

## PEDAGOGICAL GOALS

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*All the world's a classroom. I am committed to fostering students' artistic voices, craft discipline, social competency, and cultural literacy through exposure to the arts, radical inclusivity, and exploratory, project-based learning. With a deep commitment to social justice, I am passionate about theatre for social change and the creation of work that reveals and challenges the politics of identity in the lives of young people. As a professional theatrical designer, I aim to redefine the discourse around design in theatre education by distinguishing design from stagecraft and encouraging students to approach design conceptually rather than technically. I give students the tools to tell their own stories and to enact change within their communities, joining the ranks of theatre artists everywhere who have discovered, through theatre education, the immense cultural power of a story well told.*

## RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

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### ***Standby: An Approach to Theatrical Design***

A unique practical philosophy of design for the stage

Published by Southern Illinois University Press, 2022

Selection, "Top 75 Community College Titles," June 2023, *Choice*

Selection, 2023 Association of University Presses Book, Jacket, and Journal Show

For reviews and information, see [www.standbybook.com](http://www.standbybook.com)

### ***The Annotated Robert Edmond Jones: The Dramatic Imagination and the Harvard Lectures***

The definitive critical edition of the revolutionary writings of America's visionary theatrical designer

In submission stage (preliminary interest from an established publisher)

### **Anthology of essays on theatrical design**

In progress

## HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

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2021 – **Kean University Theatre Conservatory – Union, NJ**

### **FULL-TIME LECTURER IN THEATRICAL DESIGN**

Created original curricula for all courses:

- *Plays: On Page and on Stage*: an introduction to dramaturgy, script analysis, adaptation, performance theory, and academic writing via the work of Rick Elice, Ntozake Shange, Moisés Kaufman, Thornton Wilder, Margaret Edson, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Jeanine Tesori and Lisa Kron, Nehprie Amenii, and others
- *Introduction to Performance Design*: an overview of the disciplines of scenic, costume, lighting, and sound design for the theatre, with an emphasis on the theory and philosophy of design
- *Lighting Design*: an in-depth exploration of theatrical lighting design in which students execute a complete production design, with all supporting documentation and deliverables

- *Media Design*: a fast-paced tour of the disciplines of sound and projection design for the theatre, with an emphasis on the software and technical skills needed to design professional productions
- *Introduction to Theatre*: a theatre appreciation course with units on each of the theatrical disciplines – including playwriting, performance, devising, and theatre for social change – and a survey of theatre history taught via play texts
- *Technical Theatre Techniques*: A condensed lighting design course, taught on alternate days with stage management; part of a year-long sequence introducing students to four design and production disciplines

Co-taught Theatre Lab, a production work practicum

Designed lighting, projections, and/or sound for all mainstage department productions

Trained and supervised student crew members for “Behind the Scenes” production work course

Served on hiring committee and season selection committees

Structured departmental recruitment initiative featuring outreach to secondary schools, community programming, and a refresh of department marketing materials

Edited and designed playbills (often creatively themed and produced) for the mainstage season

## SCHOLARLY SPEAKING

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2022 **The Drama Book Shop** – New York, NY  
Spoke about *Standby* and my philosophy of design education

2022 **The Players** – New York, NY  
Spoke about the process of conceiving and composing *Standby*

## K-12 CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

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2017 – 2019 **Talent Unlimited High School** – New York, NY

### THEATRE TEACHER

Established design program and created original curricula for all courses:

- *Theatre as a Collaborative Artform*: students study theatre for social change, with an emphasis on deconstructing gender and race to arrive at a nuanced understanding of personal and cultural identity; students form a theatre company and produce an original devised documentary theatre piece based on their social change work
- *Introduction to Theatrical Design*: students study principles of set, lighting, sound, projection, and costume design; students learn stagecraft and software skills, and design mainstage school productions
- *Theatre History*: an exploration of the first 2,500 years of western and world theatre, via presentations, scene studies, activities, and discussions, with student facilitators
- *The Business of Art*: college and job applications, business skills, and finance

