

# Aaron Mayer

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Research and Teaching Interests

Technical Theatre Craft Skills- technical drafting, rigging, carpentry, automation/mechanization, metal fabrication/welding; Technical Direction; and New Technology.

### Education

**M.F.A in Theatre Design & Production,** University of Memphis (U of M) Spring 2014  
**B.A. in Theatre Design & Production,** University of Northern Iowa (UNI) Spring 2010  
**A.A. in Arts & Sciences,** Indian Hills Community College (IHCC) Spring 2007

### Employment

Lecture Track Faculty	Emory University - Atlanta GA	Aug 14- Present
Technical Director	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - Center Valley PA	May 16 - Aug 16
Technical Director	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - Center Valley PA	May 15 - Aug 15
Assistant Technical Director	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - Center Valley PA	May 14 - Aug 14
Graduate Assistant	University of Memphis - Memphis TN	Aug 11 – May 14
Over Hire Stagehand	IATSE Local 69 - Memphis TN	Oct 12 – May 14
Technical Designer / Draftsman – One Show Single Contract	Lipscomb University - Nashville TN	October 2013
Assistant Technical Director	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - Center Valley PA	May 13 - Aug 13
Scene Shop Foreman	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - Center Valley PA	May 12 - Aug 12
Staff Carpenter	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - Center Valley PA	May 11 - Aug 11
Graduate Assistant	Northern Illinois University - DeKalb IL	Aug 10 - May 11
Arena High Rigger	NIU Convocation Center - DeKalb IL	Aug 10 - May 11
Lighting Designer	Children’s Community Theatre - DeKalb IL	Dec 10; March 11
Staff Carpenter / Run Crew	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - Center Valley PA	May 10 - Aug 10
Assistant Technical Director	University of Northern Iowa - Cedar Falls IA	Aug 08 - May 10
Technical Assistant	University of Northern Iowa - Cedar Falls IA	Aug 07 - May 08
Technical Assistant	Indian Hills Community College	Aug 05 - May 07

## Teaching and Advising Experience

- **Advising:**
  - University Advising- Pre-Major Advising Connections at Emory (PACE) program
    - 3 students- 2015/16 school year
    - 4 students- 2016/17 school year
  - Emory Theater Studies Department Advising
    - 5 Theater Studies Minors- Spring 2016- Ongoing
- **Thea 130: Stagecraft- Emory University- Fall 2014-Present**
  - A course taught both fall and spring semesters focused on basic stagecraft skills.
  - Topics include techniques in scenery construction, tool safety and usage, stage rigging, electrics, audio, and scene painting.
  - Students explore topics through lecture and laboratory work with production based projects.
  - Reshaped the curriculum of THEA 130: Stagecraft to offer a substantive survey of all technical theater disciplines, while working with and mentoring students in the lab environment as major contributors to the build of Theater Emory productions. The lab is vital for students to experience stagecraft topics on a realized project.
- **Thea 200R: Theatre Practicum- Emory University- Fall 2014- Present**
  - A required course for majors and minors in which students take on a substantial technical theater responsibility. Some positions include: wardrobe run crew, light board operator, sound board operator, or properties run crew.
  - Responsible for contracting positions, supervising crew with help of area specific supervisors, and evaluating student achievement.
  - Orchestrated the reshaping of THEA 200R in collaboration with colleagues. The reshaping was designed to offer clear guidelines of the course content as well as how and when it would be offered to students. Developed a Facts document that is posted on the theater studies website for students, and distributed to faculty for advising.
- **Thea 300R: Production Assistantship- Emory University- Fall 2014- Present**
  - A course designed to give the advanced design, technical or stage management student the opportunity to work as an assistant to a professional artist on a Theater Emory production
  - Positions could include: Master Carpenter, Assistant Technical Director, Assistant Lighting Designer, Assistant Stage Manager, Etc.
  - Responsible for contracting positions, supervising crew with help of area specific supervisors, and evaluating student achievement.
- **Thea 330R: Stagecraft Laboratory**
  - A course offering an advanced tutorial on practical problems in properties and craft work for theater.
  - Positions could include: Properties Artist, Lead Carpenter, Lead Welder/Fabricator, Etc.
  - Responsible for contracting positions, supervising crew with help of area specific supervisors, and evaluating student achievement.
- **Graduate Assistantship- University of Memphis- Fall 2011- Present**
  - Responsible for teaching undergraduate lab students, and teaching and mentoring fellow graduate students (directors and designers) in all aspects of scenery production
- **Thea 3511- Stagecraft- University of Memphis- Spring 2013**
  - Teaching Assistant- Teaching various topics in conjunction with instructor of record.

