

THE 5 & DIME and GARDEN CLUB OF JACKSONVILLE

present

with additional support from THE OFFICE OF REBECCA FARINAS, M.D. and HOLLY & REDDIE GUTSHALL

AUGUST WILSON'S

HOW I LEARNED WHAT I LEARNED

Co-Conceived by Todd Kreidler
Directed by Kerri Hicks
Starring Milton Threadcraft III



JULY 16, 17, 18, 2021



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FROM THE MANAGING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I am filled with such joy and gratitude to write the following words: **welcome back to *The 5 & Dime***. This revival will never erase the pain, grief, or fear that we've all experienced over the last 15+ months; we send love and comfort to those who've been affected in any way—big or small—throughout this pandemic.

Returning to the stage at this time with this piece represents exactly what The 5 & Dime is committed to: telling stories that reflect the community we live in, spark conversation, and make change. This play offers a sense of urgency and a call to action that is amplified in a profound way from the events of the past year—all told by a man whose words have uplifted Black American voices for decades. August Wilson has given us an autobiography that's intricately layered with calls for social justice against a backdrop of his experience growing up as a Black artist in America.

During one of our technical rehearsals, the director of this production, Kerri Hicks, turned to me and said, "in a piece called ***How I Learned What I Learned***, every single member of this cast & creative team is working in a new role or new capacity." What a gift to collaborate with so many new voices; a gift handed to us directly from August Wilson. I am extraordinarily proud of the work this group of artists have given to bring this play to life—overcoming obstacles, making discoveries, rising to personal and professional challenges, and showing up bravely and courageously to create forward action. I will carry that passion and energy with me through this new journey with enormous gratitude.

I am also unendingly grateful to YOUR support as we begin again, boldly navigating a new yet somewhat familiar territory. Audiences, supporters, organizations, and volunteers have shown up in ways that continue to render me speechless. **Thank you.** You are the reason we're here.

I invite you to continue with us on the journey as we work to break traditional barriers of theatre, and challenge what theatre is and can be in Jacksonville.

- Bradley Akers

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AUGUST WILSON'S
HOW I LEARNED WHAT I LEARNED

co-conceived by **TODD KREIDLER**
directed by **KERRI HICKS**

starring **MILTON THREADCRAFT III** as August Wilson

Onstage **JULY 16, 17, 18, 2021** at Garden Club of Jacksonville

This play is performed with no intermission.

DirectorKERRI HICKS
Stage Manager JADEN KOLLER
Dramaturg / Make-Up Designer..... AUDREY MOBLEY
Production Manager / Scenic Designer.....BRADLEY AKERS
Lighting Designer.....JUDELYN DIXON

New York Premiere originally produced by:
Signature Theatre, New York City
James Houghton, Founding Artistic Director
Erika Mallin, Executive Director

The world premiere of “How I Learned What I Learned” was presented by
Seattle Repertory Theatre in 2003, performed by August Wilson.

AUGUST WILSON'S HOW I LEARNED WHAT I LEARNED is produced through
special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

The use of photography, audio, or video recording is **strictly prohibited**.

THE CAST



MILTON THREADCRAFT III is a Jacksonville-native and current local educator. He earned a BA in Music at Jacksonville University in 2008. Milton has been performing for local audiences for the last 13 years, most of which have been at Players by the Sea Theatre. He was honored to be awarded the 2016 Pelican Award for Best Supporting Actor in the show *All the Way*. Some of his favorite roles are Delray in *Memphis* - Players by the Sea (2016), Ken Paige in *Ain't Misbehavin'* - Players by the Sea (2010) and Coalhouse Walker, Jr in *Ragtime* - Jacksonville University (2008). In his words... "Ever since I was a child, I was swayed by great actors in screenplays and on stage. But aren't we all? And yet many people have blazed great trails after being influenced by something they saw on stage or in a movie or experienced in real life. I want to thank the theatre family for welcoming me time and time again and allowing me the space to stretch my wings and share good gifts. Hope you enjoy."

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



KERRI HICKS (Director) is delighted to make her directorial debut with The 5 and Dime's production of *How I Learned What I Learned*. An active member of the local theater scene, Kerri has participated in numerous local productions including *American Idiot*, *Aida*, *Rent*, and *Passing Strange* among others. Kerri completed her Masters in Theater Performance at the University of Central Florida and was an apprentice at Actor's Theater of Louisville in Kentucky.



JADEN KOLLER (Stage Manager) is new to the professional theatre community but very thankful to kickstart her career with this incredible team. A recent graduate, she garnered most of her theatre experience through Mandarin High School's Troupe 4871, receiving top honors awards for both directing and makeup design at the Florida State Thespian Festival. Jaden will continue pursuing theatre at the University of Florida where she will major in theatre and psychology. She would like to thank her friends and family for always showering her with love and support.



