

LATRELLE BRIGHT

CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre, 2008
The University of Memphis – *Memphis, TN*
Focus of study: Directing and Narrative Theatre

Paralegal Certificate, 1999
Kaplan College – *San Antonio, TX*

Bachelor of Science in Communication with a minor in Theatre, 1993
Florida State University – *Tallahassee, FL*
Focus of study: Media Production and African-American Theatre

ADMINISTRATION

Working Group Leader

Independent Media Center, Urbana-Champaign 2016 – present

- Curate *The Lab* – a space for the development of new theatre performance
- Facilitate monthly workshops offering various modes of devising
- Develop ideas into fully realized theatre performance pieces

Program Director

Independent Media Center, Urbana-Champaign 2015 – 2016

- Program Development included providing a space for citizens to create and conduct new programs, supporting existing citizen programs, managing the programming in the space and creating new and original IMC programming and activities.
- Connected with arts and non-arts partners through collaborative efforts towards programming and activities.
- Procured funds from multiple sources to support programs. Wrote a successful \$50,000 NEA-Our Town Grant to fund a youth centered arts initiative for the City of Urbana.
- Coordinated numerous volunteers.

Program Coordinator/Faculty

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 2010 – 2015

- Program development including evaluation, outreach and administration of the Social Issues Theatre track curriculum within Theatre Studies.
- Teach *Introduction to Social Issues Theatre*, *Devising Social Issues Theatre*, direct the *Performance Ensemble*, supervise the Instructor for *Arts-Based Civic Dialogue*, supervise Independent Studies and Senior Projects
- Supervise an Instructor, Teaching Assistant, Grad-hourly, CCPs, Interns and Practicum students

- Facilitate workshops and direct performances focused on a variety of social issues for Counseling Center outreach projects
- Theatre production management, publicity coordination, script writing through research, and/or collaborative writing, oversee guest artist residencies, coordinate the overall direction and collaborative efforts of the INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre Program through attending administrative staff meetings, meetings within sponsoring departments and planning meetings with the larger UIUC community.

Assistant Program Coordinator/Faculty

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2009 – 2010

- Assist program coordinator with program development including evaluation, outreach and administration of the Social Issues Theatre track curriculum within Theatre Studies.
- Teach *Introduction to Social Issues Theatre*.
- Theatre production management, publicity coordination, contribute to script writing through critique, research, recommendations and/or collaborative writing, oversee bi-annual call for scripts, contribute to the overall direction and collaborative efforts of the INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre Program through attending administrative staff meetings, meetings within sponsoring departments and planning meetings with the larger UIUC community.

Director of Audience Development

2008 – 2009

Voices of the South – Memphis, TN

- Responsible for strategic audience development for general season programming to render a greater diversity of patronage
- Developed partnerships with local organizations focused on children and literacy and coordinated the Outdoor Stage programming featuring local and regional performing groups and artists for the *Memphis Children's Theatre Festival*.

Assistant Program Director

2006 – 2008

The Heifer Theatre Project – Little Rock, AR

- Assisted with the selection of eighteen high school students from across the U.S. to participate in creating an original performance piece based on the cornerstones of Heifer International (a world hunger relief and sustainability organization) and the students' personal experiences in the Global Village.
- Lead improvisation workshops that rendered visual art, writing, music and movement for the performance piece.
- Served as a guide for students to craft the individual pieces into a whole.
- Stage manager for the final performance at the Robinson Center in Little Rock, AR.

Publicity Assistant

2006 – 2008

The University of Memphis – Memphis, TN

- Supervised undergraduate students in publicity lab assignments.
- Drafted press releases for season productions and events.
- Assisted with house management for productions.
- Assisted with all documentation and hospitality for Guest Artist Residencies.

- Special Projects: Assisted with 1) writing copy for and proofreading the new BFA and MFA marketing brochures and 2) organizing the theatre and dance department Alumni Reunion

Artistic Literary Management Intern

Summer 2006

7 Stages – Atlanta, GA

- Read, analyzed and summarized scripts to establish compatibility with the 7 Stages mission.
- Created a Microsoft Access database for all solicited and unsolicited scripts.
- Conducted research on breast cancer and its treatment processes for the production of *My Left Breast*.
- Gathered information and drafted sections of a grant proposal.
- Archived production posters, programs and reviews.
- Operated box office for resident company productions.

