A close-up photograph of a person's hands touching a dark, quilted garment. The garment features a zipper with a pull tab and a lace trim at the top. The hands are positioned on either side of the zipper, with fingers gently touching the fabric. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the fabric and the skin.

Intimate Apparel

by Lynn Nottage
Directed by Danielle Drakes

March 6-13, 2025
Center for the Arts
Studio Theatre
tuboxoffice.com

TU
TOWSON
UNIVERSITY

Theatre
Arts

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Honor Native Land

Every community owes its existence and strength to the generations before them, around the world, who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy into making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will; some were drawn to migrate from their homes in the hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Truth and acknowledgment are critical in building mutual respect and connections across all barriers of heritage and difference.

At Towson University, we believe it is important to create dialogue to honor those that have been historically and systemically disenfranchised. So, we acknowledge the truth that is often buried: We are on the ancestral lands of communities and nations which include the [Susquehannock](#) (suh-skwuh-ha-naak), [Nanticoke](#) (nan-tuh-kowk) and the [Piscataway](#) (puh-ska-tuh-way) people who consider the land that the university currently occupies part of their ancient homeland. These were among the first in the Western Hemisphere. We are on indigenous land that was seized from the tribes and many others by European colonists.

We pay respects to these elders and ancestors. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today.

Eating and drinking are prohibited in the theatre. Towson University is a smoke-free campus. Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. If there is an emergency, please WALK TO THE NEAREST EXIT. Photographic, video, or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited by copyright law.

For additional information on productions, please visit our website at www.towson.edu/theatre
For a complete listing of events at Towson University, please visit events.towson.edu
If you would like to share a comment on this production, please e-mail theatre@towson.edu

Intimate Apparel

By Lynn Nottage

Directed by Danielle A. Drakes

March 6-13, 2025

at Towson University

Center for the Arts, Studio Theatre

7:30pm - March 6-8, 11, 13

2pm - March 9

Intimate Apparel will have one ten-minute intermission.

Content Note: This production contains material recommended for mature audiences.

Commissioned and first produced by South Coast Repertory and Center Stage.

Originally produced in New York by Roundabout Theatre Company,
Todd Haimes, Artistic Director.

INTIMATE APPAREL is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

PLACE

Lower Manhattan.

TIME

1905.

CAST

Makayla Hamilton
ESTHER

Hadassah Alabi
MRS. DICKSON

Roman Nowak
MRS. VAN BUREN

Brennen Peroutka
MR. MARKS

Jordyn Hatchett
MAYME

Solomon Butler
GEORGE

Emmanuella Labrousse
ESTHER UNDERSTUDY

Jaelyn Craigen
MRS. DICKSON UNDERSTUDY

Cecelia Zombro
MRS. VAN BUREN UNDERSTUDY

Maggie Hellner
MAYME UNDERSTUDY

Dorian Edwards
GEORGE UNDERSTUDY

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Danielle A. Drakes
DIRECTOR

Susan E. Picinich
COSTUME DESIGNER

Shartoya Jn. Baptiste
SCENIC DESIGNER

Chris Carcione
VIDEO DESIGNER

Jay Herzog
SOUND DESIGNER

Yenevi Castillo
STAGE MANAGER

T'Niya Wilson
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Maxwell "Mack" Leeuwen
LIGHTING DESIGNER

PRODUCTION TEAM

Technical Director
Lighting Director/Assistant Technical Director
Assistant Stage Manager
Stage Manager Liaison
Costume Shop Manager
Assistant Costume Shop Manager
Lighting Faculty Mentor
Dramaturgs

Cultural Dramaturg
Dramaturgy Faculty Mentor
Dialect Coach
Scene Shop Foreman
Properties Manager
Lead Lighting Electricians

Lighting Programmer
Video & Sound Programmer
Sound Board Operator
Light Board Operator
Deckhands

Wardrobe

Scenic Carpenters

Costume Shop Staff

Poster Design
Production Photography

Garrett Weeda
Thomas Gardner
Shelby Kiesel
Seth Schwartz
Alizon Santamaria
Hannah Brill
Jay Herzog
Skylar Shaffer
Camille Alston
Susan J. Rotkovitz
Robyn Quick
Teresa Spencer
Kelly Frazier
Avery Matsui
Maxwell "Mack" Leeuwen
Erica Sweitzer
Erica Sweitzer
Chris Carcione
Davin Banks
Lisbeth Avila
Kyler May
Cass Siegel
Alyssa Millward
Arielle Wallace
Aysia Wallace
Darren De Groff
Casey Gessert
Wyatt Lieto
Avery Matsui
Ace Mikolowsky
London Brooks
Alyssa Millward
Faith Singletary
Katie Simmons-Barth
Katie Simmons-Barth

