

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS & DANCE PRESENTS

CADILLAC

WRITTEN BY TORI SAMPSON
DIRECTED BY LAUREN E. TURNER

CREW



MARQUETTE THEATER
JANUARY 28- FEBRUARY 6, 2021



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY
NEW ORLEANS

The Department of Theatre Arts & Dance Presents

Cadillac Crew

By Tori Sampson

Marquette Theatre

Jan. 28, 29, 30; Feb 3, 4, 5

@ 7:30 p.m.

Director

Lauren E. Turner

Department Chair

C. Patrick Gendusa

Artistic Director

Salvatore Mannino

*Photography or recording of any kind is strictly prohibited.
No late entry and no re-entry during the performance is allowed.*

CAST

Rachel	Eden Camille James
Abby	Demyria Bell
Dee	Jada Williams
Sarah	Aaliyah Thompson
Rachel (Understudy)	Aria Jackson
Abby (Understudy)	Jaylin Darby

ARTISTIC STAFF

Director	Lauren Turner
Assistant Director	Taijha Marshall
Costume Designer	Kaci Thomassie
Assistant Costume Designer	Illeana Yanez-Pastor
Hair/Make-Up Crew Designer	Breland Leon
Scenic Designer	David Raphel
Prop Designer	Emily Patrick
Lighting Designer	Mandi Wood
Assistant Lighting Designer	Haley Sliker
Sound Designer	Ryan Wiles
Video Designer	Cassidi Poulin
Co-video Designer	Keah Moffett

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Stage Manager	Grace Smith
Stage Manager	Marin Trepagnier
Technical Director & Production Manager	Duncan Becker

CAST

EDEN CAMILLE (RACHEL)

Eden Camille is a junior and theatre major at Loyola University. A few of her previous roles include Prince Escalus in last year's production of *Romeo & Juliet*, Mrs. Higgins in *Pygmalion*, and Woman One in her own series of monologues, titled the *Many Faces of Eden*, performed with Southern Rep's intern company. She is more than excited to be a part of Cadillac Crew and bring awareness to her community about BIPOC women's rights. Eden was inspired by the art, experiences, and stories of the black women in her family when embodying the character of Rachel.

DEMYRIA BELL (ABBY)

Demyria Bell is a sophomore and this will be her first show with Loyola theater department. She studied theatre at Lee Magnet High all throughout her high school career performing in shows *A Raisin in the Sun* as Mama, *The Birds* as Diane, and *Avenue Q* as Gary Coleman. Demyria looks forward to working closely with her peers and really finding her niche in the department.

AALIYAH (LEAH) THOMPSON (SARAH)

Aaliyah (Leah) Thompson is a first year student at Loyola University New Orleans and is very excited to begin her theater journey there. She has previously been involved in shows such as *Shrek* and *Brigadoon* through the Philectic Society along with over six other productions with St. Pius X Players and Ursuline Academy. Her plans for the future are very rooted in theater and she hopes to use her knowledge to succeed in careers such as acting, singing, designing, and other things. She feels like her role in Cadillac Crew will expose her to more of a different style of playwright and will help her understand the important challenges of the past. She is very grateful for everyone at Loyola for being so welcoming along with her family for their continued support.

JADA WILLIAMS (DEE)

Jada Williams is a third year Theatre Major here at Loyola University New Orleans. She has been in previous shows such as "The Scarlet Rebellion" produced by LOUD Queer Youth Theater, "You Can't Take it With You" done here at Loyola and "Life Sucks", done here at Loyola as well. She aspires to be an actress, singer, playwright, and activist amongst other things. Jada is also currently part of New Horizon's production of "For Colored Girls" which will open in the Spring and is excited to be on the cast of "Cadillac Crew" as it holds dear to home for her. "This play hit close to the heart with it's rawness and I really do love the conversation it provokes."

JAYLIN DARBY (ABBY - UNDERSTUDY)

Jaylin Darby is a working theatre artist and a graduate of the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts. As a first year student at Loyola University New Orleans, she is pursuing a major in Theater along with a minor in Business Administration. She is delighted to take part in her first production at Loyola University New Orleans. Jaylin is completely inspired by the untold stories of prominent black women in the past, and she aims to shed light on their neglected history. As she says, "it is an honor to work alongside the truly powerful and inspiring women in this production."

