

# BRITTNEY S. HARRIS

[www.brittneysarris.com](http://www.brittneysarris.com)

## EDUCATION

- 2015-2018 University of Georgia: Athens, GA  
Master of Fine Arts in Acting
- 2008-2011 Old Dominion University: Norfolk, VA  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting, Minor in Communications

### *Trainings*

Community Engagement Theater Intensive, Cornerstone Theatre Co. Los Angeles, CA.

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019-present Old Dominion University, Department of Communication and Theatre Arts  
— Assistant Professor of Theatre (7/2020-Present)  
— Visiting Assistant Professor: Theatre (8/2019-7/2020)
- 2018-2019 Virginia Tech, Department of Theatre and Cinema Studies  
— Post-MFA Teaching Fellow
- 2015-2018 University of Georgia, Department of Theatre and Film Studies  
— Instructor

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Race and Performance, Devised Theatre, Solo Performance, Theatre for Social Change, and Performance as Activism

## COURSE INSTRUCTION

### Old Dominion University

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| COMM/THEA 495  | Special Topics: Solo Performance/ Art of Solo (Created New Course) |
| COMM/THEA 495  | Special Topics: Comm, Performance, & Activism (Created New Course) |
| DANC/THEA 152R | Acting One   |
| THEA 352       | Acting Three   |
| THEA 241A      | The Theatre Experience   |
| THEA 320       | Auditioning Technique  |

### Virginia Tech

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| TA 2024 | Introduction to Acting   |
| TA 2404 | Intro to Applied Collaborative Tech (I-ACT) (Created New Course) |

### University of Georgia

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| THEA 2010      | Acting for Non-Majors  |
| THEA 2000      | Theatre Appreciation   |
| UNIV 1201S     | Learning for Success at the University                           |
| THEA 7710S     | Community-Based Theatre (Asst. Instructor)                       |
| AFAM/THEA 4480 | History of African American Drama and Theatre (Asst. Instructor) |

## HONORS AND AWARDS

### *Research/Arts-based*

- Feb. 2023 Finalist for 12<sup>th</sup> DMV International Film Festival, Official Selection for *Pedigree*
- Jan. 2023 Finalist for 2023 Seven Cities Showcase of Hampton Roads, Official Selection for *Pedigree*  
- Winner for Best Actress
- Oct. 2022 Finalist for 11<sup>th</sup> International Social Change Film Festival, Official Selection for *Pedigree*  
- Winner for Best Woman Director
- The Ivoryton Playhouse, Women Playwrights Festival 2022, Official Selection for *How to Tie a Tie*
- June 2022 The Heritage Ensemble Theatre Company, 2022 Summer Staged Reading Series, Official Selection for *The Amazing Jason* and *How to Tie a Tie*
- April 2022 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region IV Achievement in Directing for *Intimate Apparel*
- Jan. 2022 Finalist for 2022 James River Short Film Festival, Official Selection for *Pedigree*
- Nov. 2021 Finalist for 2021 National 'The Breath Project' Festival, Official Selection for *Pedigree*
- 2021 Red Clay Plays, Inaugural Southern Black Playwrights Forum 2021: MOJOAA Performing Arts Company, Official Selection for *How to Tie a Tie*
- 2020 Robert C. Anderson Memorial Award in Post- Graduate Research Accomplishment  
*Recipient*, University of Georgia
- Firecracker Productions, 5 Minute Play Virtual Project, Houston, TX.  
1<sup>st</sup> Official Selection for *Pedigree*
- 2019 Fade to Black Play Fest, 10 Minute Play Competition 2019, Official Selection for *The Amazing Jason*
- 2018 August Staub Graduate Student Award in Theatre  
*Recipient*, University of Georgia
- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, National Short Play Award  
*Honorable Mention* for *How to Tie a Tie*
- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region IV  
National John L. Caubel Short Play Award, *1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner* for *How to Tie a Tie*
- 2017 Performance Studies Institute at Northwestern University:  
Narrative, Beauty, and Improvisation, *nationally selected participant/performer*

*Service-based*

2021 African American Creative Community Series (AACCS), Norfolk Public Library  
*Recipient*

2021 John R. Broderick Diversity Champion Award, *Recipient*

2017- Graduate Emerging Leader, University of Georgia  
2018

**PUBLICATIONS**

*Books and digital files*

Harris, Brittney. *The Amazin' Jason: 10-Minute Play*. Kindle Direct, 2022.

Harris, Brittney. *How to Tie a Tie: A Short Play*. Kindle Direct, 2022.

Harris, Brittney. *Best Women's Monologues 2021 Anthology: "How to Tie a Tie"*. Smith & Kraus Publishers, Hanover, NH. 2021.

