



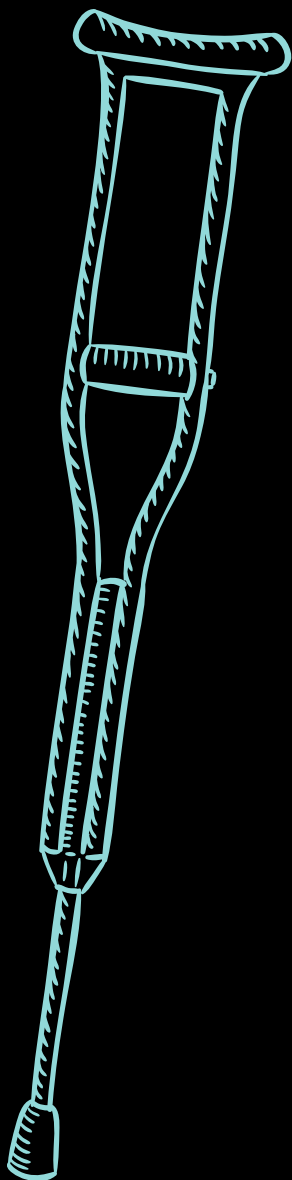
# NATIVE GARDENS

by **KAREN ZACARÍAS**  
directed by **PATRICK TORRES**

**THE  
WAREHOUSE  
THEATRE**

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**WITH**

**JACKIE & JOHN WARNER**

**PRESENT**

**NATIVE  
GARDENS**

**BY**

**KAREN ZACARÍAS**

Scenic Design  
Sonya Drum

Costume Design  
Heather Gonzalez

Lighting Design  
Montana Kern

Sound Design  
Stephanie Freeman

Properties Design  
Amanda Sox

Stage Manager  
Jaime Keegstra

**DIRECTED BY  
PATRICK TORRES**

NATIVE GARDENS was commissioned and first produced by Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park under Blake Robison (Artistic Director) and Buzz Ward (Managing Director).

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# FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I'm so grateful that we've finally arrived at performances for Karen Zacarías' NATIVE GARDENS! I've long admired Karen's work and this play was a no-brainer to produce in Greenville. A comedy that you could see playing out in neighborhoods surrounding the theater? A play as funny as it is meaningful? Yes, please!

There are so many layers to this piece, from throwing in references to Robert Frost ("Good fences make good neighbors"), to a deeper examination of what constitutes the American Dream (more specifically The United Statesian Dream), to how best to connect across gender, racial, and age lines. I love what this play accomplishes in 95 short minutes.

It helps that it's just flat out funny, especially in the hands of this cast. Which is doing great work. It's a joy to see them lean into the delightful twists and turns of this comedy of manners. I'm delighted to welcome back Terry Wells, last seen in THE CAKE, Dayanari Umaña from THE LOTUS PARADOX, and the incomparable Anne Kelly Tromsness (so many Warehouse credits to mention but how about CHRISTMAS ON THE ROCKS for starters?), and it's thrilling to introduce audiences to Germainne LeBron. A special shout out to Javy Pagan and Tayanna McKelvy who round out the cast in incredibly important non-speaking roles.

And, of course, all of these wonderful humans are under the responsibility of our director, Patrick Torres. We're lucky to have him, on loan from Raleigh Little Theatre. He's done great work in finding the humor but also the humanity in these two couples. I'm especially happy to have him here as two years ago in March of 2020 he was in rehearsals for the show at Playmakers Rep in North Carolina, when that production had to shut down. I'm glad we were able to give him the opportunity to open the show as his work is exceptional.

Thank you all again for supporting The Warehouse. This play has been a delight to work on, and I hope the joy we have all experienced putting it together comes through to create some joy for you. We're thrilled to have you back, laughing in person with us once again.