- Topics include: theatre terminology, theatre forms, production organization, job descriptions, and safety; scenery construction to include painting, flat scenery, three-dimensional scenery, and introduction to steel materials.
- Instructor on record: Michael O'Nele U of M Department of Theatre Faculty TD
- **Thea 7993- Special Problems- Basic AutoCAD- University of Memphis- Spring 2012**
  - Taught basic 2D AutoCAD
  - Developed lesson plans, and tutorial exercises
  - Instructor on record: Michael O'Nele U of M Department of Theatre Faculty TD
- **Thea 255/ 255A- Stage Technology II- Northern Illinois University- Spring 2011**
  - Responsible for scenery portion of course, co- taught with staff member covering lighting portion
  - Co- Collaborator in revising previous course syllabus
  - Covered basic stagecraft scenery topics
  - Prepared lesson plans, developed/ revised previous assignments, revised previous final exam.
  - Co- taught course with Chris Kurszewski who taught lighting portion
  - Instructor on record: Tracy Nunnally NIU Faculty TD

## Educational Theatre Experience

- **Graduate Assistant: University of Memphis, August 2011- May 2014**
  - Scenic Carpenter for all department productions
  - Work in Carpentry, Welding, Rigging, Pneumatics, and Automation Systems
  - Attend all strikes
  - Work with and teach undergraduate lab students
  - Mentor and teach fellow graduate students
  - Maintain safe and clean workspaces
  - Maintenance: Shop, Tool, Rigging, Building
- **Graduate Assistant: Northern Illinois University, August 2010- May 2011**
  - Scenic Carpenter for all department productions; Theatre and Dance
  - Work in Carpentry, Welding, and Rigging
  - Attend all Strikes
  - Work with and teach undergraduate lab students and student workers
  - Maintain safe and clean workspaces
  - Building Maintenance
- **Assistant Technical Director: University of Northern Iowa, August 2008- May 2010**
  - Scenic Carpenter for all department productions
  - Work in Carpentry, Welding, Rigging, and Pneumatics
  - Attend all Strikes
  - Work with and teach fellow undergraduate lab students and student workers
  - Maintain safe and clean workspaces
  - Building Maintenance
- **Scene Shop Technical Assistant: University of Northern Iowa, August 2007- May 2008**
  - Scenic Carpenter for all department productions
  - Work in Carpentry, Welding, Rigging, and Pneumatics
  - Attend all Strikes
  - Maintain safe and clean workspaces
- **Technical Assistant: Indian Hills Community College Department of Theatre, August 2005- May 2007**
  - Scenic Carpenter for all department productions
  - Work in Carpentry and Lighting
  - Attend all Strikes
  - Maintain safe and clean workspaces

## Professional Theatre Experience

- **Technical Director: Pa Shakespeare Festival, May 2015/16- August 2015/16**
  - Develop technical schedules, track carpentry budget, and oversee maintenance of equipment and supplies in the scene shop for a 6 show summer season and 1 touring show.
  - Engineer working technical drawings.
  - Supervise carpentry staff and interns on scenic construction, load in, changeovers, and strikes for all festivals shows.
  - Facilitate use of physical space required by multiple departments- set, props, and scenic artists.
- **Assistant Technical Director: Pa Shakespeare Festival, May 2013/14- August 2013/14**
  - Assist technical director in the daily operation of the scenic shop including personnel, equipment, and supplies for a 6 show summer season and 1 touring show
  - Assist in creating mechanical drawings from scenic designers' drawing, establishing materials and time management, in coordination with technical director: Including drafting all mechanical drawings for Schubert Theatre(2 shows), and engineering and mechanical drawings for 1 rep show
  - Assist in engineering all scenery
  - Responsible for execution of load in, rigging, and strike of Schubert Theatre
  - Assist in supervising carpentry staff and interns on scenic construction, load in, changeovers, and strikes for all festivals shows.
  - Determine short-term goals in the form of build list, as instructed by technical director
  - Implement installation, rigging, and maintenance of scenic elements
  - Assist in completion of carpentry notes from stage management
  - Place orders with account vendors under supervision of technical director
  - Manage and shop for shop supplies and materials
  - Manage shop equipment and repairs
  - Attend designer runs as directed by technical director
  - Build sets
  - Maintain safe working practices
- **Over hire Stagehand: IATSE Local 69- Memphis TN, October 2012- Present**
  - Work under direction of road crew members to load-in, and load-out scenery
  - Work as truck loader
  - Convention center load in
- **Freelance Technical Designer/ Draftsman: Lipscomb University- Nashville TN- October 2013**
  - Design turntable extension for University of Memphis' turntable
  - Draft technical drawings for turntable extension and surround; Provide plated drawings for Lipscomb's shop to use in construction of extension
  - CNC Operator for Plywood parts including turntable extension wedges and turntable surround
- **Scene Shop Foreman: Pa Shakespeare Festival, May 2012- August 2012**
  - Assign job duties, distribute drawings, supervise, and instruct carpentry crew and interns as directed by technical director
  - Build sets for all Main Stage, Schubert stage, and WillPower productions
  - Carpentry and welding
  - Work on and install On the Green
  - Maintain inventory and use of supplies and materials to complete projects
  - Maintain Safe working practices.
- **Staff Carpenter: Pa Shakespeare Festival, May 2011- August 2011**
  - Build Sets for Schubert Theatre, Main Stage and WillPower productions
  - Build and install On The Green