**APPLIED CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP: DIRECTOR**

08/2022- TAG! YOU'RE IT!

10/2022 Director, Playwright, Project Concept  
ODU Rep/Old Dominion University

A devised/new play development. Presented as part of the mainstage performance season for the Theatre program at Old Dominion University. *TAG! You're It!* is an interactive, ensemble-based devised theatre piece utilizing the Boalian technique of Image Theatre.

In a 4-week rehearsal process, the ensemble cast created and devised original text/literature (poetry/rap, choreography, etc.) that explores issues of individualism, unmasking/unveiling of freedom, creative self-expression through performance, resistance, and protest.

01/2022- THE IN[HEIR]ITANCE PROJECT: *EXODUS COASTAL VIRGINIA*

05/2022 Assistant Director

A devised/new play development. Presenting as part of the 2022 Virginia Arts Festival. Invited into the production process as a 'local' artistic collaborator with the primary focus of maintaining the cultural integrity of this newly devised piece. The Coastal Virginia Exodus Play is an original play created and developed with the 757/Hampton Roads community that will be shaped and refined with the cast.

The performance had community outreach elements including a panel-based 'Liz Lerman' discussion.

09/2021- INTIMATE APPAREL

11/2021 Director

ODU Rep/Old Dominion University

Presented as part of the mainstage performance season for the Theatre program at Old Dominion University.

8-week rehearsal process, regulated by COVID-19 protocols and restrictions. From my director statement 'our redefining of Nottage's breathtaking text aims to comb out the desires within and expose them at their seams. Our production is a patchwork quilt of woven narratives stitched together over time through the themes of gender, race and class, and

religion. We seek to open a space within which to examine, through a different lens, the silhouettes of the “history of the present” and its complicated tensions wrought of contradictory desires.

- 05/2021-  
06/2021     **THE HIDDEN HISTORY: THE BANJO, A CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH**  
Director, Project Concept  
Zeiders American Dream Theater  
A devised/new play development. Presented as part of the City of Virginia Beach Cultural Affairs to re-launch their ‘Globally-Inspired Gatherings’ summer season. The “Hidden History: The Banjo” will premiered as a celebratory piece about Juneteenth as a salute to freedom through expression and creativity. This performance includes an array of music, dance, and spoken word poetry from talented local artists, devised over the span of 5 weeks.
- 09/2020-  
11/2020     **SYMPTOMATIC: IRL**  
Director, Playwright, Project Concept  
ODU Rep/Old Dominion University  
A devised/new play development. Presented as part of the mainstage performance season for the Theatre program at Old Dominion University. *Symptomatic: IRL* centers on embodying the psychological dilemma and chaos of the COVID-19 pandemic and national regulations. This show intends to amplify the complex narrative that embraces the absurd contradictions of the COVID-19 and its diagnoses/treatments and its adverse effects on our social lives and livelihoods.
- 01/2020-  
03/2020     **ECHOES: TRANSCENDING THROUGH STORY**  
Director, Playwright, Project Concept  
ODU Rep/Old Dominion University  
A devised/new play development. Presented as part of the mainstage performance season for the Theatre program at Old Dominion University. *Echoes* centered on deliberately targeted the generational echoes of caution and criticism that ring in every woman's ears: that "mother within" whose cautions and criticism benefit only their oppressors.
- The performance had community outreach elements including a panel discussion titled ‘*Young Women Talking Change the World: Telling Stories to ignite Social Change.*’
- 11/2016     **THE SHAPE OF THINGS**  
Director  
University of Georgia  
Presented as part of the studio stage season for the Theatre program at University of Georgia.
- 04/2016     **BEAUTY UNCHAINED**  
Director, Playwright, Project Concept  
University of Georgia  
Devised/New Play development. main preface for the project was to embody the essence of Black Theater, script development, devised over the course of the Spring 2016 semester at University of Georgia.

**APPLIED CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP: DEvised THEATRE MAKER**

- 06/2022-     **RIVER STORIES: ‘Ur Roots Amplified’ extended project**  
07/2022     *Creative Content Development Lead*

Community Engagement Project with Dept. of Communication and Theatre Arts at Old Dominion University, Teens with a Purpose

Summer-based creative applied theatre performative project; performance locations: project incorporated visual art, spoken word poetry, cultural dance, and audio recordings of 'River Stories' highlighting the 'whole human' and their journey through life in Tidewater Gardens and St. Paul's Quadrant.

- 09/2021- THE IN[HEIR]ITANCE PROJECT: *EXODUS COASTAL VIRGINIA*  
05/2022 *Creative Content for Devised Theater, In-field Research Contributor*  
Project Overview: an examination of the history and lived experiences of the people of Hampton Roads in relationship to the themes and narrative of the book of Exodus. A final play will premiere at the Virginia Arts Festival in May 2022 at the Attucks Theater.

