

LMU COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND FINE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS
2019-2020 Season




THE RESISTABLE RISE OF ARTURO UI
WRITTEN BY BERTOLT BRECHT
TRANSLATED BY RALPH MANHEIM
DIRECTED BY JIM HOLMES
STRUB
OCTOBER 13-17
8 PM

THE WOLVES
A Play by Sarah DeLappe
Directed by Dana Resnick
Barnelle Theatre
November 1-3 & 6-9
8 PM
November 3 at 3 PM
Tickets: CFA.LMU.EDU/TICKETS

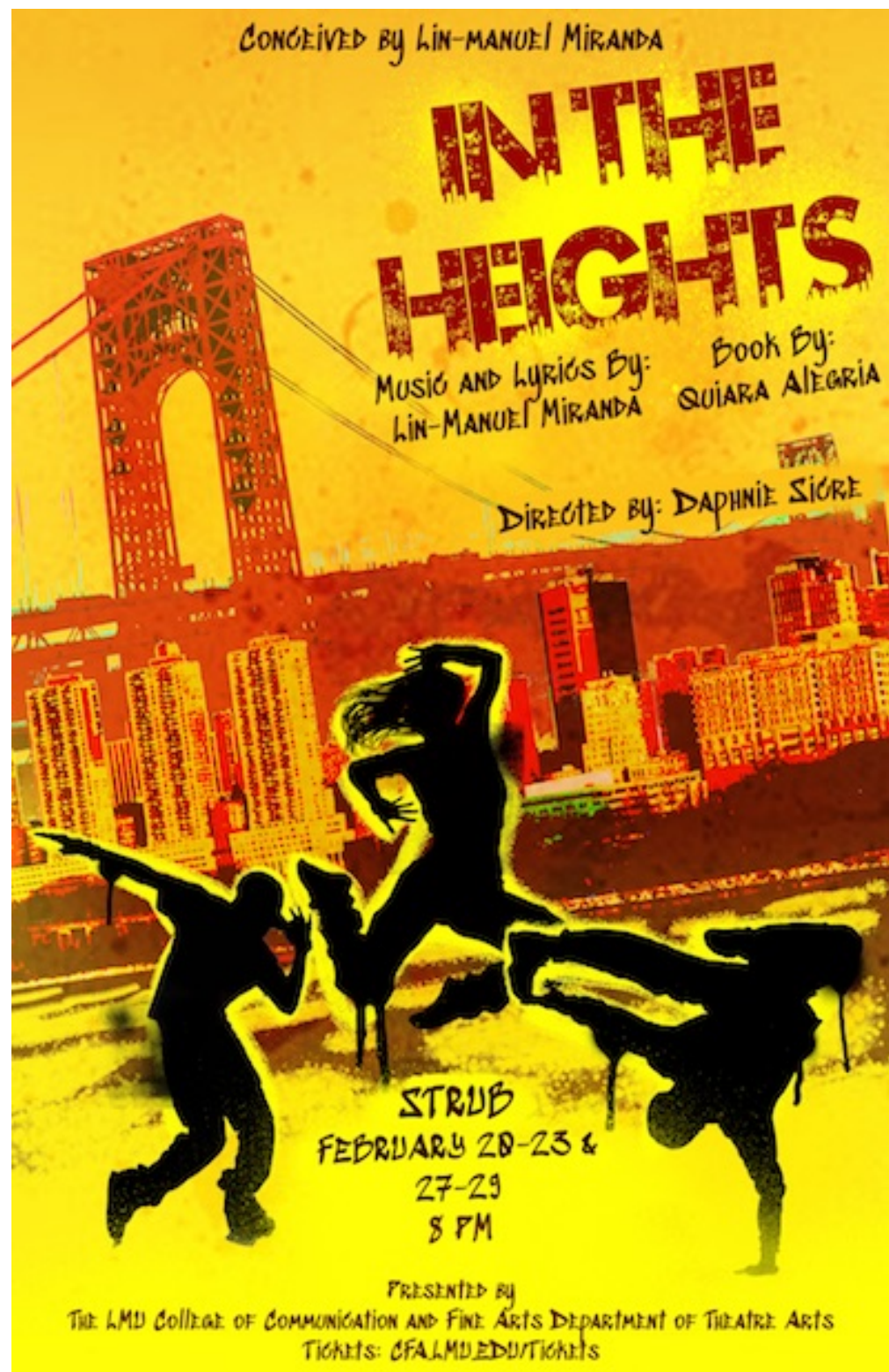
WE ARE AMERICA, BUT NOT THIS AMERICA
DETAINED
A SHARRED REQUIEM
WRITTEN BY FRANCE LUCE BENSON
DIRECTED BY LAWRENCE LACEY
DECEMBER 6-7
8 PM
STRUB THEATRE
Presented by Special Arrangement With Samuel French, Inc.
Tickets: CFA.LMU.EDU/TICKETS