President/Producing Artistic Director

2000 – 2005

The Renaissance Guild – San Antonio, TX

- Co-founded and lead the theatre company through non-profit incorporation, tax exemption and development.
- Lead the board of directors through the initial five-year strategic plan.
- Wrote grant proposals for corporate and foundation funding of programs and sponsorship of productions.
- Designed season programming that included three main stage theatre productions each year.
- Lead performance workshops for children and adults in cooperation with other local non-profit organizations.
- Established an award winning program, *The ActOne Series*, to feature the unpublished works of playwrights; lead critical responses and post performance dialogues.
- Devised theatre pieces commissioned by organizations for special events.

TEACHING/FACILITATION

Professor: *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Fall 2009 – Spring 2015

- Introduction to Social Issues Theatre
- Devising Social Issues Theatre
- Devising Ensemble
- Civic Dialogue, Arts and Culture
- Exploring Arts & Creativity

Adjunct Professor: *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Fall 2015 – present

- Directing I
- Directing II
- Theatre of the Black Experience
- Asian-American Theatre
- Literature of the Modern Theatre

Adjunct Professor: *Parkland College*

Fall 2017 – present

- Film Appreciation

Workshop Leader: Water and the Common Good

Prairie Rivers Network – Champaign, IL

September 2016

Developed an arts-based civic dialogue experience shaped around the issue of *just transition* from coal to alternative energy sources – the people and the coal ash left behind. This project was funded by Illinois Humanities' program *Illinois Speaks*.

Workshop Leader: Folklore as Communication

UIUC Center for African Studies – Champaign, IL

July 2016

Led a workshop that explored elements of folklore as it relates to oral history, collective storytelling and community-based theatre that included exercises in collective origin story creation and performance for the Civic Leadership Institute hosting 25 young professionals from various sub-Saharan African countries.

Workshop Leader: Rethinking Fanon

Planners Network – Champaign, IL

March 2016

Led an Augusto Boal exercise and a writing exercise as part of a larger discussion of Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth* focused on power and violence.

Post Film Dialogue: The Whole Gritty City

YWCA, Champaign, IL

October 2015

Led dialogue on race and poverty for the post screening discussion event held at the Art Theatre in downtown Champaign.

Workshop Leader: Viewpoints

June 2015

Outta the Mouths of Babes – Champaign, IL

Led a 2-hour workshop for kids (5-10 years old) around aspects of Viewpoints as part of the *Outta the Mouths of Babes* arts program.

Workshop Leader: Environment Matters

June 2014

Figure One Art Gallery – Champaign, IL

Led a series of workshops over four days incorporating writing and visual art around issues of earth, water, fire and air.

Workshop Leader: Story Sharing

March 2014

La Casa Cultural Latina – Urbana, IL (UIUC)

Led a Story sharing workshop for the *Latina/o Resiliency* course through Latin American Studies.

Workshop Leader: Power & Agency

October 2013

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts – Urbana, IL (UIUC)

Led a workshop around issues of power and agency for 45 middle and high school students using Augusto Boal techniques and exercises for the *Latina/o Family Visit Day* event hosted by *La Casa Cultural Latina*.

Workshop Leader: Devising Theatre

September 2013

Uniting Pride Center – Urbana, IL

Taught basic devising theatre techniques (story sharing, oral history, improvisation) to students and group leaders in preparation of a performance piece they created for themselves.

Expressive Arts Workshop*June/July 2013**Illini Media Center – Champaign, IL*

Co-facilitated a workshop with licensed clinical psychologist, Theresa Benson, focused on the use of the arts (performing, literary and visual) on healing processes.

Workshop Leader: Voice*Summer 2011**Tap-In Leadership Academy – Champaign, IL*

Developed and facilitated an Arts-Based Civic Dialogue for high school students.

Workshop Leader: Higher Education*October 2010**ARC – Champaign, IL (UIUC)*

Led a workshop around issues of higher education for 40 middle and high school students using improvisation and story building techniques and exercises for the Latina/o Family Visit Day event hosted by La Casa Cultural Latina. The workshop culminated in a 10-minute performance for event attendees.

Workshop Leader: Family & Individuality*October 2009**ARC – Champaign, IL (UIUC)*

Led two workshops around issues of family and individuality for 40 middle and high school students using improvisation and story building techniques and exercises for the Latina/o Family Visit Day event hosted by La Casa Cultural Latina.