Mike Sablone  
Producing Artistic Director

# NATIVE GARDENS

## The Cast

Pablo ..... Germainne LeBron\*  
Virginia..... Anne Kelly Tromsness\*  
Tania ..... Dayanari Umaña  
Frank..... Terry Wells\*

Landscape / Inspector ..... Tayanna McKelvy  
Landscape / Surveyor ..... Javy Pagan

\*Appearing through an Agreement between The Warehouse Theatre and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

## The Production Team

Stage Manager ..... Jaime Keegstra\*  
Scenic Designer ..... Sonya Drum  
Costume Designer ..... Heather Gonzalez  
Lighting Designer ..... Montana Kern  
Sound Designer ..... Stephanie Freeman  
Props Designer ..... Amanda Sox  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Eilidh McKinnon  
Safety Manager ..... Katie Mansure  
Board Operator ..... Katie Mansure  
Painters ..... Wilkes Brakefield, Lauren Lewis,  
Melanie Shealy, Shelby Sparks, Sarah Sullivan  
Carpenters ..... Sam Baird, Aaron Brakefield, Kary Kern,  
Lauren Lewis, Chris Poling  
Electricians ..... Paul Kwok, Lauren Lewis  
Additional Scenic Support ..... Stage Tech Productions

**This show contains NO intermission.**

# NATIVE GARDENS

## The Warehouse Theatre Staff

Producing Artistic Director .....	Mike Sablone
Managing Director .....	Jason D. Johnson
Director of Development.....	Katie Leckenbusch
Director of Education & Community Engagement.....	Jay Briggs
Technical Director .....	Montana Kern
Patron Services Manager .....	Austin Wilson
Donor Relations Coordinator .....	Sarah Sullivan
Box Office Associate .....	Jeanne McEvoy
Upstate Shakespeare Festival PAD.....	John Fagan

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**Annette Garver**

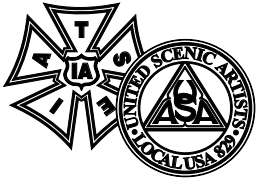
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Actors' Equity Association ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions.

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# WHO'S WHO

**Germainne LeBron\* (Pablo)** is an Actors Theatre of Louisville Professional Training Company 2019/20 Alum where he wrote and performed a solo show Titled: MADRE TIERRA which premiered in The Actors Theatre of Louisville Solo Mio festival. He also performed in LOUISVILLE//KENTUCKY//USA in their new play project festival, Fifth Third Banks DRACULA and A CHRISTMAS CAROL. Other Theatre includes: AS YOU LIKE IT at The Hippodrome Theatre; EIGHT TALES OF PEDRO at The Secret Theatre; O's CONFEDERADOS and LUCHA LIBRE at Columbia University's Schapiro Theater; RIVER ROUGE at The Lenfest performing Arts center ;ELVIRA THE IMMIGRATION PLAY at Collaboracion Theater Company; MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING at La Plaza Cultural Community Garden; KING LEAR at The Brick Theatre. Tours: JULIUS CAESAR, a regional tour with Stages on the Sound; HAMLET and DEAD MANS CELLPHONE with Red Monkey Theater Group regional tours. Additional Credits: LeBron is a proud graduate of The City College of New York. He is a Proud Boricua from The Bronx NYC. He is thrilled to be making his Warehouse Theatre debut with such an extraordinary team of artists and true professionals in this production of NATIVE GARDENS. GermainneLebron.com.

**Anne Kelly Tromsness\* (Virginia)** is delighted to be back on stage at The Warehouse Theatre. Favorite Warehouse roles include: Tracey (SWEAT), Hannah / Ethel Rosenberg (ANGELS IN AMERICA), Barbara (AUGUST, OSAGE COUNTY), Ann Putnam (THE CRUCIBLE), Philadelphia (SOMETHING MORE THAN A GAME), and Titania / Helena (A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM). Anne teaches drama to middle, elementary, and high school students for the Greenville County Schools' ARMES program and the Fine Arts Center. Later this spring, she is directing The Warehouse Theatre's production of THE WOLVES. She thanks the staff and board of Warehouse for providing an artistic home for local professional theatre artists in the upstate, and to Patrick Torres for the opportunity to work on NATIVE GARDENS.

**Dayanari Umaña (Tania)** is thrilled to be back in NATIVE GARDENS. Dayanari, a graduate from Furman University, is a small town girl with big dreams! She had the opportunity to work with Reba McEntire, Candice King, and Norm Lewis in a Lifetime movie *Reba McEntire's Christmas in Tune*. Some of her favorite credits include Junie in JUNIE B JONES IS NOT A CROOK, Juliet in ROMEO AND JULIET, and the future projects she is praying she will be in. She is grateful to her family, friends, and fiancé for their love and support. Dayanari is thankful for all of you watching and hope to see you again! Follow her on Instagram @ dayanarii to see all the shenanigans she is up to.