Community partners include (not limited to) Virginia Arts Festival, Zeiders American Dream Theater, Teens with a Purpose, and WHRO  
Project website: [www.inheirance.org](http://www.inheirance.org)

- 02/2022 THE CULTURAL LEGACY OF THE ATTUCKS, *A Creative Exploration*  
*Project Co-Lead, Creative Content Development Lead*  
Community Engagement Exploration with In[HEIR]itance Project & YWCA South Hampton Roads

A creative exploration centered on the history of the Attucks Theatre and exploring how creativity and cultural legacy impacts health and wellness.

- 07/2021 WHOLE HUMAN/ I AM BEAUTIFUL: '*Ur Roots Amplified*' extended project  
*Creative Content Development Lead*  
Community Engagement Project with Dept. of Communication and Theatre Arts at Old Dominion University, Teens with a Purpose  
Summer-based creative applied theatre performative project; performance locations: project incorporated visual art, spoken word poetry, cultural dance, and audio recordings of 3 primary subjects highlighting the 'whole human' and their journey through life in Tidewater Gardens.

- 06/2021 THE HIDDEN HISTORY: THE BANJO, *A Celebration of Juneteenth*  
*Project Lead, Project Consultant, Creative Content Development Lead*  
Creative performative project in script development and performance creation partnering with Zeiders American Dream Theater, City of VA Beach Cultural Affairs, VB GIGS, Teens with a Purpose, and Tidewater African Cultural Alliance.

- 03/2021 INTERSECTIONS OF RACE AND GENDER JUSTICE: *A Performative Discourse*  
*Project Consultant, Creative Content Development Lead*  
Contributed Augusto Boal's *Theatre of the Oppressed* methodology of 'Image Theatre' and Cornerstone Theater Company's 'community-based collaboration technique' for an interactive theatrical exploration of space, time, and body in response to attacks on the Capital in January 2021.

Consulted with the Dept. of Women's and Gender Studies at Virginia Tech and Virginia Tech Women's Center.

- 11/2020 THE RACE 2020  
*Creative Content Contributor*  
 Contributed Augusto Boal's *Theatre of the Oppressed* methodology of 'Image Theatre' creative content for an interactive live-streamed theatre performance that combines spectacle and collaborative conversation to investigate the state of our democracy; consulted with the Virginia Tech School of Performing Arts and The Civility Project.
- 07/2020 2020 ODU SUMMER ARTS SERIES: RESILIENT STILLNESS— *A Project about Stillness and Togetherness*  
*Project Lead, Creative Content Development Lead*  
 Virtual Performative Community Engagement Project/Workshop  
 Documented in the creation of an archivable video montage, *Resilient Stillness* blends together each participant's physical embodiment of embracing the theme of "stillness" during the COVID-19 pandemic. Led and provided a collaborative tool devised from Augusto Boal's *Theatre of the Oppressed* technique 'Image Theatre' in which still images are used to explore abstract concepts, such as relationships and emotions, as well as realistic situations.
- 07/2020 ADVENTUROUS TEEN SUMMER EXPERIENCE: *'Ur Roots Amplified'*  
*Project Lead, Creative Content Development Lead*  
 Community Engagement Project with Dept. of Communication and Theatre Arts at Old Dominion University, Teens with a Purpose, and Open Norfolk<sup>©</sup>  
 Summer-based creative applied theatre performative project; performance locations: Open Norfolk's The Safe Creative Community Space (SCCS) and Garden, Norfolk Botanical Gardens, St. Paul's Quadrant Neighborhood (Various outdoor locations)
- 08/2019- Present AMPLIFIED: THE ST. PAUL'S PROJECT  
*Project Co-Lead, Creative Content Development Lead*  
 Community Engagement Project with Dept. of Communication and Theatre Arts at Old Dominion University, Teens with a Purpose, and New Virginia Majority  
*Amplified* is an original devised theatre project exploring issues and perspectives of children of St. Paul's Quadrant and the consequential effects of the redevelopment process. These stories will be woven together into an original performance piece that creates a dramatic dialogue using movement, text, music, and projections.
- 07/2019 LIVING BEYOND SOUTHERN LIVING: PERSONAL NARRATIVES FROM SOUTHERN WOMEN  
*Project Consultant, Creative Content Development Lead*  
 Creative performative project in script development and performance consulting for the Dept. of Women's and Gender Studies at Virginia Tech  
*Living Beyond Southern Living*, a year-long creative project with the VT Feminist Theory grad seminar exploring issues about their relationship to social justice causes and/or feminism to be read/performed at the yearly Women's and Gender Studies student showcase.
- 01/2019- 03/2019 VIRGINIA TECH HISTORY PROJECT: VOICE IN THE STONE  
*Project Co-Collaborator, Creative Content Development*  
 Dept. of Theatre and Cinema, Dept. of English, Dept. of History at Virginia Tech  
 Long-term creative project in script development and performance consultant in anticipation of Virginia Tech's 150th anniversary in 2022; site-specific dance/theatre piece focused specifically on the narratives of the first Black women to attend Virginia Tech in 1966.