CONCEIVED BY LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA
IN THE HEIGHTS
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA
BOOK BY QUIARA ALEGRIA
DIRECTED BY DAPHNIE SIGRE
STRUB
FEBRUARY 20-23 & 27-29
8 PM
Presented by The LMU College of Communication and Fine Arts Department of Theatre Arts
Tickets: CFA.LMU.EDU/TICKETS

LMU1
ANNOUNCED AND COMING
SHE KILLS MONSTERS
Written by: Qui Nguyen
Directed by: Kevin Wetmore
March 26-29 & April 1-4
8 PM
BARNELLE
Presented by Special Arrangement With Samuel French, Inc.
Presented by The LMU College of Communication and Fine Arts Department of Theatre Arts
Tickets: CFA.LMU.EDU/TICKETS

New Works Festival at the Barnelle Theatre
May 1-4
<https://cfa.lmu.edu/programs/theatrearts/> Tickets: CFA.LMU.EDU/Tickets

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THEATRE ARTS 2020-2021 SEASON: *UTOPIA/DYSTOPIA*

FALL 2020

Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play by Anne Washburn

Lysistrata translated by Sarah Ruden

The Haunting of Hannon

Love by Kate Cortesi (Staged Reading)

SPRING 2021

Urinetown by Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis

Everybody by Branden Jacob Jenkins

New Works Festival

Loyola Marymount University College of Communication and Fine Arts
& Department of Theatre Arts and Dance presents

In the Heights

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Book by Quiara Alegria Hudes

Directed by Daphnie Sicre

Cast

Usnavi.....Juan Sebastian Bernal
Nina.....Isabella Johnson
Benny.....Eric Renna
Vanessa.....Ann Warque
Sonny.....Kennedy Porter
Abuela Claudia.....Camila Robles Ruiz
Kevin.....Chris Benis
Camila.....Cecille Forsyth Rios
Daniela.....Brooklyn Kelly
Carla.....Jordan Fernandez
Piragua Guy.....Brian Reyes
Graffiti Pete.....Taylor Montgomery
Ensemble.....Noah Bradley
Ensemble.....Lauren DePass
Ensemble.....Aidan Flaherty
Ensemble.....Arely Gonzalez
Ensemble.....Ari Goodfriend
Ensemble.....Jeremy Lee
Ensemble.....Katie Leszynski
Ensemble.....Yazmine Ocampo
Ensemble.....Vincent Prom
Ensemble.....Natalie Riddick
Ensemble.....Tulsi Shah
Ensemble.....Andrew Simpson
Ensemble.....Kennedy Smith
Band.....Derby Reeves, Bridger Caicedo, Sean Gehricke,
Eric Escalante,, Danny Williams, and Jackson Zimmerman

There will be one ten-minute intermission

Presented through special arrangement with R & H Theatricals

Production Team

Director.....Daphnie Sicre
Costume Designer.....Leon Wiebers
Set Designer.....Christopher Scott Murillo
Sound Designer.....Marisa Whitmore
Lighting Designer.....Omar Ramos
Speech/Dialogue Coach.....Andrea Odinov
Music Director.....Danny Williams
Choreographer.....Jared Jenkins
Singing Coach.....Stacey Cabaj
Documentary Videographer.....Gloria Ndilula
Technical Director.....Jason Sheppard
Prop Master.....John Burton
Master Electrician.....Rob Hillig
Costume Shop Manager.....Patricia McMahon
Stage Manager.....Colette Mendoza
Assistant Stage Managers.....Wesley Glenn and Mackenzie Ross
Assistant Directors.....Maya Johnson and Priscilla Moreno
Assistant Set Designers.....Cate Chapman and Tamarra Sylber
Assistant Costume Designer.....Jesse Yu
Assistant Sound Designer/Sound Board Operator.....Allesse Patteson
Light Board Operator.....Katie Stotlemire
Dance Captains.....Tulsi Shah and Vincent Prom
Fight Captain.....Brian Reyes
Running Crew: Kaushal Patel, David Fabian, Joshua Merwise, William Sims
Wardrobe Crew.....Thea McKay, Jessica Flaum, Camryn Portagallo
Hair and Makeup Crew.....Casey Majors, Emma Hernandez
Costume Shop work study.....Gillian Ebersole, Kelvin Rim,
Gloria Santillan, Sofia Cassidy, Marshall McKeever, Rituja Kashid,
Lisa Lawrence, Madison Hansen
Set/Light work study.... Wesley Glenn, Robert Kinsfather, Giselle Durand,
Bridger Caicedo, Juan Bernal, Zoe Grandy, Cate Chapman, Brian Reyes,
Ben Lyons, Mackenzie Ross, Jessica Hadley, Lucy McNulty, Zoë Carr,
Tamarra Sylber, William Sims
Scene Painting Students.....Catherine Chapman, Alan Corvaia,
Jessica Dickerson, Cecille Forsyth-Rios, Lindsey Gartner,
Catherine Hayes, Sika Lonner, Priscilla Moreno,
Shannon O'Kane, Amanda Williams
House Managers.....Priya Dufton and Lisa Lawrence
Poster Art.....Madison Mellon

