

SHANNON R. DAVIS

SELECT EXPERIENCE & REFERENCES

WOMAN. INDIGENOUS. STORYTELLER. QUEER.

OBJECTIVE

Inspiring positive change through community-building, facilitating, directing, and producing using the transformative tool of story-telling.

EDUCATION

MFA, Directing for Cultural & Social Awareness
MFA, Acting, (Dual MFA program), UW-Madison
BA, Theatre & Voice, UW- Whitewater
Cert., Moscow Art Theatre USA- Harvard

Select Seminars
IDEO Tokyo: Design Thinking-Any Problem
The People's Institute: Undoing Racism
Mochel Applied Attention: Mindfulness in Community

CURRENT AWARDS & ACTIVITIES

Cal Shakes Artist Circle Inaugural Member 2021-2023
Founding member of Bay Area Theater Accountability Workgroup 2020-now
Founded Bay Area Native Theatre Artists (BANTA) 2019-now
Active in Bay Area Native American/Indigenous arts & culture community

SELECT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

American Conservatory Theater 2021-present

Director of Community Connections

Develop & maintain meaningful and deep community relations, including defining community within ACT. Season planning with artistic team. Cast, engage, & manage artists for artistic and community programming. Help connect mainstage productions to local artists. Produce community and artistic events and support community partner performances. Reach out to underserved communities and create mutual aid plans. Guide guest artists to engage with local artist communities.

University of California Berkeley 2022-2023

Guest Lecturer

Directing a West Coast premiere of a new Native work at UC-Berkeley, Daughters of Leda. Teaching a re-invisioning of Greek classics class to accompany it.

Marin Shakespeare Company 2021

Development Director (contract)

Led donor relations & CRM. Cultivated new donors. Developed & implemented strategic plan, grants, gifts processing, & donor events. Managed junior team on donor communications. Planned capital campaign for new indoor theatre and education center.

Theatre Bay Area 2019-2021

Development Officer

Led donor relations & CRM. Cultivated new donors. Developed & implemented strategic plan, grants, gifts processing, & donor events. Managed junior team on donor communications. Produced annual gala: recruited and hired team & artists, & managed event planning (gala featured Speaker Nancy Pelosi & Daveed Diggs). Collaborated with marketing department to plan giving campaigns.

Theatre of Yugen 2017-2022

Current Director, Former Associate Artistic Director

Day-to-day operations, artistic and season planning. Currently: grant writing, casting, producing. Productions: Helen 2019, Puppets & Poe 2019, and Braided 2019-2022.

SELECT DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

† World Premiere + Musical * Union Performers

Dir Daughters of Leda UC-Berkeley (in process-2023)

Dir Much Ado About Nothing* San Francisco Shakespeare Festival

Co-Dir When We Connect*† A.C.T. Micro-commission, YouTube

Dir/Pro FLS Promo Videos*+† A.C.T./Freestyle Love Supreme, YouTube

Dir Neo-Symposium*† (staged reading) American Conservatory Theater

Dir Indigenous Excellence*+† Bay Area Theater Cypher, YouTube

Dir Missing†+* (an Indigenous Opera) Anchorage Opera (in process-2023)

Pro/Dir/Wri Braided†* (staged reading) Theatre of Yugen & CalShakes

Dir Men on Boats* Tantrum Theatre, Ohio University

Dir The Thanksgiving Play* American Conservatory Theater

Dir/Pro Together We Rise* Theatre Bay Area, YouTube

Dir The Rez Sisters+* New Native Theatre, Minneapolis

Pro/Dir Puppets & Poe†+* Theatre of Yugen

Dir/Choreo Yugen in Action†* Findads International Fest, Chile

Dir Helen* Theatre of Yugen

Assoc Dir Othello * American Repertory Theatre

Dir Ug † Berkeley Rep School of Theatre

Asst Dir Manahatta †* Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Asst Dir Othello * Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Dir Drama, Trauma, Dance-o-rama †+* StageWrite, Brava Theater

