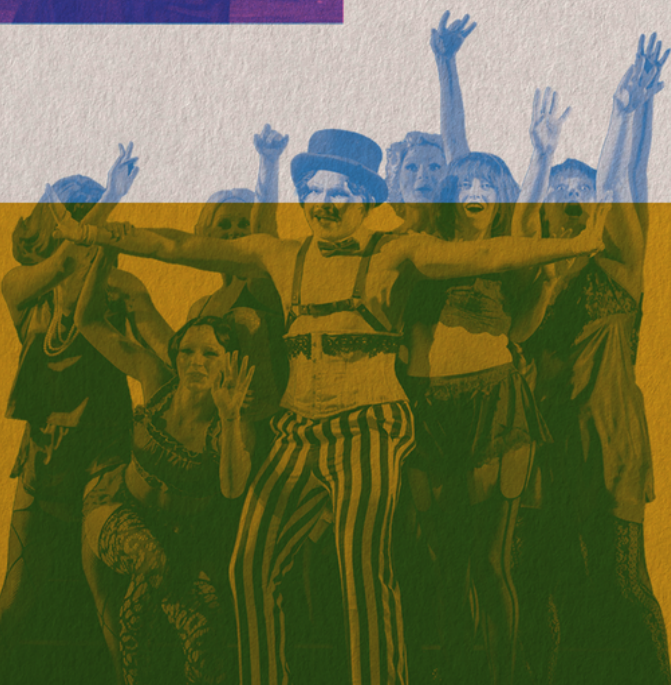




ON STAGE



CHARLOTTE
COLLEGE OF ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

Welcome!

An engaged audience is the most essential level of support we can receive. Thank you for being a part of this performance experience!

Revenue from ticket sales directly supports student scholarships in dance, music and theatre. You can expand opportunities for students with a financial gift to fund scholarships, visiting artists and scholars, master classes, study abroad and more. To make a secure gift online, please visit **giving.charlotte.edu**. Thank you for your support!

About the College of Arts + Architecture

Grounded in a commitment to excellent teaching, the College of Arts + Architecture sparks curiosity, fosters innovative research and anchors collaborative projects that empower and sustain communities.

The College of Arts + Architecture will infuse the university's urban mission with arts and design, creative research and collaborative projects that inspire cultural vibrancy throughout Charlotte, the region and beyond.

Connect with us! We hope you will join us again soon. Stay up to date with our College news and programming on our website at **coaa.charlotte.edu**. Follow us at **[@CLT_COAA](https://www.instagram.com/CLT_COAA)** on Instagram and **[@CLTCOAA](https://www.facebook.com/CLTCOAA)** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CLTCOAA) and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/CLTCOAA).

Program Book Feedback

We welcome your valuable input on digital program books. Please complete [this brief survey](#) to provide your feedback.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE
COLLEGE OF ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

The Department of Theatre presents

ROOTS & WORDS

a devised theatre piece

DIRECTORS

Carlos Alexis Cruz
Beth Murray

COSTUME DESIGN

Meredith Magoun

**ASSOCIATE
COSTUME DESIGN**

Freddie Harward

SCENIC COORDINATOR

Noah Tepper

STAGE MANAGER

Liv Hartis

Black Box Theater

Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts

Thu Sep 24 & Fri Sep 25, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Sat Sep 26, 2026 | 2:00 pm

coaa.charlotte.edu

Closed Captioning

The College of Arts + Architecture is proud to offer closed captioning for this performance, available on your smartphone. **Please connect to the “NinerWiFi-Guest” WiFi network and click this link to access captioning: 10.139.165.80**

Universal phone holders are available for loan at the box office for a hands-free experience!

*Captions powered by CCTheater, from AccessTech, LLC.
(info@getaccesstech.com)*

If you'd like to provide feedback on your experience using captioning today, please complete [this brief survey](#).

Director/Deviser's Note

El lenguaje está en todas partes.

¿Acaso eso lo hace invisible?

¿O lo vuelve omnipresente?

¿Mágico?

¿O cotidiano?

¿Somos los seres humanos quienes creamos el lenguaje,
o es el lenguaje lo que nos define como personas?

Language is everywhere.

Does that make it invisible?

Or all powerful?

Magical?

Or mundane?

Do humans make language?

Or does our language make us who we are?

In devising *Roots and Words*, our two courageous and creative ensembles have tried to playfully live in the question, more than to bring the answer. They have built worlds beyond language through physical theatre, verbatim research and improvisation—using their bodies as living archives of memory, migration, and resistance. Before we spoke, we moved. Before we rationalized, we felt. Through breath, rhythm, and physical risk, these performers reclaimed their collective presence as our most honest mother tongue.

They have listened to our community through interviews, to shape how they speak back into our community with story—confronting the borders language creates, the masks we wear to survive within any institution, and the beautiful, polyphonic sound of who we actually are.

Welcome to the conversation. Don't just listen tonight; feel the frequency, sit in the tension, and let the theatrical action challenge what it truly means to be understood.

We're so glad you are here.

