Kennesaw State University to present “Our Town” Collision Project

Students create an original work inspired by classic play

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 7, 2019) — Kennesaw State University’s Department of Theatre and Performance Studies will present the “Our Town” Collision Project—in collaboration with the Alliance Theatre and the Palefsky Collision Project (PCP)—at the Onyx Theater from Tuesday, February 12 through February 17.

The “Our Town” Collision Project features an ensemble of KSU student artists and playwrights who create an original work of their own, taking inspiration from Thorton Wilder’s classic play “Our Town.” Through improvisational exercises, oral history, and choreography, the artists are able to create theatre for and about themselves by “colliding” with the classic piece, reinforcing the idea that theatre can create a space for dialogue and social change.

Rodney Williams, stage manager and co-facilitator with the PCP said, “While creating a riveting piece of theatre is the immediate effect, the ultimate goal of the PCP is to ignite a wave of global citizens with the heart and passion to save the world in whatever way is natural to their unique gifts and perspective.”

Since 2002, the Palefsky Collision Project has coordinated with the Alliance Theatre to assemble a group of 20 diverse teenagers in the metro Atlanta area to uncover a classic piece under the leadership of a professional playwright and director. After strengthening their own artistic skills, the youth then create an original piece inspired by the classic text but perceived through their own prism. Patrick McColery — who has been the director of the project for seven years — said the project “is designed to help each young artist explore their individual artistic voice and provide a blueprint through collaborative creation to share that voice in public performance.” Artists for this project include Margaret Baldwin, Latausha Carter, Dylan Carter, Patrick McColery, and Rodney Williams.

For more information and to buy tickets, please visit ksutheatre.com.

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A leader in innovative teaching and learning, Kennesaw State University offers more than 150 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees to its more than 35,000 students. With 13 colleges on two metro Atlanta campuses, Kennesaw State is a member of the University System of Georgia and the third-largest university in the state. A Carnegie-designated doctoral institution, it is one of the 50 largest public institutions in the country.