SELECT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Oregon Shakespeare Festival	2018 & 2019
Killian Directing Fellow, Assistant Director for Othello & Manahatta Worked as Bill's #2 for the 2018 season. Went to all fundraising and meetings and events. Assisted in the visioning of Othello and Manahatta.	
Berkeley Repertory Theatre	2017-2020
Instructor Taught Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre acting classes for adults. Built decolonized curriculum.	
SIG UC-Berkeley	2017
Musical Theatre & Acting Instructor Developed curriculum. Taught college-prep classes at UC-Berkeley summer school.	
YES Theater Program	2016-2018
Director & Teaching Artist Developed theatre for social awareness workshops, helped prepare campaign for program fundraising. Director for A Midsummer Night's Dream.	
StageWrite	2015-2018
Director, Teacher for Drama and Playwriting Classes Led weekly drama class, taught playwriting classes, and mentored students through writing a short play. Supervised and acted in performance of plays. Directed fully-produced AEA-cast play at Brava Theater.	
I.S.A.K. (International School of Asia Karuizawa Japan)	'13-'16
Instructor for Theatre Program, Diversity Workshop Facilitator Developed curriculum & taught Shakespeare for social awareness & acting. Created and led equity & diversity workshops for students from over 40 countries. Headed advisory group. Directed theatre productions. Assisted in design-thinking seminars. Developed school recruitment and retention through student assessments.	
University of Wisconsin Madison	2012-2015
Graduate Assistant, Instructor, & Advanced Opportunity Fellowship Developed acting 101 curriculum. Taught general acting classes to undergrads. Cast productions. Directed 3 shows. Held office hours. General acting and vocal coaching of undergrads. Represented AO Fellowship at major school events.	
UW-Madison Theatre Office	2012-2013
Work Study Student Office Help Updated handbook. Answered phones. Organized inventory. Systematized class schedules and curriculae.	
UW-Madison Film Festival	2013-2014
Work Study Student Office Help Record keeping. Archiving. General office work.	

SELECT DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

† World Premiere + Musical * Union Performers

Pro/Dir	Religomania †+*	Exit Theatre, SF Fringe Festival
Dir	Adulterating for Beginners †+	Musical Cafe, Ashby Stage
Dir	Mirrors, Smoke, & Getting Woke †+*	StageWrite, Brava Theater
Dir & Wri	Water is Life † (staged reading)	Facebook/Microsoft Research
Dir	A Midsummer Night's Dream+	San Anselmo Playhouse, YES Theater
Director	Monsters, Schemes, & Wild Things †+*	StageWrite, Brava Theater
Pro/Dir	Death of a Mime †	Pianofight, ShortLived Fest
Asst Dir	The Rover *	Shotgun Players
Director	Shakesbots: Robots & Shakespeare †	Microsoft Research
Asst Dir	The Lady Onstage †* (staged reading)	Playwrights Foundation
Dir	Lion King Kids +	Bay Area Children's Theatre & Disney Theatrical
Dir	Helen	Hemsley University Theatre
Dir	Summer Showcase †+	International School of Asia Karuizawa (4 years)
Dir	Am I Blue?	Mitchell University Theatre
Dir	An Evening of Poe †*	Hemsley University Theatre
Asst Dir	Summer and Smoke *	Mitchell University Theatre
Dir	Hotel Morocco †*	Salvage Vanguard, Echo Players
Asst Dir	Affections of May *	Hicklin Theatre, UW-Whitewater
Asst Dir	Terra Nova	UW-Whitewater
Dir	The Legend of Sleepy Hollow	Hicklin Theatre, UW-Whitewater
Dir	The Women	Hicklin Theatre, UW-Whitewater

VOICE

25+ years of singing, projection, and articulation lessons. Opera. IPA. Alexander Technique. Linklater. Feldenkrais. Skinner. Many dialects/accents known- can pick them up/teach them quickly. Assistant vocal coached and trained with Michael Cobb of The Denver Center.

