

# Brianna Sloane

## Curriculum Vitae

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### OBJECTIVE

Academic and Professional Employment in Theatre Direction and Education

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Masters of Fine Arts, UMass Amherst (Directing)
  - Member: Actors' Equity Association
  - CoFounder and Co-Artistic Director, TheatreTruck, Pioneer Valley MA
  - Creative and multifaceted theatre professional with experience in directing, acting, devising, movement, voice, coaching and teaching.
  - Skilled at guiding a creative team or classroom toward achieving maximum potential.
  - Varied background includes mentoring, writing, administration, stage and production management, education and outreach for theater.
  - Specialities in mask and physical theatre, movement design and slapstick comedy
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### EDUCATION

**University of Massachusetts Amherst** | MFA in Theatre | 2014

Concentration: Theatre Directing

Thesis: *Peter Pan* by J.M. Barrie

Advisor: Gilbert McCauley

**Hampshire College** | BA | 2005

Self-Designed Concentration in Physical & Devised Theatre, emphasis on directing and performance

Advisor: Ellen Donkin

### OTHER TRAINING

**The Accademia dell'Arte** | Certificate | Arezzo, Italy, 2007

Year-long intensive study in physical theatre technique, emphasis on mask and Commedia dell'Arte.

(EDUCATION continued on the next page)

## EDUCATION, OTHER TRAINING (continued)

**Directing Internship**, Hartford Stage Hartford, CT 2011/12  
Assistant Director to Director in Residence Maxwell Williams on Boeing, Boeing.

**Theatre Education Internship**, Adventure Stage Chicago, IL 2010  
Edited Anthology of world folktales for use in Neighborhood Bridges programs nationally. Teaching Assistant for workshops including teacher development training for public school educators. Classroom observation and assessment for Neighborhood Bridges program.

**Theatre Education Internship** with Enchanted Circle Holyoke, MA 2005  
Administration and research support. Assistant on development of “Conga Phonics” curriculum for early readers.

## WORKSHOPS & MASTER CLASSES (Selected)

**Mask:** Commedia dell’Arte: Teatro Punto (Netherlands); Collectif Mask (France) Antonio Fava (Italy). Ancient Roman Mask Technique: Dario Garofola (Italy). Neutral, Larval and Character Mask: Hajo Schuller/ Familie Flöz (Germany), John Szostek/ Piccolo Theatre(Chicago), Collectif Mask (France).

**Clown:** 500 Clown (Chicago), Paola Coletto/Chicago Physical Theater.

**Voice:** Roy Hart Extended Voice Technique: Kevin Crawford (Italy). Linklater: Julie Nelson/UMass

**Improvisation:** Keith Johnstone, ComedySportz (Chicago).

**Feldenkrais and Acrobatics:** Claudia Schnurer (Italy).

**DanzTheatre:** Giorgio Rossi (Italy).

**Puppetry:** (Shadow, Bunraku, Rod & Backpack, Parade Objects): Blaire Thomas/Blaire Thomas Puppetry Co., Frank Maugeri/ Redmoon Theatre, Wendy Clinard/Clinard Dance Theater(Chicago).

**Berkshire Leadership Summit:** Creative Producing: Erin Washington/Soul Center; Artistic/Managing Director Relationships: Laura Penn/SDC, Mandy Greenfield/Williamstown Theatre Fest; Finance&Budgeting: Sarah Champnois (Company One)

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## AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

**Sponsorship** The Berkshire Leadership Summit 2017  
Invitation to attend inaugural summit as part of 80-woman cohort of leaders in professional theatre. Awarded complete sponsorship.

**University Fellowship Nominee** UMass Amherst 2011  
First ever Theater Department nominee for academic graduate fellowship.

**Sponsorship** The Accademia Dell’Arte 2007  
Awarded full tuition & board with invitation to complete Physical Theatre Certificate.

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## TEACHING

**Mt. Holyoke College** South Hadley, MA 2017-2018  
Visiting Lecturer in Theatre Arts

**TH 105-02: Introduction to Performance** (3 Semesters)

Instructor to 14-16 student ensemble course for majors and non-majors.  
Coursework focused on warm-ups/physical awareness, character development, text analysis, creation of original work, Stanislavski vocabulary, monologue and scene study.

**American International College** Springfield, MA Fall 2017  
Guest Instructor

**TH 471: Fundamentals of Performance**

Instructor of introductory performance curriculum.  
Emphasis on warm-ups and breath, character development, listening, improvisation, text analysis. Culminating monologue and scene performance.