Director's Notes

There's an indigenous warning that says, "Without cultural identity you become anything they tell you you are." Imagine growing up without seeing yourself represented on stage, tv, magazines, the news-ever. Imagine waiting over 30 years to see a Broadway production with characters that look, think and share your cultural identity. Imagine seeing that production get the recognition it deserves and seeing actors of color being recognized for their talents and for telling their stories. Instead of being recognized as gangsters, drug dealers, prostitutes, cleaning service, gardeners- now there is nothing wrong with these roles, but they are NOT the only characters we can play. They do not define who we are. When I say we, I am referring to all the students of color in this production, our program, our college, and university. The significance of this story and its value to those who see it on stage for the first time as well as those who are bringing these stories to life, goes beyond words.

I was told I would have a hard time casting this show at LMU. I couldn't understand these sentiments since our Latinx student population is almost 25%. But then, I realize the perception of Latinidad was already being erased, people had forgotten being Latinx is not a race. Being Latinx is an ethnicity that encompasses multiple racial identities. Latinx can be Indigenous, Black, Asian, White, and Mixed. There isn't one way of defining Latinx on stage and we must not forget that. This play and its actors are a reminder of this.

On the surface, *In the Heights* is the quintessential American Musical told with Latinx characters. It only took over a hundred years to see a work like this on the great white way. But when you dig deep, *In the Heights* is more than the story about immigrants struggling in el Barrio. It's a story of representation and the fight for cultural survival, in an era of gentrification and the attempt to an erasure of our current immigrant community from the American landscape. *In the Heights* is a reminder to keep fighting for one's dreams, and to take action no matter what. It's a reminder to go beyond *paciencia y fe* and make choices that will fight systematic racism and the institutions allowing it. I urge you all help join in the fight, and help make a difference.

- Daphnie Sicre, Ph.D.

Land Acknowledgement

The Theatre Arts Department at LMU acknowledges our presence on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples.

We acknowledge the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles basin and So. Channel Islands). We pay our respects to the Honuukvetam (Ancestors), 'Ahihirom (Elders) and 'Eyoohiinkem (our relatives/relations) past, present and emerging.

Thank You's

I would like to thank all the students involved in this production, from the actors to the production team. Without them we could not tell this story. Second my department and all my colleagues who spent hours working with these students to make this happen. This was a team effort, thank you for your time and dedication. I also want to thank Dean Alexander for his continual support to me, this production, the department and the college. Nathan Sessoms and Nick Rosenthal for promoting the show and sponsoring our talk backs. Lastly, I want to thank mi abuela, Betty. She would be very proud and I hope she is seeing this from above.

Donations

A lot of the characters in the play are Puerto Rican. As such we would like to acknowledge our fellow American citizens, and the struggles the island is going through. After Hurricane Maria and the recent earthquakes, the people of Puerto Rico have been grappling with devastation. LMU's cast of the *In the Heights* would like to ask you for donation to:

ConPRmetidos — is a local emergency aid nonprofit that is providing the people in southern Puerto Rico with water, non-perishable food, first aid kits, and sleeping bags, among other articles.

<https://www.conprmetidos.org/>

<https://www.classy.org/campaign/stay-strong-puerto-rico/c267156>

Talk Backs

Feb. 27, 2020 ~ After the Play

"Living in the World of *In the Heights*- A discussion on immigration, gentrification, and cultural erasure"

Feb. 28, 2020 ~ After the Play

"Blackness-Across Race and Ethnicity"

Juan Sebastian Bernal (Usnavi)



Juan Sebastian Bernal is a Filipino-American lighting designer and actor from the Seattle area. His design credits include *A Doll's House*, *Dog See God*, and *Trevor* (The Del Rey Players), and he currently serves as the Master Electrician for Del Rey Theatre. As a performer, he has most recently appeared in *Measure for Measure* and *Runaways* (Loyola Marymount). Beyond the stage, Juan enjoys attending music festivals and math-themed humor. His next designs include LMU's *She Kills Monsters* in March and The Del Rey Players' *Cabaret* in April. He hopes you have a wonderful night!

