

THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS

THIS IS OUR YOUTH

BY KENNETH LONERGAN

FEBRUARY 15, 17, & 18 | 7:30 PM

SHOWCASE THEATRE, UTC

ADULT CONTENT



SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS & MEDIA

THIS IS OUR YOUTH IS PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH BROADWAY LICENSING, LLC, SERVICING THE DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE COLLECTION (WWW.DRAMATISTS.COM)

This is Our Youth
By Kenneth Lonergan

Director
SAGE CANTU

Scenic Coordinator
NICHOLAS GRAVES

Lighting Design
CODA PARISELLI

Sound Design
CODA PARISELLI

Stage Manager
VANA SALOIS

SPECIAL THANKS
Susan Cantu, Fabian Cantu, Melissa Zarb-Cousin

THE CAST

Dennis

BENJAMIN TREVIÑO

Warren

BRANDON THOMAS

Jessica

LILLA BOYETT

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This is Our Youth is a story that is rooted in Friendship, independence, with a hint of drugs! I chose to direct this show because I absolutely loved the story and felt that I could bring this dramedy to life in a fun and relatable way. This show takes place in a studio apartment in New York in the year of 1982. This show is meant to be a delivery and expression of honesty allowing the audience to relate to the characters in an honest and therapeutic way. This show is meant for you laugh but also think about the choices you're making at this time in your life. At the end of the day, you will be leaving thinking, is this your youth?

Thank you to all who encouraged me to pursue this opportunity during the busiest time of my college career. Without these people there may have not been a production, but I have learned that anything is possible, and you can strive for anything you desire no matter what anyone says. A special thanks to my peers as well for encouraging me along the way, without all of you I wouldn't be able to hold my head high but because of you I can be the best version of myself that I can be.

— SAGE CANTU



BENJAMIN TREVIÑO

Dennis

Benjamin is a freshman musical theatre major from Harlingen, Texas. SHSU audiences may remember him as a member of the ensemble in *American Idiot*. Upon graduation, Benjamin plans to pursue a career in acting.



BRANDON THOMAS

Warren

Brandon is a sophomore theatre major from Frisco, Texas. This is his debut to the SHSU stage! Other SHSU credits include Run Crew for the *Director Debut* series, ensemble in the *24-Hour Play Festival* as well as various roles in the *Spring 2022 Stage Readings*. At other institutions he has appeared as Jason Posner in *Wit*, the Fight Captain in *The Angelina Project* and as Reverend Hale in *The Crucible*. Upon graduation Brandon plans to pursue a career in acting, voice acting and directing.



LILLA BOYETT

Jessica

Lilla is a sophomore theatre major with emphasis in education from Glen Rose, Texas. This is her debut to the SHSU stage. At other institutions, she has appeared as the dance captain for *Footloose*, a featured member of the ensemble in *All Shook Up*, and as an ensemble member in *The Addams Family*. Upon graduation, Lilla plans to pursue a career in education.



SAGE CANTU

Director

Sage is a senior theatre major from San Antonio, Texas. SHSU audiences may remember them as Cannibal Queen in *Airness*, Hall in *Men on Boats*, a member of the ensemble in *Town Hall*, one of the Servants in *Pride & Prejudice* and as the Assistant Stage Manager for *Let Me Down Easy*. Upon graduation, Sage plans to pursue a career in directing.



VANA SALOIS

Stage Manager

Vana is a senior theatre major from Galveston, Texas. Their SHSU credits include Stage Manager/scenic painter for *Airness*, assistant stage manager for *The Swan*, puppetry/props for *Crazy Ol' Maurice*, scenic painter/puppetry for *A Doctor in Spite of Himself*, and scenic painter for *American Idiot* and *Antigone*. At other institutions, they have appeared as The Servant/Dramaturg for *Blood Wedding*, Assistant Director/Assistant Stage Manager for *Things I know to be True*, and Chloe in *Wilderness*. Upon graduation, Vana plans to pursue a career in stage management, properties and set dressing.



LIESEL MCMAHAM

Assistant Stage Manager

Liesel is a sophomore theatre major from Oilton, Texas. This is their first production to participate in at SHSU. At other institutions they have appeared in *Chicago* and *Legally Blonde: The Musical*. Upon graduation, Liesel plans to pursue a career as a project manager in construction as well as participating in local theatre.



KAI TAYLOR

Assistant Stage Manager

Kai is a freshman theatre education major from Tomball, Texas. Their SHSU credits include assistant stage manager for *Airness*. Upon graduation, Kai plans to pursue a career in directing and theatre education.



VY TRAN

Assistant Stage Manager

Vy is a freshman musical theatre major from Houston, Texas. This is her first production to participate in at SHSU. Upon graduation, Vy plans to pursue a career in acting.



CODA PARISELLI

Lighting & Sound Design

Coda is a senior theatre major from Houston, Texas. Their SHSU credits include sound designer for *Antigone*, *A Doctor in Spite of Himself*, and assistant stage manager for *Hands on a Hardbody*. At other institutions, they have been the lighting designer for *The Carrier* and *Ordinary Days*, the sound designer for *Wilderness*, and the assistant stage manager for *From White Plains*. Upon graduation, Coda plans to pursue a career in design and stage management.

TECHNICAL CREW

Assistant Stage Managers	Liesel McMahan, Kai Taylor, Vy Tran
Light Board Operator	Caelen Fricke
Sound Board Operator	Jayden Strawn
Backstage Hand	Dillion Vidaurri
Costume Run Crew	Bailey Poston, Anthony Sloterdijk
Costume Shop Assistants	Kaylee Baldwin, RB Reynolds, Grace Wacker
Directing Advisors	Aaron Brown, Penny Hasekoester, Patrick Pearson
Stage Management Advisor	Patrick Pearson
Intimacy Choreographer	Penny Hasekoester

MANAGEMENT CREW

Mackenzie Aguilar, Lauren Bender, Tyler Bruffett, Kasey Courtney, Yesenia Colondres, James Dean, Isaac Gonzalez, Jessica Gutierrez, Zara Hernandez, Robert Hope, Ellie King, Paige Klase, Garrett Martin, Orlando Martinez, Rheagen Olsen, Caroline McReynolds, Bella Moulton, Bryce Pullen, Jennifer Rodriguez, Saroa Dwayne Sasa, Erick Silvia, Benjamin Treviño, Makenna Vincent, Paschal Williams

POSTER DESIGN

Parker Marley

PUBLICITY PHOTOS

Cara DeGaiash

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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.

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