Laura Beth Wells

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EDUCATION

2000 MFA, Theatre Performance Kent State University Kent, OH 1996 BA, Theatre University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

BROADWAY

Spider-man: Turn Off the Dark Emily Osborn/Marbles/Brenda Foxwoods Theatre

Julie Taymor/Philip McKinley, directors (original company)

NEW YORK THEATRE (selected)

Street Seen Various Prospect Theatre Company

Dev Bondarin, director

Hands of Horror; Me and You Tinny McGee; You Drama League Play Fest

Andrew Volkoff, director

The Rockae, a new rock musical Autonoe Prospect Theatre /NYMF '07

Cara Reichel, director

LaChiusa's *The Wild Party* Madeline True Columbia Stages

Saheem Ali, director

REGIONAL THEATRE (selected)

Candide Ensemble/Old Lady u/s Clarence Brown Theatre

Calvin MacLean, director

A Christmas Carol Mrs. Dilber/Mrs. Fezziwig Clarence Brown Theatre

Kathleen Conlin, director

Gideon's Knot Heather Bridge Street Theatre

John Sowle, director

The Who's Tommy Mrs. Walker Connecticut Repertory Theatre

Gabriel Barre, director

The Pajama Game Brenda;u/s Babe & Mabel Arizona Theatre Company

David Ira Goldstein, director

All in the Timing Kafka, Waitress Hangar Theatre

Matt August, director

The Importance of Being Earnest Gwendolyn Calaveras Repertory Theatre

John Ribovich, director

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019-present Adjunct Professor Pellissippi State

Knoxville, TN

*Currently teaching Theatre 1030, a lecture-based generalist course for undergraduates

2005-2006 Adjunct Professor Syracuse University Syracuse, NY

*Taught DRA 105, the Level I Acting course for non-major undergraduates

*Taught DRA 305, the Level II Acting/Scene Study course for non-major undergraduates

2005-2006 Adjunct Professor SUNY Binghamton Binghamton, NY

*Taught THEA 207, the Level I acting course for undergraduates

2004-2005 Resident Professional Cornell University Ithaca, NY Teaching Artist

- *Responsibilities included:
- -- Teaching THEA 280, the Level I Acting course for undergraduates
- -- Creating and teaching a movement masterclass on Rudolph Laban's Effort Shapes
- -- Coaching and mentoring students on audition pieces, etc.
- --Performing in season productions

1997-2000 Teaching Fellow Kent State University Kent, OH

- *Taught Art of the Theatre, a lecture-based generalist course for undergraduates
- *Taught Art of Acting, the Level I acting course for undergraduates

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2016-present Teaching Artist Knoxville Children's Theatre Knoxville, TN

- *Classes taught include:
- --Beginning and Advanced Acting techniques and Scene Study
- --Movement workshops based on Rudolph Laban's Effort Shapes
- -- Audition techniques and monologue selection
- --Building characters and scenes through improvisation
- --Acting and character development for developmentally challenged adults (collaboration with Sertoma Center)

2006 Teaching Artist/Director Hangar Theatre/Project 4 Ithaca, NY

- *Worked with teachers and students in fourth grade classrooms during 3-week residencies. Goals included:
- --Identify educational goals for each project (Aligning with NYS Learning Standards and school curriculum)
- -- Create original plays with music, inspired by their topic, with students, teachers, and musician/songwriter
- --Stage and present public performance

2005 Teaching Artist/Director Hangar Theatre/Next Generation Ithaca, NY Summer Acting Conservatory

*Taught Acting Level 3 for students ages 14-18: basics of character development, monologue and scene study *Co-directed *The Phantom Tollbooth*, a fully produced hour-long show featuring Next Generation students performing on the Hangar Theatre mainstage using the Next Generation students.

2001 Teaching Artist San Francisco Shakespeare Festival San Francisco, CA

- *Taught Acting for Beginning students (grades 2-8) and Advanced students (grades 9-12).
- *Directed a fully produced, 50-minute adaptation of *Macbeth* with the Advanced students.

2001 Teaching Artist

Calaveras Repertory Theatre

Milpitas, CA

*Created and taught Fundamentals of Rudolph Laban's Effort Shapes to students grades 4-8.

2000-2001 Teaching Artist/Director Theatre of All Possibilities

Santa Cruz, CA

*Taught and directed participating student and adult actors at the school, integrating them into our performance.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2013 Ted Sluberski, Acting for the Camera. New York, New York
- **2012 Bob Krakower, Acting for the Camera**, New York, New York
- 2012 Maggie Phillips, Voice Over Technique, New York, New York
- 2011 Barry Shapiro, Commercial Acting Technique, New York, New York
- **2006** Nancy Stark Smith, Contact Improvisation and Open Score Work, Toronto, Ontario One-week intensive rehearsal process to create our performance, *Co-Existing Forms*.
- 2000 Ken Howard, Audition Technique, Kent, Ohio
- 1999 Mark LaMura, Acting for the Camera, Kent, Ohio
- 1998 Catherine Wolf, Meisner Approach, Kent, Ohio

AWARDS, UNION AFFILIATIONS, AND COMMISSIONED WORKS

- 2018 Commissioned by Flying Anvil Theatre in Knoxville, TN to create and perform *A Perfect Match*, a cabaret featuring myself and Metropolitan Opera baritone David Crawford
- 2001 Became a member of Actor's Equity Association

1997-2000 Awarded Full Graduate Assistant Teaching Fellowship at Kent State University

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Dennis Perkins Academy Director Knoxville Children's Theatre dennis@knoxvillechildrenstheatre.com 865-208-3677

Terri Kent, Professor Musical Theatre Coordinator School of Theatre and Dance Kent State University Producing Artistic Director Porthouse Theatre tkent@kent.edu 330-672-0107

Kathleen Conlin Director kconlin@illinois.edu 217-390-1579

Jayne Morgan Founder Flying Anvil Theatre jayne@flyinganviltheatre.com 865-357-1309