Isabella Johnson (Nina)



Isabella Johnson is a sophomore English and Theatre Arts double major from Long Beach, California. While at LMU, she has acted in the 2019 New Works Festival, the DRP's production of *Little Women* as Amy March, and a number of student films. Outside of acting, Isabella is a casting coordinator at ROAR Studios and a member of Pi Beta Phi. She would like to thank Sicre, Danny, and Stacey for their patience and incredible advice, and her friends for their support. Most of all she would like to thank her family- they mean the world to her.

Eric Renna (Benny)



Eric Renna, a sophomore Theatre Arts major, is honored to be a part of this production of *In The Heights*. He has studied musical theatre for 7 years, and some recent roles include Gabe Goodman in *Next to Normal* with The Del Rey Players, Chino in *West Side Story* with One More Productions: GEM Theatre, and Margaret Mead in *Hair* with Loyola Marymount University. He fights for joy and optimism in our current world and is grateful to Dr. Daphnie Sicre for creating this space for our unapologetic celebration of race, gender, and humanity. Visit www.ericrenna.com for more.

Ann Warque (Vanessa)



Hailing from the San Francisco Bay Area, Ann Warque is a dancer, singer, and actress whose specialty lies in musical theatre. Her most recent shows include: *West Side Story* (GEM Theatre), *Urinetown*, and *Aida*. She was recently awarded the Annette Simons Theatre and Dance scholarship for her work in the respective departments, as well as the CFA Dance Scholarship. Aside from performing, Ann enjoys going to Disneyland and perfecting her cat sounds. After graduating in May 2020, she will move to New York to pursue her dreams of being on Broadway. She hopes you enjoy the show! IG: @warque.af

Kennedy Porter (Sonny)



As a sophomore theater arts major, Kennedy has played a range of roles from the murderous judge Lawrence Wargrave from *And Then There Were None*, to the role of Brooklyn-raised rap star Sean Williams from the Roar Studios web series "Wack!" Outside of theater and film acting, Kennedy is an ambitious voiceover and recording artist. Having vocals and production credit on @Quentin.x2 's (on Instagram) debut mixtape and Dear Strawberry EP and having recently been cast in the independent true-crime podcast "The AAU Murders", Kennedy shows no sign of slowing down. Kennedy Looks forward to expanding his career as a performer in all art forms.

Camila Robles Ruiz (Abuela Claudia)



Camila Robles Ruiz, a freshman Theatre Arts and Modern Language double major, is thrilled to be portraying Abuela Claudia in LMU's production of *In The Heights*. Last semester, she made her LMU acting debut in *Detained* as Melida Ruiz. Previous credits include Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet*, Donna Sheridan in *Mamma Mia!*, and Martha Jefferson in *1776*. She would like to thank her friends and family for their support, and a special thanks to the cast and crew of *In The Heights* for making this an unforgettable experience. Enjoy the show!

Chris Benis (Kevin)



Chris Benis is a proud Greek, Godfather, and Performing Artist. Previous productions include *High School Musical* (Troy), *Mamma Mia* (Sam Carmichael) and *Rent* (Collins). He'd like to thank Mom, Dad, Aleca, Nicky, Eva, and his Goddaughter Annick for all the inspiration. Σαγαπω!

Cecille Forsyth Rios (Camila)



An actress born and raised in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, experienced many hot sunny tropical days filled with music and art. Her parents, a psychiatrist and a deadhead, saw her affinity for the arts and did nothing but support her crazy antics. Her passions lie in raising awareness about Puerto Rico to the world and telling the stories. She is currently working on a project that shares the experiences of those who went through Hurricane Maria, the 2019 protests, and the earthquakes that recently struck the island. After graduating this May, Cecille is ready to continue telling all kinds of stories.

Brooklyn Kelly (Daniela)



Brooklyn Kelly is a Sophomore Theatre Arts Major. She is from Las Vegas, NV. Brooklyn is also half Black and half Filipino. During her time at LMU, she has been involved in *Intimate Apparel* (Esther) and the New Works Festival. She is a member of Radix, an LMU hip-hop dance crew. She also enjoys writing her own music when she's not working on a show. She just recently released her song Cafe in Paris on Soundcloud. Follow her on Instagram: @brooklynjada.k

Jordan Fernandez (Carla)



Jordan Fernandez is a sophomore studying Communication Studies and Dance. Her hometown is Oakland, CA and she's been involved in performing arts her whole life. This is her first performance with LMU Theatre and she's so excited to be playing the role of Carla. She's an E-Board member for Isang Bansa, a member of the dance crew Radix, and a campus Tour Guide. She wants to thank the cast and crew for making this an unforgettable experience. She also wants to thank her parents, Janeda and Tony, as well as her theatre mom, Lauren, for always supporting her in everything!