**University of Massachusetts, Amherst** 2011-2014  
Instructor

**TH 140: Introduction to Acting Technique** - 2011-2014 (6 Semesters)

Instructed and advised two sections per semester of this professionally focused introduction to the process of acting for majors and non-majors.  
I worked with more than 30 students per semester on average. The class covered physical training, voice, text analysis and scene study with emphasis on drawing from personal experience.

**TH 493V: The Art of Adaptation** – Spring 2014

Teaching Assistant for advanced undergraduate adaptation and playwriting course.  
Taught session on the adaptation history of Peter Pan, through stage and screen.

**EN 397DH: Navigating the Edinburgh Fringe Festival** – Spring 2013

Teaching Assistant for intensive 2 week course in Scotland.  
Supported student experience through discussion and facilitating opportunities to process and critically analyze the work.

**TH 240: Beginning Voice for the Actor** – Fall, 2013

Teaching Assistant with six weeks as solo instructor during professor's leave.  
Led curriculum based in Linklater, with physically explorative technique leading to text work and culminating with scene-study.

(Teaching continued next page)

## TEACHING (continued)

University of Massachusetts, Amherst (continued)  
Instructor

2011-2014

**Intensive Workshop: Devising Panto** – January Term 2012

Instructor of my original curriculum.

Introduced stock characters and comic routines of Victorian Panto as adapted by Chicago's Piccolo Theatre. Worked with students to devise an original One-Act Panto adaptation of *The Snow Queen*, with music, which was created, rehearsed and performed in ten days.

Hampshire College

Amherst MA

2004

**Intensive Workshop: Mask –January Term 2004**

Teaching Assistant for mask design and performance intensive.

Assisted students in mask construction and performance techniques, led daily physical warm-ups and character mask movement work.

**Concerning the Spiritual in Art – Spring 2004**

Teaching Assistant for Interdisciplinary Arts & Humanities course.

Supported professor's instruction and led discussions for freshman seminar geared toward investigative discussion of texts, lectures and research around the themes in Kandinsky's book of the same title.

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## GUEST LECTURES / OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

UMass Amherst

Invited Instructor

**Guest Instructor, Advanced Acting.** 2016

Presented a *Commedia dell'Arte* physical theater workshop covering general history and introducing all major stock characters, physical rhythms and improvisation.

**Guest Instructor, Performance Studies.** 2016

Offered a single-session introduction to acting technique.

**Guest Instructor, Costume Design.** 2015

Visited twice to consult student designers on their concept for *Romeo & Juliet* and provide feedback from a director's point of view.

**Invited Lecturer, Introduction to Theatre.** 2012

Presentation on my production of *Machinal* with focus on text analysis and directing. Led exploration in Laban Movement.

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## GUEST LECTURES / OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE (Continued)

### Hampshire College      Invited Instructor

**Invited Co-Lecturer, Adaptation.** 2015

Discussion of TheatreTruck's work with the tangible history of Emily Dickinson in *The Emily Dickinson Project*.

**Theatre Alumni Symposium.** 2014

Featured Alum in full-day Theater Department event. Co-taught professional audition workshop. Presented retrospective on a decade of my work.

**Guest Lecturer, Feminist Theater.** 2013

Presented dramaturgy and analysis of my production of *Casanova* with focus on representation of sexuality and violence on stage.

**Guest Lecturer, Dramaturgy.** 2012

Presented research and imagery for my production of *Machinal*, with focus on production choices.

**Earth Matters on Stage Conference      Presenter      Pittsburgh PA 2012**

Co-Presenter of a collaborative paper addressing devising *Beyond the Horizon*, a festival of short original works speaking to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

**UMass Amherst      Assistant Production Manager      2012**

Supported theater department Production Manager in various administrative capacities; produced event featuring department involvement in Amherst Community Renaissance Festival.

**Hampshire College      Research Assistant      2002**

Assisted faculty member in research for his forthcoming book.

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## OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Selected)

**Williston Northampton School      Easthampton MA      2013-Present**

**Professional Mentor.** January 2018

Devising mentor to seven high school students exploring making original autobiographical performance.

**Guest Artist, Peter and the Starcatcher.** Winter 2017

Dramaturgy on Peter Pan's history and significance.

**Panelist.** May 2016

Invited Guest speaker on panel of theatre professionals for graduating seniors.

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## **OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Selected, Continued)**

### **Williston Northampton School (Continued)**

**Guest Instructor , Comedy of Errors.** September 2016

Led Commedia dell'Arte and physical comedy workshops with the cast.

**Guest Instructor, Servant of Two Masters.** September 2013

Led Commedia dell'Arte workshops with the cast.