- 02/2019- 03/2019 BLACK LOVE EXHIBIT, A BLACK LOVE CONVERSATION  
*Project Co-Collaborator, Creative Content Development*  
 Virginia Tech Women's Center  
 Performative, audience-immersive projects comprised of pairing with the Perspective Student Gallery, Virginia Tech Women's Center, and Dept. of Theatre exploring the depths of embodying redemption through theatrical performance.
- 09/2018- 11/2018 RESILIENT SUSTAINABILITY *SIMPLIFIED*  
*Project Lead, Creative Content Development*  
 Center for Communicating Sciences, Virginia Tech  
 Collaborated with Dr. Madeleine Flint, Assistant Professor in Structural Engineering and Materials and Virginia tech students to develop a piece on structural sustainability and human involvement.
- 08/2017- 12/2017 ALWAYS (K)NEW: TRANSLATING IDENTITIES, QUEERING BORDERS  
*Project Co-Collaborator, Creative Content Development*  
 Department of Theatre and Film Studies and Department of Romance Languages (UGA); Pontifical Xavierian University (Bogotá, Colombia)  
 Original devised theatre project utilizing collected personal narratives to explore the particular issues facing LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff at UGA and in the Athens community.

**APPLIED CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP: PERFORMER, PLAYWRIGHT**

- 08/2020- Present PEDIGREE  
 Performer, Playwright  
 Solo Performance/One Woman Show  
 An exploration of artistic defiance against social inequality, *Pedigree* is a solo piece about one's journey of recovery from the inexplicit influences of racial hatred and violence plaguing their mentality and livelihood.

Each performance had community outreach elements including a talkback discussion about the narrative-based solo performance and the artistic process of developing and performing *Pedigree*.

- Official selection in DMV International Film Festival in February 2023, (Washington DC), *adjudicated*
- Official selection in Seven Cities Showcase of Hampton Roads in January 2023, (Virginia Beach, VA), *adjudicated*
- Official selection in the 11th International Social Change Film Festival in October 2022, (Atlanta, GA), *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Neon Festival in October 2022, (Norfolk, VA), *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at the 30<sup>th</sup> Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language, and Media (MCLLM), in April 2022, *adjudicated*
- Featured performer for 2022 Global Conference on Women and Gender, Christopher Newport University, March 2022, *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) in March 2022, *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual African, African American, & Diaspora Studies (AAAD) Conference in February 2022, *adjudicated*

- Featured performer for the ODU Black History Month 2022 in February 2022, (Norfolk, VA)
- Featured performer at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Asheville Fringe Festival in January 2022 (Asheville, NC), *adjudicated*
- Finalist in ‘James River Short Film Festival’ in January 2022, *adjudicated*
- Top 4 finalist in nationally acclaimed ‘2021 The Breath Project Festival’ in November 2021, *adjudicated*
- Lead artist at Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) in August 2021 (Austin, TX), *adjudicated*

04/2017-  
Present

BEING B.A.D.

Performer, Playwright  
Solo Performance/One Woman Show

A theatrical production that embodies creative resistance against oppressive gender stereotypes and domestic violence, *Being B.A.D.* is a piece about personal acceptance and redemption from the cycle of abuse.

Each performance had community outreach elements including a talkback discussion about the narrative-based solo performance and the artistic process of developing and performing *Being B.A.D.*

- Featured performer at the 54<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) in March 2023, *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Neon Festival in October 2021, (Norfolk, VA), *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at KeyBank Rochester Fringe Festival in September 2021, (Rochester, NY), *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at BorderLight International Theatre + Fringe Festival in July 2021, (Cleveland, OH), *adjudicated*
- Featured performer for the ODU Women’s History Month Symposium, March 2021, (Norfolk, VA)
- Invited key performer for 2021 Global Conference on Women and Gender, Christopher Newport University, March 2021, (Newport News, VA)
- Featured performer at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Asheville Fringe Festival in January 2021 (Asheville, NC), *adjudicated*
- Featured performer at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Richmond Fringe Fest in April 2020 (Richmond, VA), *adjudicated*
- Lead artist at Virginia Theatre Association Conference in October 2019 (Norfolk, VA)
- Lead artist at the NC Women’s Theatre Fringe Festival in July 2019 (Raleigh, NC), *adjudicated*
- Lead artist at the Black Theatre Network Conference in July 2019 (Winston-Salem, NC)
- Featured performer at the Gender, Bodies, and Technology Conference in April 2019 (Roanoke, VA), *adjudicated*
- Featured Performer at A Black Love Conversation: Virginia Tech Women’s Center Event in February 2019 (Blacksburg, VA)

