

EDUCATION

MFA- Acting- University of Connecticut, 1989

BA-Theatre, University of Southwest Louisiana-minors in Public Relations, Music, and Dance, 1986

WORK EXPERIENCE

Overview

As a theatre arts professional, since 1987 my career has spanned a broad spectrum of roles, responsibilities and geographies, through regular paid employment, special engagements, consultation, and donated services. My primary activities have included Professional Theatre Director, Performer, Production Designer and Manager, Artistic Designer, Educator/Coach. Among the venues where I have worked are the following:

- East Coast: Off-Broadway, Blue Heron, NYC, Jerry Rojo Environmental Mobius Theatre, CT, North Country Center for the Arts, NH, Connecticut Repertory Theatre, CT
- South: Tennessee Williams Theatre Festival, New Orleans, LA, Cite Des Arts, New Orleans, LA
- West Coast: Zephyr Theatre, LA, CA, Night Owl Players, Hollywood, CA, Zeum Theatre, Yerba Buena Center, New Conservatory Theatre, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, Circle of Life Theatre, San Francisco Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts, California Theatre Arts Crossroads Theatre, Walnut Creek, Knox Center for the Performing Arts, San Pablo, The Great American Melodrama, Oceana, The Novato Theatre Company, Novato, Berkeley Playhouse, and The Ross Valley Players, Ross.
- Educational: Diablo Valley College Performing Arts Center, Los Medanos College Theatre, Shasta College Drama, Contra Costa College Theatre, Loyola Marymount College Theatre

Actor/Production Advisor, Ross Valley Players, Novato Theatre Company, Circle of Life Theater January 2014-present

Key Responsibilities:

- Performing various roles in several productions.
- Assisting with design, costumes, set design, stage management and coaching, as needed to realize the Director's wishes.

Program Director and Principal Consultant, Cherangani Arts Initiatives

September 2013-present

Cherangani Arts is a privately-funded project dedicated to advancing performing arts education and participation for under-served disabled and disadvantaged individuals, groups and institutions.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead in developing strategies, recommending and framing projects, identifying and cultivating resources.
- Consulting, networking, research, training, guest lectures and workshops, mentoring, coaching, directing and teaming for collaborators and clients who share our objectives and can benefit from our skills and experience.

National Trainer, The Center For Teaching Effectiveness

February 2014-present

The Center For Teacher Effectiveness continues the work of Wooden and Hunter to optimize teaching in today's environment, in collaboration with leading educators, researchers and master teachers all around the United States.

Key Responsibilities:

- Provide teacher education, training and staff development in the United States and Canada.
- Redefine teaching and learning in schools and providing highly useful professional teacher staff development, producing and sponsoring high quality, in-depth training programs especially designed for K-12 education professionals.

Director, Writer and Consultant for Park-Rubin Studios/The Autism Channel

March 2012-present

Key Responsibilities:

- Conceptualizing and creating educational theatre productions, including scripts, design, sets, lighting, graphic art, costume, make-up and related curriculum, for autistic individuals, their families and supporters, and other special needs communities.
- Ensuring that all aspects of productions are completed efficiently, on time and budget, according to the designer/teacher/coach's objectives, and accessible to the special needs audience.

Chairman and Professor, Drama Department, Contra Costa College, San Pablo, CA**1994- 2013****Key Responsibilities:**

- Oversight of all Drama Department activities, participating in curriculum development and committees across campus, maintaining the highest possible level of instruction, increasing enrollment and successful retention rates with a sensitivity to the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, disability, and ethnic backgrounds of community college students. Supervision of full and part time teaching staff. Implementation of a team teaching approach.
- Reorganizing, developing and teaching courses in Stagecraft, Technical Theatre, Theatre Design, Costuming, Stage Management, Play Production, Playwriting, and Multicultural Perspectives in American Theatre, Acting, Directing, Oral Interpretation, Dance, Movement, Musical Theatre, and Theatre Appreciation.
- Production and direction of five to seven full scale student dramatic productions each year. Productions were selected and produced to engage, educate and stimulate the drama students, and to reach out to the broader college and community audience. All performance activities were highly budget-conscious, annually generating a net profit, which was applied to purchasing equipment and costumes to supplement the restricted departmental budget.
- Creation of new dramatic works, and adaptations of classics, to help reach and include a remarkably diverse student body of all ages and backgrounds.
- Mentoring and coaching of drama majors seeking to transfer to four year programs and/or pursue professional careers.