AUDREY MOBLEY (Dramaturg/Make-Up Design) has been a lover of the arts since childhood, performing in various church and school productions. Audrey was ecstatic to join Stanton's drama department as soon as her freshman year. Here, Audrey excelled on stage and in state competitions. Taking a hiatus from theater, Audrey went on to pursue another love, the medical sciences. Since returning to Jacksonville upon completion of her medical degree, Audrey has participated in various theatrical productions, on and off stage. She is excited to join the *How I Learned What I Learned* team as the Dramaturg, lending a bit of her creativity and intellect to the pre-show show environment!

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



JUDELYN "LULU" DIXON (Lighting Designer) completed her Associates Degree in Theatre and Entertainment Technology from Florida State College at Jacksonville. This is her second time as a lighting designer working with The 5 & Dime and is very excited to be a part of this amazing production. Her work includes *Lysistrata* (The 5 & Dime) and *A Christmas Carol* (Players by the Sea). Lulu would like to thank everyone at The 5 & Dime for having her as part of the team and her husband for being so supportive.



BRADLEY AKERS (Production Manager) is the Managing Artistic Director of The 5 & Dime Theatre Co. An award-winning director, his credits include *The Harvest*, *The Walls*, *'night*, *Mother* (with The 5 & Dime), *The Last 5 Years*, *Heathers*, *Fun Home*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, *Almost, Maine*, *AIDA*, *The Lyons*, *Into the Woods*, and *Dog Sees God*. In addition to his work with The 5 & Dime, Bradley serves several theatres and other nonprofit organizations as the Creative Director of Studio A.12, a marketing and graphic design studio. He is enormously

grateful to everyone, on and off the stage, who've worked so hard to get back to making change one story at a time. Extra love to Sadie & Toast.

SPECIAL THANKS

Garden Club of Jacksonville, Denise M. Reagan, Daniel Stark

The Office of Rebecca Farinas, M.D.

Holly & Redgie Gutshall

Players by the Sea Theatre, Jereme Raickett, Ramona Ramdeen, Lisa Fleming

SET Studios, Jocelyn Geronimo

ABET Theatre, Lee Hamby

Theatre Jacksonville, Michelle Simkulet

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JULY 16 | 8PM

- Alicia and Walt Somers
- B.E.H. Elderly Care LLC
- Mark Wieder
- The Reagan-Hoogesteger Family
- Undine McEvoy
- Phase Eight Theater Company

JULY 17 | 8PM

- Kurt & Pam Medina
- Jelena Gill
- Kacy Hope
- Marvin & Margaret Sindel

JULY 17 | 2PM

- Brittany Beans from Whipped Shea Nature's Moisturizer
- Jadene King, President & Managing Director, Players by the Sea
- Will Messer
- Terry Doland with Gratitude for Fran & Don Wooden

JULY 18 | 2PM

- Bobbie O'Connor
- Claire Cimino
- Eileen Briggs
- Georgia Pribanic
- Lee Beger

OUR **NOMADIC PARTNERS** FOR THIS PRODUCTION

In addition to Garden Club, these organizations graciously opened their spaces for us to rehearse during the past 3 months. We're unendingly grateful!



Showcase Educational Theatre providing opportunities for young artists!

Atlantic Beach | www.theatrejax.com



COMING SOON:

Open Heart(ed) written & performed by
Barbara Colaciello | Aug 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21

CoRK Arts District | www.barbaracolaciello.com



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Spongebob the Musical
July 15 - August 1

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September 17 - October 3

San Marco | www.theatrejax.com



A delightful mix of classic and contemporary plays and musicals!

Atlantic Beach | www.abettheatre.com



The 5 & Dime tells stories that **engage, inspire, entertain, and challenge** audiences, nurturing a rich artistic culture in Jacksonville.

STAFF

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Managing Artistic Director

Krysten Bennett
Business Manager

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Zeina Salame
Josh Taylor
Josh Waller

A group of artists and friends came together with a common goal: to make a change in the Jacksonville cultural arts community. From this, THE 5 & DIME, a theatre company, was born. Founded with the hope of facilitating diverse opportunities and a supportive environment for collaboration, THE 5 & DIME is a group of passionate theatre artists who've come together in the urban core to develop a place where all kinds of art happens. The founding members and board of directors offer an invitation to all Jacksonville artists to join in the mission to stimulate this city's potential for the rich culture local audiences and art lovers have been craving and deserve. It started with a simple question, "*Why not us?*" And so we offer this: "*Why not YOU?*"

The 5 & Dime proudly celebrates **10 YEARS!** This milestone is marked and made possible by the passion, love, and hard work of so many people throughout our history.