MOVEMENT

Laban. Droznin. Kabuki. Kyogen. Noh. Butoh. Feldenkrais. Alexander Technique. 20+ years of dance lessons. Proficient in most dances. Salsa. Meringue. Cha cha. Ballroom & Argentine Tango. Foxtrot. Waltz. Swing. Lindy Hop. Tahitian. Hawaiian. Tap. Jazz. Ballet. Contemporary. Belly Dancing. Hip Hop. Fosse. West African. Polka. Square. Court Dances. Quick to learn/teach choreography. Trained in broadsword and knife. Certified in unarmed and single rapier.

ACTING

MFA. Classically & Stanislavski trained. Favorite roles include: Dumbledore, Lady Anne in Richard III, Ophelia in Hamlet, Ms. Saunders/Lin in Cloud 9, Bunny in The Desk Set, Elain in The Miss Firecracker Contest, Kess in Independence, and Scrooge in A Noh Christmas Carol. More acting credits available upon request.

SELECT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Beyond Acting Theatre School Co-founder, Director of Education, Private Coach Developed curriculum. Taught auditioning and acting classes. Fundraised. Advertised.	2010-2014
Echo Players Theatre Company Co-founder, Director, Producer Produced and directed shows. Cast productions. Ran concept meetings. Raised funds. Found 6 major corporate donors. Advertised. Acquired theatre space for productions.	2009-2012
Intelligent Office Media & Marketing Coordinator, Assistant Office Manager Researched, purchased, and analyzed leads. Designed mailers, emails, marketing correspondence. Revised handbook. Hired & trained new-hires. Consulted with small businesses on their day-to-day operations. Provided administrative support to law firms, CPAs, theatres, as well as other small business professionals.	2009-2012
UW-Whitewater Chancellor's Office Student Office Staff Updated handbook. Answered phones. Assisted Provost and Chancellor in daily tasks. General office work.	2006-2008
UW-Whitewater Library Student Periodical Staff Updated periodical catalog. Updated scholarly journal online database. Assisted librarians. General office work.	2006-2008
First Congregational Education Coordinator Built new rotation-style curriculum. Staffed administrative office. Maintain inventory.	2005-2006

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Eric Ting tingericting@gmail.com Former Artistic Director Co-Founder	718-490-4236 California Shakespeare Theater Bay Area Accountability Work Group	Colleague
Mina Morita minam@crowdedfire.org Artistic Director Co-Founder	510-928-7021 Crowded Fire Theatre Company Bay Area Accountability Work Group	Colleague
LeeAnn Dowd leeann.dowd@gmail.com Artistic Producer Co-Founder	925-588-9679 California Shakespeare Theater Bay Area Accountability Work Group	Colleague
Larissa Kelloway larissa@kelloway.com.au	925-393-8843	Colleague/Actor
Bill Rauch brauch@thepelerman.org Former Artistic Director Artistic Director	Oregon Shakespeare Festival Perelman Performing Arts Center	Supervisor, Mentor

FORMER AWARDS & ACTIVITIES

National Endowment of the Arts Grant for BRAIDED 2021
Kenneth Rainin Foundation Grant for BRAIDED 2021
Zellerbach Family Foundation Grant for BRAIDED 2021
Performing Arts Worker Relief Fund Producer for Theatre Bay Area 2020
Phil Killian Directing Fellow at Oregon Shakespeare Festival 2018
Best of Madison Entertainment Division Plays Director 2014
Charlene M. Wackman Award Recipient 2014
Helen K. Hermann Memorial Scholarship recipient 2013
Advanced Opportunity Native Graduate Fellow 2012-2015
Ken Lempart Memorial Directing Award 2008
National Award for Scene Painting, Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival 2006
President and teacher- UWW Social Dance Club 2005-2007
Lawton Grant Native Scholar 2005-2008
Angela Peckenpaugh Award for Superior Student Writing 2005
Janesville District Outstanding Musical Achievement 2000
Ladies Auxiliary VFW Superior Writing Award – 1999