11/2018-  
01/2019

THREE HYSTERICAL WOMEN: EXPLORATIONS OF FEMININE RAGE

Performer, Playwright, Project Concept

An original theatrical production that embodies creative resistance against oppressive stereotypes and violence. By curating three original solo pieces into one production, we



explored issues of inclusion and social disparity, including imposed gender roles and racial stereotypes. The work is relevant to our students and campus communities with a cathartic response to the #MeToo and TimesUp Movement.

10/2016-  
Present THE INTERSECTION: *THE SANDRA BLAND PROJECT*  
Performer, Playwright  
Solo Performance/One Woman Show  
*The Intersection*, a new play in development, explores the depths of equality, justice, and mental health awareness through theatrical performance. This project focused on the life of Black Lives Matter activist Sandra Bland and the last hour before her body was discovered in her jail cell on July 13, 2015.

*Each* performance had community outreach elements including a talkback discussion about the artistic process of developing and performing *The Intersection* and subsequent negative effects of violence in the media on POC millennials.

- Lead artist at 1st Midwest Regional African American Studies Biennial Conference, Ball State University, *adjudicated*
- Lead artist at 9th Annual African, African American, & Diaspora Studies (AAAD) Conference, James Madison University, *adjudicated*

#### **CONFERENCE APPEARANCES: PERFORMANCE/PRESENTATIONS**

**Harris, B. S. *Breathing Life into the Black and White: Performing Sandra Bland.***

##### **National**

Presenting paper in session: Research and Creative Activity Symposium (RCAS), Alabama State University, *Virtual*, March 2023.

Invited in session '*Black Women and Environmental Catastrophes*': Annual American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR), *Virtual*, November 2022.

Presented/performed in session '*Tough but Necessary Conversations: Social Justice in Literature, Language, and Media*': 30th Annual Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language, and Media (MCLLM), *Virtual*, April 2022.

Presented paper in session '*Gender and Performance*': 2021 Global Conference on Women and Gender, Christopher Newport University, *Virtual*, March 2021.

Presented paper in session '*Antiracism: Centering the Voices of Black Women*': 1st Midwest Regional African American Studies Biennial Conference, *Virtual*, March 2021

Presented paper in session '*The Ethics of Narrative: Appropriation and Reinvention in Stories of Injustice*': 52<sup>nd</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA), *Virtual*, March 2021.

Presented paper in session '*Black Girl Banned: Rebellion and Radical Black Girlhood in Literature*': 92<sup>nd</sup> South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference (SAMLA), *Virtual*, November 2020.

Practice/Production Symposium 2020: Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC), Chicago, IL, March 2020.

Presented paper in session: Racial Disposability and Cultures of Resistance Conference, Penn State University, October 2019.

Presented paper in session: 33rd Annual Black Theatre Network Conference: *Unapologetically Black*, Winston-Salem, NC., July 2019.

Presented paper in session: GESA Conference: 4th Annual Kinship, Community, and Activism in the Cultural Production of the Black Diaspora Conference, Howard University, March 2019.

Presented/performed in session: 9th Annual African, African American, & Diaspora Studies (AAAD) Conference, James Madison University, February 2019.

### **Harris, B. S. *Embodying Redemption Through Theatre: Performing Being B.A.D.***

#### **International**

Performed/Presented in session: 'International Interdisciplinary Conference on Intimacy, Violence and Power' (IICIVP); South Africa University of Zululand, *Virtual*, September 2022.

Performed in session: SATB (Storytelling and the Body): 2nd Inclusive Interdisciplinary Conference, Progressive Connexions; Lisbon, Portugal, *Virtual*, April 2021.

#### **National**

Presenting/performing in session 'When Resilience Isn't Enough: Justice for Domestic and Sexual Violence Survivors': 54<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA), March 2023.

Presented paper/performed in session: 44th Annual Organization for the Study of Communication, Language (OSCLG), *Virtual*, October 2021.

Presented paper/performed in session: 6th Annual International Gender & Sexuality Studies Conference (IGSS), University of Central Oklahoma, *Virtual*, September 2021.

Presented paper/performed in session: 2021 Global Conference on Women and Gender, Christopher Newport University, *Virtual*, March 2021.

