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Fall 2019

### Sweat, November 8-10, 12-16, 2019

School of Theatre and Dance  
*Illinois State University*

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*Illinois State University*

2019-2020



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Westhoff Theatre - Illinois State University November 8-10 & 12-16  
 Illinois State University School of Theatre and Dance present

**SWEAT**  
 by Lynn Nottage

*There will be one 10 minute intermission*

CONTENT WARNING:  
 Offensive language, Violence, Parental Discretion Advised

**CAST**

Evan.....Jabari Tate  
 Jason..... Logan Riedel  
 Chris .....Ira Wright  
 Stan.....Jacob Artner  
 Oscar..... Marco Chur  
 Tracey.....Miki Meyers  
 Cynthia.....Alexis Harris-Dyer  
 Jessie..... Kelly Gross  
 Brucie .....Rashun Carter

*Director*  
 LORI ADAMS+

*Dramaturg*  
 CHEYENNE FLORES\*\*

*Composer*  
 ALEX KULAK

*Sound & Media Designer*  
 ADAM PEAK

*Scenic Designer*  
 JORDAN GEROW\*

*Lighting Designer*  
 TREY BRAZEAL\*

*Costume Designer*  
 SUSIE L. HIGH\*

*Stage Manager*  
 JOJO WALLENBERG

\*Denotes Master of Fine Arts Candidate  
 \*\* Denotes Master of Arts or Science Candidate  
 + Denotes member of SDC

*Co-commissioned by Oregon Shakespeare Festival's American Revolutions:  
 The United States History Cycle And Arena Stage*

*World premiere produced by the Oregon Shakespeare Festival*

*This production of SWEAT was first presented in New York by The Public Theater  
 (Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director; Patrick Willingham, Executive Director)*

*Originally produced on Broadway by Stuart Thompson and Louise L. Gund.*



The Director is a member of the  
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***Guys & Dolls*:  
February 28-March 6**

***The Wolves*:  
March 27-April 4**

***1984*:  
April 10-18**

**Spring Dance Concert:  
April 23-26**



## PRODUCTION STAFF

Asst. Director .....	Shahrzad Hamzeh**
Fight Director .....	John Tovar
Vocal Coach .....	Connie de Veer
Technical Director .....	Dave George
Asst. Stage Manager .....	Zach Mlekush
Production Assistant .....	Lauren Powell
Costume Director .....	Kari Beth Rust
Asst. Costume Designer .....	Melissa Goerke
Asst. Hair & Make-up Designer .....	Savannah Oseguera
Wardrobe Supervisor .....	Izzy Spillane
Master Electrician .....	Ashley Parra*
Lighting Programmer .....	Audrey T. Ziemba
Asst. Scenic Designer/Props Master .....	Kiara Cybel Irizarry
Charge Artist .....	Jess Fleeman*
Asst. Props Master .....	Emma Marino
Asst. Sound Designer .....	Jeremy Kalisz
Sound Production Assistant .....	Julian Cook

\*Denotes Master of Fine Arts Candidate

\*\* Denotes Master of Arts or Science Candidate

### SPECIAL THANKS

The People of Reading, Pennsylvania.

## CREWS & SHOPS

Deck/Wardrobe Crew .....	Alysa Chandler, Grace Cliff, Finola Hammersmith, Kevin Kress, LeAndra Pund, Jaslyn Reyes, Julia Rudolph, Ashley Soto, Roman Torres
Lighting Crew .....	Jack Colombo, Brandon Frederick, Jacob Rodriguez, Anne Sattler

### **Costume Shop**

Shop Supervisor .....	Kari Beth Rust
Staff .....	Amanda Bedker*, Cheyenne Flores**, Melissa Goerke, Rachel Katz, Katie Kurz, Abby Langner, Torrance Mebust, Savannah Oseguera, Molly Perling, Nolan Rice, Mollie Spoerer, Ophelia Stone*, Derek Tilli
Practicum .....	Hailey Brenner, Trinity Carpenter, Patrick Ingram, Miki Meyers, Meghan Sailor, Mia Smith

### **Craft Shop**

Shop Supervisor .....	J. Wendy Wallace
Staff .....	Lexi Howe (Asst. Supervisor), Derek Tilli
Practicum .....	Tamara Djukic

### **Lighting & Sound Shop**

Lighting and Sound Supervisor .....	Josh Foxhoven,
Staff .....	Trey Brazeal*, Laura Gisondi*, Jeremy Kalisz, Connor Kubil, Gregory Paul Kontos, Grace Leali, Ashley Parra*, Dana Rochford, Henry Tran*, Cambry Wade*, Emma Marino
Practicum .....	Nicole DeMatteo, Christopher Leggins, Madeline Martorana, Alexis Rogers, Zenon Zamora, Tatum Macklin, Julian Cook

