

THE MOORS

by Jen Silverman

Directed by Katie O. Solomon

March 5-12, 2026
Center for the Arts
Mainstage

tuboxoffice.com

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.

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If you would like to share a comment on this production, please e-mail theatre@towson.edu

WELCOME



Once upon a time, on the moors of England, the Brontë Sisters were rejecting traditional love stories. They were creating dark, animalistic characters and passionate tales where women have a say in their fate. In Jen Silverman's *The Moors*, we pick up where they left off...sort of. Here we meet characters who throw away convention and weave the real to the unreal in a twisted world that plays dangerously with desire. A story about connection and disconnection.

Gender to society, past to present, female to male and even Mastiff to Moor-Hen. The show reflects our own world while also reflecting the past, humanizing across time the places in us that feel isolated and unloveable.

I've loved every minute of living in this world and directing this show. I've had the immense pleasure of leading this wonderful company this Spring. They have brought their joy, their intelligence, their ability to connect, and their humor to these strange characters that I adore so fully. We hope you will have as wonderful a time upon the moors as we have. May they help remind us all to bring to the light any lonely places we keep in the dark.

**- Katie O. Solomon
Director**

THE MOORS

by Jen Silverman
Directed by Katie O. Solomon

March 5-12, 2026
at Towson University
Center for the Arts, Mainstage Theatre
7:30pm - March 5, 6, 7, 10, 12
2pm - March 8

The Moors runs approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes.

Content Note: *The Moors* contains scenes of violence (including the use of fake blood) and mentions of sexual assault. The show uses theatrical haze and flashing lights and features a prop ax.

"The Moors" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

www.concordtheatricals.com

Off-Broadway premiere produced by The Playwrights Realm (Katherine Kovner, Artistic Director; Roberta Pereira, Producing Director) in January 2017

World Premiere produced by Yale Repertory Theatre, New Haven, Connecticut
James Bundy, Artistic Director
Victoria Nolan, Managing Director

TIME

The 1840s...ish

PLACE

The bleak moors...of England?

Think *Wuthering Heights* and *Jane Eyre* and the Brontë sisters.

CAST

AGATHA Makayla Hamilton
HULDEY Kellan Kinsey
MARJORY Maya Graham
EMILIE Faith Humphreys
MOOR-HEN Maggie Sheriff
MASTIFF Gregg Boyle
HULDEY/MOOR-HEN UNDERSTUDY Jaelyn Craigen
AGATHA/MASTIFF UNDERSTUDY Cecelia Zombro
EMILIE/MARJORY UNDERSTUDY Kira-Victoria Holt

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Katie O. Solomon
DIRECTOR

Julie Potter
COSTUME DESIGNER

Kerry Lee Chipman
SCENIC DESIGNER

Jay Herzog
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Luci Thomas
SOUND DESIGNER

Shelby Kiesel
STAGE MANAGER

Danielle A. Drakes
INTIMACY DIRECTOR

PRODUCTION TEAM

Technical Director

Lighting Director/Assistant Technical Director

Assistant Stage Manager

Stage Manager Liaison

Costume Shop Manager

Assistant Costume Shop Manager

Properties Managers

Dramaturgy

Dramaturgy Mentor

Sound Design Mentor

Assistant Scenic Designer

Assistant Lighting Designer

Assistant Costume Designer

Lead Lighting Electricians

Lighting Programmer

Sound Board Operator

Light Board Operator

Deckhands

Wardrobe Head

Wardrobe

Scenic Carpenters

Scenic Painters

Garrett Weeda
Thomas Gardner
Maxwell "Mack" Leeuwen
Seth Schwartz
Alizon Santamaria
Hannah Brill
Mark Monroe
Madeleine Norkus
Jayla Johnson
Sarah Joyce
Robyn Quick
Jay Herzog
Carlee Ballard
Rinn Murphy
Catherine Weiss
Maxwell "Mack" Leeuwen
Olivia Zacarias
Olivia Zacarias
Becca White
Roman Nowak
Hayven Applefeld
Katie Bartles
Ryan McGaskey
Jaden Perez
Conner Rock
Gwendolyn Swift
Sophia Lovelace
Josh Omobhude
Nico Thompson
Amy Clark
Darren De Groff
Casey Gessert
Ace Mikolowsky
Daniel Morelli
Christian Smith
Carlee Ballard
Bailey Berry
Ace Mikolowsky
Mark Monroe
Madeleine Norkus
Faith Singletary
Daphne Snyder

PRODUCTION TEAM

Costume Shop Staff

Production Photography

COSTUME CREW

Tyler Abercrombie
Mia Awad
Toni Harrisingh
Kayla Lasson
Maxwell "Mack" Leeuwen
Kortney Manokey
Hannah Martin