Presented/performed in session: 11th Annual African, African American, & Diaspora Studies (AAAD) Conference, James Madison University, *Virtual*, February 2021.

Presented paper/performed in session: 2020 Global Conference on Women and Gender, Christopher Newport University, March 2020.

Harris, B. S. Three Hysterical Women: *Embodying Resistance Through Theatre*. Performed in session: Gender, Bodies & Technology Conference: *TechnoLogics: Power and Resistance*, Roanoke, VA., April 2019.

#### **Regional**

Featured Performer: 6th Annual NEON Festival, Norfolk, VA., October 2021, *adjudicated*

Performed in session: Virginia Theatre Association Conference 2019, Norfolk, VA., October 2019.

Harris, B. S. *Resilient Sustainability Simplified*": *Coastal @ VT*. Presented and performed in session: Center for Communicating Sciences' Advancing the Human Condition Symposium, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA., November 2018.

### **Harris, B. S. *Personifying Resistance Through Theatre: Performing Pedigree***

#### **International**

Presented/performed in session '*Black Lives Matter: Lessons from a Global Movement*': Global Institute for Research Education & Scholarship (GIRES), *virtual*, June 2022.

#### **National**

Presenting/performing in session: Research and Creative Activity Symposium (RCAS), Alabama State University, *Virtual*, March 2023.

Presented/performed in session '*Expressing Change*': 94<sup>th</sup> South Atlantic Modern Languages Association (SAMLA), Jacksonville, FL., November 2022.

Invited in session '*Burn it all down: Activism and Advocacy*': National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference (NWSA), *virtual*, November 2022.

Presented/performed in session '*Tough but Necessary Conversations: Social Justice in Literature, Language, and Media*': 30th Annual Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language, and Media (MCLLM), *Virtual*, April 2022.

Performed in session: 2022 Global Conference on Women and Gender, Christopher Newport University, *Virtual*, March 2022.

Presented/performed in seminar/roundtable '*Art and Activism: The Reshaping of Collective Consciousness and Social Justice*': 53<sup>rd</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA), Baltimore, MD. March 2022.

Presented/performed in session '*Navigating Police Brutality, Incarceration, and Care Across the Black Diaspora*': 53<sup>rd</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA), Baltimore, MD. March 2022.

Presented/performed in session: 12th Annual African, African American, & Diaspora Studies (AAAD) Conference, James Madison University, *Virtual*, February 2022.

Presented/performed in session '*Personifying Resistance: Devising Theatre for Social Justice*', 2021 Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), *Virtual*, August 2021.

#### **Regional**

Featured Performer: 7th Annual NEON Festival, Norfolk, VA., October 2022, *adjudicated*

### **CONFERENCE APPEARANCES: PANELS & WORKSHOPS**

#### **International**

Processing the Pandemic III—Hope: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Emotions in the Wake of COVID 19, University of Warwick, April 2023. (*Virtual*)

Workshop: *Applied Theatre Performance Workshop 'Resilient Stillness', Workshop Lead*

## National

94<sup>th</sup> South Atlantic Modern Languages Association (SAML A), Jacksonville, FL.  
Session Title: Teaching Change/Changes to Teaching: Pedagogies for Social Justice  
Workshop: *Applied Theatre Performance Workshop 'Resilient Stillness', Workshop Lead*

Chesapeake Digital Humanities Consortium 2021 Conference: Social Justice and Online Activism.  
Workshop: *Applied Theatre Performance Workshop 'Resilient Stillness', Workshop Lead*

19<sup>th</sup> Annual Asheville Fringe Festival, Asheville, NC., January 2021. *(Virtual)*  
Workshop: *Flying Solo: Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration, Workshop Lead*

Women's Theatre Fringe Festival of NC 2020, Raleigh, NC., July 2020. *(Virtual)*  
Workshop: *Flying Solo: Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration, Workshop Lead*

Conversations on Applied Theatre Conf., The Playwright's Lab at Hollins University, June 2020.  
Panel(s): *What is Applied Theatre? & Teaching Activism, Invited Panelist*

Georgia Theatre Conference, Carrollton, GA. February 2018.  
Workshop: *Flying Solo: Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration, Workshop Lead*

## Regional

Z Artist Member Panel Discussion hosted by the Zeiders American Dream Theater, October 2022.  
Invited Workshop/Panel:  
– *Making Money Doing What You Love*

Antiracism in the Arts Symposium, hosted by the ODU Dept. of Communication and Theatre Arts, October 2022.  
Invited Workshop/Panels:  
– *Color Conscious Casting in Dance, Theatre, and Film, Invited Panelist*

2022 Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival, ODU University Libraries, March 2022.  
Panel/Workshop: *Here Us Out': Methods of Theatre Performance as Activism, Lead Facilitator*