COSTUME CREW

Josh Allen
Camille Alston
Carlee Ballard
Amy Clark
Ida Giorgis
Sierra Pérez
Jada Lane

Jenna Leannarda
Benjamin McCardell
Maggie Sheriff
Layla Smith
Luci Thomas
Aidan Wheeler
Anthony Wisdom

SCENIC CREW

Kyra Adams
Jayla Johnson
Kellan Kinsey
Daniel Morelli
Carlos Pagan Cruz
Fayth Proctor

Conner Rock
Christian Smith
Ronni Snyder
Aidan Wheeler
Jacob Wivell
Domenico Zuniga

LIGHTING & SOUND CREW

Jasmine Artis
Trey Cline
Elizabeth Feuerbach
Ida Giorgis
Delaney May
Ace Mikolowsky
Kelly Mok

Humatabae Smith
Hua Su
Arielle Wallace
Aysia Wallace
Anthony Wisdom
Nicholas Yarnevich
Olivia Zacarias

THEATRE ARTS FACULTY & STAFF

Hannah Brill.....Assistant Costume Shop Manager
Christopher Carcione.....Script Analysis/Directing
Tom Cascella.....Assistant to the Chairperson/Intro to American Theatre
Ruben Del Valle, Jr.Movement/Acting for Musical Theatre
Danielle Drakes.....Script Analysis/Community Outreach/TTI/Directing/African American Theatre
Daniel EttingerScenic Design
Thomas Gardner.....Assistant Technical Director
Jay Herzog.....Lighting & Sound Design
Tavia La Follette.....Theatre Studies/Cross-disciplinary Works/Theatre for Social Change
Stephen Nunns.....Theories of Theatre/Theatre History/Directing
Susan Picinich.....Theatre History/Costume, Dress and Society
Julie Potter.....Costume Design/Chairperson
Robyn Quick.....Theatre History/Dramaturgy
Alizon Santamaria.....Costume Shop Manager
Steven J. Satta.....Voice/Acting
Katie Simmons-Barth.....Academic Program Coordinator
Teresa Spencer.....Speech and Dialect/Acting
Kirsten Sughrue.....Administrative Assistant
Garrett Weeda.....Technical Director
David White.....Script Analysis/Playwriting/Thesis
Peter Wray.....Acting/Shakespeare/Acting for the Camera

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Donna Fox.....Acting
Melissa Freilich.....Acting/Stage Combat
Sha-Nel Henderson.....Acting/Theatre for Social Change
Corey Hennessey.....Acting/Intro to Theatre
Shartoya Jn. Baptiste.....Intro to Theatre Design
Kaitlin Kiddy.....Acting
Debra McWilliams.....Acting
Dian Perrin.....Acting
Kyle Prue.....Acting
Susan J. Rotkovitz.....Acting/Theatre Studies/Arts Integration
Seth Schwartz.....Stage Management
Rohaizad SuaidiActing/Cultural Diversity in Contemporary Theatre
Yury Urnov.....Acting/Directing
Gavin Witt.....Theatre History

PROFESSOR EMERITI

Tom Casciero.....Professor Emeritus
Naoko Maeshiba.....Professor Emerita
John ManloveProfessor Emeritus
Juanita RockwellProfessor Emerita
Diane Smith-Sadak.....Professor Emerita

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS & COMMUNICATION

Regina Carlow.....Dean
Greg Faller.....Associate Dean
Ashley Gregg.....Events and Operations Coordinator
Laura Malkus.....Marketing and Public Relations Manager
Seth Schwartz.....Director, Center of the Performing Arts





The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Please consider giving a gift to the Department of Theatre Arts Scholarship Fund. The money raised by your generous donations helps students offset the cost of education and sponsors students' travel to conferences, auditions for graduate schools, and special events related to their research and development.

DONATE HERE

Purchase a Seat:

You can help build our student scholarship funds by purchasing a seat. If you are interested and want further details about seat purchasing, please email the Department of Theatre Arts at theatre@towson.edu.

The TU Department of Theatre Arts gratefully acknowledges the following gifts of scholarships:

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We are deeply grateful to our donors for investing in Towson University's College of Fine Arts and Communication. We recognize the following alumni, friends, students, faculty, staff, corporations, foundations and other organizations that supported the college through the Towson University Foundation with annual gifts of \$1,000 and above from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

\$50,000+

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Towson University Black Alumni Alliance

Perry Witmer & Corey A. Witmer '99

*Deceased

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To support the College of Fine Arts and Communication, visit towson.edu/GiveToCOFAC, or contact Hilary Saunders at hsaunders@towson.edu or 410-704-4681.

