

LOS ANGELES COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS THEATRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

# WELCOME TO ARROYO'S

BY KRISTOFFER DIAZ  
DIRECTED BY ISRAEL LÓPEZ REYES



AVAILABLE TO STREAM FROM  
FEBRUARY 5TH AT 7:30 PM - FEBRUARY 7TH AT MIDNIGHT

REGISTER FOR PERFORMANCES AT [LACHSA.NET/BOXOFFICE](https://lachs.net/boxoffice)

ARTWORK BY EMILIE MOORE (VA '21)

*Los Angeles County High School for the Arts  
Theatre Department presents*

# Welcome to Arroyo's

**by Kristoffer Diaz**

**Directed by Israel López Reyes**

*Please be advised this production contains some mature themes.*

## CREW

Director..... Israel López Reyes  
Student Assistant Directors..... Emily Rodríguez &  
Shireen Estolano-Sridharan  
OBS/Video Programmer ..... Jean Carlo Yunén Aróstegui  
Production Manager ..... Isabella Pisano-Cruz

## **Director's Note:**

This story follows Lelly Santiago, a young scholar, investigating the mystery and role of hip-hop music legend Elisabeth 'Reina Rey' Arroyo. By taking the trip with Lelly we dive into a world where music, love, and family is at the forefront of a community in the Lower East Side of New York. This play offers us the opportunity to see how a brother and sister cope with loss, how we build our chosen family, and that even if popular history chooses to ignore and marginalize Black and Brown individuals, we understand that they will always be seen, they will always be remembered, and they will always have value in our world.

This play, written by the incredibly generous Kristoffer Diaz is a gift to our students at LACHSA. This story moves, sounds, and looks like the world. Being that LACHSA is located in the global community of Los Angeles, it was an incredible opportunity to showcase what our young artists could put together. Before they leave us for prestigious universities and professional opportunities, it is important they be able to risk, fail, succeed, and see themselves within the safety of our own school; on stage, on camera, and understand their inherent value to the world as human beings.

We are in debt and extend our gratitude to Mr. Diaz for providing a space for us with his writing- free of stereotypes, and full of joy, kindness, and dignified humanity for this company of artists.

The work generated by this ensemble was full of courage and heart. We researched the history of hip-hop, the Young Lord's Party movement in New York, the leadership of Puerto Rican women in historically neglected neighborhoods like the Lower East Side and the Bronx, as well as the current gentrification in neighborhoods all over the country. Our team managed digital platforms, built studios in homes, gathered ring lights, built costumes (Thank you Mama J!), and collaborated every day for the past weeks to bring this important story directly to you in the comfort of your home. It has been a pleasure working with these young artists and their supportive families. Their optimism, thoughtful discussions, intelligence, and love for their peers has been inspiring. Thank you for joining us. We hope you enjoy Welcome to Arroyo's.

-Israel López Reyes

## CAST

*In order of appearance*

Lelly Santiago .....	Brianna Arias
Trip Goldstein .....	Chloe Shahaf
Nelson Cardenal .....	Hailey Lee
Alejandro Arroyo .....	Jordan Anderson
Amalia "Molly" Arroyo.....	Zenaida Sanchez
Officer Derek.....	Aiden Bontemps

## CAST BIOGRAPHIES



**Brianna Arias**

**Brianna Arias (Lelly Santiago)** Brianna is a Junior playing Lelly! This is her 2nd season show. She dedicates her performance to her Nina and her two brothers. She is very proud to be a part of a diverse cast at LACHSA!



**Jordan Anderson**

**Jordan Anderson (Alejandro Arroyo)** Jordan is super excited to portray Alejandro Arroyo! This is his 7th LACHSA show and last year attending LACHSA. He would like to give thanks to God, his director and cast for the opportunity to perform.



## CAST BIOGRAPHIES



**Aiden Bontemps**

**Aiden Bontemps (Officer Derek)** Aiden, a now junior, came to LACHSA second semester sophomore year and he fell in love with the school, the programs, and quickly made a little family here. He would like to welcome you to *Welcome to Arroyo's*. Enjoy!



**Hailey Lee**

**Hailey Lee (Nelson Cardenal)** Hailey is a sophomore, playing Nelson Cardenal! She has been acting for about five years and this is her very first season play at LACHSA! She likes to eat, make things, and play video games.