Brian Reyes (Piragua Guy)



Brian is so excited to tell this amazing story of *In the Heights*. He has previously been in *Hair* and *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* at LMU and is so incredibly humbled by all he has learned in these shows. He would like to thank his friends for sticking by him. Last but not least he would like to thank his parents and his brother for always being there and giving him so much love.

Taylor Montgomery (Graffiti Pete)



Taylor Montgomery is a sophomore Theatre arts major/Film and Television Studies Minor from Atlanta, Ga. Aside from acting she enjoys singing, directing, cinematography, and learning about black artists. You can follow Taylor on Instagram @taylorchristinaa_to indulge in her promotion of carefree blackness.

Noah Bradley (Ensemble)



Noah Bradley is a Sophomore Theatre Arts and International Relations double major. While at LMU, Noah has performed onstage in *Hair* and the 2019 New Works Festival. He was also in the Del Rey Player's production of *Little Women* as Laurie. Besides Theatre, Noah is also involved on the LSB Improv Team and the Alternative Breaks program at the Center of Service and Action on campus. As a First-Generation American, he is thrilled to be a part of this production which celebrates immigrant's stories and their experiences.

Yazmine Ocampo (Ensemble)



Yazmine Ocampo is a sophomore Communications major from San Jose, CA and is thrilled for her first production at LMU. In high school, she participated in numerous shows such as *Oliver* (Nancy), *A Chorus Line* (Bebe), and *Pippin* (Frastrada). In the future, Yazmine hopes to work in PR for the entertainment industry. In her free time, you can find her adventuring LA with friends or drinking a Philz coffee while chilling on Manhattan Beach.

Lauren DePass (Ensemble)



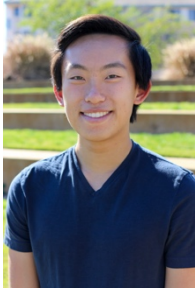
Lauren DePass is a dancer, singer, and actor. She is currently a senior theatre arts major and has been doing theatre for two years now. She recently played Mercedes and Lily in *Detained* by France-Luce Benson directed by Lawrence Lacey. She currently dances at studios in Los Angeles, her favorite being Playground LA. She loves spending time with her family and being around her pets. She wants to thank her brother for sharing her love of music and her parents for being incredibly supportive.

Kennedy Smith (Ensemble)



Kennedy Smith is a sophomore Theatre Arts major with minors in both Dance and Psychology from Pasco, WA. This is her first performance on an LMU stage and she has found confidence in both playwriting, directing, and assisting with the Theatre in Color club during her time at LMU so far. Aside from theatre, she loves running, unsolved mysteries, boba, and spending time with her sorority sisters. If you want to keep up with her creative endeavors, follow @kennedysmithcreates on Instagram!

Jeremy Lee (Ensemble)



Jeremy is currently a sophomore Economics major with a double minor in Music and Philosophy. He has been in high school and collegiate choirs for 4 years and has played classical piano since age 5 but this is his first ever theater production! Singing and dancing have always brought him joy, so he cannot wait to share this wonderful show with all of you!

Ari Goodfriend (Ensemble)



Ari Goodfriend has participated in shows such as *Peter Pan* playing Peter Pan, *Pippin* as Pippin and *Little Shop of Horrors* as Seymour. Ari also participated in his choir in high school.

Katie Leszynski (Ensemble)



Katie Leszynski is a Sophomore Theatre Arts Major with a Public Relations Minor. She is from Redmond, Washington. Katie is a part of the Ensemble and this is her first show at LMU. Katie has been acting since she was 10 years-old, and before coming to LMU she studied and performed at The Village Theatre. Her previous roles include Belle in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, and Nina (lead) in the original musical *Sincerely Yours*. She wants to personally thank Dr. Sicre for the opportunity to perform with this amazing cast. For networking purposes follow her Instagram @katieleszynski.

Natalie Riddick (Ensemble)



Natalie Riddick is a member of the ensemble of *In The Heights*. She is a freshman History major at Loyola Marymount University. She is from Vacaville, California and has been dancing and doing musical theater for 16 years. Natalie is very excited to have *In The Heights* as her debut performance at LMU because she has never been a part of such a diverse cast in such a powerful story. Lin-Manuel Miranda is also one of her favorite composers because he combined both her passions of history and musical theater in his show *Hamilton*.

