

LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS & ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY PRESENTS

IN THE HEIGHTS

SPRING 2025 MARCH 7-9 / MARCH 14-16
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS 7:30PM / SUNDAYS 2:00PM

THE TONY AWARD WINNING BEST MUSICAL

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

BOOK BY:

QUIARA ALEGRÍA HUDES

CONCEIVED BY:

LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

DIRECTED BY

MARK ANTHONY VALLEJO

INSTRUMENTAL
MUSIC DIRECTOR

BRIAN HAMILTON

CHOREOGRAPHY DIRECTOR

MICHELLE FUNDERBURK-NORRIS

VOCAL MUSIC
DIRECTOR

SKYE ANGULO

SHOWING INFO



IN THE HEIGHTS is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

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LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF
PERFORMING ARTS & ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY PRESENTS:

IN THE HEIGHTS

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA | BOOK BY QUIARA ALEGRÍA HUDES

FEATURING:

Daisy Johnson
Joel Rodriguez
Christopher Johnson
Natalia Carrera
RJ Dawson
Erik Morelos
Blanca Espinosa
Jean Jacques

Nico Navarro
Kathy Lopez
Vanmanyrih Chhom
Melodee Fernandez
Ellen Arroyo
Ayrin Reed
Brandi Price

Jaylen Ferrera
Jordan Man
Juztin Shan
Kayla Rubio
Leonardo Vera
Rithya Sadao
Asandra Tyler

DIRECTED BY

Mark Anthony Vallejo

CHOREOGRAPHY DIRECTOR

Michelle Funderburk-Norris

VOCAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

Skye Angulo

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

Brian Hamilton

ABOUT THE CREATOR AND PLAYWRIGHT

Lin-Manuel Miranda (creator) is an award-winning composer, lyricist, and actor. He is the creator and original star of Broadway's Tony-winning musicals, *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*. *Hamilton* – with book, music and lyrics by Mr. Miranda, in addition to him originating the title role – was awarded the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in Drama and earned a record-breaking 16 Tony Nominations, winning 11 Tony Awards including two personally for Mr. Miranda for Book and Score of a Musical. The Original Broadway Cast Recording of *Hamilton* won the 2016 Grammy for Best Musical Theater Album. Both Mr. Miranda and *Hamilton* won the 2016 Drama League Awards for Distinguished Performance and Outstanding Production of a Musical, respectively.

Lin wrote the first incarnation of *In the Heights* in January of 2007, the show premiered Off-Broadway at 37 Arts to positive reviews and great audience response. Broadway previews of the show began on February 14, 2008 and the show took Broadway by storm. *In the Heights* ran on Broadway for 1,184 performances over three years and continues to move audiences throughout the world.

Quiara Alegria Hudes (playwright) is a playwright, professor of writing and theater at Wesleyan University, and native of West Philly, U.S.A. Hailed for her work's exuberance, intellectual rigor, and rich imagination, her plays and musicals have been performed around the world. They are *Water By the Spoonful*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama; *In the Heights*, winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical and Pulitzer finalist; *Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue*, another Pulitzer finalist; *Daphne's Dive*; *The Good Peaches*; *Miss You Like Hell*; and *The Happiest Song Plays Last*. Hudes is a playwright in residence at New York's Signature Theater and a proud alum of Philadelphia Young Playwrights.

The development of *In The Heights* was supported by the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center during a residency at the Music Theater Conference of 2005. Initially developed by Back House Productions. Originally Produced on Broadway by Kevin McCollum, Jeffrey Seller, Jill Furman Willis, Sander Jacobs, Goodman/Grossman, Peter Fine, Everett/Skipper.

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE AND WELCOME

Dearest Friends,

With immense joy and heartfelt appreciation, I welcome you to the first musical production at Long Beach City College in the last 18 years. This production is a collective work between all departments of theatre, dance and music. We remain deeply moved by our students' call for diversity in productions and remain steadfast in telling stories that represent our community, evoke emotions and transcend boundaries.