- Carpentry and welding
- Work on construction, load in, and strike of all festival shows
- Maintain Safe working practices
- **Lighting Designer: Children’s Community Theatre, DeKalb IL, December 2010; March 2011**
  - Design production including producing necessary paper work including light plot and hook-ups
  - Lead crews in hang and focus of light plot
  - Cue show
  - Lead lighting strike.
- **Staff Carpenter/Run Crew: Pa Shakespeare Festival, May 2010- August 2010**
  - Build Sets for Schubert Theatre, Main Stage and WillPower productions
  - Install On The Green
  - Carpentry and welding
  - Work on construction, load in, and strike of all festival shows
  - Run Crew as needed
  - Maintain Safe working practices
- **Lighting Designer: Fairfield Area Community Theatre(FACT)- Fairfield IA, Summers 2005-2009**
  - Design production including producing necessary paper work including light plot and hook-ups
  - Train/Lead volunteer crews in hang and focus of light plot- created training packet for crew
  - Cue show
  - Lead lighting strike.

## Arena Entertainment Experience

- **Arena High Rigger: NIU Convocation Center, August 2010- May 2011**
  - Set points for chain hoists- Average 30 points per show
  - Load in and load out of concert events
  - Responsible for safe rigging practices
  - Maintain safety equipment including harnesses.

## Creative/Research Activity

### Technical Direction

<i>Ravished</i>	Emory University	Spring 2017
<i>A Tempest</i>	Emory University	Spring 2017
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Emory University	Fall 2016
<i>Boys from Syracuse</i>	Emory University	Fall 2016
<i>Hamlet</i> - WillPower 2016- Touring production to High Schools and Middle Schools	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2016
<i>Taming of the Shrew</i> - Rotating Rep	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2016
<i>Blithe Spirit</i> - Rotating Rep	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2016
<i>West Side Story</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2016
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2016
<i>Little Mermaid</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2016
<i>As You Like It- All Male Cast</i> - Rotating Rep	Emory University	Spring 2016
<i>As You Like It- All Female Cast</i> - Rotating Rep	Emory University	Spring 2016

<i>Brave New Works-</i> Stage reading series	Emory University	Spring 2016
<i>The Meantime</i>	Emory University	Fall 2016
<i>I am a Moon</i>	Emory University	Fall 2016
<i>Julius Caesar-</i> WillPower 2015- Touring production to High Schools and Middle Schools	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2015
<i>Henry V-</i> Rotating Rep	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2015
<i>The Foreigner-</i> Rotating Rep	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2015
<i>Around the world in 80 Days</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2015
<i>Rapunzel</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2015
<i>Marisol</i>	Emory University	Spring 2015
<i>A Pinter Kaleidoscope</i>	Emory University	Fall 2014
<i>Pinter Revue</i>	Emory University	Fall 2014
<i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead</i>	U of M- Main Stage Theatre	Spring 2014
<i>Chess</i>	U of M- Main Stage Theatre	Winter 2014
<i>The Government Inspector</i>	U of M- Main Stage Theatre	Winter 2013
<i>The Threepenny Opera</i>	U of M- Main Stage Theatre	Fall 2012
<i>The Arabian Nights</i>	U of M- Main Stage Theatre	Spring 2012
<i>The Nutcracker (ATD)</i>	University of Northern Illinois- O'Connell Theatre	Fall 2010
<i>Count Dracula (ATD)</i>	UNI- Strayer- Wood Theatre (SWT)	Spring 2010
<i>Three Tall Women</i>	UNI- Bertha Martin Theatre (BMT)	Winter 2010
<i>Marat/Sade (ATD)</i>	UNI- SWT	Fall 2009
<i>What I Did Last Summer</i>	UNI- BMT	Fall 2009
<i>Eurydice (ATD)</i>	UNI- BMT	Spring 2009
<i>A Day in Hollywood / A Night in the Ukraine (ATD)</i>	UNI- SWT	Spring 2009
<i>The Balcony Scene</i>	UNI- BMT	Spring 2008
<i>The Crucible the Opera (ATD)</i>	UNI- SWT	Winter 2008
<i>Greater Tuna</i>	IHCC- St. John Auditorium	Spring 2007
<b>Master Carpenter</b>		
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream-</i> WillPower 2012- Touring production to High Schools and Middle Schools	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2012
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2012
<i>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2012
<i>The Tempest</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2012
<i>Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2012
<i>King John</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2012
<i>Snow White f&amp; The Seven Dwarfs</i>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	Summer 2012
<i>Time Out of Rhyme</i>	The Bridge View Center	Summer 2007
<i>Robin Hood</i>	IHCC- St. John Auditorium	Fall 2005
<b>Deck Chief</b>		
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	UNI- SWT	Fall 2007
<b>Lighting Designer</b>		
<i>The Pillowman</i>	U of M- Studio Theatre	Fall 2013
<i>Eleemosynary</i>	U of M- Studio Theatre	Fall 2013
<i>Pinocchio</i>	Children's Community Theatre, DeKalb IL (CCT)	March 2011
<i>A Christmas Story</i>	CCT	December 2010
<i>The Shape of Things</i>	UNI- Student Theatre Association (UNISTA)	Fall 2008

