

The NOLA Project 2025-2026 Season Auditions

The NOLA Project seeks performers of all ages, genders and races for 21st theatrical season. The 2025-26 four-show slate includes regional and world premieres as well as a touring production. Comedic and/or dramatic monologues requested. Callbacks for specific roles/shows will be held as necessary.

Productions:

FRANKENSTEIN by Pete McElligott

Director: Leslie Claverie

Rehearses: September 2025

Runs: October 2-17, 2025 at Lafitte Greenway

Cast size: 9 (any gender, 17+)

Available roles: We are casting for ensemble; specific roles will be assigned for callback

Pay: \$650+

What to prepare: Comedic monologues; your favorite rom-com monologue; a contemporary or lyrical dance (not required)

Callbacks (required): June 29

Synopsis: *Everyone's favorite creation gets the Pete (THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW, DRACULA) treatment in this world premiere filled with chemistry, electricity, and lots and lots shouting.*

FAT HAM by James Ijames

Director: Tenaj Wallace

Rehearses: December 2025

Runs: January/February 2026

Cast size: 7 (4 men, 3 women)

Available roles:

JUICY (Black, male-presenting, 20s-ish)

The protagonist. Thicc. Sensitive, introspective, queer. A thinker and dreamer who doesn't quite fit into the hypermasculine, violent world around him. Feels stuck—caught between obligation and desire, grief and freedom, the past and future. A modern Hamlet—but gay, Black, and alive in a culture that demands performance, but not necessarily truth.

OPAL (Black. Female-presenting. 20s-ish)

Ruby's daughter. Larry's sister. Smart, sharp, and soft—but carrying a coiled frustration beneath her humor. Queer. She and Juicy share a mutual understanding and a subtle romantic tension, though it's clear they're more kindred spirits than romantic leads.

TEDRA (Black, female-presenting, 40s-50s)

Juicy's mother. Sexii, funny, self-centered, and performative. Recently married Rev after her husband's death. She's doing what she thinks she must to survive—redefining love and loyalty in the aftermath of violence. Loosely based on Gertrude, but with more agency and sass. She LOVES Juicy but is somewhat blind to Rev's motives.

REV (Black, male-presenting, 40s-50s)

Juicy's uncle and now stepfather. Hypermasculine, commanding, controlling. Represents toxic masculinity, religiosity, and generational trauma. Killed Juicy's father (Pap) and married Tedra. Echoes Claudius from Hamlet. Ideally doubles with PAP doesn't have to

PAP (Black, male-presenting, 40s-50s)

Juicy's father. Appears as a ghost early in the play to reveal his murder. Crude, loud, and funny. Demands vengeance. Ideally doubles with REV; but doesn't have to

RUBY (Black, female-presenting, 40s-50s)

Larry's mother. Friends with Tedra. Puts on a polished, sassy façade—holding court at the BBQ—but carries her own buried traumas and disappointments.

Pay: \$650+

What to prepare: Comedic monologues; if auditioning for Tedra or Juicy, a “karaoke” song (Tedra shouldn't sound great but song choice should fit your version of the character at this wedding BBQ, Juicy should sound surprisingly good — think Panic! At the Disco, My Chemical Romance, Radiohead)

Callbacks (if necessary): June 29

A LESSON BEFORE DYING by Romulus Linney, based on the novel by Ernest J. Gaines

Director: TBD

Rehearses: TBD

Runs: TBD; will be a school tour with three public performances

Cast size: 7 (5 men, 2 women)

Available roles:

JEFFERSON (Black, male-presenting, 18-25)

A young man wrongfully convicted of murder and sentenced to death. At first, emotionally shut down—traumatized, infantilized by his defense (who compared him to a “hog”). His journey is about reclaiming his humanity before execution, becoming a symbol of resistance and dignity. Deep emotional transformation—requires powerful vulnerability and stillness

VIVIAN (Black, female-presenting, late 20s-30s)

Grant's girlfriend, also a teacher. Smart, steady, nurturing. A moral compass and emotional grounding for Grant. She is a divorcée with children, representing a different kind of responsibility and strength.

TANTE LOU (Black, female-presenting, 60s-70s)

Grant's aunt. Devout, traditional, and proud. She raised Grant with strict love and now demands he help Jefferson become a man before he dies. A matriarchal figure—formidable, grounded in faith.

MISS EMMA GLENN (Black, female-presenting, 60s-70s)

Jefferson's godmother. Determined that Jefferson dies with dignity. She's the one who insists Grant teach Jefferson something—anything—that helps him "die like a man." Tough, grief-stricken, devout, and maternal to the bone

REVEREND MOSES AMBROSE (Black, male-presenting, 40s-60s)

Local preacher. Represents the church and traditional Black spirituality. In constant tension with Grant over faith vs. intellect. Firm, no-nonsense, speaks with conviction

HENRI PICHOT (White, male-presenting, 50s-60s)

A plantation owner and gatekeeper of local power. Grants access to Jefferson for Miss Emma only out of a sense of noblesse oblige. Condescending, dismissive, clings to his perceived superiority

SHERIFF SAM GUIDRY (White, male-presenting, 40s-50s)

Represents the law—racist, controlling, but hides it behind politeness and procedure. Monitors Jefferson's "visits" and constantly asserts dominance over Grant

Pay: \$650+

What to prepare: Dramatic monologues; a short modern-dance piece (not required)

Callbacks (if necessary): June 29

Synopsis: *An innocent black man sits on death row. A young teacher reluctantly agrees to meet with him, and together they discover lessons of strength, dignity, and humanity.*

MEDEA by Euripides, translated by Alistair Elliot

Director: Leslie Claverie and Tenaj Wallace

Rehearses: April 2026

Runs: May 15-30, 2026 at Lafitte Greenway

Cast size: 12 (5 men, 5 women, 2 children any gender)

Available roles: We are casting for ensemble; specific roles will be assigned for callback

Pay: \$650+

What to prepare: Classical monologues

Callbacks (required): June 29

Synopsis: *The gripping Greek tragedy about love, loss and vengeance in a modern translation that's made for our modern age.*