Tonight, we gather in the Bob and Barbara Ellis Auditorium to experience a Tony-Award winning, revolutionary musical production of Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In the Heights*. This master work, which has moved countless of audiences since its opening on Broadway in 2008, and most recently on film in 2021, captures the immigrant story in America where one strives to chase the American dream while staying true to their cultural identity.

For me, this is a story about a community who is desperately trying to find their place of belonging while experiencing gentrification, discrimination, and a heatwave. What I find most humbling about this story is the resiliency of the characters' spirit. Confronted with gentrification and displacement, our characters continue to press forward to chase the American dream. It brings up the notion of home and re-defines the physical location to a relationship status. Meaning, home is not a physical place, but whom we decide to surround ourselves with such as family, friends, and loved ones.

To add, I stand with all immigrants. From the very streets I walked, to places across our country where families are being separated and displaced. I hope this story, in a positive fashion, resurfaces our integrity in the nation, and propels us to equality.

From the universal recognition of the clave to the vibrant colors of Latinx fashion, along with the explosive poetry of rap, get ready to experience a celebration of Latino/Latina/Latinx culture in the span of three days in Washington Heights, Manhattan.

Finally, I would like to take a moment and say what you'll see tonight is an expression of my upbringing in East LA and the life experiences I've had to date. There is a fusion I ask that you entertain for tonight. From Chicano perspectives, Afro-Cuban dance styles, and indigenous hair charms, I present to you a hybridity visual representation of both 2000s and modern pop cultures in this musical.

Muchísimas gracias y salud to an unforgettable night of remarkable music, dazzling performances and celebrating the art of live theatre.

Mark Anthony Vallejo
Theatre Faculty and Director



CAST

[IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE]

Graffiti Pete	Vanmanyrith Chhom
Usnavi	Joel Rodriguez
Piragua Guy	Erik Morelos
Abuela Claudia	Melodee Fernandez
Kevin	Nico Navarro
Camila	Kathy Lopez
Daniela	Blanca Espinoza
Carla	Jean Jacques
Sonny	RJ Dawson
Benny	Christopher Johnson
Vanessa	Natalia Carrerea
Nina	Daisy Johnson

Ensemble

Ellen Arroyo, Ayrin Reed, Brandi Price, Jaylen Ferrera, Jordan Man, Jzstin Shan, Kayla Rubio,
Leonardo Vera, Rithya Sadao, Asandra Tyler

Setting

Washington Heights, Manhattan, 2024

Content Advisory:

Please be advised that this production contains intense lighting, haze and loud sound effects

“IN THE HEIGHTS” ORCHESTRA

Brian Hamilton	Conductor
Xen Brown	Piccolo / Flute
Danielle Thompson	Clarinet / Alto Saxo- phone
Emilio Rafael Lovillo Farfan	Alto Saxo- phone / Tenor Saxophone
Joshua Woofter	Alto Saxophone / Tenor Saxophone / Baritone Saxophone
Nick Lobato	Trumpet / Flugelhorn
Jackson Castellon	Trumpet / Flugelhorn
Kelsy Scott	Trombone
Abraham Corona-Carachure	Trombone
Andy Waddell	Guitar
Richard Song	Bass
Kenneth Lloyd Evangelista	Keyboard
Kevin Karney	Keyboard
Ronin Del Castillo	Keyboard
Michael Duncan	Percussion
Wren Ablaza	Percussion
Andrew Marquez	Drums / Percussion

PERSONNEL

Yuri Okahana-Benson	Scenic Designer
Jennifer Gonzalez	Lighting Designer
Megan MacLean	Costume Designer
Yoselin Garibaldo	Hair/Makeup Designer
Daron Sorg	Costume Technician
Rick Roessler	Sound Engineer
Richard Greaver	Production Manager
Tony Pearson	Head Carpenter
Steven Treglia	Head Electrician
Rebecca Roth	LTE Costume Technician
Josh Bauser	Box Office Manager
Aaron St. Dennis	Lighting Operator
Jacob Hernandez	Sound Engineer