Designed 20+ mainstage productions; trained and supervised student crews

Wrote comprehensive proposal and successful grant application for auditorium renovation

2017 **LaGuardia High School** – New York, NY

### STUDENT TEACHING UNDER JOHN MAREAN

Supervised technical theatre students on set builds and electrics calls

Worked one-on-one with students to build skills in focusing, programming, wiring, and scenic painting

- 2017 **MS 51** – New York, NY  
**STUDENT TEACHING UNDER JOHN P. MCENENY**  
 Taught 6th grade unit on theatrical design, devising, and immersive theatre, including producing an immersive adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
 Facilitated process dramas, scenework, and songwriting with 6th, 7th, and 8th grades

## TEACHING ARTISTRY

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- 2016 – 2018 **Carnegie Hall** – New York, NY  
**"FUTURE MUSIC PROJECT" GUEST FACILITATOR**  
 Taught workshops on principles of design and the production process  
 Taught workshops for teens on lighting and projection design  
 Supervised student design work for concerts
- 2015 – 2017 **Marquis Studios** – New York, NY  
**TEACHING ARTIST**  
 Facilitated theatre residencies in public schools  
 Facilitated professional development workshops for teachers on Theatre of the Oppressed
- 2015 **PS 161** – New York, NY  
**TEACHING ARTIST; DIRECTOR**  
 Co-directed *The Lion King* for middle school drama program
- 2015 **The 52nd Street Project** – New York, NY  
**"BE A DESIGNER" CAMP TEACHER**  
 Worked one-on-one with participants to help develop and present their design visions
- 2013 – 2014 **PS 30** – Yonkers, NY  
**TEACHING ARTIST**  
 Taught weekly 7th grade workshops in creative dramatics, improvisation, and production roles
- 2012 – 2013 **SLC Theatre Outreach preshow workshops** – Yonkers, NY  
**TEACHING ARTIST**  
 Designed and led series of workshops on Shakespeare for middle and high school students to complement touring productions of *Twelfth Night* and *All's Well That Ends Well*
- 2011 – 2013 **The Graham School** – Hastings-on-Hudson, NY  
**TEACHING ARTIST**  
 Taught weekly 6th grade workshops in creative dramatics and improvisation  
 Produced an original musical (written with the students), *Bullies & Buddies*  
 Produced an original interpretation of *Pandora's Box*  
 See interview on [www.theatremania.com](http://www.theatremania.com)
- 2011 – 2012 **SLC Lunchbox** – Bronxville, NY  
**FACILITATOR**  
 Led weekly theatre program for elementary and middle school students
- 2011 **Allentown Public Theatre** – Allentown, PA  
**ACTOR; FACILITATOR**  
 Featured in *El Coquí and Other Tales from Borinquen*, touring bilingual play based on Puerto Rican folklore, and led related workshops for young audiences

2011 – 2013 **Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts – Bethlehem, PA**  
**GUEST ARTIST**  
Taught series of masterclasses in theatrical design theory and technique

2013 – **Freelance teaching artistry** (selected work)  
Brooklyn Community Services / PS 149 (introduction to acting)  
The New Life School (power, privilege, and status; Theatre of the Oppressed)  
Sisulu-Walker Charter School of Harlem (Theatre of the Oppressed)  
Alexander Hamilton HS (character and status work for musical)  
PS 30 (the devising process)  
Iglesia San Andres (creative dramatics workshops)

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## TYA EXPERIENCE

2016 ***Out of My Mind* · Harlem Children's Theatre Festival – New York, NY**  
**PLAYWRIGHT; DESIGNER**  
Wrote and designed original play for young audiences

2013 – 2014 ***Selfies* · Sarah Lawrence College Theatre Outreach – Yonkers, NY**  
**CREATOR; PLAYWRIGHT; DIRECTOR; DESIGNER**  
Directed and co-wrote original touring play for teen audiences about social media, cyberbullying, sexual identity, and the search for acceptance  
Toured to schools and other venues in Westchester County  
For media coverage and more info, see [www.slcselves.com](http://www.slcselves.com)

