Josee Coyle:

"I have so many wonderful memories from the theatre department. From chatting in the booth before a show to late night curing of lights to prepping every minute for the next rehearsal. It's incredibly difficult to pick one but one of my favorites is tech for Into the Woods in the Randall last spring. Annmarie pushes me hard, but I learned a lot about making sure I do things in depth and working on a show with so many people I loved. It was a beautiful result that made me proud to plan a career in theatre.

After college, I'm hoping to move to Chicago and begin my career there as a young director and lighting designer. I'm nervous to face the world, but excited to help rebuild the theatre community after the pandemic. I'll be forever grateful for my time at Pitt. It has meant more than I could ever have expected.

If I could talk to my younger self, I probably should tell freshman Josee to be careful. To only commit to the projects and people that will be good for you. Maybe even to balance your life a little more by restricting the number of shows you work on. Instead I would say: do it. Do it all. Everything you will go through over the next three years will bring you to the other side. And believe it or not, you are strong enough to make it.

Pitt has shaped me as a person and I hope I can continue to show the world the qualities this time has instilled in me."

