

# Apologies to Lorraine Hansberry

(You too, August Wilson)

By Rachel Lynett

Directed by  
Damron Russel Armstrong

Purple Masque Theatre

October 22, 2021

## Cast

Jules ..... Tara Sitzman  
Lorenzo ..... JT Czoch (he/him/his)  
Alice ..... Nikèla Reed (she/they)  
Yael ..... McKenna Moten (she, her, they, them)  
Izaak ..... Marcus Edwards (he/him)  
Reader ..... Kenedi Renee Kelley (she/her/hers)

"WHEN I WROTE APOLOGIES TO LORRAINE HANSBERRY (YOU TOO, AUGUST WILSON), I WANTED TO BREAK AS MANY 'RULES' AS I COULD. AS SOMEONE WHO IS MULTIRACIAL AND MULTICULTURAL, I OFTEN FEEL BY EXISTING, I AM SOMETIMES BREAKING THE RULES AND WANTED TO WRITE A PLAY THAT REFLECTED THAT. I HAVE ALSO SPENT A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT HOW TO GET CATHARSIS IN PLAYS ABOUT RACE AND HOW I COULD FIND A WAY TO GIVE THE ACTORS OF COLOR ON STAGE A WAY TO RECLAIM THAT. IT HAS BEEN INCREDIBLY HUMBLING TO SEE THAT THIS PLAY RESONATES WITH OTHERS WHEN IT FEELS LIKE AN ARGUMENT WITHIN MYSELF."

- RACHEL LYNETT

Made possible in part with funding from the Student Government Association (SGA)

---

*Apologies to Lorraine Hansberry (You too, August Wilson)* is presented by arrangement with the playwright Rachel Lynett and with the New Play Exchange

## Guest Director

**Damron Russel Armstrong** is a producer/director/actor who spent his formative years in Kansas City. He has worked on most of the stages Kansas City has to offer. He's been a familiar fixture at Unicorn Theatre, The Coterie Theatre, Theatre for Young America, The American Heartland Theatre, The Living Room Theatre, Chestnut Fine Arts Center, New Theatre Restaurant, and Kansas City Actors Theatre.

After graduating from Ruskin High School, Damron sought to further his education in New York. He has performed nationally in *A Raisin in the Sun* (Arizona Theatre Co.); *The Full Monty* (Show Palace, FL); *Children of Eden* (Papermill Playhouse NJ); and *Dreamgirls* (The Palace, NH) - just to name a few. As a director, his credits range from local to international, including *Three Guys Naked from the Waist Down...A Comedy* (TANSTAAFL, KC); *Assassins* (The Barn, KS); and *Red Hot and Jazz* (Piza Festival, Guatemala).

Mr. Armstrong currently serves as the Executive Artistic Director of The Black Repertory Theatre of Kansas City.

## Cast Biographies

**JT Czoch** (Lorenzo) is a freshman majoring in music theatre and secondary majoring in dance. He is very excited to perform in his first K-State Theatre production. He would like to thank his mother (Janelle Czoch), nana (Jeanne Czoch), and his high school choir director (Sara Walker). Thanks for supporting K-State Theatre.

**Marcus Edwards** (Izaak) is from Junction City, Kansas. He is a senior at Kansas State University working towards a B.A. in English.

**Kenedi Renee Kelley** (Reader) is a K-State Admissions Representative who graduated from K-State in 2020 with her degree in American Ethnic Studies and a minor in dance. Though she sat on the cabinet during her undergrad, she now serves as Ebony Theatre's faculty advisor. She's incredibly excited and proud of what Ebony has and will accomplish this year and can't thank our new members enough for their hard work!

**McKenna Moten** (Yael) is a freshman majoring in Theatre. She is very excited to be performing in her first K-State Ebony Theatre production. She would like to thank her family, friends, everyone involved in this production, and everyone in the attendance for supporting K-State Theatre.

**Nikèla Reed** (Alice) are a sophomore theatre major from Kansas City, Missouri. She is proud to accept her position as Ebony Theatre's president for the 2021-22 academic year.

**Tara Sitzman** (Jules) is a senior majoring in theatre with an emphasis in performance. She has been in *Iphigenia...* and the stage reading of *I'm Fine*. She would like to thank the director for the opportunity and the cast for making this her best final performance at K-State. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support.