

## Experience

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2021 to Present

**Adjunct Professor, Program of Theatre & Dance, Beginning Act**

*George Washington University, Corcoran School of the Arts & Design*

2021

**Director**

*Breaking Ground*

- Direct a devised piece of theatre for LGBTQAI+ people of color ages 16-34 based on their personal experiences with HIV/AIDS, sexuality, racism, transphobia, abuse, mental health, substance abuse, housing insecurity, and overcoming adversity.
- Develop production schedule that includes deadlines for interviews between participants, written scene work, actor rehearsal and blocking (music, dance, acting, staging), line memorization, dress rehearsals, tech rehearsals, and performances.
- Design curriculum with a goal toward teaching participants of various experience levels fundamentals in acting methodologies, movement, writing, ensemble building, voice and speech, dance, and music.

2010 to Present

**Professional Actor (Member, Actors' Equity Association)**

*Regional Theatres in the Washington, DC Metro Area, California, and Pennsylvania*

(See attached Acting Resume)

- Self-represent as a professional actor, including identifying potential roles, scheduling auditions, negotiating compensation, and securing agreements between multiple theatres to address conflicts in rehearsal and performance schedules when planning each year's performance season.
- Collaborate with directors, actors, and creative teams to mine insights into character motivations, foibles, and interpersonal dynamics to develop a performance that effectively illuminates and communicates the inner life of a character.
- Conduct extensive dramaturgical research into the time periods, societal customs, and relevant historical and political information of the plays in which I have performed.
- Memorize and perform all styles of text, from Greek and Shakespeare to contemporary and musical demonstrating the ability to retain and synthesize large quantities of information.
- Engage audiences and broader communities in "talk back" discussions that focus on both the artistic process and the larger social implications of a given work in which I am performing.
- Collaborate with playwrights, directors, and other actors in workshops for new play development, by providing feedback on characterization, plot, pacing, and other elements of the play.

2012 to Present

**Teaching Artist (Consultant)**

*Clients include Arena Stage, Young Playwright's Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company*

- Cultivate clients and business by leveraging and fostering long-term professional relationships and establishing a reputation for creative, thoughtful, and effective engagement with students of all ages and interest levels.
- Work with clients to meet their educational needs, including, when necessary, developing age-appropriate curricula, presentations, and discussion materials.
- Design one-day, week-long, multi-week, and semester-long courses in Shakespeare, playwriting, acting, improv, movement, stage combat, and theatre history for elementary, middle, and high school students, college, graduate, and post-graduate students.
- Facilitate and guide discussions about gender, race, sexuality, socio-economic status, grief, death, and other issues and themes raised by particular plays in classroom, small group, and one-on-one sessions with students.
- Evaluate written and performance-based student work.

2014 to Present

## Standardized Patient

*George Washington University; Uniformed Services University*

- Memorize highly detailed patient dossiers describing emotions, behaviors, and disease signs/symptoms and portray patient in simulated learning situations for medical students at all stages of their training.
- Present case information in a standardized manner to ensure uniformity throughout all medical student encounters.
- Evaluate medical students' performances in simulated learning situations based on precise criteria set forth in the patient dossier.

2015 to 2018

## Standardized Patient Instructor

*George Washington University*

- Instructed first and second year medical students on highly specific physical exam maneuvers and patient interaction techniques.
- Co-taught classes with fourth year medical students, combining our discrete areas of expertise
- Directed and organized training sessions and evaluated student progress.

2010 to 2012

## Instructor

*Indiana University*

- Researched, prepared, and delivered lectures to undergraduate students on a range of topics including acting, Suzuki, the method, and conversational reality.
- Prepared course materials such as syllabi, homework assignments, and handouts.
- Evaluated and graded students' class work assignments, papers, and acting presentations.
- Initiated, facilitated, and moderated classroom discussions designed to focus students' attention and analysis on relevant topics of study while encouraging students to share creative thoughts and unique perspectives.
- Maintained regularly scheduled office hours to advise and assist students.

2007

## Community Engagement Intern

*Arena Stage*

- Performed research for and created educational booklets about the shows in Arena's season.
- Created a class about Greek acting style for elementary school students.
- Supported office staff by performing a variety of administrative tasks including editing, customer support services, meeting summaries, and data entry.

## Education

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2021

### University of Minnesota, Office for Equity and Inclusion

*Certificate in Equity and Diversity*

2009 to 2012

### Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

*Master of Fine Arts, Acting*

- Completed rigorous, highly selective graduate studies in acting, including a research and performance thesis on the role of Katurian in Martin McDonagh's *The Pillowman*.
- Distinctions: Spoon River Fellowship, National Society of Arts and Letters, 2012 Career Chapter Award; National Society of Arts and Letters, 2011 Charles Aidman Award, National Society of Arts and Letters, 2010 Lorna Shiner Memorial Award

2005 to 2009

### Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa

*Bachelor of Arts, Theatre and Dance*

## Select Media Appearances

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*A Black boxing champion battles racism in 'The Royale' at 1st Stage, DC METRO THEATRE ARTS (Jan. 13, 2020)*

*Out actor/singer finds meaning in 'Jubilee', WASHINGTON BLADE (April 27, 2019)*

*Magic Time!: On Being Seen as "Angry Black Man": A Q&A with Jaysen Wright About His Role in 'Smart People' at Arena Stage, DC METRO THEATRE ARTS (May 5, 2019)*

*'Choir Boy' at Studio Theatre explores the complex humanity of young, black males, WASH. POST (Jan. 10, 2015)*