

Louisiana Tech School of Theatre presents...

River Pirates: and the Treasure at Pointe Coupée

By: Jeremy Reynolds

Directed by: Mark Guinn

SET SAIL

APR 26 - MAY 1

ARTHUR W. STONE THEATRE

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MON-FRI: 1:30PM-4:45PM

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48 hours in advance.

Louisiana Tech School of Theatre presents...

River Pirates: and the Treasure at Pointe Coupée

By: *Jeremy Reynolds*

SCENIC DESIGN

MARK GUINN

SOUND DESIGN

MALLORI MCMILLAN

COSTUME & MAKEUP DESIGN

MICHELE DORMAIER

PROJECTION DESIGN

ALLYSON SIMS
BRADY COLE

LIGHTING DESIGN

MARK GUINN
M. LLOYD PENA

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

JARED SMITH

FIGHT DIRECTOR

ANDREW RAY
M. LLOYD PENA

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

LUCY KNIGHT

DIRECTOR

MARK GUINN

WANTED

FOR ENGAGING OR ASSOCIATION IN PIRACY

SIGHTED ON THE OPEN SEAS

SAMUEL.....	IAN TAYLOR	X	
CONDEE.....	ANNA FONTENOT		☠
MARCEL.....	BLAIR O'BLANC	X	☠
CAROLINE.....	EMMA MONTGOMERY	X	☠
FATHER HERBERT.....	ALI FLETCHER	X	☠
ELIZABETH.....	KAITLIN WEIGLE	X	
CAPTAIN FLETCHER.....	HER 'MON JONES		
RENE.....	ALLYSON SIMS	X	
JEAN.....	VANNA RICHARDSON	X	
SEEDY PIRATE #1.....	GRACE NEAVILLE	X	
SEEDY PIRATE #2.....	CAROLYNE TARVER	X	
CREW #3.....	LANEY GOODWIN	X	☠
CREW #4.....	JOY RESTER	X	☠

SUSPECTED OF WORKING BEHIND-THE-SCENES

PRODUCTION MANAGER.....	JEREMY REYNOLDS	X	☠
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....	JEREMY REYNOLDS	X	☠
FIGHT CAPTAIN.....	EMMA MONTGOMERY	X	☠
WARDROBE SUPERVISOR.....	KAITLIN WEIGLE	X	☠

LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR.....	ASHTON HURLEY		
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR.....	MALLORY WILLIAMS	X	
PROJECTION OPERATOR.....	BROOKE DANIELS		☠
WARDROBE AND MAKEUP	JENNA HALL		
	KYLE EVERIDGE		
	REILLY SPITZFADEN	X	
PROPERTIES	TAYLOR WOODS		



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* DENOTES MEMBERS OF ACTOR'S EQUITY ASSOCIATION

Directors' Note



Ahoy, mateys- and thank you for being a treasured member of our River Pirates audience! Embarking on this adventure has led us to new lands as actor and directors alike. True collaboration leads to moments of joy. It has been a wondrous thing to witness the opportunities for such moments when there is an atmosphere of creative freedom and empathy (let's be honest, lots of sword-fighting too) happening onstage.

The wise lighting designer Jean Rosenthal wrote, "The stage space in which they move is their aquarium, their portion of the sea. Within translucent walls and above the stage floor, the lighting supports their flashing buoyancy." As direction in River Pirates uses lighting to guide the story, we hope you are transported by the magic of both the "sea" of our stage, and the actors as they pirate its waters.

The setting of 1806 and Louisiana ports is a dangerous one, with lands and markets being plundered by any merchant competitive enough, as well as the tragedy of American slavery as a means of commerce in those ports- nowhere more prominent than in the city of New Orleans. Those who were lucky, were born as free People of Color due to Louisiana law, or migrated here as emancipated persons. Yet as our characters Condee and Renee find- there is a constant watchfulness, questions of who to trust lurking in the shadows. We have tried to capture both the beauty of Creole culture and its historic truths in our approach to all of our characters and were helped by Dr. Reynold's impeccably researched script.