**Teen Think Tank Homeschool Instructor**                      Leverett MA                      2015-2016

**Creative Response to Responsible Research.** Fall 2016, Spring 2016

Worked closely with six teenagers to mentor research projects in the area of their choice. Taught basic reading, writing and research technique, critical analysis and citation. Guided them in the creation of individual and group art projects and performances showcasing their research.

**Devising Theatre for Social Change.** Fall 2015

Worked closely with 4 teens to develop an original performance addressing community engagement and social action.

**Piccolo Theatre Education Outreach Director**                      Evanston IL                      2008-2011

Designed and implemented specialized workshops for theatre professionals and youth, including:

**Commedia dell'Arte: Mask and Movement Masterclass**

Taught workshops for adult professionals.

**Commedia dell'Arte Intensive for Teens**

Teaching Assistant to Artistic Director. Worked closely developing and implementing an intensive course for high-school aged students.

**Panto: Traditional Elements and Slapstick**

Taught workshops to actors on the history and stock characters of British Panto with focus on physical comedy, takes, timing and slapstick.

**Vaudeville Comedy**

Taught workshops on traditional vaudeville and situational comedy, including one-liners, physical character and mask.

**Piccolo Spring Break Camp**

As Founder and Director, recruited and supervised staff, facilitated enrollment and taught week-long theatre camp for youth.

**The Viola Project**                      **Guest Artist**                      Chicago IL 2011  
Taught workshops for 11-15 year old girls in mask-making and performance in tandem with Shakespeare curriculum.

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## OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Selected, Continued)

- Noyes Cultural Center**                      **Teaching Artist**                      Evanston IL 2009-2011  
Designed and taught summer-long courses for middle-school aged students in subjects including puppetry, spectacle object-making, mask, mosaic & garden art, Renaissance art and history
- Adventure Stage Chicago**                      **Teaching Artist**                      2009  
Teaching Artist for Jack Zipes' Neighborhood Bridges critical literacy program in public school system.  
Taught sessions in storytelling, creative writing and theatre culminating in final performance. Additionally worked in event support and led workshops.
- Swedish American Museum**                      **Contracted-Educator**                      Chicago IL 2009-2011  
Led interactive educational tours for school groups K-12 on Swedish life in the 1860s, immigration and life as an American homesteader

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## PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE: DIRECTING

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|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| <i>The Mill Project</i>                           | Developmental Incubation            | Greenfield MA  |
| <i>Wave Goodbye</i>                               | Developmental Workshop              | Amherst MA     |
| <i>The Mill Project</i> (Premier)                 | TheatreTruck                        | Leeds MA       |
| <i>Best in Class</i>                              | 6 x 6 x6 Play Festival              | Conway MA      |
| <i>St. Peter Will Just Have to Wait</i>           | Northampton 24 Hour Theatre Project | MA             |
| <i>The Water Project (Immersive)</i> (Premier)    | TheatreTruck                        | New Salem MA   |
| <i>Emily's Circus</i>                             | TheatreTruck                        | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Play with your Food</i>                        | New Century Theatre                 | Northampton MA |
| <i>Commedia Grab Bag!</i> (Premier)               | TheatreTruck                        | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Help Save the Monkey!</i>                      | Brave Bucket Productions            | New York City  |
| <i>The Aspect of the Place</i> (Premier)          | TheatreTruck                        | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Romeo &amp; Juliet</i>                         | Hampshire Shakespeare               | Amherst MA     |
| <i>The Emily Dickinson Project</i>                | TheatreTruck                        | Amherst MA     |
| <i>The Comedy of Errors</i>                       | Hampshire Shakespeare               | Amherst MA     |
| <i>The Emily Dickinson Project</i> (Premier)      | TheatreTruck                        | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Peter Pan</i>                                  | UMass Rand Theater                  | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Casanova</i>                                   | UMass Rand Theater                  | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Six Dead Queens:Revived!</i>                   | Piccolo Theatre                     | Evanston IL    |
| <i>Snow Queen: The Panto!</i>                     | UMass Cabaret 204                   | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Machinal</i>                                   | UMass Curtain Theater               | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Nightingale</i>                                | UMass Curtain Theatre               | Amherst MA     |
| <i>Six Dead Queens &amp; an Inflatable Henry!</i> | Piccolo Theatre                     | Evanston IL    |
| <i>Robin Hood: The Panto!</i> (Premier)           | Piccolo Theatre                     | Evanston IL    |
| <i>Perseus &amp; Medusa Panto</i> (Premier)       | Piccolo Theatre                     | Evanston IL    |
| <i>Dastardly Doings at the Depot</i>              | Piccolo Theatre                     | Evanston IL    |
| <i>Mr. Bear Speaks His Piece</i>                  | 20% Theatre                         | Chicago, IL    |

