

DAVID H. PARKER (they/them)

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Education & Training

MASTER OF FINE ARTS – UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

- Specialization in Directing
 - Thesis “FAIRVIEW: The Play That Refused to Play Fair”

BACHELOR OF ARTS – UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

- Specialization in Directing & Acting
 - Thesis “IT STARTS WITH THE SHOES, or: How Gender Performs for Itself”

Employment History

ACADEMIC

- University of California, Los Angeles – California (MFA, 2021 – 2024)
Teaching Associate (September 2022 – June 2024)

PROFESSIONAL/CONSULTANCY

- Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective – Alabama
 - Co-Artistic Director** (January 2024 – Present)
 - Guest Director** (September 2019 – August 2023)
- Donja R. Love’s “[Write It Out!](#)” – New York City
 - Guest Director** (November – December 2024)
- [Inheritance Theater Project](#) – Los Angeles
 - Co-Director** (January 2024 – June 2024)
- Freelance Director & Actor (2015 – Present)
 - Union:** [Stage Directors and Choreographers](#) (February 2023 – Present)
 - Former Representation:** arrayagency (2022 – 2023)

Professional Teaching Experience

TEACHING ASSOCIATE

<i>TH 120A: Acting in Film</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Professor Peter Shushtari	2024
<i>TH 12: Intro to Performance</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Professor Marike Splint	2023
<i>TH 10: Intro to Theatre</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Professor David Gorshein	2023

<i>TH 160: Intermediate Directing</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Professor Angela Scott	2023
<i>TH 15: Intro to Directing</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Professor Jennifer Chang	2023
<i>TH 12: Intro to Performance</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Professor Marike Splint	2022

Professional Creative Experience

DIRECTING - THEATRICAL

<i>Fat Ham (Broadway)</i>	Geffen Playhouse	Associate Director dir. Sideeq Heard	2024
<i>Guess Who's Coming to the Juneteenth Seder?</i>	Inheritance Theater Project	Co-Director co-dir. Zhailon Levingston	2024
<i>The Box</i>	Ensemble Studio Theatre Los Angeles	Co-Director co-dir. Judy Moreland	2023
<i>Afro Tales</i>	Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective	Co-Director co-dir. Devin Franklin	2023
<i>The Glorious World of Crowns, Kinks, and Curls</i>	Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective	Associate Director dir. Aija Penix	2023
<i>Patience</i>	2 nd Stage Off-Broadway	Associate Director dir. Zhailon Levingston	2022
<i>TX, 4 More Years</i>	East West Players, Los Angeles	Writer / Director	2022
<i>Is Anybody Out There?</i>	Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective	Director	2021
<i>A Matter of Conscience</i>	Vulcan Park & Museum	Director	2021
<i>Sugar In Our Wounds</i>	Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective	Assistant Director	2019

PRODUCING

<i>Intergenerational Theatre Lab</i>	Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective	Producer	2024
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<i>Intergenerational Theatre Lab</i>	Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective	Associate Producer	2023
<i>Blacksighters</i>	Atypical Studios	Writer / Producer	2021
<i>Sunrise</i>	Obsidian Films	Associate Producer	2018

ACTING – COMMERCIAL

<i>Cameron Forbes - Send Nudes</i>	Music Video	Featured Dancer	2021
<i>UPSAHL - Time Of My Life</i>	Music Video	Featured Dancer	2021
<i>Big Cookin'</i>	Commercial Spot	Chef	2021
<i>Regions Bank</i>	Commercial Spot	ATM Bank Teller	2020
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream (Touring)</i>	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Lysander, Oberon, Flute	2020
<i>A Matter of Conscience (Touring)</i>	Vulcan Park & Museum	W.E.B DuBois	2018-2021
<i>The Dinner Detective</i>	The Redmond Hotel	The Dinner Detective	2018-2020

Educational Experience

DIRECTING - THEATRICAL

<i>Fairview</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Director	2024
<i>Tell Me I'm Gorgeous at the End of the World: The Last Gay Play</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Director	2023
<i>I'm Here Now</i>	University of California, Los Angeles	Director	2022
<i>It Starts With the Shoes</i>	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Writer / Director	2021
<i>Disconnect</i>	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Co-Director / Co-Creator co-dir. Roy Lightner	2021
<i>The Unhappiest State</i>	KCACTF Region IV	Director	2020

ACTING - THEATRICAL

<i>The Glass Menagerie</i>	University of Alabama at Birmingham dir: Dennis McLernon	Tom Wingfield	2020
<i>Yellow</i>	Theatre Downtown dir: Rhonda Erbrick	Kendall Parker	2019
<i>Hay Fever</i>	University of Alabama at Birmingham dir: Dennis McLernon	Richard Greatham	2019
<i>Angels in America</i>	University of Alabama at Birmingham dir: Hayley Procacci	Prior Walter	2018
<i>Hairspray</i>	University of Alabama at Birmingham dir: Valerie Accetta	Motormouth Kid Swing	2018