Our cast has grown immensely through these reflections of history in acting choices, social constructs (...like, how did dating even work in 1806?), and finding freedom in physical movement onstage. Watching a young hero go from never having used a sword to that of a confident swashbuckler, encouraging a large "pirate crew" to find their individual quirks as well as meld into an ensemble- these are the gems experienced behind the scenes of River Pirates and the Treasure at Pointe Coupee.

We hope you'll have as much fun watching this production. Perhaps you'll even find some moments to stow away in your memory.

A word of advice if you do...

Be careful who you trust with them. (Maybe don't tell Jean, idk).

Mark Guinn & Lucy Knight

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE PIRATES?



IAN TAYLOR

(SAMUEL)

Ian Taylor is excited to be back on stage! Some of his favorite roles have been Wilbur Turnblad in *Hairspray*, John the Baptist in *Godspell*, and Dandy in *E Pluribus Unum*! In his spare time, Ian enjoys playing games with his friends, driving, and messing around with computers. He is a freshman and headed towards a degree in computer science.



ANNA FONTENOT

(CONDEE)

Anna Kharisma Fontenot is Louisiana born, Houston, Texas raised, and current Dallas, Texas resident. She is currently a sophomore majoring in theatre with an emphasis in acting at Louisiana Tech University. She has been involved in the world of theatre since middle school. One of her favorite productions she has been a part of is, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, where she played Anne Frank. While being active in her high school's theatre program, she also participated on the cheer, soccer, and track teams, winning multiple awards on the state and national level. She is thankful to everyone that has helped her develop her love for theatre.



BLAIR O'BLANC

(MARCEL)

Blair O'Blanc is a senior at Louisiana Tech University who is double majoring in Theatre and Psychology. Blair's most recent role was Alex Klein in *Church and State*. Blair would like to thank her family and friends for their support and is incredibly grateful for this opportunity.

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE PIRATES?



**EMMA
MONTGOMERY**

(CAROLINE)

Emma Montgomery is a senior at Louisiana Tech currently majoring in Theatre! She began working with the school of theatre in high school in the 2015 production of Sleeping Beauty! She was also cast in Begets: Fall of a High School Ronin and Addams Family Musical! Emma hopes to pursue acting and stage combat after her graduation in May! Miss Montgomery is very excited to be a part of this production and hopes you all enjoy watching it as much as she enjoyed working on it!!!



ALI FLETCHER

(FATHER HERBERT)

Ali Fletcher is a 1st year graduate student originally from Charleston, West Virginia. She is a recent graduate from Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, where she obtained her Bachelor's of Fine Arts in theatre performance. River Pirates is Ali's third performance with The Louisiana Tech School of Theatre. Her first being The Fall Theatre Festival as Ruth in Blithe Spirit and second being the reporter in Church & State. Other past credits include: Mrs. Jennings in Sense and Sensibility, Fighting Prawn in Peter and The Starcatcher, a Company Member in The Laramie Project, and Judy in The Curious Incident of The Dog in the Night-Time. Some of Ali's proudest accomplishments have been completing a summer internship at The Highlands Playhouse in 2019 and holding the title of president for two consecutive years for Marshall Universities Beta chapter of Alpha Psi Omega. Ali would like to thank her family, friends, and professors for their endless support on this journey she is taking. Ali sincerely hopes you enjoy River Pirates and The Treasure at Point Coupee!



**KAITLIN
WEIGLE**

(ELIZABETH)

Kaitlin Weigle is currently a first year graduate student at Louisiana Tech University. She is studying Theatre with an emphasis in Performance and loves all aspects of performing, especially combat. She was born in Mechanicsville, Virginia and has loved performing since she was young. Kaitlin is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the show and hopes you enjoy it!

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE PIRATES?



HERMON JONES

(CAPTAIN FLETCHER)

Her'mon Jones is a fourth year undergraduate student from Bastrop, Louisiana. He is an engineering major and theatre minor.