2006 – 2007 ***Starkids* · Stage Door Workshop – Allentown, PA**  
**PLAYWRIGHT; TEACHING ASSISTANT**  
Co-wrote original musical, *Starkids*, performed by six- to eight-year-olds  
Assisted teachers of musical theatre, creative dramatics, movement, and other courses

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## SOCIAL CHANGE WORK

Graduate school thesis: qualitative study of effects of Theatre of the Oppressed on underserved students  
Taught theatre for social change courses at Talent Unlimited High School  
Early member of feminist theatre company Electric Eye Ensemble  
As teaching artist, facilitated professional development workshops for teachers and students on Theatre of the Oppressed  
Designed and led theatre outreach programming in Yonkers for three years  
Directed and co-wrote original play for teen audiences about social media, cyberbullying, sexual identity, and the search for acceptance; toured to schools and other venues in Westchester County  
Wrote and designed original play for young audiences about living with cerebral palsy; presented at Harlem Children's Theatre Festival  
Trained in theatre for social change, theatre for conflict resolution, and constructed identity theory

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

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### Other teaching experience

Facilitated workshops on theatrical design with Electric Eye Ensemble  
Taught one-on-one sessions for adults in media design and programming  
Co-director of Summer Peace Program, Yonkers (2015)  
Taught graphic design workshops for college students (2011–2014)

### Active theatre practitioner

Extensive theatrical design experience: [www.jltheatricaldesign.com](http://www.jltheatricaldesign.com)  
Resident designer with Throughline Artists; regular guest designer at the 52nd Street Project  
Founding member of Electric Eye Ensemble, a feminist devising company

### Songwriting

Most recently, lyricist on *Welcome to the Doll Den* (Electric Eye Ensemble / The Tank)

### Directing and playwriting

### Acting experience, largely in TYA

### Oral storytelling

Member of Black Rose Storytelling Troupe (Allentown, PA) for five years  
Opening act and judge for Pennsylvania Youth Storytelling Showcase (2015)

### Graphic design, book arts, and web design: [www.jltypographicdesign.com](http://www.jltypographicdesign.com)

### Media appearances

“Book Release Party Celebrates New Philosophy of Design for the Stage,” *Broadway World*, 31 May 2022  
“Inside the Blanket Fort,” *WSIU / NPR*, 19 & 26 May 2022 (discussing book)  
“Selfies play explores social media and cyberbullying,” *Fox 5 News*, 6 May 2014  
“Selfies explores bullying in the age of social media,” *The Journal News*, 5 May 2014  
“Theatre Outreach for At-Risk Youth,” *TheaterMania U*, 21 November 2012

## FACILITATION EXPERTISE

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Theatre for social change and conflict resolution  
Constructed identity theory  
Theatrical design  
The collaborative process  
Devising  
Ethnodrama; documentary theatre  
Viewpoints theory  
TYA  
Oral storytelling  
Songwriting  
Shakespeare; poetry; textual analysis

## EDUCATION

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- 2017 – 2019 **Arthur Miller Foundation Theatre Education Fellowship**  
Awarded in recognition of vision for Talent Unlimited's theatrical design program
- 2015 – 2017 **City College of New York: Theatre Education Graduate Program** – New York, NY  
**MASTERS IN EDUCATION; NEW YORK STATE TEACHING LICENSE**  
Thesis: qualitative study of effects of Theatre of the Oppressed on underserved students
- 2010 – 2014 **Sarah Lawrence College** – Bronxville, NY  
**BACHELOR OF ARTS**  
12+ theatre courses, including theatre outreach and theatre for social change  
Awarded sLC Geraldine Putman Clark Scholarship for Outstanding Contributions to the Community (2013)  
Awarded sLC Student Achievement Award for managing Publication Space (2012)  
Awarded sLC Geraldine Putman Clark Scholarship for an Outstanding Junior in the Studio Arts Program (2012)

**Numerous professional development workshops, conferences, and trainings**

*References available upon request*