Director, Knox Center for the Performing Arts, Contra Costa College, San Pablo, CA**1994- 2013****Key Responsibilities:**

- Overall supervision of Performing Arts Center productions and other community activities, including planning, scheduling, finance and budget, production, performance, technical and safety matters.
- Given the College's mission to respect and advance the diverse ethnic, racial and religious communities it serves, special attention to ensure safe and constructive participation of Disabled Student Services, special needs students, the young students of the College's resident Middle College High School, senior citizens and international students with limited English language skills.

Special Events Production Management, Fundraising, Partnership Building, Marketing**2001-present****Key Responsibilities:**

- Managing and conducting educational theatrical operations, financial and strategic planning, communications, conceptual and production advice, and sponsor/volunteer activities for instructors.

V-Day, Until the Violence Stops

Craneway Pavillion, Marina District, Richmond Marina

The Vagina Monologues

STAND, Richmond Battered Women's Shelter

Rosie the Riveter Celebration

SS Red Oak Victory Ship, Richmond Museum of History

Hurricane Katrina Relief

Family location/relocation, emergency aid to evacuees

Romeo and Juliet in Bagdad

Muslim Student Association, Middle Eastern Gala

Manta Gawani-Kulintang Ensemble

Philippines Malingong-Ethnomusicologist, Usopay Cadar

Festival of the Virgin de Guadalupe

Contra Costa County communities of Spanish heritage

National Motivational/Keynote Speaker, Company of Experts, West Coast Region**1998 –2009****Key Responsibilities:**

- Project facilitation, keynoting and training of faculty and theater staff by directing staff development workshops on such topics as Re-energizing the College, Creating Community with Faculty, 5 year plans to increase growth for Faculty and Managers.

Instructor of Actors, Los Angeles Cultural Affairs, Los Angeles, CA**1990 –1991****Key Responsibilities:**

- Instructor of Dance in the L.A. County Probation Department, Juvenile Hall Youth Services.

Chairman, English Department, Arshag Dickranian School, Hollywood, CA**1988 –1992****Key Responsibilities:**

- Teaching freshman to senior-level English courses, Honors seminars, Introduction to Drama and Current Events.
- Fundraising for The Armenian Tutorial Project and The Armenian Orphanage Fund.
- Writing grant and scholarship proposals. Counseling students in college. Organizing Teaching Tolerance Program.

Instructor of Acting and Scene Study, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA**1988 –1990****Key Responsibilities:**

- Incorporating methods of organic movement explorations utilizing rhythm, animal essences, energy and music to expand students' creative potential.

Instructor of Acting, Oral Interpretation, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT**1986 –1988****Key Responsibilities:**

- Teaching organic and positive acting methodologies. Coach for URTA, SETC, and, NETC auditions.

AWARD HIGHLIGHTS

2014	Theatre Bay Area TITAN Award for Theatre Excellence
2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012	Theatre Bay Area Shellie Award Nominee: Best Play, Best Musical, Best Set Design, Best Director, Best Choreography, Best Costume Design
2007	Lee Hartgrave's FAME Best Play Award
2006	Dean Goodman Best Director in the Bay
2005, 2006	Lee Hartgrave's FAME Best Play Award
2000, 2005	Golden Apple Professor of the Year, Distinguished Professor Award
1990	Los Angeles nominee BRAVO Award for Outstanding Innovation and Excellence in Arts Education
1989	Los Angeles Drama Critics Award
1988	Victor Borge Award for Outstanding Performance 1988
1981	National Kennedy Center Irene Ryan Performance Award nominee

REFERENCES

Tom Ross, Artistic Director, Aurora Theatre, Berkeley, CA 510-843-4042 x306, tross@auroratheatre.org

Dale Albright, Director of Field Services, Theatre Bay Area, San Francisco Director of Field Services
415-430-1140 ext. *14, dale@theatrebayarea.org

Sandi Rubay Turner, Executive Director, Novato Theatre Company (415) 686-6410, sandirubay@comcast.net

Mary Ann Rogers, President, Governing Board, The Ross Valley Players (415) 302-3591, marodgers@sbcglobal.net

Richard J. Lee, Blythe & Lee, Theatre and Entertainment Law
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