### **Paint Shop**

Staff .....	Jordan Gerow*, Audrey T. Ziemba
Practicum .....	Cassandra Adelman, Kayla Cager, Marco Chur, Grace Cliff, Michael Donelan, Kelly Ferden, Daniel Haston, Sophie Hernandez, Amanda Hoople, Stephen Menard, Katie Novak, Nolan Rice, Gwen Sinclair, Aiden Smiser, Roberto Soares Goavea, Armando Trujillo, Ira Wright, Kendra Young

### **Prop Shop**

Shop Supervisor .....	Caroline Dischell*
Staff .....	Jaxson Carey, Megan Harris
Practicum .....	Jordyn Coyle, Jackson Dillon, Emily Glasscock, Cody Hedera, Alex Hultman, Mia Marks, James Smith, Paige Terch

### **Scene Shop**

Shop Supervisor .....	Kevin Paxton
Staff .....	Clay Czaplinski, Hannah Doherty, Jess Fleeman*, Jordan Gerow*, Jack Hradecky, Kiara Irizarry, Ethan Macaraeg, Adam Peak, Roman Reyes*, Cambry Wade*, Tom Windle
Practicum .....	Lucas Banks, Carol Kelleher, Jeremy Miller, McKay Moews

### **Box Office Staff**

Center for Performing Arts Coordinator .....	Nick Benson
Staff .....	Natasha Amezcua, Alexis Brock, Megan Compton, Sarah Esparza, Madison Gillis, Casey Iwanski, Erin Jessup, Rachel Karl, Sarah Lange, Emma Lizzio, Sam Masini, Bailey Reiser, Cody Rogers
Ushers .....	Hailey Bonk, Johnie Boxell, Lauren Gadomski, Cassidy Gawne, Brandie Lorenzen, Marisa Patten, Gwen Sinclair, Ian Unsee, Meagan Vehrs





## Director's Note

In much the same way as Arthur Miller pays attention to Willy Loman, and Clifford Odets gives voice to striking taxi drivers, Lynn Nottage pays attention to and gives voice to the steel workers of Reading, Pennsylvania. In this drama about the union factory workers in the age of NAFTA, Nottage dedicates herself to making invisible people visible. Globalization and automation are here to stay and the economic insecurity they invoke continue to fuel the political fury and racial tensions that engulf us. If theatre at its best is capable of changing things, may our production of *Sweat* advance the national dialogue.

- Lori Adams

*"Most folks think it's the guilt or rage that destroys us.  
 But I know from experience that it's shame that eats us  
 away until we disappear."*

*Sweat* by Lynn Nottage Act II Scene 7

## Dramaturgical Notes

*Sweat* by Lynn Nottage premiered at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in 2015. The production went on to Broadway in 2017 and won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama that year. The idea for the play came when, one morning, Nottage read a newspaper article about a city in decline: Reading, Pennsylvania. In 2000, Reading was ranked 32nd among cities with the highest poverty levels. It entered the top ten by 2007 and was declared the poorest American city of its size in 2011. Reflecting on her own experiences of seeing poverty grow around her, Nottage was inspired to spend the next two years in Reading, interviewing individuals who were struggling economically. She discovered that many of her interviewees were impacted by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Between 1994 (when NAFTA came into effect) and 2010, 682,900 U.S. jobs moved to Mexico where production costs were lower. 80% of the job losses were in manufacturing, which included the steel industry in Reading.

*Sweat* is based on the history and identity of this industrial city. Thriving on its steel mills and coal mines, Reading was once known as "the outlet capital of the world." Soon after its founding in the mid-eighteenth century, Reading became an iron industry powerhouse, outproducing all of England and helping America win the Revolutionary War. The city's productivity was also pivotal during the Civil War and World War II. In addition, Reading's railroading industry was fundamental to America's railway system. You may remember the "Reading Railroad" spot on a Monopoly board.

Reading's industrial focus also has important social implications. For example, only 8% of residents have bachelor's degrees and 63% have high school diplomas, which is far lower than the national averages of 28% and 85% respectively. *Sweat* depicts a community that has been affected not only by economic recession but also an increase in immigration. As a result, emotional stress over job stability is often directed towards recent immigrants and racial minorities. The play shows us that conversations of race are not limited to cultural issues; they also encompass economics, the law, and government policy.

Nottage approached her research with the motto: "Replace judgment with curiosity." I urge you to do the same. Although *Sweat* takes place in 2000 and 2008, it is easy to draw parallels to 2019 as well. Do you notice familiar faces, ideas, and opinions in the play? Do you find yourself thinking of family members or friends who are in similar situations, who also express fear and anger about their uncertain futures?

- Cheyenne Flores

Scan the QR code with your smartphone  
 camera to see:

*Lynn Nottage's This is Reading Art Installation*





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