–Thursday 7:30 p.m.; Friday 8 p.m.
Onyx Theater | $5

IN-PERSON

Written by Charlie Parrott
Directed by Karen Robinson

Genesis Redux reimagines the first stories in the book of Genesis through a script devised from research, improvisation, and movement by students in spring of 2020. Drawing on a variety of traditions and styles of performance, Genesis Redux uses these stories from the past to help us understand ourselves in the present. This is a world premiere workshop production.

Image: Theatre student Alex Osborne by Sydney Lee Photography.
ArtsKSU Membership: Support ArtsKSU as a Founding Member, starting at only $25. Enjoy a variety of benefits, including ticket discounts and free exchanges through 5/31/22, and an invitation to a Member-only event in Spring 2022. The first 100 ArtsKSU Founding Members will receive a special commemorative lapel pin indicating your support. Scan the QR Code to join!

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