Roots & Words

A devised theatre piece

The world of *Roots and Words* unfolds in episodic vignettes.

1. Schooling Language
2. Questing Questions
3. Looking Back
4. Telling (Mostly True) Tales
5. In Translation
6. What's Keeping You . . .?
7. Text v. Subtext
8. Slang Thangs
9. Language Fantasies
10. Living Language Gallery

This production will be performed without an intermission.

Video and/or audio recording is strictly prohibited.

The Spring 2026 Devising Ensemble

Julia Balletta
Richard Calderon-Penaranda
Ciel Davis
Juan Dixon
Erick Flowers
Catherine Harris
Liv Hartis
David Kendrick
Hannah Blair Montgomery
Kilie Owenby
Erica Rochelle Williams
Ja Williams
Zakiyah Williams
K Zapata
CarlosAlexis Cruz
Beth Murray

The Fall 2026 Devising/Performing Ensemble

ZiYonna Brown
Richard Calderon-Penaranda
Juan Dixon
Paz Doune-Bosch
Liv Hartis
Viv Hunter
Lyndon Mathias
Melody Miller
Kilie Owenby
Savar Sharma
Shae Tinsley
Erica Rochelle Williams
Ja Williams
K Zapata
CarlosAlexis Cruz
Beth Murray

Musical Consultant

Poah West

Special Thanks

Gretchen Alterowitz and the Department of Dance

Rob Conkie

Kristin Davin

Hannah Harrell

Lindsey Gordon

Rachel Lancashire and Jenny Zemanek and their inspirational book

Irania Macias

Courtney Mervine

Erin Miller

Shamou, and his drums that beat on

Spencer Salas

Kayden Walker

Mark West and the Department of Theatre

Meg Whalen

Robin Witt

Support the Department of Theatre

The Theatre Department Fund supports student welfare, class supplies, scholarship assistance, recruiting, lecture series, school-wide events, promotion, and related needs. To make a gift and impact our students, [please visit this link](#). Thank you for your support!

Join Our Mailing List

[Please fill out this form](#) to join our mailing list and receive information about upcoming events in the CoA+A!

About the Department of Theatre

The Department of Theatre provides a student-focused liberal arts education that develops theatre artists, scholars and teachers to investigate current best practices and emerging entrepreneurial methods in theatre and other kinds of professional performance. Aligning with the university's open-access education, we integrate the values of ethical and informed community engagement and innovative creative research practices. For more information about our mission and vision, [please visit our website.](#)

Faculty and Staff

Mark I. West, Interim Chair

Jennifer Bradford, Lecturer in Acting and New Media

Tom Burch, Associate Professor of Scenic Design

Rob Conkie, Robinson Distinguished Professor of Shakespeare

CarlosAlexis Cruz, Professor of Physical Theatre

David M. Fillmore, Jr., Professor of Lighting Design, Associate Chair

David Janowiak, Professor of Theatre

Meredith Magoun, Assistant Professor of Costume Design

Jay Morong, Senior Lecturer in Theatre (LBST and Film Studies)

Beth Murray, Associate Professor of Theatre Education

Mark Pizzato, Professor of Theatre and Film

Roxanne Wellington, Associate Professor of Voice, Speech, and Acting

Robin Witt, Professor of Directing

Hannah Harrell, Academic Advisor

Alexandra Scott, Office Administrator

Courtney Mervine, Arts Education Specialist

Adjunct Faculty

Jessica Bilgrad, Adjunct Professor of Theatre

Jill Bloede, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Acting, LBST Studies)

Stacey Boone, Adjunct Professor of Theatre Education

Marla Brown, Adjunct Professor of Theatre (Acting, Dramaturgy)

