

Jordan, 9 years old, and Selah Phillips (SLA, '26) warm up for their production of "Animal Crackers" at New Orleans non-profit Cultivating Youth.

In New Orleans, For New Orleans

Tulane University School of Liberal Arts students learn through serving the community.

As part of their service-learning requirement, students from the School of Liberal Arts' Theatre and Dance Department worked with local nonprofit Cultivating Youth to stage an environment-themed production called "Animal Crackers," where they practiced the skills of putting on, producing, writing, and directing a play. The nonprofit's directors Mack and Mia Terrance tackle childhood obesity, bullying, low self-esteem, violence, and the school-to-prison pipeline in underserved communities in the area. Tulane's academic service-learning program has been front and center in the Tulane curriculum since fall 2006, when Tulane's leadership launched the Center for Public Service as part of the university's post-Hurricane Katrina Renewal Plan.