Her'mon is overjoyed to be a part of RIVER PIRATES. He previously co-starred in "Open Admissions" at the 2021 Fall Festival which was also his debut performance. Let's look forward to what he can bring to the table this time around!



ALLYSON SIMS

(RENE)

Allyson Sims is a first-year graduate student at Louisiana Tech and can't wait for you to see the show!



**VANNA
RICHARDSON**

(JEAN)

Vanna Richardson is technically a senior. She has returned to college after a brief hiatus of about two decades. She is ancient and wise but different but the same. She was a stage manager for several years in the Shreveport/ Bossier area and in New York City. Her favorite shows have been The Strip, Midsummer Night's Dream, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and And She Would Stand Like This. She is excited to take the stage again! She thanks the cast and crew for a wonderful experience.

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE PIRATES?



**GRACE
NEAVILLE**
(SEEDY PIRATE #1)

Grace “Gracie” Neaville is a 22-year-old Ruston native, and a graduating senior at Louisiana Tech University. She first garnered a passion for acting when she was five-years-old, and played Tzeitel in A.E. Phillips Laboratory School’s production of Fiddler on the Roof Jr. when she was 14. Gracie is very excited to be cast in River Pirates and the Treasure of Pointe Coupee. Gracie is a black belt in Taekwondo and an advanced yellow belt in Korean Karate. She is also trained in single sword stage combat. Gracie plans to move to Baton Rouge after graduating from LA Tech and audition for LSU’s Masters of Acting in December, 2022; as well as applying for a Masters in history. She hopes to one day become an actress, director, and screenwriter for television and cinema.



CAROLYNE TARVER
(SEEDY PIRATE #2)

Carolyne Tarver is a sophomore who transferred to Louisiana Tech during the Fall 2021 quarter. She is beyond ecstatic to be casted in River Pirates, as this is her first show at tech! In the past, she has done multiple plays as well as musicals such as, Little Women, Songs from a New World, The Wiz, Annie, The Junglebook, Triangle, Alice in Wonderland and, The Amish Project. Carlyne loves to sing as well as acting and dance. She hopes that you all will enjoy the wonderful and exciting show!



LANEY GOODWIN
(CREW #3)

Laney has been involved in community theatre since she was 13 years old and graduated from Strauss Youth Academy for the Arts in Spring of 2019. After participating in several productions over the years, some of her most notable roles include Christopher Marlowe in Shakespeare in Love, Maggie Saunders in Lend Me A Tenor, Blind Pew in Treasure Island, Bianca in Othello, and Ophelia in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead. Laney continues to pursue the arts onstage and backstage at Tech, CA Studios, Strauss Theatre, and through other creative outlets such as photography, filmmaking, and scriptwriting.

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE PIRATES?



Joy Rester is a second year Graduate student at Louisiana Tech with a concentration in Stage Management and Directing. Joy graduated with her Bachelor's from Louisiana Tech in May 2020 and is set to graduate with her Master's in May 2022. She has been involved in the Stone Theatre over the past five years in many positions such as Production Stage Manager for Church & State and Lend Me A Tenor, as well as assistant stage manager for The Groundling. She was also in Addams Family: A New Musical comedy where she portrayed Grandma Addams. She would like to thank her family and friends for the constant support and encouragement!

JOY RESTER

(CREW #4)

The Port Authority

HARBOR ADMINISTRATORS

DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF THEATRE.....	MARK GUINN		
COORDINATOR OF THEATRE.....	CHERRIE A. SCIRO*	✗	☠
PRODUCTION MANAGER.....	JEREMY REYNOLDS, PH.D	✗	☠
COSTUME DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY.....	MICHELE DORMAIER	✗	☠
ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR.....	ANDREW RAY		
MARKETING DIRECTOR.....	BREYTON MASTRONUZZI	✗	☠
RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR.....	BRETT CHASE	✗	☠
MARKETING ASSOCIATES	JORDEN JACKSON		
	LANEY GOODWIN	✗	☠
BOX OFFICE MANAGER	JOY RESTER	✗	☠
BOX OFFICE ASSISTANT	ALI FLETCHER		☠
SCENIC STUDIO DIRECTOR	M. LLOYD PENA		☠
SCENIC STUDIO ASSISTANT	ALLYSON SIMS		
COSTUME STUDIO MANAGEMENT.....	KAITLIN WEIGLE		☠
	LUCY KNIGHT	✗	☠
THEATRE OFFICE MANAGER	JARED SMITH	✗	☠