PERSONNEL

Hongyan Zhao	Performing Arts Administrative Assistant
Stacey Toda	Director - Communications & Community Engagement
Luis Zavala	Flyer and Program Graphic Designer
Tony Messina and Shayla Perez	Federal Work Study Shop Technicians
TART 39 & TART 40 Students	Construction, Scenic, and Stage Technicians
Jennifer Berber, Ronin Del Castillo, and Kevin Kearney	Keyboard Collaborative Artists, Performing Arts
Anne Gundry	Props Manager
Reigh Levinstein	Stage Manager
Nancy Tran	Assistant Stage Manager
Kamira Reed	Assistant Stage Manager
Maya Smith	Assistant Stage Manager
Joshua Marder	Assistant Stage Manager
Shalaja Wilson	Understudy

DIRECTOR, INTIMACY CHOREOGRAPHER, AND FEATURED SELECTED CHOREOGRAPHY

Mark Anthony Vallejo

Most recently made his opera debut with Opera San Jose for *La Bohème* as assistant director. He is a two-time runner up in the country for the stage directing fellowship at the Metropolitan Opera (The Met) in New York City in 2023, 2024 respectively. He was invited to and attended a weeklong intensive with them for the newly reimagined production of *Carmen*. He was also awarded full grants from UCLA to study theatre in London and France. His directing credits include: Regional: *La Comedia of Errors* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Directing Fellow); *Mr. Popper's Penguins* (South Coast Repertory, A.D.); George Bizet's *Carmen* (MOSI Company, Co-director); *Anna in the Tropics* (L.B.C.C.); *Colossal* (E.L.A.C.); *La Victima* (Latino Theatre Company, co- director and choreographer); *A Mexican Trilogy-Faith* Latino Theatre Company, co-director); *Middletown* (Chance Theatre, A.D.); *Lydia* (UCLA Thesis); *Bent* (UCLA); *Woyzeck* (UCLA); *Diary of Anne Frank* (CSULB) and *The Whipping Man* (CSULB). Proud alum from UCLA. He would like to give thanks to his raza back in East LA where he is from. A special shout-out to his family, especially his Mom and Dad who continue to push him to be his best. I love you and thank for being my biggest fans, but mostly important, my parents. Que Viva los inmigrantes! (Insta- @markanthonydrama)



CHOREOGRAPHY DIRECTOR

Michelle Funderburk-Norris

Michelle Funderburk-Norris is currently on the dance faculty at Long Beach City College, Saddleback College, and Cypress College. She has been the Director and full-time Assistant Professor of dance at West LA College, full-time Lecturer at California State University, Dominguez Hills, and adjunct professor of dance at El Camino College, Cerritos College, Fullerton College, teaching classes in Modern, Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip-Hop, African, Afro-Caribbean, Dance History, Dance Appreciation, Choreography, Introduction to Dance, Introduction to Theater and more.

After graduating High School, Michelle trained at the Alvin Ailey's Summer Intensive Program in New York before college in Florida.

Michelle holds a BFA in dance from University of Florida/ New World School of the Arts, an MFA in dance from George Mason University and a RYT 200 Yoga certification. While in Florida, Michelle was a member of the acclaimed Momentum Dance Company under Director, Delma Isles, performing abroad. Michelle founded Funderburk Dance Artists (FDA) in 2010, since its premiere the company has performed in Florida and Southern California festivals (Blaktinx, Gardena) College Invitationals, Evening Resident Artists Shows and performed commissioned work by world renowned Ailey Director, Matthew Rushing. Her teaching and choreography have been presented throughout Southern California, Washington DC, Florida, and Philadelphia.

She is very grateful to be a part of this musical elite production team at LBCC!



VOCAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

Skye Angulo

Skye Angulo, Co-Department Chair of Performing Arts and Director of Vocal Studies, started teaching at Long Beach City College in 2004. She has directed many ensembles at LBCC, including the Viking Singers, Viking Chorale, Long Beach City College Caroling Choir, and Opera Chorus. In addition to being an accomplished singer, Skye teaches many of the voice classes at LBCC and has the extreme privilege of being a part of her singers' educational journeys. It has been 18 years since Long Beach City College produced a full musical and Skye was pregnant with her first child while music directing that production of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. She is over the moon with this cast of *In the Heights* and so honored to be a part of such a historic event.

Thank you, beautiful singers, for allowing me to guide you through this journey. "No pare, sigue, sigue!"