**Zenaida Sanchez**

**Zenaida Sanchez (Amalia “Molly” Arroyo)** Zenaida is a Junior at LACHSA. She will be playing Molly in this production of *Welcome to Arroyo's*. This is her first Season play and she's had a thrill working with such a diverse cast.



**Chloe Shahaf**

**Chloe Shahaf (Trip Goldstein)** Chloe is a junior theatre major at LACHSA. She has previously been in *The Dining Room*, *Second Year Project*, and *The Radio Show*. She would like to thank Mr. Lopez for giving her this opportunity to be a part of this important story.

## CREATIVE TEAM BIOGRAPHIES



**Israel López Reyes**

**Israel López Reyes (Director)** Israel is an artist based in Los Angeles working in multicultural and international environments. He has performed in regional theaters across the country including The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, The Guthrie Theater, Center Theatre Group, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He received his BA in English from Southern Methodist University and his MFA in Acting from UCLA School of Theater, Film & Television. Mr. López is honored to have worked with the young artists telling this story, and is incredibly proud of the work they have accomplished.



**Isabella  
Pisano-Cruz**

**Isabella Pisano-Cruz (Production Manager)** This is Isabella's fifth LACHSA tech experience and first time stage managing a LACHSA show! She would like to thank Mama J, Allison, and her wonderful director, Mr Lopez, for their support navigating the online platform. Bravo & enjoy the show!



**Shireen  
Estolano-Sridharan**

**Shireen Estolano-Sridharan (Student Assistant Director)** Shireen is a junior in the Theatre Department and she's thrilled to be co-assistant directing *Welcome To Arroyo's*. She would like to thank Mr. Lopez for this wonderful opportunity. Enjoy the show!



**Emily Rodriguez**

**Emily Rodriguez (Student Assistant Director)** Emily Rodríguez is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to assistant direct this production. She is currently assistant directing *Extreme Home Makeover* at Teatro Espejo and will be performing as Laura Ann in *Murder at the Chili Cook Out*.

## PLAYWRIGHTS' BIOGRAPHY



**Kristoffer Diaz**

**Kristoffer Diaz (Playwright)** Kristoffer Diaz is a playwright, librettist, screenwriter, and educator. His play *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama. His adaptation of the Disney film *Hercules* premiered in Central Park in Summer 2019 as part of the Joseph Papp Public Theater's Public Works program with a cast of nearly 200. Other full-length titles include *Welcome to Arroyo's*, *Reggie Hoops*, and *The Unfortunates*.

His work has been produced, commissioned, and developed at The Public Theater, Dallas Theater Center, Geffen Playhouse, ACT, Center Theatre Group, The Goodman, Second Stage, Victory Gardens, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival, among many others. Awards include the Guggenheim, Jerome, Van Lier, NYFA, and Gail Merrifield Papp Fellowships; New York Times Outstanding Playwright Award; Lucille Lortel, Equity Jeff, and OBIE Awards; and the Future Aesthetics Artist Regrant, among others.

As a screenwriter, Kristoffer has developed original television pilots for HBO and FX, written for the first season of Netflix's *GLOW*, and adapted the musical *Rent* for FOX.

Kristoffer holds a BA from New York University's Gallatin School of Individualized Study, an MFA from NYU's Department of Dramatic Writing, and an MFA from Brooklyn College's Performing Arts Management program. He teaches playwriting at New York University. He is an alumnus of New Dramatists and a member of its Board of Directors, a member of the Dramatists Guild Council, and a member of the Writer's Guild of America, East.

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE UPCOMING THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES

*Fourth Year Monologue Showcase*  
February 10th, 2021 at 7:30 PM

*Third Year Project*  
February 26th, 2021 at 7:30 PM

Spring Season Play - *Murder at the Chili Cook Off*  
March 5th, 2021 at 7:30 PM

*Second Year Project*  
March 26th, 2021 at 7:30 PM

Spring Season Play - *The Bald Soprano*  
April 9th, 2021 at 7:30 PM





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The non-profit LACHSA Foundation ensures that the most remarkable student artists in LA County are able to engage in a transformative conservatory incubator, regardless of their backgrounds. Each year, LACHSA Foundation works to fund the actual costs of the arts curriculum and programs by cultivating relationships with a broad base of donors who recognize how critical it is to support young artists destined to change the world.

**[www.lachsafoundation.org](http://www.lachsafoundation.org)**