ARIA JACKSON (RACHEL - UNDERSTUDY)

Aria Jackson is a current sophomore at Loyola University New Orleans, studying Theatre Arts. This year will be her first show at Loyola, starring in Tori Sampson's "Cadillac Crew" as Rachel's understudy. Born in Washington DC, Aria graduated from Archbishop Carroll High School in 2019 participating in 8 high school productions. Her favorite roles being 'Jimmy' Thunder Early from "DreamGirls," The Grinch from "How The Grinch Stole Christmas," Kristine Urich from "A Chorus Line," and the Tin-Man from "The Wiz."

ARTISTIC AND PRODUCTION CREW

LAUREN E. TURNER (DIRECTOR)

Lauren E. Turner is a performer/director/ producer and community facilitator. She is driven by her interest in equitable, place-based, culturally relevant theatre especially as it pertains to the global south. Her work lives where storytelling, community building, and politics intersect. Lauren is an artEquity trained Equity, Diversity and Inclusion facilitator. She is a Round 4 recipient in the Leadership U: One-on-One grant program, funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group, designed to further develop prominent emerging leaders and change agents in the American Theatre. Lauren has also served as a Mellon Fellow through Tulane University's Community Engaged Graduate Program, mentoring Tulane University graduate students who wish to implement community engaged practices into their work. Lauren received her Master of Fine Arts in Performance from The University of Southern Mississippi and her B.A. from North Carolina Central University. When not devising, directing or producing, Lauren is the ringmaster of her very own home circus that she shares with her partner Jason and their three children, Austyn 7, Elijah 4, and Nia 4.

TAIJHA MARSHALL (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)

Taijha Marshall is a senior here at Loyola. Last fall, she had the honor of bring apart of the the all-female cast of Romeo and Juliet as Lord Montague. This is her first time acting as assistant director and she would like to thank the amazing cast and crew for making this experience phenomenal.

KACI THOMASSIE (COSTUME DESIGN)

Kaci Thomassie is a New Orleans native costume designer and stylist. She is an ensemble member with Goat in the Road Productions (2017), and she won the 2018 Big Easy Award for "Best Costume Design" for her co-design of The NOLA Project's The Three Musketeers. Additionally, Kaci has costumed locally for Southern Rep, Tulane Summer Lyric, Le Petit Theatre, Melange Dance Company, and Lusher Charter School. Nationally, she has worked at Barnard College, the prestigious StageDoor Manor where she costumed several large-scale musicals, and interned in the fast paced environment of Martin Izquierdo's costume production company in NYC. She holds a degree in Theatre and Dance from Samford University.

ILLEANA YANEZ-PASTOR (ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGN)

Illeana is a sophomore Musical Theatre Major at Loyola University of New Orleans. She was previously on makeup crew for Loyola's productions of *You Can't Take It With You* and *Cabaret* in their past season. Her high school design credits include hair and make up design for *Twelfth Night*, *Big Fish*, and costume design for *Heathers: The Musical*. She is so grateful to be back at Loyola, and for this amazing design experience!

BRELAND LEON (HAIR AND MAKEUP DESIGN)

Breland Leon, a Native New Orleanian currently pursuing a B.A. in Theatre Arts & Musical Theatre at Loyola University New Orleans, is very excited to be the Hair and Makeup Designer for Cadillac Crew. His recent theatre work includes starring in Loyola's performances of *Theatre For One's Tour Guide*, *Makeup and Hair Design for Cabret*, as well as *Makeup and Hair design for Romeo & Juliet*. Related performance work of his includes touring vocally throughout the country of Sweden for "Singing People Together." Breland is thrilled to contribute his creativity, knowledge, and passion to the development of this production!

DAVID RAPHEL (SCENIC DESIGN)

David Raphael, recipient of the Set Designer-Lifetime Achievement Award (Big Easy), has designed for many companies in New Orleans including Southern Repertory, Le Petite Theatre, RiverTown Repertory, Tulane Shakespeare, the Contemporary Arts Center, JAPAS, New Orleans Ballet, and Summer Lyric Theatre. David attended the Studio and Forum of Stage Design in New York and consequently designed for the Irish Arts Center and the Irish Repertory Theatre for 8 years before remaking New Orleans a permanent home. David and his wife, Colette, are very proud to have a daughter, Elliot, who also lives uptown and is working on her degree in history.