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

Brian Hamilton

Brian Hamilton has served as the Director of Bands at Long Beach City College since the fall of 2000. During his tenure, he has conducted a wide range of ensembles, including the LBCC Wind Ensemble, Viking Show Band, LBCC Chamber Orchestra, Long Beach Community Orchestra, Beach City Symphonic Band, and various small chamber groups. In addition to conducting, Mr. Hamilton often teaches courses such as History of Rock, Introduction to Music Theory, and Music Appreciation.

A product of the Long Beach Unified School District, Mr. Hamilton's primary instrument is the trombone. He began his undergraduate studies at Long Beach City College, studying under Dr. Gary Thomas Scott and Roger Johnson. After two years at LBCC, he transferred to UCLA, earning his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. In the spring of 2000, he received a Master of Music degree in conducting, studying with Dr. Thomas Lee at UCLA.

Mr. Hamilton remains an active participant in various musical organizations and frequently serves as a guest conductor and adjudicator throughout California. He lives in Cypress, California with his wife, Holly, and their two sets of twins: Cade, Connor, Brooke, and Grant.



MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

"In the Heights"	Usnavi and Company
"Breathe"*	Nina and Company
"Benny's Dispatch"	Benny and Nina
"It Won't Be Long Now"	Vanessa, Usnavi, and Sonny
"Inútil (Useless)"	Kevin
"No Me Diga (You Don't Say)"	Daniela, Carla, Vanessa, and Nina
"96,000"	Usnavi, Benny, Sonny, Vanessa, Daniela, Carla, and Company
"Paciencia y Fe (Patience and Faith)"	Abuela Claudia and Company
"When You're Home"	Nina, Benny, and Company
"Piragua" *	Piragua Guy
"Siempre (Always)"	Camila
"The Club"*	Company
"Blackout" *	Company

ACT 2

Sunrise" *	Nina, Benny, and Company
"Hundreds of Stories"	Abuela Claudia and Usnavi
"Enough"	Camila
"Carnaval del Barrio" *	Daniela and Company
"Atención"	Kevin
"Alabanza"	Usnavi, Nina, and Company
"Everything I Know"	Nina
"No Me Diga (Reprise)"	Daniela, Carla, and Vanessa
"Piragua (Reprise)"	Piragua Guy
"Champagne"	Vanessa and Usnavi
"When the Sun Goes Down"	Nina and Benny
"Finale"	Usnavi and Company

THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION
(*Denotes Choreography by Mark Anthony Vallejo)

PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY

Dr. Janét Hund - School of Visual, Performing Arts, & Cultural Programs Dean

Dr. Peter Knapp and Skye Angulo - Performing Arts Co-Department Chairs

Rick Greaver - Manager, Performing Arts Productions

THEATRE FACULTY:

Jessica Berón
Collin Bressie
Andre Brown
Anthony Carreiro
Cathy Crane
Eric Lauritzen
Megan MacLean
Marya Mazor
Adam Navarro
Yuri Okahana-Benson
Aubrey Saverino
Sarah Underwood-Saviano
Mark Anthony Vallejo
Lana Wahlquist

DANCE FACULTY:

