

The logo for the University of Virginia Drama department, featuring a small icon of a building above the text "UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA" and "DRAMA" in a large, serif font.

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA
DRAMA

A photograph of a brick lighthouse tower with a glass-enclosed lantern room. The tower is made of red brick and has a dark metal railing around the lantern room. The sky is a clear, light blue. The title "STICK FLY" is overlaid in large white letters, and "By Lydia R. Diamond" is overlaid in smaller white letters below it.

STICK FLY

By Lydia R. Diamond

February 28-March 2, 2019 at 8pm

March 2, 2019 at 2pm

March 5-7, 2019 at 8pm

Ruth Caplin Theatre

Directed by Jennifer L. Nelson

DEPARTMENT OF
DRAMA
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

STICK FLY

By Lydia R. Diamond

Directed by **Jennifer L. Nelson**

Scenic Design by **Bill Clarke**

Costume Design by **Bill Clarke**

Lighting Design by **Lauren Duffie**

Sound Design by **Julie Briskie**

Technical Direction by **Tim Nielsen**

Production Stage Management by **Cat Tignor**

Stick Fly was developed, in part at Chicago Dramatists, originally produced by Congo Square Theatre and subsequently produced by McCarter Theatre Center. A further developmental production directed by Kenny Leon, was produced jointly by Arena Stage and the Huntington Theatre Company.



The Director is a member of the
**STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS
SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.

The scenic and costume designer of this production is represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE.



This production uses the Contract Management Program of the University/Resident Theatre Association, Inc. 212-221-1130.

“**Stick Fly**” is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

Cheryl.....	Grace Gyamfi
Dad.....	James J. Johnson*
Flip	Will Jones
Kent.....	Brandon C. Lee
Taylor.....	Chiquita Melvin
Kimber.....	Olivia Morrison

*Appearing through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

WHO'S WHO IN *STICK FLY*

Julie Briski (2nd year M.F.A. Lighting Design).

Bill Clarke: *A Walk in the Woods* (Broadway) *June Moon, So Help Me God* (Off-Broadway); Regional: Seattle Rep, Alley, Old Globe, Indiana Rep, LaJolla/Cincinnati/Cleveland Playhouse, Huntington, Milwaukee Rep, A.R.T., Coconut Grove, Arizona Theater Company, Alliance. College '80, Yale School of Drama '87.

Lauren M. Duffie (2nd Year M.F.A. Lighting Design) *Tartuffe, Love's a Bitch, 2017 Fall Dance Concert* (UVA Drama); *Harvey* (Heritage Theatre Festival).

Grace O. Gyamfi (2nd Year Drama minor) *Pippin, Anything Goes* (First Year Players), *Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare on the Lawn).

James J. Johnson: *Ruined* (Arena Stage); *Hero's Welcome* (1st Stage); *Our Suburb* (Theater J); *The Member of the Wedding* (Ford's Theatre); *The Unmentionables* (Woolly Mammoth Theatre); *Kingdom, Wedding Dance, Buffalo Hair, As You Like It* (African Continuum Theatre Co.); *Richard III* (Twas Productions NYC); *Twelfth Night, Taming of the Shrew* (Shakespeare Project of Frederick); *Stonewall Country, Macbeth* (Theatre at Lime Kiln); *Anna Lucasta* (Rep Stage); *Jungle Book* (Adventure Theatre MTC); *Zomo the Rabbit, P. Nokio, Lyle the Crocodile* (Imagination Stage); *Teddy Roosevelt and the Ghostly Mistletoe, Homer P. Figg* (Kennedy Center). EDUCATION: BFA, Virginia Commonwealth University. Currently in a commercial for Tyson's Watch & Jewelry Exchange on NBC4 DC. James J. Johnson is a proud member of AEA.

Will Jones: *Joe Turner's Come And Gone, Fences* (Jefferson School African American Heritage Center); *Dreamgirls, To Kill A Mockingbird, The Mountaintop* (LiveArts).

Brandon C. Lee (UVA CLAS '06): *Seven Guitars* (UVA Drama); *Macbeth* (Jefferson School AAHC), local artist and educator.

Chiquita Melvin (3rd Year M.F.A. Acting): *Tartuffe, Urinetown, Seven Guitars, Blood Wedding, The Niceties* (Staged Reading) (UVA Drama); *Middletown* (Heritage Theatre Festival); *Fragments: Impressions of Grief* (Kaiser Educational Theatre); *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* (Jefferson School AAHC);

A Piece of My Heart (Act3 Playhouse). Television and film roles including *I Didn't Know I Was Pregnant* (T.L.C.); *America's Court with Judge Ross* (Byron Allen Productions); *He Heard My Cry* (Hollywood Black Film Festival).

Olivia Morrison (1st Year Chinese major).

Jennifer L. Nelson: Previous productions include *Br'er Cotton, Love and Information, The Gospel at Colonus, Milk Like Sugar, King Hedley II, Seven Guitars, Fences, Driving Miss Daisy, A Raisin in the Sun.*

Tim Nielsen (3rd Year M.F.A. Scenic Design and Technical Production): *The Wolves, Urinetown, WE ARE PUSSY RIOT OR EVERYTHING IS P.R., Blood Wedding, Shipwrecked! An Entertainment – The Amazing Adventures of Louis De Rougement (As Told By Himself)* (UVA Drama); *The Comedy of Errors, Helpless Doorknobs* (EHS Mainstage, Edinburgh Fringe Festival); *Shrewing of the Tamed, Every Night I Die* (DASH Productions).