Adjunct Professor: Acting I*Fall 2008**Rhodes College – Memphis, TN*

Through improvisation and scripted monologues and scenes, introduced sensory, physical and vocal life of a character, script analysis and relationships between characters (their goals and obstacles).

Adjunct Professor: Introduction to Theatre
2008*January 2007 – December**The University of Memphis – Memphis, TN*

Lecture on the history of theatre as a reflection of history of the Western world and Asia from ancient ritual to the diverse dimensions of the contemporary stage and communicate the fundamentals of theatre performance and production.

Workshop Leader: Creating Performance*March 2007**Tennessee Thespian Conference – Cordova, TN*

Developed and lead two 1-hour workshops for high school students incorporating movement, music and objects in the creation of a performance piece.

Instructor: Theatre Games and Performance*September 2004 – April 2005**Carver Community Cultural Center – San Antonio, TX*

Developed and lead two separate classes – one for children (7-17) and one for adults (18 and up) – that incorporated writing, visual art, music and physical improvisation and culminated in ensemble performance pieces.

Drama Director

August 1999 – May 2003

Antonian High School – San Antonio, TX

- o Instructed students in theatre history and the fundamentals of acting and performance
- o Served as the sponsor for TAPPS (Texas Association of Private Parochial Schools) oral interpretation and drama competition; and
- o Directed and designed two full-length productions per school year.

Drama Director

1999 – 2002

Holy Spirit School – San Antonio, TX

- o Directed and designed the annual 8th grade play; and
- o Organized parent volunteers.

SOLO PERFORMANCE

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| the arachne project | <i>(in development)</i> | 2018 |
| alisha's adventures in wonderland | Faculty Women of Color in the Academy Conference <i>Commissioned</i> | 2014 |
| wwi (women's work, pt. 1) | AAUW Fundraiser <i>Commissioned</i> | 2013 |
| matter | Armory Free Theatre YWCA Leadership <i>(excerpt)</i> Uofl Sustainability Week TheatreWorks Solo Series Memphis Theological Seminary Voices of the South | 2014 2013 2011 2010 2010 2009 |
| rise | Porch Stories, Figure One Art Gallery Women's Resources Center Awards MLK Celebration Inner Mongolia University Arts College (China) YWCA Leadership Luncheon University of Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) Celebration/UofM Voices of the South | 2014 2013 2013 2012 2012 2011 2010 2008 |
| assassination | Performance Showcase/UofM | 2007 |

DIRECTING

Plays/Musicals

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| Fun Home by Bechdel/Kron/Tesori | The Station Theatre | 2018 |
| Sleep Deprivation Chamber by Adrienne Kennedy | The Station Theatre | 2017 |
| A Charlie Brown Christmas by Charles Schulz | Parkland College | 2016 |

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| Dreamgirls... by Tom Eyan and Henry Krieger | Krannert CPA | 2016 |
| The Effect of Gamma Rays... by Paul Zindel | The Station Theatre | 2015 |
| No Child... by Nilaja Sun | UIUC | 2013 |
| The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare | Rhodes College | 2009 |
| The Love of Don Perlimplin... by Frederico Garcia Lorca | The University of Memphis | 2008 |
| Topdog/Underdog by Suzan-Lori Parks | Hattiloo Theatre | 2008 |
| Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen, adapted by Jon Robin Baitz | The University of Memphis | 2007 |
| The Castle by Franz Kafka, adapted by Fishelson and Leichter | The University of Memphis | 2006 |
| The Sound of a Voice by David Henry Hwang | The University of Memphis | 2006 |
| Art by Yasmina Reza | The University of Memphis | 2006 |
| Southern Cross by Jon Klein | City of Seguin, TX | 2004 |
| The Magic Act by Laurence Klavan | The Renaissance Guild | 2003 |
| Blessed Assurance by Laddy Sartin | City of Seguin, TX | 2003 |
| Spell #7 by Ntozake Shange | The Renaissance Guild | 2002 |
| Gangsters by Moisha Maponya | SA to SA Humanities Festival | 2002 |
| Betrayal by Harold Pinter | The Renaissance Guild | 2001 |

New Works (Narrative/Devised Pieces)

