2022-2023 Season

Department of
Theatre and Performance Studies

Kennesaw State University
College of the Arts

TheatreKSU.com
From compelling student performances and exhibitions to professional faculty and guest artist presentations, the College of the Arts at Kennesaw State University provides transformational experiences for our students and the communities we serve. ArtsKSU is essential to the cultural fabric of our campus, metropolitan Atlanta, and Northwest Georgia.

Our 2022-23 season proudly reflects our ongoing commitment to student discovery, diverse perspectives, innovative scholarship, and artistic excellence. A dynamic collaboration among the School of Art and Design, Department of Dance, Bailey School of Music, and Department of Theatre and Performance Studies, KSU’s College of the Arts is a community of artists and scholars dedicated to expanding the boundaries of knowledge, possibility, and imagination.

Our 2022-2023 ArtsKSU Season features a diverse range of offerings including exhibitions by distinguished artists Lesley Dill and Oscar Muñoz at our Zuckerman Museum of Art; original works by acclaimed choreographers Tsai Tsi Hung and Chuck Wilt at our Dance Theater; a performance by the Atlanta Opera at our Bailey Performance Center; and a powerful staging of the blockbuster musical RENT on our Stillwell Theater stage.

In a rapidly changing world, the arts remain a beacon of our shared humanity. We hope you will join us for our remarkable 2022-2023 season and be transformed!

Harrison Long
Interim Dean, College of the Arts
Support KSU

You may support the arts at KSU in many ways:

**Scholarships:** Endow a scholarship and generate a named award in perpetuity, or contribute to an annual scholarship.

**Seat/Plaque Naming:** Name a seat in one of ArtKSU’s many venues, or a plaque in the School of Art and Design.

**Want to learn more?**
Contact Kelly Smith
ksmit738@kennesaw.edu
or call 470-578-3129

**Want to give today?**
Visit community.kennesaw.edu/COTA

Become an ArtsKSU Member!
Support ArtsKSU by becoming an ArtsKSU Member, starting at only $25. Enjoy a variety of benefits, including ticket discounts and free exchanges through 5/31/23. You’ll also score invitations to the Season Preview event in Spring 2023, plus exclusive events throughout the year! Join now at ticketing.kennesaw.edu or call 470-578-6650.

**New This Year! Free Concierge Service | 20% Discount* | Choose Your Own Seats**

**Bailey School of Music Reception**
Friday, Sept. 23, 2022 | 6:30 p.m.
Celebrate the Hispanic Heritage Festival with bandoneon artist Daniel Benelli and Columbia conductor Germán Gutiérrez.

**Department of Dance Reception**
Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022 | 7 p.m.
Enjoy a reception featuring pre-show conversation and Q&A with the choreographers of Carte Blanche.

**Department of Theatre and Performance Studies Pre-Talk**
Saturday, Feb. 26, 2023 | 7 p.m.
Listen to pre-play conversation before Caryl Churchill’s Love and Information and interact with our students and creative team.

**School of Art and Design Artist Talk**
Saturday, Apr. 15, 2023 | 11 a.m.
Hear artist Lesley Dill as she discusses her artistic practice and artwork at the ZMA, Lesley Dill Wilderness: Light Sizzles Around Me.

**College of the Arts 2023-2024 Season Preview Event**
Sunday, May 7, 2023 | 4 p.m.
Join us for a preview of the 2023-2024 season, enjoy light refreshments, and purchase your tickets before the general public.

*Some exclusions apply.
RESEARCH in the arts

Graduate Research Symposium
August 2 | 6-7:30 p.m. | ArtsKSU Virtual
Presented by Dr. Jessica Stephenson, MA Interim Graduate Program Coordinator

Join our inaugural cohort of Master of Art & Design graduate students online as they share their thesis and project research. The video presentations will span the topics of Art Education, Digital Animation, and Museum Studies.

Fall Undergraduate Research Week
Oct. 31-Nov. 4 | On Demand via ArtsKSU Virtual

Undergraduate students from the School of Art and Design, Department of Dance, Bailey School of Music, and the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies will share their research activities via videos on demand. Hosted by the College of the Arts Council for Undergraduate Research.

Dylan Carter (B.A., Theatre, ’19) earned the coveted top student researcher award in the creative arts category at the Georgia Conference on Undergraduate Research in Nov. 2018, and then presented his research on fairy tales at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in 2019. Image by Rob Witzel.
4th Faculty Research in the Arts Colloquium

**November 4 | 3 p.m. | ZMA Atrium and ArtsKSU Virtual**

Join our professors from the College of the Arts as they share their scholarship and research expertise in our Faculty Research in the Arts Colloquium. Includes brief Q&A. Presented by the COTA Research Advisory Committee.

