

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**SKELETON CREW**  
***After Factory Layoffs, The ‘Skeleton Crew’ is Left Behind***

BATON ROUGE (December 14, 2017) – New Venture Theatre opens its 11th season with a drama about the working class, “Skeleton Crew” by Dominique Morisseau and directed by Greg Williams Jr., opening January 25 and running through February 4 at the LSU Studio Theatre.

At the start of the Great Recession, one of the last auto stamping plants in Detroit is on shaky ground. Each of the workers has to make choices on how to move forward if their plant goes under. Shanita has to decide how she’ll support herself and her unborn child, Faye has to decide how and where she’ll live, and Dez has to figure out how to make his ambitious dreams a reality. Power dynamics shift as their manager Reggie is torn between doing right by his work family, and by the red tape in his office. Powerful and tense, “Skeleton Crew” is the third of Dominique Morisseau's Detroit cycle trilogy, which includes “Detroit '67” and “Paradise Blue.”

Morisseau is a Jane Chambers Playwriting Award honoree, two-time NAACP Image Award recipient, honoree for the Primus Prize by the American Theatre Critics Association, and winner of the Stavis Playwriting Award. University of Michigan has also awarded her its Emerging Leader Award, and the city of Detroit has honored her with a Spirit of Detroit Award. Most substantially, Dominique has recently been awarded the esteemed Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama, and she is the recipient of the 2014 Sky Cooper New American Play Prize Award for “Skeleton Crew.”

Featured cast members include: Denisa Joshua (Faye), Byron Wade (Dez), Melica Ndoumba (Shanita), and Clarence Crockett (Reggie).

**DESIGN & PRODUCTION STAFF:**

Director: Greg Williams Jr.  
Assistant Director: Drelan Evans  
Stage Manager: Kayla Basco  
Choreographer: Dwight Bell  
Sound Designer: Christopher Daniel  
Scenic Designer: Nathan Ynacay  
Projections Designer: Dwight Bell  
Costume Designer: Laketa Caston-Hosey  
Hair and Wig Designer: Christian Jones  
Makeup: Keone Lance  
Props: Melanie Williams  
Media and Photography: Frederick Price III  
Marketing and Communications: Alvin A. Temple

## **FACT SHEET**

**WHAT:** SKELETON CREW

**WHERE:** LSU Studio Theatre  
Louisiana State University, Music and Dramatic Arts Building, #105  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**SCHEDULE:** Thursday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, January 26 at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, January 27 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, January 28 at 3:00 p.m.  
Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, February 2 at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, February 3 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, February 4 at 3:00 p.m.

**TICKET PRICES:** Regular Admission | \$25  
Students With Valid ID | \$20

**BOX OFFICE:**      225-588-7576 or [www.nvtarts.org](http://www.nvtarts.org)

Group rates available and special pricing available for student groups. Call 225-588-7576 or visit [www.nvtarts.org](http://www.nvtarts.org) to purchase tickets or subscriptions.

For background information and photos contact Greg Williams Jr.:

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**#WeLoveNVT #SkeletonCrewNVT**