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## PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE: DIRECTING (Continued)

<i>Fantastikals Troupe</i>	Bristol Renaissance Faire	Kenosha, WI
<i>One Flea Spare</i>	Hampshire College Mainstage	Amherst MA
<i>Shakespeare, A Festival</i>	Hampshire College Mainstage	Amherst MA

### PLAY READINGS

<i>The Bickersons</i>	Piccolo Theatre	Evanston IL
<i>Archie and Mehitabel</i>	Piccolo Theatre	Evanston IL
<i>Dragon's Tale</i>	Kate the Great's	Chicago IL

### ASSISTANT DIRECTING

<i>Moving Day</i>	Dir. Chris Rohman	Northampton 24 Hour Play Festival/MA
<i>Tartuffe</i>	Dir. Gina Kaufmann	Shakespeare & Co./Lenox MA
<i>Boeing, Boeing</i>	Dir. Maxwell Williams	Hartford Stage/Hartford CT
<i>Urinetown</i>	Dir. Gina Kaufmann	The Rand Theater/Amherst MA
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Dir. Karen Yates	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
<i>Rough Crossing</i>	Dir. Zachary Taylor	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL

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## PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE: ACTING

<i>Where's Annie?</i>	Sarah Bitts	Play by Play/Northampton MA
<i>Jar The Floor</i>	Raisa	New Century Theatre/Northampton
<i>Commedia Grab Bag!</i>	Ensemble	Theatre Truck/Easthampton MA
<i>The Aspect of the Place</i>	The Woman	Theatre Truck/Amherst MA
<i>The Lonely Soldier Project</i>	Ensemble	VA Northampton & Soldier On
<i>Tartuffe</i>	Flipote/swing	Shakespeare & Company/MA
<i>Martha Martinez Washington</i>	Ensemble	TV Studio, Smith College
<i>Nightingale</i>	Deviser	Beyond the Horizon Fest/UMass
<i>Low Pay? Don't Pay!</i>	Antonia	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
<i>Six Dead Queens</i>	Jane Seymour	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
<i>Return of the Lump Brothers</i>	Ensemble	Bricks & Mortar Festival/Chicago
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Olivia	The Bricklayers/Chicago & Touring
<i>Vaudeville at the Custer Fair</i>	Various	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
<i>Rough Crossing</i>	Chorus <i>us/performed</i>	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
<i>Robinson Crusoe Panto</i>	The Captain	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
<i>Lust, Lies &amp; Marriage</i>	Pascariello <i>us/performed</i>	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
<i>The Light of Love</i>	Arlecchino	Promethean Theatre/Chicago IL
<i>Curse of the Goonies</i>	Chris Chambers	A.R.F.T.Co/Chicago
<i>Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i>	Ensemble	Rascal Children's Theatre/Chicago
<i>Slaughter City</i>	Chorus	GroundUp Theatre/Chicago
<i>9th Annual Winter Pageant</i>	Ensemble	Redmoon Theatre/Chicago
<i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	Mistress Ford	ADA/Arezzo, Italy
<i>BarbaBlu</i>	Devisor/BarbaBlu	ADA/Arezzo, Italy
<i>Commedia Cabaret</i>	Arlecchino/La Strega	ADA/Arezzo, Italy

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## PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE: ACTING (Continued)

<i>What Happened in Between</i>	Effie Littlechild	Emily Dickinson Stage/Amherst
<i>Hot 'N' Throbbing</i>	Voice Over	Smith College/Northampton
<i>The City that Cried Wolf</i>	Ensemble	Emily Dickinson Stage /Amherst
<i>Shakespeare: A Festival</i>	Puck	Emily Dickinson Stage /Amherst
<i>The Valerie of Now</i>	Valerie	Smith College/Northampton MA
<i>Virgin Vs. Virago</i>	Nihilist Cheerleader	Emily Dickinson Stage /Amherst

## FILM AND TV

<i>The Unidentified</i> (Feature)	Charlie Chaplin Impersonator	Dir. K.Tucker
<i>Julie's House</i> (Comedy Pilot)	Andrea	Dir. Jason Demma

## PUPPETEERING

<i>Legend of Icarus</i>	Solo	Cucuracha Cabaret/Chicago IL
<i>Persephone &amp; the Pomegranate</i>	Solo	Emily Dickenson Studio/Amherst
<i>Don Quixote</i>	Blaire Thomas at	Storefront Theatre/Chicago
<i>Quest of Theseus</i>		Clinard Dance Theatre/Chicago
<i>Annual Halloween Parade</i>		Redmoon Theatre/Chicago IL