ODU Women's History Month Symposium. Norfolk, VA. March 2022.  
Invited Workshop/Panels:  
– *River Stories—A Sankofa Activity, Lead Facilitator*

#MeToo and the Classroom: *When (and how) Do You Say No?* Post-Show Discussion Talkback  
Panel for *Taking Measure*. ODU Rep, Feb. 2022, *Moderator*

ODU Black History Month 2022, hosted by the Office of Intercultural Affairs, February 2022.  
Invited Workshop/Panels:  
– *Personifying Resistance Through Theatre: Pedigree, A Film and Talkback, Lead Panelist*  
– *River Stories—A Sankofa Activity, Lead Facilitator*

The Cultural Legacy of the Attucks: *A Creative Exploration*, Norfolk, VA. February 2022.  
Hosted by In[HEIR]itance Project and YWCA South Hampton Roads, *Co-Facilitator*

ODU Fall 2021 Themester: Arts and Social Justice: Dialoguing with our Bodies, an Exploration of Performance Activism, October and November 2021.

The New Earth Panel, Virginia Stage Company Public Works, Norfolk, VA. April 2021.  
Panel: *Black Theatre in Hampton Roads: Then and Now*, Featured Panelist

ODU Women's History Month Symposium: *Performance and Protest*. Norfolk, VA.  
March 2021.

Virginia Theatre Association Annual Conference, Norfolk, VA., October 2020.

Invited/Featured Panels:

- *Flying Solo: Creating Solo Pieces for the Stage*
- *Devising Your Own Work*
- *Finding True Diversity in Theatre*
- *Where to Go to College?*

2020 ODU Summer Arts Series, Old Dominion University, July 2020.

Workshop: *Applied Theatre Performance Workshop 'Resilient Stillness'*, Workshop Lead

Get Virtual with Virginia Stage Company series through the Virginia Stage Company's Education and Community Engagement Department. Norfolk, VA. May 2020.

Workshop: *Flying Solo: Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration*, Workshop Lead  
Virginia Thespian Conference 2019, Radford University, February 2019.

Workshop: *Flying Solo: Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration*, Workshop Lead

Virginia Theatre Association Annual Conference, Norfolk, VA., October & November 2019.

Invited Panels:

- *Where to Go to College?*
- *Career Jumpstart: Make a Career Out of Your Theatre Passion*

Workshop: *Dare to Devise: Ensemble Devised Theatre for Teens*, Workshop Lead

Virginia Thespian Conference 2019, Radford University, February 2019.

Workshop: *Flying Solo: Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration*, Workshop Lead

Virginia Theatre Association Annual Conference, Norfolk, VA., October 2018.

Invited Panels:

- *Where Should I Go to School to Study Theatre?*
- *Telling Your Story: Devising Your Own Work from a Minority Perspective*
- *Artists of Color: The Diversity Gap in Modern Theatre*

Workshop: *Flying Solo: Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration*, Workshop Lead

## **PROFESSIONAL CRITIQUE**

Reviews & Highlights

*Intimate Apparel*

"Intimate Apparel" is a Patchwork of Participation and Performance

Haulenbeek, S., November 2021

ODU Rep's Intimate Apparel Reveals Innermost Details of Characters Lives  
Joy, M., November 19, 2021

*Symptomatic: IRL*

In upcoming ODU production about coronavirus stresses, art imitates life  
Poulter, A., November 12, 2020

COVID-19 Can't Stop ODURep Theater Production of "Symptomatic: IRL"  
Justice, K., November 10, 2020

*Echoes*

ODU play asks: What do you say to yourself when no one is listening?  
Poulter, A., February 19, 2020

Echoes: Transcending Through Story Creates Poetry from Pain  
Mayes, G. February 2020

#### Interviews

WTKR, "Latest conversation in YWCA's 'Stand Against Racism' challenge stresses importance of representation in media", April 15, 2022

Mace and Crown, "Taking Measure" Talkback: Was the Conversation of Race Left Out?  
Chesser, D., March 1, 2022

Red Clay Plays Podcast, 'How to Tie a Tie: An Interview with Brittney S. Harris'  
Interviewer: Marshall, M., July 2021

With Good Reason: Virginia Humanities Podcast, 'This is SO Not a PBS Special'  
Interviewer: McConnell, S., January 2021

Tidewater Family Magazine, Learning is Fun: Prof. Brittney Harris  
Interviewer: Cullen, S., September 2020

American Theatre Artists Online Podcast, Artist Brittney Harris  
Interviewer: Sittig, S., July 2020

Chatham Life and Style, Brittney S. Harris Inspires Us to Tell Our Own Stories  
Interviewer: Stith, M., July 2020

