

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY | GEER COLLEGE of the ARTS

DEPARTMENT of
THEATRE and
PERFORMANCE STUDIES
2025-2026 SEASON



KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY
ROBERT S. GEER FAMILY
COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

great STORIES told *here*



DEPARTMENT of **THEATRE** and **PERFORMANCE STUDIES**

The award-winning Department of Theatre and Performance Studies (TPS) offers a Bachelor of Arts with four concentrations: Acting, Design and Technology, Musical Theatre and Performance Studies. The four areas of study are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre. Our innovative and dynamic 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.



great STORIES told *here*

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 students frequent opportunities for internships, jobs and networking connections with professional theatre artists who work in Atlanta's dynamic theatre scene.

ArtsKSU *presents* **PROFESSIONAL SERIES**
SHADOW GIRLS CULT

UNRAVELING

CREATED AND PERFORMED BY CASS BRAY AND ZANE EXACTLY

SEPT. 5-6 8 p.m. SEPT. 7 3 p.m.	STILLWELL THEATER Wilson Building	
	Reserved seating	

Mature content*

UNRAVELING is a compilation of short shadow vignettes, each featuring a new character, story, genre and visual style. The show weaves together poignant tales that encompass longing, loneliness, identity and grief through a surreal lens. Each tale focuses on a different moment in time when our characters and their individual stories break apart.

Each story is centered around the question: "Is the world (and by extension, are we) destined to always, always come apart at the seams?" UNRAVELING incorporates three overhead projectors (primary medium for puppetry), flashlights, adapted camera irises, shadow puppets, shadow masks, live animation techniques, human silhouettes and liquid light techniques to create haunting, cinematic dreamscapes.



Image provided by artist.



DANCE NATION

WRITTEN BY CLARE BARRON
DIRECTED BY AMANDA WANSA MORGAN

 ONYX THEATER Wilson Annex \$12 (students \$5)	SEPT. 30 - OCT. 2 7:30 p.m. OCT. 3 8 p.m. OCT. 4 2 & 8 p.m. OCT. 5 3 p.m.
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Mature content*

Somewhere in America, an army of pre-teen competitive dancers plot to take over the world. If their new routine is good enough, they'll claw their way to the top at Nationals in Tampa Bay. Dance Nation is a play about ambition, growing up and how to find our souls in the heat of it all.

BLOOD WEDDING

WRITTEN BY FEDERICO GARCIA LORCA

TRANSLATED BY LILLIAN GROAG

DIRECTED BY MARLON ANDREW BURNLEY

NOV. 6, 13 | 7:30 p.m.

NOV. 7-8, 14-15 | 8 p.m.

NOV. 9, 16 | 3 p.m.

STILLWELL THEATER

Wilson Building

Reserved seating

\$20
(students \$5)



Mature content*

Two families are intricately bound in an unbreakable cycle of murder and revenge. An arranged country marriage between the children of rich landowners is about to take place.

A past lover, himself in a loveless marriage, cannot allow the wedding to take place and spirits the Bride away, who goes with him willingly on her wedding night. An entire town goes after the lovers in the middle of the night where pursuers and pursued plunge into a realm of deep darkness where the moonlight is not friendly and the forest not shelter enough.

Image design by Joshua Stone. Photos by Lauren Liz Photography



Tickets: 470-578-6650 | kennesaw.edu/arts/academics/theatre

SCHOOL GIRLS: or, the AFRICAN MEAN GIRLS PLAY

WRITTEN BY JOCELYN BIOH
DIRECTED BY JACQUELINE SPRINGFIELD

	ONYX THEATER Wilson Annex
	\$12 (students \$5)

FEB. 17-19 | 7:30 p.m.

FEB. 20 | 8 p.m.

FEB. 21 | 2 & 8 p.m.

FEB. 22 | 3 p.m.

Mature content*

Paulina is the reigning Queen Bee at Ghana's most exclusive boarding school. At the start of the 1986 school year, she sets her sights on the annual Miss Universe pageant.

But when new girl Ericka transfers from America in the middle of the year, Paulina's carefully controlled world is thrown into chaos. Called "ferociously entertaining" by The Hollywood Reporter, School Girls fearlessly explores the challenges of teenage girlhood and all the drama that comes with it.

SHE LOVES ME

MUSIC BY JERRY BOCK
LYRICS BY SHELDON HARNICK
BOOK BY JOE MASTEROFF
DIRECTED BY RICARDO APONTE
MUSIC DIRECTED BY HOLT MCCARLEY
CHOREOGRAPHED BY TIMOTHY ELLIS

APRIL 2, 9 | 7:30 p.m.

APRIL 3-4, 10-11 | 8 p.m.

APRIL 5, 12 | 3 p.m.

STILLWELL THEATER
Wilson Building

Reserved seating **\$20**
(students \$5)



Mature content*

Set in a 1930s European perfumery, shop clerks Amalia and Georg don't see eye to eye. After both respond to a "lonely hearts" ad in the newspaper, they now live for the love letters they exchange, but the identity of their admirers remains unknown. Join Amalia and Georg to discover the identity of their true loves and all the twists and turns along the way in this charming musical.



Image design by Joshua Stone. Photos by Lauren Liz Photography

DEPARTMENT of THEATRE and PERFORMANCE STUDIES

DEVELOPMENTAL WORKS

STILLWELL THEATER
AUG. 30 | \$5



Mature content*

THE 48-HOUR PLAY FESTIVAL

WRITTEN, DIRECTED, DESIGNED AND
PERFORMED BY KSU STUDENTS.

Come see the final product of 48-hours of art-making from inception to final product!

ONYX THEATER
OCT. 24-25 | \$5



Mature content*

COMING OUT!

