



**Reconsidering Pipeline:
Scenes & Conversations from
Pipeline by Dominique Morriseau**

September 10, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Presented in the MS New Play Series as part of
the Eudora Welty New Play Series.

OLETA GARRETT FITZGERALD (Featured Panelist) has devoted her life to the pursuit of justice and equality for all. As Director of the Children's Defense Fund's Southern Regional Office, Oleta has placed special emphasis on education, including early childhood education, children's healthcare access, and breaking the insidious cradle to prison pipeline pattern, which is all too prevalent in communities of color. Oleta is the Regional Administrator for the Southern Rural Black Women's Initiative for Economic & Social Justice (SRBWI). SRBWI operates across 77 counties in the Black Belts of Alabama, Southwest Georgia and the Mississippi Delta. She is also the principal for an innovative project, the Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids (SPARK) Initiative, which has operated in more than 12 Mississippi school districts. Oleta's public service career began long before she assumed her position at Children's

VON GORDON (Featured Panelist) is a native of Moorhead, Miss., in Sunflower County. He joined the Institute to develop and coordinate youth programs as Youth Engagement Coordinator. He attended the University of Mississippi, where he was a student leader and helped organize the first Statewide Student Summit on Race. He served as a founding board member of the Winter Institute and the only student representative. Von has worked in the private sector in franchise and corporate multi-unit restaurant operations and in business development for one of Pepsi's top franchise bottlers. Von is the married father of two, and he is passionate about equipping youth to build stronger communities through education, empowerment, and racial healing.

JAYMI HORN (Jasmine) is a recent graduate of Ohio Northern University where she received a BFA in musical theatre. Some of her favorite theatrical roles include Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Lucy in *Elysium*, and #2 in *The Wolves*. Other theatrical credits include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Young Frankenstein*, and *Lysistrata*.

DEVIN HUNTER (Omari) is from Tallahassee, Fla. and graduated from Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) with a BFA in theatre arts with a minor in philosophy and religion. Hunter made his Essential Theatre debut in *Dumb Waiter* (Gus). He has since been seen in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Gooper), *Akeelah and The Bee* (JT), *Change It Up! Live Out Loud* (Ensemble), and *Sing on Ms. Griot* (Kimathi).

Hunter was also cast in *In the Red and Brown Water* (Ogun Size) and nominated for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival competition. He has also been a reoccurring ensemble member in the 32nd, 33rd, and 34th Edition of The FAMU Connection.

SHARON MILES (Nya) received her theatre training from the University of Southern Mississippi. Some of her favorite theatrical roles include: Gwen in *A Time to Kill*, Fannie Lou Hamer in *All The Way*, Motormouth Maybelle in *Hairspray*, Miss Nelson in the children's musical *Miss Nelson is Missing*, Winnifred in *Once Upon a Mattress*, and Nella in Elyzabeth Gregory Wilder's play *Gee's Bend*. Other professional theatre credits include: *The Robber Bridegroom*, *It Ain't Nothing but the Blues*, *The Ponder Heart*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Goodnight Moon*, and *The Miracle Worker*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their endless support and encouragement.

YOHANCE MYLES (Xavier) received his BA in theatre from Alabama State University, and MFA in Acting from Louisiana State University. His New Stage theatre works includes: *Pipeline*, *A Soldier's Play*, *The Whipping Man*, *A Time to Kill*, and more. Myles can be currently seen starring as Councilman Kent Hamilton on OWN's Network hit drama TV series *Ambitions* produced by Will Packer, Oprah Winfrey, and Lionsgate Studio. He has successfully been accredited with working for several major TV networks such as; FOX, OWN, NBC, ABC, CW, AMC, and the Lifetime Network to name a few.

JO ANN ROBINSON (Laurie) has worked professionally for more than 35 years in television, film, and regional theatres across the U.S. Some show credits include *Pipeline*, *Sweat*, *Morningside*, *Silent Sky*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *A Time to Kill*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Lombardi*, *Misery*, and *Rumors*. Other regional theatre credits include *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Angels in America I and II*, *Lips Together*, *Teeth Apart*, and *Always Patsy Cline*. Robinson has most recently had featured roles on *NCIS New Orleans* and the feature film, *Shapeless*. Robinson was nominated for Best Actress for the prestigious B. Iden Award given by the Austin, Texas Critics Circle.

PRODUCTION STAFF
Moderator: Francine Thomas Reynolds
Clara Seitz (Stage Manager), Shannon Frost (Video/Zoom Technician),
Alberto Meza, Jr. (Video/Zoom Technician), Bronwyn Teague (Production Manager)

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions:
ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS,
AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS, SAG-AFTRA
through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the
Artists to appear on this program.