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MARK GUINN

Mark D. Guinn is the Director of the School of Theatre and a Professor of Theatre here at Louisiana Tech University. Mark is a Fight Master with the Society of American Fight Directors and Certified Teacher with the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat. With over thirty-two years experience in action and original work for the stage, Mark has served as Coordinator of the National Stage Combat Workshops, the Stage Combat Workshop at Louisiana Tech University (one of the most widely known and respected Stage Combat workshops across the planet), was on the faculty of the First International Stage Combat Workshop, the Summer Sling in New York, the Texas Intensive, and the British National Stage Combat Workshop. Mark has collaborated on original productions with William Joyce, Mikel Rouse, the Flaming Idiots and stirred the imagination of young artists in the creation of original works here in the Department of Theatre like the national award-winning KAB Man and The Fights Before Christmas.



CHERRIE SCIRO*



Cherrie Sciro is the Coordinator of Theatre and Professor in the School of Theatre at Louisiana Tech University. She is also known nationally for her Broadway credits, which include Production Coordinator of the Tony award-winning productions of CATS, Les Miserables, Phantom of the Opera, and Doin' What Comes Natur'lly: an All-Star Tribute to Ethel Merman, featuring Laine Kazan, Patti LuPone, Andrea Martin, Elaine Stritch and Bette Midler. She was also the Production Coordinator for the 1999 Hard Rock Rockfest in Atlanta, Georgia, and the Stage Manager for the 2001 New Year's Eve in Time Square in New York City. Her international credits include the London, England productions of Les Miserables, Phantom of the Opera, Miss Saigon, Follies and Sunset Boulevard. She also served as the Production Manager for the Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain and Atlanta, Georgia.



**JEREMY
REYNOLDS, PH.D**



Dr. Jeremy Reynolds is an Associate Professor of Theatre Design and Technical Director at Louisiana Tech University. He also regularly attends and presents his research at the American Society for Theatre Research, the Mid-American Theatre Conference and other national theatre conferences. Some regional credits include: directing the world premiere of Person or Persons Unknown in Chicago at the Wing & Groove Theatre Company, resident Sound Designer for the Texas Shakespeare Festival, and most recently, as Technical Director for the Washington Ensemble Theatre's west coast premiere of God's Ear in Seattle. Jeremy is active in children's theatre and spent two summers in Anchorage, Alaska, working with renowned Alaska Theatre for Young People. Jeremy previously held positions at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, The Evergreen State College and with the Zachary Community Schools.

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**MICHELE
DORMAIER** ✖️ 🦴

Michele Dormaier is the Resident Costume Designer and an instructor of Theatre in the School of Theatre. Most recently, she was the Costume Shop Supervisor for the Des Moines Metro Opera Company. Previous designs of notes are: Tartuffe, Love's Labour's Lost, Pygmalion, The Nutcracker Ballet, Swan Lake, The Importance of Being Earnest, Peer Gynt and Mother Courage and Her Children. Michele also pursues research related to ballet costume history was presented at the Southeastern Conference Theatre Symposium.



ANDREW RAY

Andrew Ray is an actor, fight director and educator who works from coast to coast. He is a Certified Fight Director and Stage Combat Instructor with the Society of American Fight Directors that holds a BA in Theatre from The University of Kentucky and an MA in Theatre from Louisiana Tech University where he studied performance and stage movement. Andrew currently resides in Shreveport, Louisiana but spends a portion of the year in his hometown of Lexington, Kentucky where he serves as stage combat instructor at the University of Kentucky. On top of that he teaches stage combat and directs fights in New York, Illinois, Louisiana, Texas, Georgia, Ohio, North Carolina Missouri and Florida. He also spends time in Los Angeles, Chicago, Dallas and New York working as a motion capture performer and fight coordinator. He is one of the lead motion capture performers for the Agents of Mayhem, We Happy Few, Saint's Row and Borderlands video game franchises. He also works as a motion capture actor for Penn and Teller.