Tulsi Shah (Ensemble)



Tulsi is excited to be making her LMU debut in *In The Heights*. She has a background in hip-hop, African dance, ballet, modern, jazz, and aerial silks, and especially found her love for performing in musical theatre. Some of her previous roles include Tracy in *Hairspray*, Helga in *Cabaret*, and the Extraordinary Girl in *American Idiot*, where she gained trapeze and harnessed stage-flight experience. Tulsi is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to tell this story in the hopes of promoting discussions surrounding immigration, race, college tuition, identity, poverty, and the power of music, culture, and dance. IG: @tulsishah

Aidan Flaherty (Ensemble)



Aidan is a sophomore at Loyola Marymount University. Last year, he was part of the Ensemble for LMU's production of *Hair*. He is a recipient of Musical Theatre West's Footlighter Scholarship award and is working towards a career in the arts. In the future, he plans to attend grad school, where he will study to become a physical therapist although his dream is to become an actor for film and TV. He'd like to thank all designers, directors, and crew-members for making this production possible. He would also like to thank *Charlie Brown* for teaching him persistence and determination.

Vincent Prom (Ensemble)



Vincent Prom is a dance major at Loyola Marymount University. Vincent was born and raised in Portland, Oregon and danced with The Jefferson Dancers in his high school years. This is his first year at LMU. Having lived with his family his entire life, making the decision to move to Los Angeles was the biggest choice he's ever made. Since moving, he has been a part of the LMU hip-hop dance crew, Radix, performed in the Faculty Dance Showcase earlier in November, among other smaller projects. With no prior experience in acting or singing, Vincent has found new interests in these areas because of *In the Heights*. To keep up with Vincent and his journey follow him on Instagram! @curly.vin

Arely Gonzalez (Ensemble)



Arely is a sophomore Theatre Arts major from Houston, Texas. As a Mexican-American woman, she is extremely excited to be a part of LMU's production of *In the Heights*, a show that highlights the beauty of Latinx culture. Last semester she was also in LMU's staged reading *Detained*. She would like to thank her parents, her friends, and her director Daphnie Sicre for all of their support. You can follow her on Instagram at @arely_gonzalezn

Andrew Simpson (Ensemble)



Andrew is beyond excited to be performing in his first show at LMU. He is currently studying Psychology, but hopes to double major in Theatre in the upcoming semester. Back home in Monterey, CA, he enjoyed taking afro-latin dance classes, arranging music in his free time, singing too loudly in the shower, and performing in school and community theater productions. Some of his favorite roles include Jack (*Into the Woods*), John Adams (*1776*), Barfee (*The Spelling Bee*) and Orpheus (*Eurydice*). He'd like to thank both his director for this unforgettable experience and castmates for their kindness

and acceptance.

Daphnie Sicre (Director)

Dr. Daphnie Sicre is an assistant professor of Theatre Arts at Loyola Marymount University where she teaches directing & theatre for social change. She shares a deep passion for discovering multiple Latinx and African-American perspectives in theatre, focusing her Ph.D. Afro-Latinx performance. Engaging in anti-racist and cultural competent theatre practices, Daphnie facilitates Theatre of the Oppressed workshops remixed with Hip Hop Pedagogy to teach about equity, diversity and inclusion in theatre. When she is not writing, teaching, or conducting workshops, she can be found directing. Last year, she directed Jose Casas's *14*. Select New York City directing credits include: *Shower Me* at the FringeNYC and *Stranger* for Stage Black, where she won the Best Director award and the AUDELCO nominated *Not About Eve*, to name a few. In the Heights is her LMU debut as director, and she couldn't be happier.

Danny Williams (Music Director)

Since receiving his B.A. in music theory and composition from L.M.U. in 2007, Danny has worked as an accompanist, sound engineer, and music director for theaters and schools around Los Angeles. He is delighted to contribute *In The Heights*, his eighth production as a music director at L.M.U.

Jared Jenkins (Choreographer)

Jared Jenkins is originally from Philadelphia, PA, but now resides in Los Angeles, CA. After Graduating from Georgetown University with a degree in Finance, Jared decided to explore dance and take his first dance class. Since then, Jared has had the opportunity to train, travel and work with some of the top choreographers in the world. Currently, Jared is a faculty member at Movement Lifestyle and Millennium Dance Complex in Los Angeles, as well as teaches on the Monsters of Hip-Hop convention. His current credits include Janet Jackson, Jennifer Lopez, Mariah Carey, Halsey, YG, Justine Skye, Armon and Trey, Icona Pop, Jazmine, Sullivan, Nigel Lythgoe's Every Single Step, Lip Sync Battle, Cirque Du Soleil, BET's Music Awards and Black Girls Rock, Soul Train Awards, Wendy Williams, Good Morning America, Verizon, Touchstone Picture's "Step-up 2: The Streets", New York City's Fashion Week, The Pulse, Monster's of Hip Hop, and World of Dance.