COORDINATED BY TOM FISH
DIRECTED BY KSU STUDENTS

In its 13th year, this celebratory and thought-provoking performance features stories and musical acts from KSU and our local communities, performed by KSU students.

STILLWELL THEATER
DEC. 7 | \$5



Mature content*

MUSICAL THEATRE SHOWCASE

DIRECTED BY TIMOTHY ELLIS
MUSIC DIRECTED BY HOLT MCCARLEY

An evening of scenes and songs from musical theatre's hottest contemporary composers.

ONYX THEATER | \$5
MARCH 21
MARCH 22



AN EVENING WITH KING LEAR

DIRECTED BY EMILY KITCHENS

Join us for an evening of scenes from Shakespeare's King Lear, interspersed with scholarly presentation and discussion of the topics, themes and content therein.



PRESENTED in PARTNERSHIP with
SMITH-GILBERT GARDENS

THE BEAUTY PROJECT

WRITTEN BY NICOLE B. ADKINS,
EMILY KITCHENS AND ANDREA WASHINGTON



SMITH-GILBERT GARDENS | \$5

APRIL 17-18
APRIL 24-25

For four years, the KSU Department of Theatre and Performance Studies and Smith-Gilbert Gardens have collaborated on immersive and site-specific productions for family audiences. In the current project, the team is creatively responding to questions surrounding beauty — as found in nature and in our communities. Featuring collaborative inspirations from fifth grade students at The Marietta STEAM Academy, The Beauty Project has been developed with ages 8-12 in mind (though our work can be enjoyed by folks of all ages). This performance strives to foster hopeful conversations around complicated questions about how we consider beauty. The production was also created in collaboration with Be Body Positive facilitators.

Ex Nihilo: SHADOW WORK

DIRECTED BY JIM DAVIS
DEvised by KSU STUDENTS WITH LITERARY
ADAPTATION by CHARLES PARROTT



ONYX THEATER | \$5

APRIL 17-18
APRIL 19

Mature content*

Rising from the depths of the primordial puppet ooze, Ex Nihilo: Shadow Work draws together a team of student performers and designers to create an evening of never seen before experimental puppetry performances exploring the dark side that lingers inside each of us. This show contains mature and immature themes, audiences be warned.

DEPARTMENT of THEATRE and PERFORMANCE STUDIES

THE KSU TELLERS

	DEC. 3-4 7:30 p.m.
	ONYX THEATER Wilson Annex
	\$5 

Mature content*

	APRIL 29-30 7:30 p.m.
	ONYX THEATER Wilson Annex
	\$5 

Mature content*

KSU FALL TELLERS SHOWCASE

COORDINATED 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.

KSU SPRING TELLERS SHOWCASE

COORDINATED 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.





Image by Lauren Liz Photography

DEPARTMENT of THEATRE and PERFORMANCE STUDIES

STUDENT GROUPS

STUDENT COMPANY FOR MUSICAL THEATRE (SCMT)

Follow SCMT on Instagram @studentcompany.mt for more information on ticketing, additional events and getting involved.

KENNESAW IMPROV SOCIETY, STUPID! (KISS)

Follow KISS on Instagram @ksu_kisstagram for more information about tickets, reservations, and additional events

KSU COLORS

Please visit the KSU Colors Instagram @ksu_colors for more information on ticketing, events and how to get involved.



*arts*KSU RESEARCH



7TH ANNUAL FACULTY RESEARCH in the Arts Colloquium

Join our faculty in our 7th Annual Faculty
Research in the Arts Colloquium.

NOV. 6 3 p.m.	
	ZUCKERMAN MUSEUM OF ART
	FREE

SPRING FACULTY RESEARCH FORUM

Please join us for the spring Faculty Research
Forum and author reception.

APRIL 16 3 p.m.	
	ZUCKERMAN MUSEUM OF ART
	FREE





SUPPORT *arts* KSU **NAME-A-SEAT**

Friends and patrons have the opportunity to demonstrate their support by naming a seat in the KSU Dance Theater, Stillwell Theater or in Morgan Concert Hall. Each dedicated seat will be permanently affixed with a plaque bearing your name, business name, or the name of someone you wish to honor. Your contribution of \$1,000 per seat will immediately impact the programs of the college and its units at KSU for years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

KSU Dance Theater, Marietta campus

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & PERFORMANCE STUDIES

Stillwell Theater, Kennesaw campus

BAILEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Center in Morgan Concert Hall, Kennesaw campus

To make a donation or for more information, please contact:

Kay Peninger

kpeninge@kennesaw.edu

NAME PLAQUE

The School of Art and Design is offering friends and patrons the opportunity to demonstrate their support. Your name, business name, or the name of someone you wish to honor could be prominently listed on a plaque permanently affixed in KSU Dance Studios or the Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art.

Your contribution of \$1,000 per name will immediately impact the programs of the School of Art and Design and the Zuckerman Museum of Art. Your gift will help to sustain the exceptional quality of the visual arts and dynamic exhibitions at KSU for years to come.

SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

Arts District Studios, Kennesaw campus

BERNARD A. ZUCKERMAN MUSEUM OF ART

Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw campus

To make a donation or for more information, please contact:

Kay Peninger

kpeninge@kennesaw.edu





470-578-6650 | kennesaw.edu/ticketing

GEER COLLEGE of the ARTS

Jawshing Arthur Liou, Dean

Dr. Leslie J. Blackwell, Interim Senior Associate Dean

Dr. Peter Fielding, Associate Dean

Prof. Geo Sipp, Director, School of Art & Design

Prof. Marsha Barsky, Chair, Department of Dance

Dr. Nathan Nabb, Director, Bailey School of Music

Prof. Chuck Meacham, Chair, Department of Theatre & Performance Studies

artsKSU.com



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