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## STAGE/PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

Steering Committee	<i>Northampton 24 Hour Theatre Project</i>	2017
Production Manager	<i>The Water Project (Immersive)</i>	TheatreTruck
Producing Director	<i>The Emily Dickinson Project</i>	TheatreTruck
Asst. Production Manager	<b>UMass Amherst Theatre Department</b>	Spring 2012
Stage Management Mentor	<b>UMass Amherst Theatre Department</b>	2011-2014
Production Manager	<i>Renaissance Festival Verse Project</i>	UMass Amherst 2012
Production Manager	<i>Subscriber Reading Series</i>	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
Assistant Stage Manager	<i>Lust, Lies &amp; Marriage</i>	Piccolo Theatre/Evanston IL
Producer	<b>SplitBritches Residency</b>	Hampshire College/2005
Assistant Stage Manager	<i>New Play Festival</i>	Hampshire College/2004

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## THEATRE ADMINISTRATION

**Piccolo Theatre** Evanston IL 2009-2011

### Education Outreach Director

Worked closely with Artistic Director to establish program of courses, lectures and demonstrations serving professionals and youth at Piccolo Theatre, Northwestern University and the University of Chicago.

Curated guest artist program bringing five European physical theatre artists to Piccolo for public workshops, including Antonio Fava.

Worked in outreach across social media platforms and through the design and implementation of special events in tandem with Production Season.

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## THEATRE ADMINISTRATION (continued)

**Piccolo Theatre** (continued)

Evanston IL

**Volunteer Coordinator - Custer Fair Festival of the Arts** 2010-2011

Recruited local performers and community members for hospitality positions at the fair; ran trainings and provided support on the day of the event

**Outreach/Programming Coordinator - Evanston Arts Depot** 2010-2011

Produced and coordinated daily schedule of class offerings and special events. Maintained community presence through online and social-networking initiatives.

Curated monthly art exhibit in café Organized seasonal camps, managed registration and marketing and served as point of contact for guest educators and students.

**Hampshire College Theatre Board Community Contact** 2004-2005

Served as member of governing student board responsible for theatre season and budgeting.

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## GRANTS AWARDED

**Northampton Arts Council Grant** 2016

My grant to produce an original site-specific theatre work in Leeds, MA

**UMass Arts Council Grant** 2015

Grant was awarded to fund the development and workshopping of my piece, *The Emily Dickinson Project* at the Emily Dickinson Homestead in Amherst, MA.

**UMass Travel Grant** 2013

Grant was awarded to fund my travel as a Teaching Assistant for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival course offered through the English and Theater Departments

**UMass Performing Arts Travel Grant** 2012

Grant was awarded to fund my travel as a presenter at the Earth Matters on Stage Conference in Pittsburgh, PA.

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## MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

**Member, Actors' Equity Association** 2016-Present

**Cofounder & Co-Artistic Director TheatreTruck** 2014-Present

A roving Collaborative dedicated to site-specific and mobile performance, created sustainably and playfully.

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## MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS (Continued)

**Member, Steering Committee – Northampton 24 Hour Theatre Project** 2017  
Production Management, administration and artistic participation in a “play in a day” festival, in which original plays are written, rehearsed and publicly performed within 24 hours.

**Ensemble Member - Piccolo Theatre** Evanston IL 2008-2011  
Chicagoland’s only theatre company dedicated to comedy. Worked in various administrative capacities in addition to casting and artistic roles. Served as Education Outreach Director 2009-2011.

**Artistic Associate - The Bricklayers Theatre Co.** Chicago IL 2010-2011  
Performing member of masked theatre company, including role in Tri-State Tour of masked production of *Twelfth Night*.

**Midwestern Alumni Representative - Accademia dell’Arte** 2005-2011  
Supported Alumni outreach and organized events. Served as Auditor for ADA enrollment on occasion.

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## RELATED EXPERIENCE

**Navy Pier Entertainment Cast Member** Chicago IL 2006-2010  
Chicago’s largest tourist attraction. Performed various roles in stage shows as well as roving characters on the Pier, in City Parades and special holiday and event appearances.

**Bristol Renaissance Fair Cast Member** Kenosha, WI 2000-2006  
Interactive performance as multiple roving characters. Founded Fantastikal Troup with Artistic Director, worked as performer and character designer for mythological characters in airbrush makeup designs.

**Scene and Costume Shop Employee** Hampshire College 2001-2005  
Supported shop managers. Built costumes and scenic elements, organized costume stock and shop tools, arranged to borrow pieces from other institutions as needed, hung lights, painted sets and participated in all Strikes.