**Spring Undergraduate Research Week**

**March 27–March 31 | On Demand via ArtsKSU Virtual**

Undergraduate students from the School of Art and Design, Department of Dance, Bailey School of Music, and the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies will share their research activities via videos on demand. Hosted by the College of the Arts Council for Undergraduate Research.

**Undergraduate Research Forum**

**March 29 | 2 p.m. | ZMA Atrium and ArtsKSU Virtual**

Students from all four units of the College of the Arts will present an overview of their scholarship in person; also streamed live.

**Spring Faculty Research Forum**

**April 12 | 3-4:45 p.m. | ZMA Atrium and ArtsKSU Virtual**

Please join us for the Spring Faculty Research Forum, in-person or virtually, as our faculty present their research in the arts.

**Dr. Brian E. Herrera**

**February 20 | 7 p.m.**

**Scott Hall | ArtsKSU Virtual**

Don’t miss this evening lecture with Dr. Brian E. Herrera, Associate Professor of Theater and Gender & Sexuality Studies at Princeton University’s Lewis Center for the Arts. Hosted by the College of the Arts Council for Undergraduate Research.

Dr. Brian Eugenio Herrara is the author of Latin Numbers: Playing Latino in Twentieth Century U.S. Popular Performance. He will be presenting his lecture on February 20 at 7 p.m.
The award-winning Department of Theatre and Performance Studies (TPS) offers a Bachelor of Arts with four concentrations: acting, design/technology, musical theatre, and performance studies. The four areas of study are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre. Our innovative and diverse season includes plays, musicals, poetry performances, adaptations of classic literature, storytelling, improv comedy, and new works.

Throughout the year, TPS invites acclaimed theatre professionals to intersect with our students for masterclasses and conversations about theatre and what it means to be an engaged citizen artist. We also offer a professional presenting series each season featuring accomplished guest artists in residency to engage with our students and our audiences.

Performances are staged in two elegant venues on the Kennesaw campus: the 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., our improv troupe, perform at local schools, professional venues, and national conferences and competitions.

Our location in the Atlanta metropolitan area offers our students frequent opportunities for internships, jobs, and networking connections with professional theatre artists who work in Atlanta’s dynamic theatre scene. Education abroad experiences include programs in London, Paris, and Montepulciano, Italy.
COMPANY
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by George Furth
Directed by Timothy Ellis

SEPT.
14-18

Wed.-Thurs.
7:30 p.m.

Fri.-Sat.
8 p.m.

Sun. 3 p.m.

Stillwell Theater, Kennesaw Campus | $12-$20

TPS pays tribute to the titan of American Musical Theatre with a concert staging of this musical that features many of Sondheim’s beloved songs. How are your life decisions affected by the company you keep? Company takes us on Bobby’s journey as the couples around him ponder his singlehood and encourage him to find a mate. We question whether his friends are living their own advice. Company is a delightful look at how society molds our ideals and how those ideals are translated into our relationships.
Pictured: Student Jeremy Peterson; image by Lauren Liz Photo.
Students pictured (left to right): Lauren Lee and Mya Burns. Image by Lauren Liz Photo.
SHE KILLS MONSTERS
By Qui Nguyen
Directed by Jim Davis
Onyx Theater, Kennesaw Campus | $10–$12

After losing her family in a car crash, Agnes Evans returns to her hometown hoping to learn more about her late sister, Tilly. She’s shocked when she learns about her sister’s butt-kicking Dungeons and Dragons adventures as Tillius the Paladin. Agnes joins Tilly’s game, fights demons, dragons, and maniacal cheerleaders, and discovers the thrill of finding self, connecting with family, and “making the saving throw.”

OCT.
11-16

Tues.–Thurs.
7:30 p.m.

Fri.–Sat.
8 p.m.

Sat. 2 p.m.
Sun. 3 p.m.

kennesaw.edu/arts/theatre
JITNEY
By August Wilson
Directed by Jacqueline Springfield

Stillwell Theater, Kennesaw Campus | $12-$20

NOV. 11-16
Tue.-Thurs. 7:30 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 8 p.m.
Sun. 3 p.m.

It is 1977 in a Black neighborhood of Pittsburgh known as the Hill District. Drivers of unlicensed cabs (jitneys) fight for love, survival, and respect as the powers-that-be threaten to close down their garage in the name of neighborhood improvement.

Though Jitney is one of August Wilson’s first plays, it was the last of his 10-play American Century Cycle to premiere on Broadway. Using Wilson’s characteristically rich language, Jitney explores what happens when tempers flare, potent secrets are revealed, and the fragile threads that bind people together threaten to come undone.
Students pictured (left to right): Tre Jarrett, Danielle Montgomery, Zachari Tellez, Terence Foxx.
arts.KSU presents

BROADWAY BOYS

Conceived by Billy Porter
Directed by Justin Paul
Produced by Jesse Nager
Stillwell Theater, Kennesaw Campus | $12-$20

A collection of diverse male voices from the New York stage. Representing shows such as Hamilton, Wicked, Jersey Boys, The Lion King, The Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables, Mamma Mia, and many more, the Boys rearrange traditional musical theatre tunes with elements of pop, funk, gospel, and rock for an exciting new take on Broadway’s greatest hits. Their live show features explosive musical arrangements, biographical stories, and behind-the-scenes insight that only seasoned Broadway performers can deliver.