Christopher Scott Murillo (Set Designer)

Christopher Scott Murillo is a scenic designer, artist, and educator based in Los Angeles, CA. Most recently, his work has been seen at The Kirk Douglas Theatre, International City Theatre, The Chance Theater, Skylight Theatre Company, East West Players, New Village Arts Theatre, Native Voices at the Autry, The El Portal Theatre, and the Getty Villa (to name a few). Currently, he is an associate artist with Playwrights' Arena serving as their resident scenic designer.

is a member of the Television Academy and United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829. He holds an MFA from the UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance, and a BA from the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television. Christopher is an Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts at Loyola Marymount University teaching courses in scenic design, stagecraft and the collaborative process. He is a 2016 recipient of the Princess Grace Foundation Theater Fellowship- Pierre Cardin Award.

Leon Wiebers (Costume Designer)

Leon Wiebers has designed productions in the United States and internationally. He was a Fulbright Senior Scholar to South Korea examining traditional dress. His work encompasses musical theatre, dance, opera, and straight plays. Recent credits: Oslo for the Pioneer Theatre, Dance pieces for BodyTraffic, an LA-based modern company, at the Hollywood Bowl, *Empire*, a new musical for LaMirada Center for the Performing Arts, *The Secret Garden* for Cincinnati Playhouse and Center Stage in Baltimore, *The Music Man* for Glimmerglass Festival and the Royal Opera in Oman and *The King and I* for the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, and *Il Trovatore* for the Sacramento Opera. He is a long-term collaborator at California Music Circus whose productions include: *A Chorus Line*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Show Boat*, *Anything Goes*, *I Do, I Do*, *Spamalot!*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *42 Street*, *My Fair Lady*, *Gypsy*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Aida*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Grease*, *West Side Story*, *The Fantasticks* and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Other companies include the San Francisco Opera Center, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, the English National Opera, the Theatre du Chatelet in Paris, the Getty Museum and Portland Center Stage. Awards include: The Carbonelle Award, Fulbright Research Grant to Korea, Back Stage West Garland and LA Weekly Awards for *Three Sisters* for Interact Theatre, LA and an LA Ovation Award for *Ubu Roi* at A Noise Within. He is member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829 and a national board member for the Costume Society of America.

Omar Ramos (Lighting Designer)

Omar is pleased to make his LMU debut. Recent Works: Chapman Fall Faculty Concert (Chapman U), Arise 2019 (A Step Beyond Escondido Center for the Arts), A Hundred Years from Today (Lucia Neare's Theatrical Wonders), ONE: A Kinetic Journal (ONE Movement Project).

Marisa Whitmore (Sound Designer)

Marisa Whitmore is a recent graduate from the LMU theatre program and has been working on shows in the theatre department since she transferred in Fall 2016. She has worked as a sound engineer and designer since graduation, with credits including audio mixing for *Deadly* at Sacred Fools Theatre Company and *Bronco Billy* at Skylight Theatre Company. Most recently, she has been a regular audio engineer on the Pixel Playhouse livestream.

Casey Majors (Hair and Makeup Designer)

Casey Majors is a sophomore Theatre Arts major and is very excited to be working on her first LMU production. This is also her first show as makeup designer, and she couldn't be more thrilled. She would like to thank Leon and Sicre for their guidance and support throughout the process.

Andrea Odinov (Speech Coach)

Andrea is a Clinical Asst. Professor of Voice and Speech at Loyola Marymount University, and a professional Voice, Speech, and Dialect coach. Coaching credits include: A Noise Within Theatre, The Geffen Playhouse, The Odyssey Theatre, Rogue Theatre Machine, Ghost Road Company, Antaeus Theatre Company, The Road Theatre Company, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, The Group Rep, 24th St. Theatre, Sea Glass Theatre Company, and Long Beach Playhouse. She is a Certified Associate Instructor of Fitzmaurice Voicework®, a member of VASTA, ATHE, SAG-AFTRA, and AEA, and holds an M.F.A from University of CA at Irvine.

Stacey Cabaj (Singing Coach)

Stacey Cabaj is an award-winning actress, performance pedagogy specialist, and voice coach. She holds an M.F.A. in Theatre Pedagogy from Virginia Commonwealth University and a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from the Boston Conservatory at Berklee, as well as teaching certifications in the Meisner Approach to Acting, Vibrant Voice Technique®, and Vocal Yoga®. Before joining the faculty at LMU, she was an Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University and headed the M.F.A. Performance Pedagogy Program at the University of Pittsburgh. As an actress, she has appeared across the United States and internationally in musical theatre, classical theatre, voiceover, and new works.