London Brooks
Kanwulia Iyke-Azubogu
Faith Singletary
Katie Simmons-Barth
Kayla Rosario Thomas
Sydney Sinclair
Ronni Snyder
Addi Stashik
Gwendolyn Swift
Domenico Zuniga

SCENIC CREW

Hadassah Alabi
Jasmine Artis
Carlee Ballard
Curtis Brodie
Caliyah Dickens
Abigail Khakali
Shelby Kiesel

Rinn Murphy
Bubba Neisser
Errin Powell
Benjamin Thompson
Catherine Weiss
Cecelia Zombro

LIGHTING & SOUND CREW

Kyra Adams
Mia Awad
Curtis Brodie
Elijah Dixon
AniJ Fluker-Tucker
Shelby Kiesel
Kortney Manokey

Delaney May
Jalen Peal
Conner Rock
Ronni Snyder
Nico Thompson
Matthew Ufko
Cyan Williams

SPECIAL THANKS

Teresa Spencer; Katie Simmons-Barth, for driving to the moors of Maryland to make sure we had gobos for tech week

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
Kerry Lee Chipman.....	Scenic Design
Ruben Del Valle, Jr.	Movement/Acting for Musical Theatre
Danielle Drakes.....	Script Analysis/Community Outreach/TI/Directing/African American Theatre
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/Senior Acting Seminar

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Donna Fox.....	Acting
Melissa Freilich.....	Acting/Stage Combat
Sha-Nel Henderson.....	Acting/Theatre for Social Change
Corey Hennessey.....	Acting/Intro to Theatre
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 Suaidi	Acting/Cultural Diversity in Contemporary Theatre
Yury Urnov.....	Acting/Directing
Gavin Wiit.....	Theatre History

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Daniel Ettinger	Professor Emeritus
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Diane Smith-Sadak.....	Professor Emerita

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Seth Schwartz.....	Director, Center of the Performing Arts



This production is entered in the **American College Theatre Festival (ACTF)**, a national educational network founded in 1969 to identify, promote, and celebrate college and university theatre production and training.

ACTF seeks to:

- Encourage, recognize, and celebrate the finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theatre programs;
- Provide opportunities for participants to develop their theatre skills and insight, and achieve professionalism;
- Improve the quality of college and university theatre in the United States; and
- Encourage colleges and universities to give distinguished productions of new plays, especially those written by students; the classics, revitalized or newly conceived; and experimental works.

Through ACTF participation, each production is eligible for a response by a regional ACTF representative. Selected students and faculty may also be invited to participate in regional and national ACTF programs, including scholarships, awards, professional development opportunities, and educational initiatives for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers, critics, and arts leadership.

Productions entered at the Participating level are eligible for invitation to a regional ACTF festival and may be considered for regional or national recognition for outstanding achievement in production, design, direction, and performance, in accordance with current program guidelines.

Each year, ACTF engages hundreds of productions and thousands of students nationwide. By entering this production, our theatre department joins a national community committed to artistic rigor, educational excellence, access, and professional development in collegiate theatre.

Additional support for the American College Theatre Festival is provided through national and regional partners committed to advancing excellence in collegiate theatre education.

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.

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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.

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*Deceased

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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.



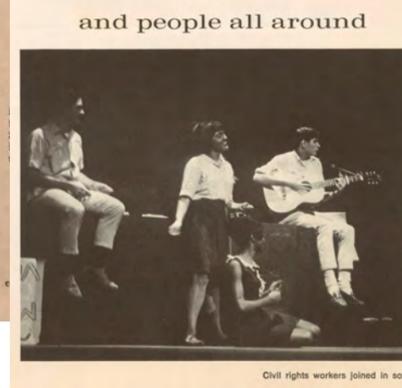
Towerlight, October 22, 1965

"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.



Towerlight
October 21, 1966



Tower Echoes
Yearbook, 1967

In anticipation of the opening night, President Hawkins called LeBlanc and Gillespie to his office where FBI agents informed him of a protest to the play organized by Klansmen, to which LeBlanc responded, "Well, let 'em come." Security measures were put in place, assigning an agent to monitor both the students and LeBlanc during the play.

On the opening night of October 20th, dozens of Klan members dressed in full regalia and George P. Mahoney hats gathered on York Road and marched in front of Newell Hall. The disruptors were met with heckling Towson students and the play was put on as originally intended.

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



Student Studio

Ruth Marder Studio Theatre

April 15 - 18, 2026 @ 7:30 PM

- *Wanda's Visit* by Christopher Durang | Directed by Kelly Mok
- A devised monodrama written and directed by Luci Thomas

Wanda's Visit is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Dramatists Play Service. www.concordtheatricals.com



THEATRE MAJOR FOR A DAY



REGISTER NOW

Monday, October 12, 2026
Towson University Center for the Arts



Amani

by a.k.payne

Directed by Nicole M. Brewer

May 1-9, 2026
Center for the Arts
Studio Theatre
tuboxoffice.com

"Amani" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