UPCOMING THIS SEMESTER

Student Studio

April 2-5, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

- *Attic* by Daniel Guyton | Directed by Luci Thomas
- *This Property is Condemned* by Tennessee Williams | Directed by Skylar Shaffer

April 16-19, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

- *The Butterfly* by Andriy Bondarenko | Directed by Atlas Kazan
- *The Upstairs Neighbor* by Cayson Miles | Directed by Emery Sheriff

Ruth Marder Studio Theatre

All tickets \$5



Whitney J. LeBlanc Jr.

LeBlanc with the set he designed for a summer season of Shakespeare plays in the Antioch Amphitheater, where he served as the technical director.

Whitney LeBlanc, born on June 20th, 1931, in Memphis, Tennessee, spent his formative years in Opelousas, Louisiana. He pursued higher education at the University of Iowa, where he earned a Master's in Theater Production in 1958.

In 1960, LeBlanc began teaching at Antioch College. He then held positions as a professor at Howard University, Lincoln University, the University of Texas, and Towson University (then Towson State College).

In 1969, he joined the Maryland Center for Public Broadcasting, directing and producing 86 episodes of *Our Street*. He then moved to Hollywood, where he joined the Norman Lear/Tandem Tat organization as the Associate Director of *Good Times*. He would spend the next two decades as a director and a stage manager for numerous shows.

Aside from his contributions to television, LeBlanc was a prolific author, penning five books, and notably receiving the Amistad award for his novel *Blues in the Wind*, a part of his Blues Trilogy.

In 1996, he retired from the Directors Guild of America and moved to Napa Valley, California, where he began designing stained glass window pieces.

Mr. LeBlanc passed away in February of 2023. He is succeeded by his wife, Diane LeBlanc, and four children, leaving behind a lasting impact on both his family and the countless students and friends he inspired throughout his career.

THEATRE

Theatre U-stimulates understanding

Towerlight, April 18, 1969

Theatre U was a non-profit community theater organized by Whitney LeBlanc and his then wife Elizabeth Walton at the Garrison Blvd. Church Center in Baltimore City. LeBlanc's vision for Theatre U was rooted in fostering better understanding among people of all races through the power of theater, the establishment of which was catalyzed by the recent assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The name "Theatre U" was intentionally kept a secret, allowing audiences to interpret its meaning freely. LeBlanc emphasized the importance of community involvement, stating, "no matter how polished our performances, if we do not involve the community we will have failed our goal."

LeBlanc expressed a desire to involve Drama Department students from TSC with the inner city, particularly with Black communities. His goal was to expose TSC students to authentic experiences, challenging them to move beyond pretense and understand the realities of different communities.

"No matter how polished our performances, if we do not involve the community we will have failed our goal."

- Whitney LeBlanc

Unearthing Towson's History Project

In 2022, Allyn Lawrence, a student researcher with the Unearthing Towson's History Project, conducted an interview with Whitney LeBlanc where he recounts the memories of his experience as the first Black faculty member at the school.

To watch the collection of interviews with members of Towson's history, visit archives.towson.edu

Towerlight article and images courtesy of the Towson Special Collections and University Archives



LeBlanc Joins TSC

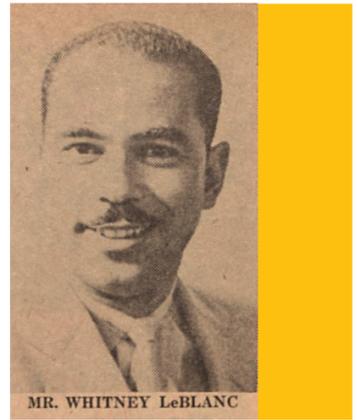
LeBlanc New Set Designer

Towerlight, October 22, 1965

The Speech and Drama Department was established at Towson State College (TSC) by Richard Gillespie in 1964. Just a decade after the ruling of *Brown v. Board*, Gillespie set out to integrate the department by recruiting Whitney LeBlanc as the assistant professor in Speech and Drama and the first Black faculty member at the school.

Despite his contentment as a professor at Howard University at the time, LeBlanc felt compelled to serve the purpose of integrating Towson's faculty. He joined TSC in 1965.

In an oral history interview conducted through the Unearthing Towson's History Project he recalled his first day on campus. He recounts that only the four faculty members in the Speech and Drama Department spoke to him and he saw less than ten students of color. He likened his experience at TSC to that of Jackie Robinson during this time.