<i>Vagina Monologues</i>	UNISTA	Spring 2007
<i>A Day in Hollywood /</i>	UNI- SWT	Winter 2009
<i>A Night in the Ukraine (ALD)</i>		
<i>Best of Broadway:</i>	UNISTA	Fall 2007
<i>A Musical Theatre Revue (ALD)</i>		
<i>Children of Eden</i>	Fairfield Area Community Theatre (FACT)	Summer 2009
<i>Pippin</i>	FACT	Summer 2008
<i>Seussical the Musical</i>	FACT	Summer 2007
<i>Titanic</i>	FACT	Summer 2006
<i>Oliver</i>	FACT	Summer 2005
<b>Master Electrician</b>		
<i>The House of Blue Leaves</i>	UNI- SWT	Fall 2008
<b>Sound Coordinator/ Designer</b>		
<i>Eurydice (Asst. Sound Designer)</i>	UNI- BMT	Spring 2009
<i>Death of a Salesman</i>	UNI- SWT	Spring 2008
(Sound Coordinator)		

## Special Skills

Technical Direction	Lighting Design	Computer Skills
- Carpentry: Joinery, Finish Carpentry, Carpentry for the Stage	- Programming: ETC Eos, Ion, Insight 3, Express, Expression	- AutoCAD 2D/3D
- Welding: MIG, Arc, TIG	- Programming conventional and automated fixtures	- Vectorworks 2D
- Oxyacetylene: Cutting, Heating, Welding, Brazing	- Basic Electricity and Wiring	- Google Sketch Up
- Plasma Cutter	- 3- Phase Power: Hook-Up and Distribution	- Lightwright 5
- Pneumatics	- Hang and Focus of Light Plots	- Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel
- CNC Router		
- 3D- Printing		
- Programmable Logic Controllers		
- Arduino		
Microcontrollers		
- Creative Conners Spike Mark		
- Georgia Class C Driver's License		
- Manual Transmission		

## Service, Certifications, Awards and Offices

### Service- Departmental

Chair	Weekly Production Staff meeting	Fall 2014- Present
Member	Department Administrative Committee	Fall 2015- Present

### Certificates

Theater Safety Training Certificate	PA Department of Labor and Industry	Summers 2011-2016
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### Awards/Scholarships

Graduate Assistantship	University of Memphis	Fall 2011- Spring 2014
Graduate Assistantship	Northern Illinois University	Fall 2010- Spring 2011

S.T.A.G.E Inc. Scholarship	University of Northern Iowa	Academic Year 2009-2010
Bertha Martin Memorial Scholarship	University of Northern Iowa	Academic Year 2008-2009
Theatre Department Scholarship	University of Northern Iowa	Academic Year 2007-2010
First United Methodist Scholarship	First UMC- Farifield IA	Academic Year 2005-2011

### **Elected Offices**

Technical Coordinator	UNI Student Theatre Association	Academic Year 2009-2010
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### **Publications/Presentations**

#### **USITT 2017 Tech Expo Article, “Et tu, Blood Pump”**

- Publication will be released in March 2017

#### **AutoCAD for Beginners: Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival- Summer 2016**

- A 4 hour workshop presented to summer shop staff and other interested festival members
- Workshop was intended for participants who were just learning to use the AutoCAD. Topics covered were starting AutoCad, creating a drawing template, drawing in 2D using all of the major drawing and modification tools, and plating drawings for publication.
- Students received several entry level drawings to take with them to duplicate as practice.

#### **Summer Stock Employment: THEA 396 Theater Colloquia- Spring 2016**

- A guest presentation and discussion in Theater Colloquia class on summer stock work and employment

#### **“Training New Technicians”: USITT Education Commission Poster Session- Cincinnati 2009**

- A presentation focused on training new lighting technicians.
- Materials presented included a manual for training purposes.

### **Professional Affiliations**

The United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc. (USITT) 2009- Present  
Southeast Theatre Conference (SETC) 2015-Present

### **References- Available On Request**