



The University of Texas at Austin  
**Theatre and Dance**  
College of Fine Arts

**For immediate release:**

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN**

**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE**

**AND THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE**

**PRESENT**

***THE HERO TWINS: BLOOD RACE***

**BY RAMÓN ESQUIVEL**

**DECEMBER 6-7, 2019**

**AT THE OSCAR G. BROCKETT THEATRE**

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance and The Paramount Theatre are pleased to present *The Hero Twins: Blood Race* by Ramón Esquivel, directed by Will Kiley December 6-7, 2019 at the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre.

The orders of the ruling and working classes have forever been decided by a competitive race through the underworld. For as long as this Blood Race has been run, the ruling class have remained victorious. Moth's twin brother Cricket ran the Blood Race on behalf of the working people and never returned from the underworld. Now, in order to free her brother and liberate her people, Moth must compete in the race herself. To win, Moth needs to beat the odds, overcome deadly obstacles and defeat the reigning champion, Jaguar. When she learns the truth of the Blood Race and the society built upon it, Moth faces a choice: accept the way things are and have always been, or imagine a way for her society to start anew. We. Free. Us.

*The Hero Twins: Blood Race* is a brand new, original story inspired by the politics and culture of classic Mayan society. “What I hope young people learn from these two characters is the different responses they can have to challenge and adversity,” shares playwright Ramón Esquivel (*Luna*). “Nobody is perfect, but when Moth and Cricket work together they can accomplish far more than when they’re working on their own. I want to encourage young people to ask questions about inequality in today’s society. Why do some people have more than others? *The Hero Twins* is a gateway to talking about our own society.”

This play—full of music, back-flips and dynamic adventure sequences—is designed to inspire energetic audience engagement. Audience members will be invited to choose sides and cheer enthusiastically during the various competitions that make up the Blood Race, ultimately engaging their hearts and minds. *The Hero Twins: Blood Race* was originally written for children in third-sixth grade but is an enjoyable adventure for the entire family.

*The Hero Twins: Blood Race* features a powerful cast of University of Texas at Austin students, including Phoebe Osbourne (Moth), Audrey Loomis (Gecko), Anapaula Guajardo (Iguana), Natasha Cosme Batista (Moth), Gilberto Beltran (Cricket/Aqili) and Adrian Nañez (Jaguar).

The production’s creative team includes Nanette Acosta (Costume Designer), Megan Alrutz (Producer), Austin Alvarez (Costume Designer), Adam Baglureau (Fight Choreographer), Yunina Barbour-Payne (Education Team Leader and Tour Manager), Callie Blackstock (Stage Manager), Giana Blazquez (Movement Consultant), Savanna Cole (Associate Director and Assistant Stage Manager), Ron Collins (Lighting Designer), Lara Dossett (Producer), J.E. Johnson (Scenic Designer), Will Kiley (Director), Juan Leyva (Scenic Designer and Associate Director), Adrian Lopez (Scenic Designer), Diamante Martinez (Props Master) and Michael McCaslin (Dramaturg); along with the education team, Grace Bohn, JJ Cortez, Emily Garcia, Vivian Gonzalez and Austin Howell.

Immediately following the performance of *The Hero Twins: Blood Race* on December 7 at 2:00 p.m., guests are invited to stay for an interactive workshop and reception sponsored by UTeach Fine Arts to discuss and create art in response to the play’s themes. Reservations required ([R.S.V.P.](#)).

For more information about *The Hero Twins: Blood Race* please visit [JoinTheDrama.org](#)

## **CALENDAR LISTING**

**October 6-7 – The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents *The Hero Twins: Blood Race* at the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre** (300 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> St.), located in the F. Loren Winship Drama Building. A map of the campus: [theatredance.utexas.edu/about/location-directions-parking](http://theatredance.utexas.edu/about/location-directions-parking)

Performance times are December 6 at 7:00 p.m., December 7 at 2:00 p.m. and December 7 at 5:00 p.m. (\$15 adult, UT faculty and staff; \$12 students and children) are on sale at authorized ticket outlets, which include the Bass Concert Hall Box Office and all Texas Box Office outlets, online at [JoinTheDrama.org](#), or by calling (512) 477-6060 or (800) 982-BEVO.

## **ABOUT TEXAS THEATRE AND DANCE**

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance is a world-class educational environment that serves as the ultimate creative incubator for the next generation of artists, thinkers and leaders in theatre and performance.

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