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**BREYTON
MASTRONUZZI**
(MARKETING DIRECTOR)

Breyton Mastronuzzi is a first-year graduate student having graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Theatre from Louisiana Tech University. Past acting credits include Frank Butler (Annie Get Your Gun), The Ghost of Christmas Present (A Christmas Carol), Charles Condomine (Blithe Spirit), as well as numerous roles in variety shows, ensemble, and as a background actor for film. He hopes to continue to develop creative skills such as acting, writing, design, and much more to further his influence in the artistic world!



BRETT CHASE
(RECRUITMENT
COORDINATOR)

Brett Chase is a second-year graduate student. He graduated from Sam Houston high school and began his undergraduate education at Louisiana State University before taking some time off to perform as a musician and actor. Following a brief stint in New York City where he worked and performed for a local studio off Broadway, Brett continued his undergraduate education at McNeese State University where he earned his Bachelor's degree in the science of Psychology and performed lead roles in theatrical productions of Shakespeare's "Macbeth", Neil LaBute's "The Shape of Things" and a musical adaptation of "A Year With Frog and Toad". Brett is now working as a graduate assistant for Louisiana Tech under Cherrie Sciro while pursuing his Master of Fine Arts degree.



LUCY KNIGHT
(COSTUME STUDIO
MANAGER)

Lucy Knight (AD/2nd year Grad student) is thrilled to have the chance to work with the cast and team of River Pirates! Her writing has been featured in the 2019 San Francisco Olympians Festival and the first virtual pandemic production of Theatre is the Cure, as well as a published poetry collection, Abundant Still (2021). Lucy was KCATCF nominated for Dramaturgy and Covid Protocol work in Tech's 2021 production of Church and State and is a 2022 National Fellow with the Kennedy Center's Institute for Theatre Journalism and Advocacy. She will begin her PhD in Theatre at LSU in Fall 2022.

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JOY RESTER

(BOX OFFICE MANAGER)

Joy Rester is a second-year graduate student. Read more about Joy in her cast bio!



ALI FLETCHER

(BOX OFFICE)

Ali Fletcher is a first-year graduate student. Read more about her in her cast bio!



ALLYSON SIMS

(DESIGN STUDIO)

Allyson Sims is a first-year graduate student. Read more about her in her cast bio!

THE PORT AUTHORITY



Kaitlin is a first-year graduate student. Read more about Kaitlin in her cast bio!

**KAITLIN
WEIGLE**
(COSTUME STUDIO
MANAGER)



M Lloyd Peña graduated from Central Washington University in 2013 with BA in Theatre Arts, specializing in lighting design and stage combat. In early 2014 he worked as the technical director for the Eau Claire Children's Theatre in Eau Claire, WI before moving to San Diego, CA and joining IATSE Local #122, working on several Broadway bound shows at the Old Globe Theatre and La Jolla Playhouse, as well as many national touring acts in local roadhouses. Lloyd is certified in 3 weapons with the Society of American Fight Directors, has ETCP certification in Arena Rigging, and OSHA 10 certification. He joins Louisiana Tech Theatre as a graduate student pursuing fight directing and teaching.

M. LLOYD PENA
(SCENIC STUDIO DIRECTOR)

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AΨΩ

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Vice President - Jared Smith

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Sergeant at Arms - Brett Chase



President - Joy Rester

Vice President - M. Lloyd Peña

Secretary - Mallori McMillan

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In our efforts to keep the Louisiana Tech University School of Theatre at the forefront of theatre education, we are constantly looking for new ways to create much needed scholarships, offset production costs, and complete minor capital improvements to our facilities. You can play a large part in this process and your gifts will go a long way towards us in reaching these goals.

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