Creative Scholarship

BIRMINGHAM BLACK REPERTORY THEATRE COLLECTIVE (*Jan 2024 – present*)

- Responsible for the execution of the Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective (BBRTC) Strategic Plan and Yearly Work Plan. The duties of the dual Artistic Director leadership roles are delegated through a consensus-based participatory work model.
- Helps maintain BBRTC's mission of "building power and capacity for marginalized artists while catalyzing a culture of Black theatre in the South[ern US...] envisioning a future where artists living within the margins of the margins can thrive, are celebrated, and have access to creative capital in order to work toward a world of communal liberation."
- The flagship educational program, the "Intergenerational Theatre Lab," is propelled by social justice best practices in the context of a theatrical environment, drawing on N'Tanya Lee's principled struggle, range of tolerance, and culturally-specific devising framework. Student and professional participants of BBRTC's programming engage in implement these artistic boundary-pushing tools in their processes and practice.
- Direct Reports: Co-Artistic Director, Director of Operations, Director of Development, Chief Junior Artistic Partner, Artistic Advisory Board.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON “UO TEACH” (2020)

- A professional panel in partnership with podcast *The Queer Code* co-facilitated by the hosts to reflect on the experiences of Black Queer students in higher education. Undergraduate undeclared students engaging with the panel were given the opportunity to hear personal testimonials as well as reflect on their own experiences and further excavate through a Q&A session.

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM ARTS IN MEDICINE (2020)

- A professional panel in partnership with podcast *The Queer Code*, co-facilitated by the hosts to reflect on the experiences of Black Queer students in higher education. The general audience of over 300 was given the opportunity to hear personal testimonials as well as reflect on their own experiences and further excavate through a Q&A session during the live episode recording.

ATYPICAL STUDIOS (2020-2022)

- Housed and Executive Produced the podcast *The Queer Code* (2020-2022), a podcast centered around the intersections of Black + Queer art, mental health, and pop culture, as well as conferred the lateral flexibility to expand the company’s reach to other short films such as the co-production with Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective *is anybody out there?* (2020) and *BLACKSIGHTERS* (2021).

Press Coverage

Los Angeles Times (4/8/2024)	“Fat Ham at Geffen Playhouse slathers barbecue sauce on ‘Hamlet’ for delicious comedy”
CanvasRebel (2/29/2024)	“Meet David H. Parker & Aija Penix”
Teen Vogue (9/21/2023)	“GLAAD Hosts Black Queer Creative Summit, the First of Its Kind, in Los Angeles”
VoyageLA (6/12/2023)	“Life & Work with David H. Parker”
Forbes (6/3/2023)	“GLAAD Establishes First-Ever Black Queer Creative Summit”
New York Times (8/18/2022)	“Patience: At the Top of His Game, And Lonely”
DailyBruin (2/7/2022)	“Student-directed play drives home consequences of suppressed emotions”

Playbill (1/19/2021)

“Broadway Advocacy Coalition Announces 1st
Round of Cody Renard Richard Scholars”

reckon (12/9/2020)

“Devin and David: Creating a Southern, Black,
queer renaissance ”

Fellowships / Residencies

Inaugural Playwrights Roundtable – Rogue Machine Theatre (January – July 2024)

Inaugural Black Queer Creative Summit – GLAAD (September 2023)

White Oak Artist Residency – SIPP Culture (August 2023)

Bridge Grant – Dramatists Guild Foundation (April 2023)

Hantext Playwriting Group – Pothos Arts & Theater House (September 2022 – February 2023)

Inaugural Cody Renard Richard Scholarship – Broadway Advocacy Coalition (Jan – April 2021)

Awards / Honors / Nominations

University of California, Los Angeles (MFA, 2021 – 2024)

George Burns and Gracie Allen Award in Comedy (2022 & 2023)

John H. and Patricia W. Mitchell Scholarship (2022 & 2023)

Graduate Opportunity Fellowship Program (2021 – 2022)

Birmingham Black Repertory Theatre Collective

BBRTC x The Artist Society Scholarship (2021)

Inaugural Community Leadership Award (2020)

Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival

Special Achievement in Directing for *Disconnect* (2021)

Special Achievement in Overall Production Design for *Disconnect* (2021)

Citizen Artist Award for *Disconnect* (2021)

Excellence in Directing for *Disconnect* (2021)

Sonja Parks’ Choice for Student Leaders of Color Panel (2020)

Irene Ryan Nominee (2018 & 2020)

Regional Acting Competition Finalist – National Society of Arts & Letters (2019)

“Best Writers Symposium” Honoree – University of Alabama at Birmingham (2019)

Official Selection for *Sunrise* – Sidewalk Film Festival (2018)