RYAN WILES (SOUND DESIGN)

Ryan Wiles is a junior Musical Theatre and Theatre Arts major at Loyola University. This is his second credit as sound designer, his first being with Loyola's first 2020 production, "Theatre For One." Ryan has also been involved with the Alpine Theatre Project in Whitefish, Montana as a sound intern. Thankful for the opportunities he's been giving, he is hoping to learn more and excel in telling stories through the medium of sound.

EMILY PATRICK (PROPS DESIGN)

Emily Patrick is a Junior at Loyola University, and she is very excited to be a part of this production. She previously worked as props assistant for "Period of Adjustment" with the TWTC. Emily has also worked as the student dramaturge for Loyola's productions of *Violet* and *You Can't Take It With You*. As well as being in Loyola's "Theatre For One" (Tour Guide). She would like to thank everyone for their hard work on this show!

CASSIDI POULIN (VIDEO DESIGN)

Cass Poulin is a senior Theatre Major. They have projection and light designed several previous shows at Loyola including, *Theatre for One*, *Cabaret*, *These Shining Lives*, and many others. Cass is thrilled to have worked on this production and is excited to see all of the talent come together on stage. They would like to thank their family and friends for overwhelming support and love, as well as congrats to an amazing cast and crew.

MANDI WOOD (LIGHTING DESIGN)

Mandi Wood is a lighting designer based in New Orleans, and received her MFA in Production and Design from Tulane University. In the last decade, Mandi has had the pleasure of working for numerous theatre and production companies in the Pacific Northwest, Colorado, Montana, Texas, Florida, and Louisiana. Mandi works extensively as a lighting designer in the worlds of theatre, opera, dance, and film and is a member of the stage hand union IATSE local 39. Previous Loyola credits include lighting designs for *Pygmalion*, *These Shining Lives*, *Violet*, and *Cabaret*. Mandi is teaching Lighting Design for Loyola's Department of Theatre and Dance in the Spring 2021 semester, and is thrilled that Cadillac Crew will be her first design "back" from the pandemic hiatus.

HALEY SLIKER (ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGN)

Haley Sliker is a junior Musical Theatre major and has been active in theatre since the age of five. She has been in numerous shows in the Gulf Coast area and is grateful for the opportunity to continue her love for theatre at Loyola. Past Loyola productions include *These Shining Lives* (light board operator), *Violet* (assistant lighting designer), *You Can't Take It With You* (props designer), *Romeo and Juliet* (props designer), and *Theatre for One (The Drifter)*. She would like to thank Mandi Wood for her encouragement and guidance and the cast and crew for sharing this beautiful and pertinent story.

GRACE SMITH (STAGE MANAGER)

Grace Smith is a second year student at Loyola studying Theatre Arts and Graphic Design. Last year, they were involved in multiple TAD productions including *You Can't Take it With You* (wardrobe crew), *Romeo and Juliet* (stitcher), and *Cabaret* (wardrobe supervisor). Local professional credits include, *Period of Adjustment* (TWTC, Asst. Stage Manager, wardrobe assistant), *Something Rotten (Le Petit Théâtre Du Vieux Carré, swing dresser)*, and *The Uninvited (Goat in the Road Productions, stitcher)*. Working with these extraordinary women has been a beautiful experience, and Grace hopes that this play serves as a catalyst for greater change in the community.

MARIN TREPAGNIER (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

Marin Trepagnier is currently a freshman from New Orleans, Louisiana! She is super excited to be Assistant Stage Manager for her very first college production. Marin has been stage managing for the past five years at Brother Martin High School in the Dionysians, where she was also the elected Technical Director. She owes much of her experience to them! Marin is super grateful for this experience and wants to say thank you to her family and friends for all of their support throughout the years.

Special Thanks

The Faculty, Staff, and Students of the Loyola University

Department of Theatre Arts & Dance

Patrick Gendusa

Dean Kern Maass

Dr. Meg Frazier

Mrs. Cheryl Conway

Nia Weeks and Citizen SHE United

FoxLitho