Cat Tignor: *WE ARE PUSSY RIOT OR EVERYTHING IS P.R., Shipwrecked! An Entertainment – The Amazing Adventures of Louis De Rougement (As Told By Himself)* (UVA Drama); *Sympathy* (Victory Hall Opera); *Ezio* (Odyssey Opera); ASM: *Madama Butterfly & Rex* (Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre); *Agrippina & The Cunning Little Vixen* (New England Conservatory).

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Management and Rehearsal Staff

Assistant Stage Managers Cameron Logan, Wes Orton
Movement Coach.....Colleen Kelly
Production Coordinator &
Stage Management Faculty AdvisorCaitlin McLeod

Scenic

Scene Shop Foreman Chris Rybitski
Assistant Technical Director JD Stallings
Master Carpenters.....Jackson Key, Danton Wein
Scenic Design Faculty Advisor Tom Bloom
Technical Direction Faculty Advisor Steven Warner
Scene Shop Assistants.....Andy Carluccio, Jackson Key,
Danton Wein, Connor Young
Scene Shop Crew Students of DRAM 2210

Paint

Scenic Charge Matthew B. Kornegay
Paint Shop Assistants Jessica Burnam, Heidi Waldenmaier
Scenic Artists/Painters..... Students of DRAM 2232

Properties

Prop Master Sam Flippo
Prop Shop AssistantsAna Bakke, Elizabeth Culbertson, Lena Nguyen

Costumes

Assistant Costume Designer..... Katie Stomps
Costume Design and Technology Faculty Advisor..... Marcy Linton
Costume Shop Manager..... Sarah Bryan
Graduate Costume Assistants..... Katherine Steff, Cee-Cee Swalling
Costume Shop Assistants Erin Chuba, Taylor Parsons, Zoe Wang
Stitchers Students of DRAM 2310
Wardrobe Crew..... Lhamokyi Germano, Yanyan Hu, Katie Rogers

Lighting

Master Electrician Justin Poruban
Assistant Master Electrician George Pernick
Lighting Programmer..... Mati Yihetis
Electricians..... Julie Briski, Madeline Engel, Maya Falicov,
Jessie Fidler, Jean Rosenthal, Mia Shaker,
Thomas R. Skelton, Students of DRAM 2130
Lighting Design Faculty Advisor..... R. Lee Kennedy
Light Board Operator..... Mati Yihevis

Sound & Digital Media

Sound Design Faculty Advisor Michael Rasbury
Sound Engineer Wren Curtis

Administration

Drama Department Chair Richard Will
Department Artistic Director Colleen Kelly
Department Technical Director Chris Rybitski
Department Operations Manager Tracy Francis
Business Manager James Scales
Assistant Business Manager..... Judy McPeak
Drama Administrative Staff..... Theresa Lamb
Publicity Managers Jakob Cansler, Ryleigh Tatum

Box Office

UVA Arts Box Office Manager Andrew Burnett
Arts Box Office Staff..... Renat Abazov, Christen Bolton,
Elizabeth Chung, Spencer Harrell, Lorena Vera, George Villacis,
Morgan Waddy, Jessika Washington, Clay Werenskjold

Front of House

House Managers Kristen Barrett, Willow Cosenza,
Tatenda Mabikacheche, Caitland Winsett
Concession Managers..... Kristen Barrett, Willow Cosenza,
Tatenda Mabikacheche

Special Thanks to CIRCA for their help with this production.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Stick Fly gives a glimpse into the lives of a very successful African American family, well off enough to own a pleasant summer home in an upper class neighborhood of Martha's Vineyard. In my mind the playwright's intention is to give the world a view of the lives of African Americans who are NOT struggling with poverty, violence and racism.

This is in direct opposition to the majority of plays about African Americans. In most plays about us, we are portrayed as struggling to meet the most basic economic and educational hurdles. Consider *Raisin in the Sun*, certainly the most well-known play about African Americans from the mid-20th Century. Think of the August Wilson's brilliant 10-play cycle: all the protagonists in his plays struggle just to stay alive under challenging social and economic circumstances. These are brilliant plays that will stand forever as prototypes of African American life in the 20th Century.

But Lydia R. Diamond, author of *Stick Fly*, made the bold choice to depict a highly educated African American family: two doctors, a novelist, an entomologist—and the family housekeeper's daughter--in their summer home in one of the priciest communities on the East Coast. Within this framework, the play subtly opens our eyes to something that has been sadly overlooked for too long: African Americans are not a uniform collection of people. We are diverse not only in what is perceived to be “our culture,” but also in our values and our hopes and dreams for our children.

—Jennifer L. Nelson

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Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

UPCOMING!

Spring Dance Concert

Kim Brooks Mata, Artistic Director

March 28-30

Ruth Caplin Theatre

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Music & Lyrics by William Finn

Book by Rachel Sheinkin

Conceived by Rebecca Feldman

Directed by Dave Dalton

April 18-27

Culbreth Theatre



Join us for our

Directors of Diversity and Inclusion Series of staged readings!

Instrumental Journey: A Musical Migration Story

conceived by Ric Oquita

March 22 & 23 at 7pm

Helms Theatre

Bright Half Life

by Tanya Barfield

April 5 at 7:30pm & April 6 at 2pm

Ruth Caplin Theatre