DEC. 1-3

Dec. 1
7:30 p.m.

Dec. 2-3
8 p.m.
LOVE AND INFORMATION

By Caryl Churchill
Directed by Emily Kitchens

Onyx Theater, Kennesaw Campus | $10-$12

FEB. 21-26
Tue.-Thurs. 7:30 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 8 p.m.
Sun. 3 p.m.

In a world that is increasingly virtual, how do we traverse the devastating gap between our longing for love and our addictive need for information? In this fascinating kaleidoscope of 57 short plays, more than 100 characters try to find true human connection and make sense of what they know and don’t know. A mesmerizing and unpredictable play by one of the world’s most groundbreaking playwrights.
Students pictured (left to right):
Christopher Cohorst
Nornu Ken-Piaro
John Lumapas
Estrella Dearborn
Cecillia Delanuez
Matthew Weeks
Kourtney Price
Katie Nelson
Tyler Vanduvall
Students pictured
Top Row (left to right): JT Butler, Abigail Folds
Bottom Row: Vanessa Lopez, Amani Clanton, Le'Kee Horton, Joshua Shepherd
Created in the 1990’s, the iconic rock musical Rent has sustained its immediacy and theatrical power for over twenty-five years. The story offers an intimate encounter with a diverse group of young artists living in the lower east side of New York as we follow their daily struggles to make ends meet during the siege of HIV AIDS. Their relationships remind us of the power of a supportive community, and most of all, the hope and joy that love offers in the midst of loss and despair.

1996 Tony Award for Best Musical and Pulitzer-Prize Winner for Drama
STUDENT WORKS

AUG. 27
48-Hour Play Festival | 8 p.m.
Stillwell Theater | $5
Coordinated by Margaret Pendergrass

Student playwrights, actors, and directors collaborate, create, and perform new works. All done in just 48 hours!

OCT. 20-21
The 10th Annual Coming-Out Monologues
Thurs., 7:30 p.m. | Fri., 8 p.m.
Onyx Theater | $5
Directed by TPS Students
Produced in collaboration with the KSU LGBTQ Resource Center

With great Pride, TPS celebrates our tenth anniversary performance of coming-out stories written by KSU and metro-area communities and performed by KSU students.

NOV. 29-30
KSU Tellers Fall Showcase
Tues.–Wed., 7:30 p.m.
Onyx Theater | $5
Directed by Charles Parrott

The KSU Tellers invite you to join them as they present their best solo performances from the Fall semester. This event may not be suitable for audiences under the age of 16.

DEC. 9-10
K.I.S.S. Fall Improv Showcase
Fri.–Sat., 8 p.m.
Stillwell Theater | $5 (Tickets only available at the door.)
Please arrive early as seating is limited.

Our resident improv ensemble offers an evening of performances on the fly. Side-splitting, surprising, and just plain fun. This event may not be suitable for audiences under the age of 16.
Students: Nicholas Gilomen, Ebony Golden, Erin North; image by Lauren Liz Photo
KSU Tellers Spring Showcase  
Thurs., 7:30 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.  
Onyx Theater | $5  
Directed by Charles Parrott

The KSU Tellers invite you to join them as they present their best solo performances from the Spring semester. This event may not be suitable for audiences under the age of 16.

KSU Colors Spring Showcase  
8 p.m.  
Stillwell Theater | FREE  
Created by KSU Students

Original student works highlighting community, identity, and expression.

Musical Theatre Showcase  
7 p.m.  
Stillwell Theater | Free

Join us for a lively and engaging program of musical theatre.

K.I.S.S. Improv Showcase  
Fri.–Sat., 8 p.m.  
Onyx Theater | $5 (Tickets only available at the door.)  
Please arrive early as seating is limited.

Our resident improv ensemble offers an evening of performances on the fly. Side-splitting, surprising, and just plain fun. This event may not be suitable for audiences under the age of 16.
College of the Arts

Prof. Harrison Long, Interim Dean
Dr. Peter Fielding, Associate Dean
Dr. Leslie J. Blackwell, Interim Associate Dean
Prof. Geo Sipp, Director, School of Art & Design
Prof. Marsha Barsky, Chair, Department of Dance
Dr. Julia Bullard, Interim Director, Bailey School of Music
Prof. Chuck Meacham, Chair, Department of Theatre & Performance Studies

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