Colette Mendoza (Stage Manager)

Colette Mendoza is a junior Theatre Arts major with minors in Political Science and Peace and Justice Studies. She is very excited to be stage manning her first musical and to be a part of her 9th show at LMU. Previous shows include *Spring Awakening* in Bonn, Germany, and the inaugural LMU's Shakespeare on the Bluff production, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is on the board of directors for the Del Rey Players and works at the Children's Center with many cute toddlers. She would like to thank her mom and Shenny and her wonderful ASMs. IG: @colettemendo

Mackenzie Ross (Assistant Stage Manager)

Mackenzie is a third-year undergraduate pursuing a degree in marketing analytics and a minor in theater. Over the summer, she was a stage management intern at Broadway At Music Circus where she assisted with the productions of *Shrek the Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *The Wiz*. She also has training in musical theater from attending Long Lake Camp for the Arts in New York. She has done her fair share of traveling, singing her way around the world as part of a touring choir and squeezing in the occasional black diamond ski run.

Wesley Glenn (Assistant Stage Manager)

Wesley Glenn is currently a senior at LMU and has worked with various production companies both in LA and in his home town of Santa Barbara. His work with the LMU Theatre Department includes stage manager for *Hair*, *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui*, and Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. He also helped with set construction on these shows and many others since he transferred to LMU as a junior. Wesley is also the technical director at LMU's student-run theater group, The Del Rey Players. This is the second show he has assistant stage managed for The Theatre Department

Maya Johnson (Assistant Director)

Maya Johnson is excited to be assistant directing *In the Heights* at LMU. Maya is a Communication Studies major with minors in African American Studies and Theatre Arts. She has a passion for storytelling through multiple art forms, particularly film, dance, and theatre. She enjoys all aspects of the creative process and is grateful to have had the opportunity to work with such an amazing cast, production team, and director from whom she has learned so much. Maya is honored to be a part of a show that values and celebrates the cultures of underrepresented groups on campus.

Priscilla Moreno (Assistant Director)

Priscilla is thrilled to be assistant directing *In the Heights*! She has participated in multiple shows over her four years at Loyola Marymount University (*Soldadera*, *The Rose Tattoo*, *Haunting of Hannon*) and is excited to make her first foray into directing. Priscilla is incredibly proud to be collaborating on a show that authentically represents the struggles and joys of the Latinx community. She would like to thank Sire for this wonderful opportunity, the cast and crew for being so patient and passionate, and her family and friends for all their support. ¡Disfruten!

Jason Sheppard (Technical Director)

F. Jason Sheppard is the Technical Director for the LMU Theater Arts and Dance Department and has worked on over 100 productions since he started working at LMU in the fall of 1997. Jason has also designed many sets for LMU including *Noises Off*, *Once In a Lifetime*, *A Raisin In the Sun*, *Macbeth*, *The Elephant Man*, *Henry IV*, *In Love With Night*, *Evil Dead: The Musical* and most recently, *Honey Brown Eyes*. Off campus he has designed sets for several companies in Los Angeles. Some favorites include *Grace Notes & Anvils* (Odyssey Theater Ensemble), *Beast On the Moon* (Long Beach Playhouse), *The Architect* (The Gascon Theater), and *Modigliani* (Buffalo Knights). Jason has also stage-managed and directed several plays and workshops in the greater Los Angeles area. Jason is currently getting his MA in Educational Studies at LMU. When not on campus, Jason is a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist for the L.A. based alt-country band Suicide Cowboy.

Cate Chapman (Assistant Set Designer)

Cate is a sophomore Theatre Arts Major and Art History Minor from Seattle. She is very excited to have this opportunity to learn from Christopher and all his design experience! Apart from scenic design, Cate also focuses on props and stage management. She looks forward to designing sets for the Spring New Works Festival and props for *Cabaret* at the Del Rey Players. As for what Cate did specifically for *In The Heights*, check out the Piragua cart for a display of her and Tamarra's handiwork!

Jesse Yu

Jesse was born and raised in Suzhou, China. In 2016, he started his undergraduate study at Loyola Marymount University. During his years at LMU, he has studied scenic design, drafting, and painting. In 2018, Jesse presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium about his experience on archiving scenic designs. In 2019, Jesse worked for *Wolves* as wardrobe crew.

Tamarra Sylber (Assistant Set Designer)

Tamarra is extremely excited to be a part of this magnificent production! She is a new transfer student to LMU and this is her second show with the Theater Department. It is her first time working as an assistant Scenic Designer and it has been a blast! She wants to thank the entire cast, production crew, and professors for making this such an amazing experience! Special thanks to Cate Chapman for being an awesome partner to work with! Shout out to Christopher, Jason, and Johnny B for all their help! Enjoy the show!

Allesse Patterson (Assistant Sound Designer)

Allesse is so excited to be a part of *In the Heights*! This is the first show she has been involved in here at Loyola Marymount University and can't wait to do tech for one that means so much to her. This has been a great learning experience for her and she can't wait to continue to take what she has learned with this musical to future shows here at LMU and beyond. As a true theatre geek, she is an avid fan of *In the Heights* and can't wait to jam out in the booth to her favorite songs!