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| Wonderland by Carroll/ Taylor/Bright (in development) | University of Illinois/Dance | 2019 |
| Quantum Voyages by Vishveshwara/Bright (in development) | University of Illinois/Physics | 2018 |
| Glo-Heart by Marifatab/Parenti/Enslin | School for Designing a Society | 2017 |
| The Water Project by Latrelle Bright + Ensemble | IMC / Allerton Barn Theatre | 2017 |
| I, Rebel (Protest and Resistance) by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2015 |
| Listen (Black youth and Police) by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2014 |
| Invisible Wounds (Non-physical Violence) by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2014 |
| The People vs. Power by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2013 |
| Speak Easy (Sex Positivity) by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2013 |
| Universe City (Diversity) by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2012 |
| Standing By: Violence and the Bystander Effect by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2012 |
| Over Here: Stories of Student Veterans by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2011 |
| Stay (Suicide) by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2011 |
| Cirque du So Lean (Body Image) by IVSIT | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2010 |
| The House on Mango Street (excerpt) by Sandra Cisneros | Voices of the South | 2009 |
| Silent Spring (excerpt) by Rachel Carson | The University of Memphis | 2007 |
| Dirt Boy by Erik Slangerup | Voices of the South | 2007 |
| The Knowing by Tananarive Due | The University of Memphis | 2007 |
| Against Love: a polemic (excerpt) by Laura Kipnis | The University of Memphis | 2006 |
| Otherwise Occupied by Dianne Monroe | Jump-Start Performance Co. | 2005 |
| Treasure Hunt compilation of works by Zora Neale Hurston | Carver Cultural Center | 2005 |
| I Have a Dream by Martin Luther King, Jr. | City of Seguin, TX | 2005 |
| The Big Box by Toni Morrison | The Renaissance Guild | 2004 |
| Lost Recipes by Dianne Monroe | Jump-Start Performance Co. | 2003 |
| Aesop's Fables by Aesop | SA to SA Humanities Festival | 2003 |

New Works (Plays)

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| He Follows by Sophia Fey (Workshop) | The Station Theatre/UIUC | 2017 |
| Kathryn by Lisa Fay | Social Issues Theatre/UIUC | 2009 |

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| Geography Lesson by <i>Ellen Koivisto</i> | The Renaissance Guild/AOS | 2005 |
| Epistrophe by <i>David Starkey</i> | The Renaissance Guild/AOS | 2005 |
| Blues Before Sunrise by <i>Antoinette Winstead</i> | Stoli Playhouse Festival | 2005 |
| Born to Hang by <i>David Mulnix</i> | Stoli Playhouse Festival | 2005 |
| The Road Less Traveled by <i>Deon van Rooyen</i> | SATCO/Theatre ASAP | 2004 |
| The Ballad of Henry Brown by <i>Sterling Houston</i> | The Renaissance Guild/AOS | 2004 |
| Miz Johnson & Mr. Jones by <i>Sterling Houston</i> | The Renaissance Guild/AOS | 2004 |
| A Percolation of the Truth by <i>Ashlee Gabrysich</i> | Firestarters Play Festival | 2001 |

Schools

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|---|----------------------|------|
| Found a Peanut by <i>Donald Margulies</i> | Antonian High School | 2003 |
| Spoon River Anthology by <i>Edgar Lee Masters</i> | Antonian High School | 2002 |
| Tom Jones by <i>Henry Fielding</i> | Antonian High School | 2002 |
| The Dining Room by <i>A. R. Gurney</i> | Antonian High School | 2001 |
| Hospital by <i>Tim Kelly</i> | Holy Spirit School | 2001 |
| Noises Off by <i>Michael Frayn</i> | Antonian High School | 2001 |
| And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson by <i>J. Leonard, Jr.</i> | Antonian High School | 2000 |
| The Tales of Hans Christian Andersen by <i>Tim Kelly</i> | Holy Spirit School | 2000 |
| An Evening of One Acts: | Antonian High School | 2000 |
| English Made Simple by <i>David Ives</i> | | |
| Second Best Bed by <i>Tim Kelly</i> | | |
| Balloon Shot by <i>Joe Manchester</i> | | |
| Poor Defenseless Creature scene from <i>The Good Doctor</i> by <i>Neil Simon</i> | | |
| Medea by <i>Wendy Wasserstein and Christopher Durang</i> | | |
| The Miracle Worker by <i>William Gibson</i> | Antonian High School | 1999 |
| The Emperor's New Clothes by <i>Tim Kelly</i> | Holy Spirit School | 1999 |