Christian Casper, Adjunct Professor of Theatre

Bill Congdon, Adjunct Professor of Musical Theatre

Tod A. Kubo, Adjunct Professor of Theatre, MT Certificate Coordinator

Bernadette MacLeod, Adjunct Professor of Theatre Education

Raven Monroe, Adjunct Professor of Theatre

Jennifer O'Kelly, Adjunct Professor of Theatre

CoA+A Production Arts and Operations

Dean Adams, Senior Associate Dean for Performing Arts

Hali Hutchison-Houk, Production Manager

Liz Paradis, Director of Audience Services

Beth Rucker, Business Services Coordinator

Liz Wooley, Performing Arts Operations Manager

Christina Beam, Costume Lab Manager

Meena Carr, Assistant Technical Director

Rachel Engstrom, Senior Lecturer, Costume Lab Supervisor / Designer

Matthew B. Fraiser, Senior Lecturer, Technical Director

Rick Moll, Senior Lecturer, Production Electrician

Gordon W. Olson, Senior Lecturer, Lighting Designer

Benjamin G. Stickels, Senior Lecturer, Audio Engineer, Asst. Production Manager

Rachel Swenson Flaherty, Senior Lecturer, Stage Management

Dan Mulder, Technology Engineer

Hazel Doherty, Chloe Shade, & Noah Tepper, Music Stage Managers

Tammy McNamara, House Management Supervisor

Alyssa Barry, House Manager

Patron Services Representatives

Maggie Britt, Sommiya Brown, Briana Gerena-Rojas, Alex Lozier,

Gabriel Tewell

Robinson Hall Technicians

Olivia Bader, Ethan Barros, Caleb Basham, Jaleel Eddie, Daniel Gaddy,

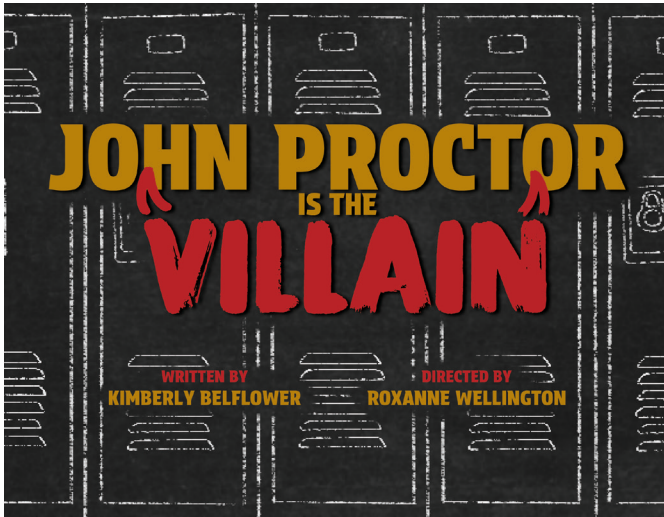
Alex McLellan, Teddy Rayworth, Veronica Salas, Naomi Wilson

Production Team

PRODUCTION MANAGER	Hali Hutchison-Houk
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR	Meena Carr
PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN	Rick Moll
COSTUME LAB MANAGER	Christina Beam
COSTUME MENTOR	Rachel Engstrom
SCENIC COORDINATOR	Noah Tepper
STAGE MANAGEMENT MENTOR	Rachel Swenson Flaherty
ASSOCIATE COSTUME DESIGNER	Freddie Harward
STAGE/COMPANY MANAGER	Liv Hartis
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	K Zapata
CAPTIONING OPERATOR	Ash Herail
COSTUME LAB TECHNICIANS	Toby Lewis, Lindsay Rammalaere, Grace Richardson
COSTUME PRACTICUM	Xavion Coulter, Jordan Goddard, Samantha Griffin, Alivia Heath Taylor Tillman, Alex Tolar, Ja Williams
LIGHTING LAB TECHNICIANS	Evelin Golovashkina, Alex McLellan, Lexi Paysour, Eleanor Zeng
LIGHTING LAB PRACTICUM	Aeron Eury, Ava Regalado, Helena Werany
SCENIC CARPENTERS	Sandro Galvan, TJ Green, Gen Hoelscher, Ryn Johnson, Renee Ngari
SCENIC PRACTICUM	Evie Arno, Symone Bailey, Nat Cheek, Juan Dixon, Lizzy Haynes, Corey McClain

Please join us for the Theatre Department's remaining Fall 2026 Production!

Tickets are available at Robinson Hall Box Office:
charlotteboxoffice.com / 704-687-1849 (M-F, 11:30am-3:30pm)



Thursday November 12- Saturday November 14, 2026 at 7:30 pm
Sunday November 15, 2026 at 2:00 pm*
[Anne R. Belk Theater, Robinson Hall](#)

*ASL interpretation available on Sunday 11/15
Closed captioning available at all on-campus performances

Friday November 20 & Saturday November 21, 2026 at 7:30 pm
Sunday November 22, 2026 at 2:00 pm
[Booth Playhouse at Blumenthal Arts Center*](#)

**Please note: This is not a University of North Carolina at Charlotte ("University") website. This registration and payment portal is administered by a third party payment processor ("Payment Processor"). The Payment Processor is responsible for the security and system availability of the payment portal. The University does not endorse, recommend, guarantee, control, or accept responsibility for any product or service made available by Payment Processor. The presence of a link to the Payment Processor's website does not imply any affiliation, endorsement, approval, or verification by the University.*

College of Arts + Architecture

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

[Choral Collage](#)

Mon Sep 28 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

[Orchestra](#)

Tue Sep 29 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

[Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble](#)

Wed Sep 30 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

OCTOBER

[Jazz Combo & Ensemble](#)

Thu Oct 1 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

[Charlotte Strings Collective](#)

Faculty & Friends Concert Series

Tue Oct 6 | 7:30 pm
Rowe Recital Hall

[Fall Dance Concert: SHIFT](#)

Thu Oct 22- Sat Oct 24 | 7:30 pm
Sun Oct 25 | 2:00 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

NOVEMBER

[Eric Millard, trumpet](#)

Faculty & Friends Concert Series

Tue Nov 3 | 7:30 pm
Rowe Recital Hall

[John Proctor is the Villain](#)

by Kimberly Belflower

Thu Nov 12- Sat Nov 14 | 7:30 pm
Sun Nov 15 | 2:00 pm*
Anne R. Belk Theater

**ASL interpretation available*

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