**Terry Wells\* (Frank)** returns to The Warehouse Theatre after previously appearing in THE CAKE (Tim). Other recent credits include: ROMEO AND JULIET (Lord Capulet) and AS YOU LIKE IT (both Dukes) for Southern Shakespeare Festival and MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM (Sturdyvant) with Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe. Other US and Canadian credits include: FREUD'S LAST SESSION (Freud) at Mad Cow Theatre; AS YOU LIKE IT (Jacques) and TWELFTH NIGHT (Feste) for Shakespeare in the Square; LOVE'S LABOURS LOST (Holofernes) and YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Mr. Kirby) at Alabama Shakespeare Festival. He also appears in the Cantonese-language film, *Innocent*, and the Canadian television series, "F2: Forensic Factor" and "Mob Stories II." He is happy to be working again with the talented and dedicated folks at the Warehouse!

**Javy Pagan (Landscape / Surveyor)** Past favorite roles: LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (Audrey 2), DREAMGIRLS (Jerry Norman), ROCKIN' THE KEYS (Vocalist), and ROCK N' ROLL GOLD (Vocalist) (Centre Stage), ROCK OPERA (vocalist), IN THE HEIGHTS (Piragua Guy) (Glow Lyric Theatre), HAIRSPRAY (Mr. Pinky), LES MISERABLES (Bahorel), ALL SHOOK UP (Ensemble) (Greenville Theatre) and THE WIZARD OF OZ (Ensemble), ROBIN HOOD (Ensemble/Little John understudy) and SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE FINAL ADVENTURE (Baker Street Irregular) with Glendale Centre Theatre, Los Angeles, California. Javy counts himself lucky to spend his days at The Children's Museum of the Upstate as the Programs Manager alongside

# WHO'S WHO

an incredibly talented staff, and is thrilled to be working with The Warehouse Theatre for the first time. Love and thanks to Avery and our pups and my family for the never ending support and to the patrons of the Upstate for keeping the arts alive and thriving in Greenville!

**Karen Zacarias (Playwright)** was recently hailed by American Theater Magazine as one of the ten most-produced playwrights in the US. Her award-winning plays include THE COPPER CHILDREN, DESTINY OF DESIRE, NATIVE GARDENS, THE BOOK CLUB PLAY, LEGACY OF LIGHT, MARIELA IN THE DESERT, THE SINS OF SOR JUANA and the adaptations of JUST LIKE US, INTO THE BEAUTIFUL NORTH and HOW THE GARCIA GIRLS LOST THEIR ACCENT. She is the author of ten renowned TYA musicals (including ELLA ENCHANTED: THE MUSICAL) and the librettist of several ballets. She is one of the inaugural resident playwrights at Arena Stage, a core founder of the Latinx Theatre Commons – a large national organization of artists seeking to update the American narrative with the stories of Latinos – and she is the founder of the award-winning Young Playwrights' Theater (YPT). YPT was cited by the Obama administration as one of the best arts-education programs on the nation. Karen was voted 2018 Washingtonian of the Year by Washingtonian Magazine for her advocacy work involving the arts. She is an inaugural 2019 Sine Fellow for Policy Innovation at American University and is selected by The League of Professional Theatre Women to receive the 2019 Lee Reynolds Award, given annually to a woman in theater who has helped illuminate the possibilities for social, cultural or political change. In 2021, Karen was awarded a United States Artists Fellowship award. Karen lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and three children. [www.KarenZacarias.com](http://www.KarenZacarias.com)

**Patrick Torres (Director)** is the Artistic Director of Raleigh Little Theatre. Prior to moving to Raleigh, he served as a Directing Fellow at the Shakespeare Theatre Company, Associate Artistic Director of Young Playwrights' Theater (YPT), and Director of Middle and High School Programs at Creative Action. He has directed at The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Southwest Shakespeare Festival, Round House Theatre, The Source Festival, and the Hangar Theatre, among others. He was selected as a Drama League Directing Fellow and in 2005 was named a Young Leader of Color by the Theatre Communications Group. He developed the After-School Playwriting Program for YPT that won the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from First Lady Michelle Obama in 2010. Patrick has a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Southern Mississippi. Patrick is grateful to his family - especially Niki, Charis, and Story - for all their support.