Assistant Directing

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|---|---------------------------|------|
| Jar the Floor by <i>Cheryl West</i> (Tony Horne, dir.) | Hattiloo Theatre | 2007 |
| As You Like It by <i>William Shakespeare</i> (Dennis Krausnik, dir.) | The University of Memphis | 2007 |
| Porgy and Bess by <i>Heyward/Gershwins</i> (Larry Marshall, dir.) | Opera Memphis | 2006 |

ACTING

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|------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------|
| Vagina Monologues | Ensemble | The Virginia Theatre | 2017 |
| Baldwin/NOW | James Baldwin | Uofl/Ping Chong Residency | 2016 |
| Sampson and Delilah | Delilah | The University of Memphis | 2007 |
| The Clearing | Madeleine Preston | The University of Memphis | 2006 |
| Lysistrata | Lysistrata | The Renaissance Guild | 2005 |
| Somebody Else's Life | Vanessa | The Renaissance Guild | 2005 |
| Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves | Fairy/Thief | Shoestring Shakespeare | 2004 |
| In the Blood | Bully/Welfare Lady | The Renaissance Guild | 2004 |
| Scent of Magnolia | Billie Holiday | ActOne Series/TRG | 2003 |
| Godspell | Ensemble | The Renaissance Guild | 2002 |
| Bee-Luther-Hatchee | Shelita Burns | The Renaissance Guild | 2002 |
| The Colored Museum | Miss Pat/Normal Jean | Hornsby Entertainment | 2001 |

Special Events

Gwendolyn Brooks Birth Centennial Celebration – dramatic reading of selected poems by Gwendolyn Brooks for the University of Illinois Rare Books and Manuscripts Library – Champaign, 2017

Yours in Sisterhood – dramatic reading for Irene Lusztig’s video art project based on letters written to Ms. Magazine in the 1970s – Champaign, 2016

Bloomsday – Dramatic reading of *Eveline* from *The Dubliners* by James Joyce – Champaign, 2012

Words in the Wind: Benefit for WILL Radio’s Book Mentor Project – Dramatic reading of *Bird Child* by Nan Forler - Champaign, 2010

Words in the Wind: Benefit for WILL Radio’s Book Mentor Project – Dramatic reading of *Show-Way* by Jacqueline Woodson – Champaign, 2009

Banned Books Month: The University of Memphis Library Series-Dramatic reading from Ray Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451* – Memphis, 2008

Banned Books Month: The University of Memphis Library Series-Dramatic reading from Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye* – Memphis, 2007

Banned Books Month: The University of Memphis Library Series-Dramatic reading from Paul Zindel’s *The Pigman* – Memphis, 2005

Gemini Ink – Writers in Communities Series: Readers Theatre performance of Sterling Houston’s compilation of essays by elderly writers recalling the history of San Antonio – San Antonio, 2002

National Spirit Project – Vo-du Macbeth: Performed the roles of Lady Macbeth and Hecate in the semi-staged Residence performance hosted by the Carver Cultural Community Center and under the direction of Lenwood Sloan – San Antonio, 2002

Gemini Ink – Autograph Series Luncheon: Readers Theatre performance of an excerpt from Terry McMillan’s *A Day Late and A Dollar Short* performed for the author – San Antonio, 2001

Black Magic – UIW Student Film Project: Performed the role of Malvina in Dwain Smith’s student film project based on the short story by Zora Neale Hurston – San Antonio, 1999

Stagedoor Manor (Theatre Camp): Served as camp counselor and video production instructor – Loch Sheldrake, NY, 1994

The Slavery Documents – World Premier by Donald Sur: Performed with the Cantata Singers, soloists and orchestra at Boston Symphony Hall – Boston, 1990

