

Title III Theatre Arts – November 2025

Message from the Director – Tianee Eiland

This year has brought exciting developments for the Theatre Arts Program. Our spring showing of *Grease the Concert* saw a great turnout and deep student involvement. This fall, we expanded learning through physical and digital workshops and continued introducing immersive experiences using Meta Quest headsets. We also successfully completed our Fall 2025 production of *The African Company Presents Richard III*, which was met with strong attendance and positive feedback. We are proud to strengthen CSU's creative and technological engagement through Title III support.

Spring 2025 Highlight – Grease: The Concert



- Production: Grease: The Concert (April 2025) – we had a great turnout and strong student participation across cast, crew, and support roles.
- Outcomes: Students deepened skills in performance, collaboration, and production.
- Impact: Elevated campus engagement and positive feedback from attendees.
- Media: Images and video clips from the performance are ready for archival and reporting use.

Fall 2025 Workshops – Digital & Physical



- Digital Workshop (Sept. 13, 2025): Presented by Darryl Swann (Grammy-winning producer) on immersive and digital performance.
- Physical Workshop (Sept. 27, 2025): Led by John Fleming (Director), Otis Winston (Actor), and Zuri Greer + Persona Team (Builder/Videographer).
- Reach: Engaged numerous students with interactive sessions, Q&A, and real-time demonstrations.
- Deliverables: All session footage and materials are being archived for future learning & sharing.

Immersive Learning with Meta Quest

- Implementation: Integrated Meta Quest headsets into Theatre Arts programming to give students experiential access to virtual and augmented performance spaces.
- Outcomes: Strengthened engagement, critical thinking, spatial design understanding, and creative experimentation.
- Equity: Ensured all participants had access, closing technical gaps.
- Next Steps: Continue integrating technology into Theatre Arts while preserving traditional theatre practices, ensuring a balance of innovation and heritage.

Theatre Arts Fall Production – The African Company Presents Richard III

The Theatre Arts Program proudly completed its Fall 2025 production of Carlisle Brown's *The African Company Presents Richard III*. This powerful play tells the story of the African Company in 1821 New York, America's first Black theatre company, as they dared to stage Shakespeare's *Richard III* against the social and political barriers of their time.



- **Production Success:** The show received excellent audience feedback, highlighted strong student performances, and showcased the collaborative talents of CSU's cast and crew.
- **Set & Design:** Led by Zuri Greer & the Persona Team.
- **Costumes & Props:** Coordinated by Shandell Jamal.
- **Lighting & Sound:** Managed by Stephon Lane.
- **Promotion & Outreach:** Marketing, video production, and campus engagement supported a strong turnout for all performances.
- **Performances:** Held November 14–15, 2025, at Robeson Hall.

This production highlighted resilience, creativity, and the historical significance of the first African American theatre company—work that holds special meaning for our HBCU community.