**Jaime Keegstra\* (Stage Manager)** received her Master in Arts Administration from Winthrop University. She is a bookkeeper by day and adores Excel spreadsheets.

**Sonya Drum (Scenic Designer)** is a theatrical designer, visual artist, and arts educator based in Raleigh, North Carolina. She has designed both scenery and costumes in the Triangle area for the past 20 years. Sonya is grateful for the opportunity to design at The Warehouse Theater and to collaborate with Director Patrick Torres on another project. Recent scenic design credits include: For Raleigh Little Theatre : THE MOUNTAINTOP, A NUMBER and THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME. For Duke University Department of Theater Studies: GOLEM , FEFU AND HER FRIENDS, AS YOU LIKE IT. For Bulldog Ensemble Theater / Streetsigns Center for Literature and Performance: ORANGE LIGHT. Sonya is a founding company member of the Bulldog Ensemble Theater in Durham, NC.

**Heather Gonzalez (Costume Designer)** believes that stories have the power to transform lives. She is passionate about being part of that process. Her design credits include LA BELLE HÉLÈNE (Opera at USC) TICK, TICK... BOOM! (Trustus Theatre), METAMORPHOSES, SHE KILLS MONSTERS, SEASON OF ECHOES DANCE PIECE, (University of South Carolina) NEWSIES, THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER (Utah Shakespeare Festival), JULIUS

# WHO'S WHO

CAESAR (Women of Will), LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR, GREATER TUNA (Neil Simon Festival), AND LITTLE WOMEN (Southern Utah University). She received her BA in English Education and Creative Writing with a minor in Theater Arts from Southern Utah University. She will receive her MFA in Costume Design and Technology from the University of South Carolina this spring.

**Montana Kern (Lighting Designer / Technical Director)** joined the Warehouse Theatre as Technical Director in July of 2018, and had been a carpenter, electrician, and designer on this stage many times before that. While the past season was by no means typical, you may recognize Montana from such productions as "Fixing the Squeaky Grid" and "Maintaining the Off Site Storage". With the return of the 2021 - 2022 season, Montana is excited to get back to accumulating more traditional credits, and building these excellent shows. As always, thank you Bethany, ever willing to steady my ladder.

**Stephanie Freeman (Sound Designer)** Favorite credits include INTO THE WOODS (Audio Engineer), ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOOS NEST (Sound Designer), GOD OF CARNAGE (Stage Manager) at Centre Stage, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (Sound Designer) (MTP), MISS JULIE (Stage Manager) (Guerrilla Shakes), UNTITLED: RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (Sound Designer), OUR TOWN (Market Theatre). Born in Greer, South Carolina, Stephanie has worked on over 50 shows in the course of her theatrical career. She is the Production Manager of the Guerilla Shakespeare Theatre Company. In 2018, she won Carolina Curtain Call's award for Sound Designer of the Year for her work on TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD. In college, she received two Irene Ryan Acting Awards and a Sound Design Award. In 2019, she won Best Sound Design at SCTA for her work on THE 39 STEPS. Stephanie interned with the Warehouse Theatre in college and is very excited to be on the design team for the first time. She would like to thank her family and husband for their support!

**Amanda Sox (Props Designer)** is an actor last seen at The Warehouse Theatre in THE LOTUS PARADOX, whose prop design was last seen in THANKSGIVING PLAY. She was the costume design assistant on the world premieres of ELEMENO PEA, BOB!, and DEVIL AT NOON at Actors Theatre of Louisville, and has designed costumes for Mill Mountain Theatre, Spartanburg Little Theatre, and several self-produced shows in which she also designed props, directed, stage-managed, acted, marketed, and... you get the picture. Linda Archer is her hero and deserves all of the credit for loaning and sourcing the gardening props in this show (so basically all the props). In third grade Amanda decided that she wanted to be an artist because she could draw a dog and made a pretty cool puppet out of a pencil. Though she never took an art class, years spent watching the Carol Duvall Show and wielding a hot glue gun have hopefully prepared her for this unexpected opportunity.