PRODUCTION

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|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|------|
| Silent Sky | Production Manager | The Station Theatre | 2018 |
| The Birds | Production Manager | The Station Theatre | 2016 |
| Gun Play(s) Series | Co-Production Manager | The Station Theatre | 2016 |
| She Kills Monsters | Co-Production Manager | The Station Theatre | 2016 |
| Scribbles: A New Play Festival | Selection Committee | The University of Memphis | 2008 |
| The Little Prince | Movement | The University of Memphis | 2007 |
| UofMemphis 2005/2006 Season | Costume Stitcher | The University of Memphis | 2006 |
| In the Blood | Stage Manager | The University of Memphis | 2005 |
| Frankenstein | Production Manager | The Renaissance Guild | 2004 |
| Beauty Queen of Leenane | Production Manager | The Sheldon Vexler Theatre | 2001 |
| Sleuth | Stage Manager | San Antonio College | 2001 |
| Visiting Mr. Green | Stage Manager | Firelight Players | 2000 |
| The Cripple of Inishmaan | Stage Manager | Firelight Players | 2000 |
| Theodora: Unauthorized Biography | Stage Manager | Firelight Players | 1999 |
| Creation of the World... | Stage Manager | Firelight Players | 1999 |

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Engagement and Professional Development

Devising/Directing Residency, Memphis, TN

September 2017

- Facilitated a four-day residency focused on directing, devising and ensemble building techniques for undergraduate students and dialogue around issues of diversity and inclusion in the arts with community and university arts leaders.

AUCCCO Conference, Burlington, VT

June 2014

- Presented with Dr. Dynesha Mason-Grissom a workshop on the benefits and challenges of the Inner Voices Social Issues Theatre program within the UIUC Counseling Center.

Big Ten Counseling Center Conference, Deerfield, OH

February 2014

- Presented with Dr. Theresa Benson an experiential workshop on Expressive Arts, the combining of a variety of art therapies for holistic well-being.

Grassroots Radio Conference, Urbana, IL

July 2012

- Presented with Austin McCann and Rachel Rasmussen a workshop entitled *Oppression and Collaboration* developed by Joe Minarik that focused on disempowerment and empowerment in the collaborative process within communities.

Sojourn Summer Institute, Chicago, IL

June 2012

- Engaged in theatre exercises and techniques of the Sojourn Theatre Company focused on engaging citizens, municipal officials and artists in using art to bring awareness and to find solutions for social issues.

Learning Exchange, Inner Mongolia/Shanghai/Beijing, China

May/June 2012

- Lead Devising Social Issues Theatre workshop for students at Inner Mongolia University Arts College and performed a solo performance piece for students and faculty.

ATHE Conference, Chicago, IL

August 2011

- Presented *Theory, Performance, Action: an Arts-Based Civic Dialogue on Gender Performance, Past, Present, and Future* with AnnMarie Saunders (University of Maryland-College Park) as part of the focus on Women in Theatre.

Learning Exchange, Bagamoyo/Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

April 2010

- Lead Social Issues Theatre Workshops for students at Tsoba School of the Arts in Bagamoyo, performed a solo performance piece and interviewed artists engaged in Theatre for Development in East Africa.

Common Ground, Memphis, TN

September 2008 – July 2009

- Served as a facilitator of civic dialogue groups on topics of race and poverty in the greater Memphis area.

Alternate ROOTS, Arden, N.C.

August 2008 – July 2009

- Served as a Regional Assistant for North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee
- Member of the Resources for Social Change group; and
- Co-Coordinator of Rhizome activities in Memphis

Awards and Grants

Prairie Rivers Network

Volunteer of the Year Award – 2017

City of Urbana Arts Grant

Urbana Arts Program for *The Water Project* – 2017

40 North/ACE AWARDS

Honored Nominee (Art in Community) – 2016

Puffin Foundation Grant

Received funding for *The Water Project* – 2016/2017

The Memphis Ostrander Award

Received a Special Award for Original Writing of solo performance piece entitled, *Rise* – 2008

Theatre Communications Group

Recognized as a *Young Leader of Color* in American Theatre by TCG – 2008

San Antonio Express News

Direction of *Otherwise Occupied* listed in *Best of San Antonio* - 2005

Alamo Theatre Arts Council

Received a Special Award for *Innovative Programming* for The Renaissance Guild's *ActOne Series*, 2005

Public Speaking/Panel Discussion

BNAAC, Discussion Panelist: Colorism in the Black Community – Champaign, IL

2016

LGBTQ Lunch & Learn, Guest Speaker: Children of LGBTQ – Urbana, IL

2013

Feminist Film Festival, Judge: Women's Resources Center – Urbana, IL

2013

Focal Point: Public Histories of Social Struggles, Panelist: Oral Histories – Urbana, IL