Towerlight, October 22, 1965

"Well, let 'em come."

Racial tensions at TSC came to a boil with The Glen Player's production of *And People All Around*, directed by Mr. LeBlanc. Written by George Sklar, the play is based on the murders of three civil rights workers, Andrew Goodman, James Chaney and Michael Schwerner, in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

TOWER LIGHT

October 24, 1966

Your Stage Is Your Castle

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan arrived at Towson State College on Thursday evening, October 20, to protest the Glen Player's production, "And People All Around."

About fifteen automobiles meandered north on York Road. Each sported American and Confederate flags held outside the windows of the vehicles by their hooded owners.

The Klansmen congregated on York Road; their ranks swelling as they managed to find parking space in the Towson area. One was heard to comment, "I could of walked here faster!"

Led to Towson by a Baltimore City Police Officer, the Klansmen had come as a body, akin to a funeral procession, sans hearse.

Next, they formed ranks and began parading in front of Newell Hall. Not allowed on State property, they marched in a circle just outside of the hedge bordering on York Road.

Some were fully dressed in their white robes and pointed hoods; others simply wore street clothes and Mahoney hats. Many of the marchers, especially the women, kept their faces covered.

True to form, Towson students, numbering approximately 200, turned out to heckle the demonstration. Such remarks as, "Halloween is next week," and "It's Spook Week!" were heard above the chanting Klansmen.

Vernon J. Naimaster, state leader of the KKKK or bet-

ter known as the Great Titan of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, had this to say. "I'm here only as a spectator in protest of the play. We feel this is an insult against the South."

Did you organize this, Mr. Naimaster? He replied, "No, one of my units did." Mr. Naimaster was not clad in his robes, but wore ordinary street clothes. "I was invited to come as a spectator," he said.

As he was interviewed, one of his Klansmen ran up to him and exclaimed, "Let's get some of

those slogans going!"

And, as if in reply, a chorus of "Who hates niggers?" arose. Towsonites responded with "We Shall Overcome."

Parading for about two hours, the Klansmen finally lost their audience as Towson students returned to their studies. The Klan, for lack of an audience, returned to their cars and left. Others, including Vernon Naimaster, Great Titan, went to the play.

The controversial play, "And People All Around," is based on three civil rights workers in Mississippi. It was written by George Sklar and is directed by Mr. Whitney LeBlanc.

and people all around



Civil rights workers joined in song.

Towerlight
October 21, 1966

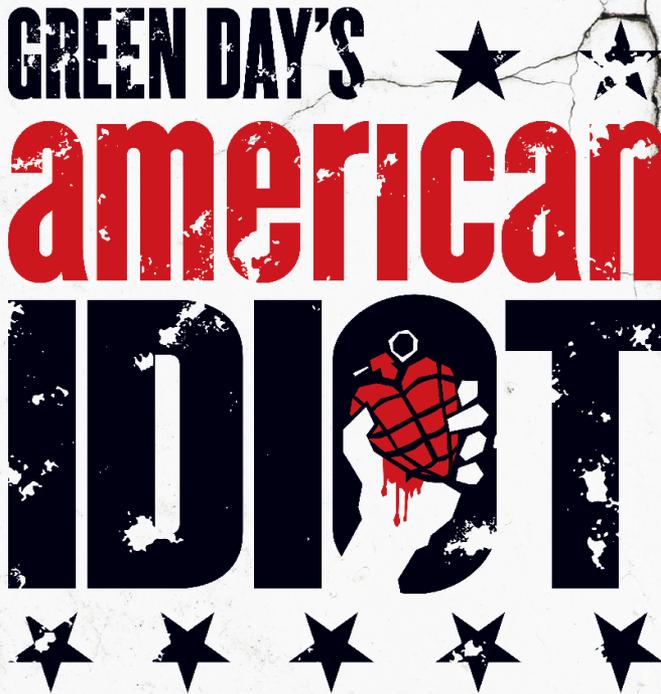
Tower Echoes
Yearbook, 1967

Towerlight articles and yearbook image courtesy of the Towson Special Collections and University Archives



UPCOMING THIS SEMESTER

GREEN DAY'S ★ ★ ★
american
ID I O T
★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Music by Green Day | Lyrics by Billie Joe Armstrong
Book by Billie Joe Armstrong and Michael Mayer
Directed by Ruben Del Valle Jr.

May 2-10
Center for the Arts
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tuboxoffice.com

American Idiot is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

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