**Eilidh McKinnon (Assistant Stage Manager)** This is Eilidh's first show at the Warehouse Theatre. She was last seen stage managing THE FINAL COUNTDOWN (Centre Stage) and FALSETTOS (PMTC). She is a recent graduate from the Institute of the Arts in Barcelona, Spain with a Bachelors of the Arts in Acting, whose last show there was a touring version of PINNOCCHIO (IAB) which toured all around Catalonia. A native Scot, theatre and performing arts have been her passion since childhood and she has worked in multiple capacities of both live theatre and film, including directing, technical positions and performance all around the world from Scotland, Spain, Brazil to the United States. Big love to her friends and family and all their support!

**Katie Mansure (Safety Manager)** started out at the Warehouse Theatre as a development intern in 2016 and liked it so much that she refused to leave once her internship was over. She has been scurrying around backstage intermittently ever since, most recently for THE LOTUS PARADOX. She is pleased to be playing a part this season in keeping the doors of the theater open by maintaining a safe and healthy environment for everyone.



# WHO'S WHO

**Mike Sablone (Producing Artistic Director)** is the Producing Artistic Director of The Warehouse Theatre, a position he has held since January of 2017. While at The Warehouse he produced the world premiere of Paul Grellong's POWER OF SAIL, which is receiving its second production in February 2021 at The Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles starring Bryan Cranston and Amy Brenneman. During the COVID-19 shutdown, he produced 11 digital world premieres, including the Zoom "seminar" OBJECTIVITY, named one of the best theatrical experiences of 2020 by No Proscenium; FIRE IN THE GARDEN, which received a second production starring Sean Astin for NJ Rep; and LONG STORY SHORT, featuring new monologues written specifically for upstate actors and directors by Bekah Brunstetter, Kristoffer Diaz, Dorothy Fortenberry, Marco Ramirez, and others. Previous to The Warehouse he worked at Center Theatre Group in Los Angeles where he was a dramaturg on the world premieres of David Henry Hwang's Pulitzer Prize finalist YELLOW FACE, Culture Clash's PALESTINE, NEW MEXICO, and Alex Timbers and Michael Friedman's BLOODY BLOODY ANDREW JACKSON. He saw the musical through its development including productions at the Kirk Douglas Theatre and Public Theater to its run on Broadway at the Jacobs Theater. He has developed work at Portland Center Stage, South Coast Repertory, Trinity Rep, and the Denver Theatre Center. He spent five years as Director of Development for John Krasinski's production company Sunday Night, serving as the Executive Producer of Krasinski's THE HOLLARS and Co-Producer of the Gus Van Sant film PROMISED LAND.

**Jason D. Johnson\* (Managing Director)** Prior to joining The Warehouse staff in 2014, Jason served as Vice-President of Operations for Maxwell Group, Inc., a senior housing and healthcare provider based in Charlotte. He holds a BS in Theatre / Speech Communication from Troy State University and a MFA from the University of Southern Mississippi. A Leadership Greenville graduate (LG42), Jason sits on the governing board of the NonProfit Alliance, recently served on the GPP NPA Joint Task Force, volunteers for Meals on Wheels, and served as a grant panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts. Jason is a member of Actors' Equity Association.

**Jay Briggs (Director of Education and Community Engagement)** is a native of Hendersonville, NC, and a Carolina boy at heart, though his work has taken up and down both coasts. Prior to joining The Warehouse in 2018 as Front of House Manager, he served as Director of Education at Mill Mountain Theatre (Roanoke, VA) and Mill Town Players (Pelzer, SC). As an educator, he has also taught for South Carolina Children's Theatre and Actors Theatre of Louisville. He served as an Altwater Artistic Fellow with Cornerstone Theater (Los Angeles), a literary intern with The Civilians (NYC), and Assistant to the Artistic & Managing Directors at Theatre for a New Audience (NYC). In addition to his education and community engagement work, he also directs in Greenville and beyond. His Warehouse productions include THE LOTUS PARADOX, FIRE IN THE GARDEN, PRIDE & PREJUDICE, CLYBOURNE PARK, and IMPORTANT HATS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. He holds a B.F.A. in Acting from Elon University and M.A. in Theology & Culture with an emphasis in Theology, Imagination, and the Arts from The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology. When not in rehearsal or the classroom, he can likely be found practicing the art of play with Cordelia & Sebastian, chuckling heartily with Amanda, or wasting too many hours watching baseball.