2011

San Antonio Theatre Coalition, Discussion Panelist: Producing Theatre – San Antonio, TX

2005

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| Palo Alto College , <i>Guest Speaker: Women's History Month – San Antonio, TX</i> | 2005 |
| Palo Alto College , <i>Guest Speaker: Community Theatre – San Antonio, TX</i> | 2004 |
| CityYear , <i>Guest Speaker: Social Entrepreneurship – San Antonio, TX</i> | 2004 |
| San Antonio Theatre Coalition , <i>Discussion Panelist: Audition Techniques – San Antonio, TX</i> | 2003 |

Service and Membership

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| Stage Directors and Choreographer's Society , Associate Member | 2016 – present |
| Prairie Rivers Network , Volunteer | 2016 – present |
| NAACP, ACT-SO Program , Theatre Coach | 2016 |
| The Station Theatre , Board of Directors | 2015 – present |
| UIUC/YWCA , Board of Directors | 2012 – 2013 |
| Heifer International , Volunteer | 2007 – 2009 |
| Memphis Farmer's Market , Volunteer | 2006 – 2009 |
| Graduate Student Association , Membership Coordinator/Member | 2006 – 2007 |
| Theatre Communications Group Conference (Atlanta) , Volunteer | 2006 |
| San Antonio Theatre Coalition , Producer Level Member | 2000 – 2005 |
| Texas Careers , Advisory Board (Paralegal Department) | 1999 – 2002 |
| YWCA San Antonio , Secretary/Board Member | 1999 – 2001 |
| Big Brothers, Big Sisters , Mentor | 1999 – 2001 |
| Alamo Theatre Arts Council , Judge Coordinator/Board Member | 1999 – 2001 |

CORPORATE EXPERIENCE

Paralegal: Intellectual Property

March 2005–August 2005

Harcourt Assessment, Inc. – San Antonio, Texas

- Reviewed requests to use Harcourt products for personal and academic research, administration, reproduction and translation;
- Prepared contracts and other correspondence granting/denying permission to use Harcourt products;
- Conducted research regarding possible infringement of Harcourt's intellectual property;
- Drafted "demand" and "cease and desist" correspondence for infringement issues;
- Maintained pending and executed contract files both hard and soft copy;
- Special Projects included: Internal Customer Service Survey and aiding with the updating of the legal department filing system.

Contract Specialist

July 2003–August 2004

Sirius Computer Solutions, Inc. – San Antonio, Texas

- Reviewed a variety of contracts for key issues regarding warranty, liability, indemnification, intellectual property rights, confidentiality and numerous business variables;
- Negotiated key issues with external customers and/or their counsel to the mutual benefit of both parties;
- Conducted research regarding legal name verification, bankruptcy and various UCC issues;
- Approved and prepared custom contracts for products and services for the sales team;
- Proofread all documents prior to counter-signature;
- Maintained pending and executed contract files both physically and electronically; and
- Special Projects included: Standardized contract templates and wrote copy for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page for company Intranet.

Paralegal Instructor*May 2002–July 2003*

Texas Careers/Kaplan Higher Education – San Antonio, Texas

- Prepared lesson plans, assignments, quizzes and tests and lectured on the following subjects: Contracts, Real Property, Business Organizations, Bankruptcy, Business Writing and Communication, and WordPerfect.
- Maintained attendance and grade databases and documented academic and disciplinary actions for administrative reporting.

Legal Assistant: Contracts*October 2000–May 2002*

Clarke American Checks, Inc. – San Antonio, Texas

- Prepared standard master agreements for the sales team;
- Reviewed and managed first-round negotiations;
- Maintained databases for financial services, contract cycle time and invoices for outside counsel matters;
- Proofread and distributed executed contracts; and
- Conducted research on special issues regarding FLA and NCUA.

Legal Assistant: Real Property*June 1998–October 2000*

Barton & Schneider, LLP – San Antonio, Texas

- Prepared and filed civil litigation documents (liens, petitions, motions) for residential real estate matters;
- Researched status of bankruptcies, probate issues and foreclosures as they related to such real estate matters;
- Drafted demand letters and violation letters;
- Conducted non-judicial foreclosure sales and assisted in trial appearances;
- Prepared monthly status reports for clients; and
- Maintained attorney's legal calendar.