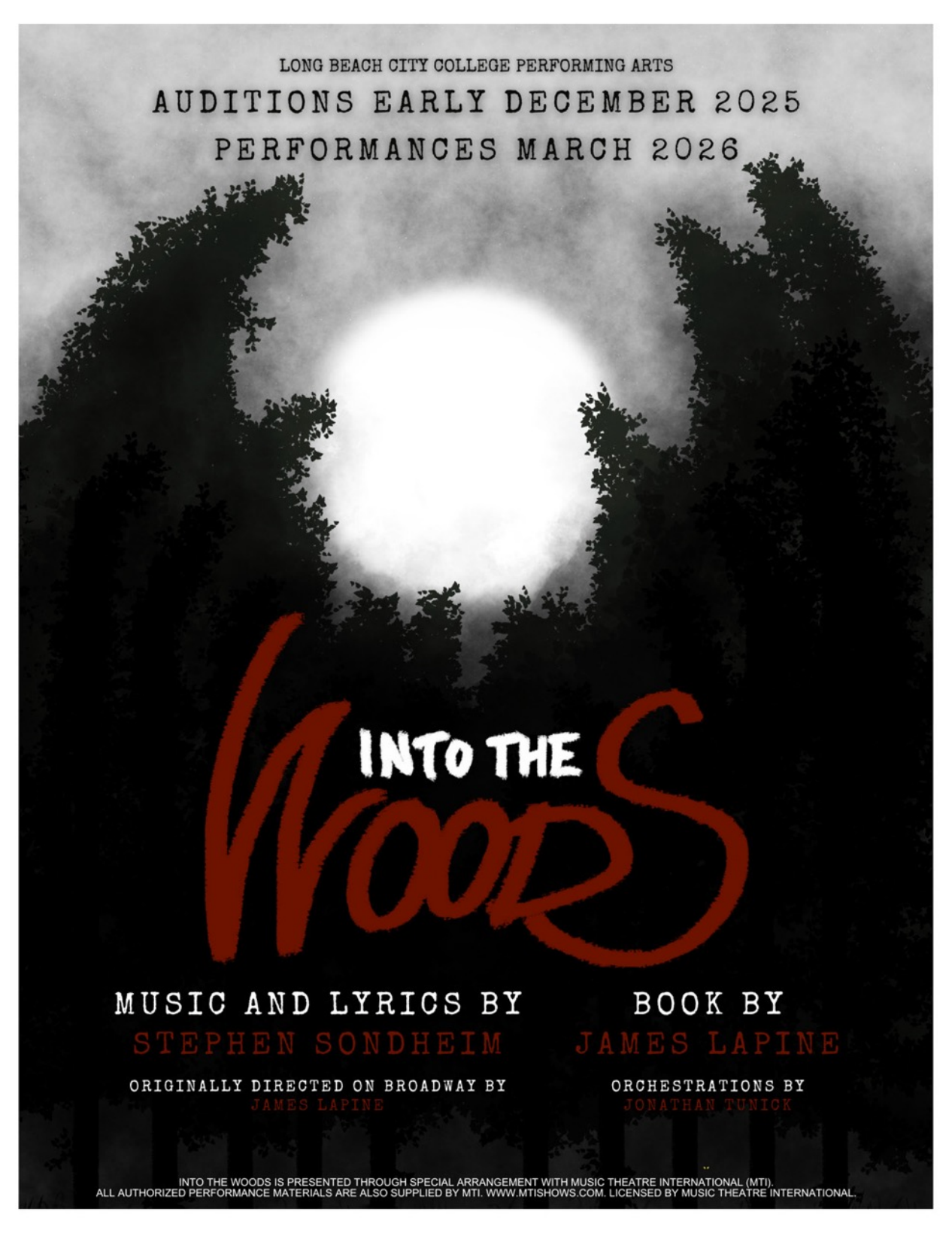
Michelle Funderburk-Norris
Colette Harding
Kiara Kinghorn
Erin Landry
Martha Pamintuan
Stephanie Powell
Guta Hawk
Jeffrey Hendrix
Arthur Ross
Li Huei Sung
Jessica Torres

MUSIC FACULTY

Skye Angulo
Andrea Calderwood
Ariel Campos
Glynis Davies
Peter Deneff
Virginia Figueiredo
Brian Hamilton
Michael Higgins
Phil Keen
Susan Kim-Pedroza
Peter Knapp
Dean Koba
Andrew Lee
Julie Long

Julie Metz
Ken Nagatini
Drew Ninmer
Jacqueline Petitto
Roger Pryztulski
Angela Romero
Tess Rose
Patrick Sheng
Fang Fang Shi Inouye
James Simmons
Louie Teran
John Tomlinson
Michael Washington
Hannah Yi

LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS
AUDITIONS EARLY DECEMBER 2025
PERFORMANCES MARCH 2026



INTO THE
WOODS

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
STEPHEN SONDHEIM

BOOK BY
JAMES LAPINE

ORIGINALLY DIRECTED ON BROADWAY BY
JAMES LAPINE

ORCHESTRATIONS BY
JONATHAN TUNICK

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