**John Fagan (Producing Director USF)** will be celebrating his 21st season at the helm of Greenville's Upstate Shakespeare Festival. After the 2019 25th anniversary of the USF, the company has staged 57 productions. The Festival has presented 27 of the plays of William Shakespeare, several of them multiple times. In addition to the works of Shakespeare, the USF has presented productions of the works of Moliere, Beaumont and Fletcher; as well as Fagan's own adaptation of Washington Irving's THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW. John is also the author of six plays which have been staged in venues across the country. Some of the plays he has directed for The Warehouse Theatre, include: "8", TIME FLIES,

# WHO'S WHO

INHERIT THE WIND, SYLVIA, SCOTLAND ROAD and DANCING AT LUGHNASA.

**Katie Leckenbusch (Director of Development)** is a native South Dakotan who fell in love with the true "South" and put down roots with her husband, Matt, and two fantastic kids. After working with performing arts and cultural organizations in the area she completed a Master in Arts Administration from Winthrop University and over the past 10 seasons with the theatre has had the honor to celebrate the theatre's 40th anniversary, the creation of the Harriet Wyche Endowment, and participation in Leadership Greenville (Class 41), while fostering lasting relationships with Warehouse donors, patrons, and partners. As, potentially, the only fundraiser in the area who can also weld, she still loves to assist backstage.

**Jeanne McEvoy (Box Office Associate)** is delighted to be a part of The Warehouse Theatre. With a background in education and public service she became involved with theater assisting at her husband's college theater department's box office. Jeanne enjoys the interaction with theater goers and solving the problems which may arise at show time. She looks forward to getting to know the patrons and making each experience fulfilling. While not at the theater, Jeanne is typically working on a project with her husband, visiting her mother, enjoying her grandchildren and reaping the benefits of retirement!

**Sarah Sullivan (Donor Relations Coordinator)** Though Sarah is a recent addition to the team, she is no stranger to The Warehouse Theatre. Freelancing as a scenic artist for many years, she has contributed to many past Warehouse productions beginning with THE ELEPHANT MAN in 2011, as well as several productions at other venues in and around Greenville. Prior to joining The Warehouse in a more official capacity, Sarah spent over a decade sharpening her customer service and operational skills as management in the Greenville hospitality scene. Sarah holds a BA in Theatre and a BA in English from Lee University and- when she's not in the office or slinging paint- spends her free time with her husband, Zach, and their puppy, Margot.

**Austin Wilson (Patron Services Manager)** holds a BA in Performing Arts -Theatre from Clemson University. While at Clemson, he was seen on stage and involved backstage for multiple productions including THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME, THE DIVINERS, and THE LARAMIE PROJECT. Additionally, Austin was part of a group that devised and performed an original work, HELLO MY NAME IS, for the American University of Sharjah's International Theatre Festival hosted in Dubai. He also frequently collaborates with local drag celebrity, Delighted Tohehere, and co-wrote her show HELLO, DADDY. In recent seasons at the Warehouse Theatre, Austin was an Assistant Stage Manager for SWEAT and an Assistant Director for THE THANKSGIVING PLAY. He will make his stage debut at the Warehouse this season in APPROPRIATE. Austin would like to thank Matt Reece, Clay Smith, and the Clemson University Theatre Department for their support and guidance through the years. Austin is thrilled to be a part of the Warehouse team and looks forward to providing The Warehouse Theatre's Patrons and Artists with some good ol' Southern Hospitality.

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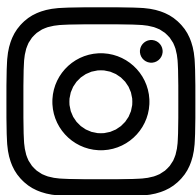
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The Harriet Wyche Endowment was established in August 2013 with a generous gift from Mimi Wyche in honor of her mother. The endowment is managed by The Community Foundation of Greenville.

To discuss a gift to the endowment or estate planning options please contact Katie Leckenbusch, Director of Development:

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