#### **GRANTS/PROJECTS AWARDED**

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 2021      | ODU Fall 2021 Themester: Arts and Social Justice project funding, \$500.00<br>(Proj: Dialoguing with our Bodies, an Exploration of Performance Activism)                                 |
| Oct. 2020 | Association for Theatre Movement Educators (ATME) Innovation Fellowship, \$1000.00<br>(Proj. Funding: Solo piece- <i>Being B.A.D.</i> and the Performance of Redemption), <i>matched</i> |
| 2019      | Conference Funding, \$400.00<br>(Conference: <i>9th Annual African, African American, &amp; Diaspora Studies (AAAD) Conference</i> )   |

- 2018 Emerging Leaders Independent Project Funding, \$475.00, Principal Investigator  
(Project Funding: G.L.A.M: *Girls Leadership and Mentors of Athens*)
- 2016 Arts in Community Grant, \$1,500.00, Principal Investigator  
(Presentation: Atlanta Fringe Festival)
- Sylvia Pannell Travel Grant, \$900.00, Principal Investigator  
(Presentation: Atlanta Fringe Festival)
- 2014-2015 American Honda Foundation Grant, \$5,000.00, Assisted.  
(Project Funding: EUREKA! S.T.E.M-based program, Girls Inc. of the Greater Peninsula)
- 2014 U.S.A Swim, \$2,500.00, Assisted.  
(Project Funding: Girls Inc. Minority Learn to Swim Summer Camp Program, Girls Inc. of the Greater Peninsula)

### **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Association for Theatre in Higher Education (A.T.H.E)  
 Association of Theatre Movement Educators (A.T.M.E)  
 American Society of Theatre Research (A.S.T.R)  
 Black Theatre Network (B.T.N.)

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

#### **Old Dominion University**

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| October 2022-February 2023 | Black History Month Planning Committee 2022-2023,<br>ODU Office of Intercultural Affairs  |
| October 2022               | Invited Panelist, ' <i>Color Conscious Casting in Dance, Theatre, and Film</i> ' Antiracism in the Arts Symposium,<br>ODU Dept. of Communication and Theatre Arts |
| March 2022                 | Feat. Presenter, ' <i>Here Us Out</i> ': <i>Methods of Theatre as Activism</i><br>Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival, ODU University Libraries                |
| September 2021-Present     | Theatre Arts Program Lead Liaison, Facilitator for ODU Office<br>of Admissions <i>First Fridays</i>   |
| August 2021-Present        | Communication and Theatre Arts Alumni Committee   |
| March 2021                 | Feat. Presenter, <i>Performance and Protest: Theatre as Activism</i><br>Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival, ODU University Libraries                          |
| February 2021              | Moderator, Anti-Racism Speaker Series: <i>Ògún Yè Mo Yè!</i><br>Department of Communication and Theatre Arts  |

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
|                              | Lead Panelist, <i>Insurrection: The Critical Reflection Forums</i><br>Department of Communication and Theatre Arts  |
|                              | Lead Panelist, <i>Black Excellence, Joy, and Resilience</i> Workshop<br>Office of Faculty Diversity and Retention   |
| August 2020-Present          | Communication and Theatre Arts Diversity/ Community<br>Engagement & Events Committee  |
| June 2020 (Ongoing)          | Lead Co-Facilitator, Anti-Racism Listening Forum<br>Department of Communication and Theatre Arts  |
| April 2020-August 2020       | Theatre Program Host (Lead): Virtual Info Session   |
| November 2019-present        | Director of Recruitment: Theatre Program  |
| August 2019-present          | Outreach and Recruitment Advocate: Theatre Program  |
| <b>Virginia Tech</b>         |   |
| August 2018-May 2019         | Outreach and Recruitment Advocate: Department of Theatre and<br>Cinema Studies  |
| <b>University of Georgia</b> |   |
| August 2015-May 2018         | Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator, Department of Theatre<br>and Film Studies<br><br>Coordinator, Behind the Scenes at UGA Theatre (Semester-<br>based Outreach Event)<br>Assistant Director, Summer Academy @ UGA 2016 |

### **PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE EXPERIENCE**

#### *Arts-based (National)*

October 2022- Pres. Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF),  
Region IV, *Devised Theater Co-Chair/Liaison*

#### *Arts-based*

November 2022 Guest Lecturer: Dare to Devise Workshop/Lecture  
THEA 152R, Acting One  
Old Dominion University

October 2022 Love Your Body Day Open Mic, *Creative Liaison*  
ODU Writing Center, ODU Women's Center, and Department of  
Communication and Theatre Arts

February 2022 Guest Lecturer: Theatre of Diversity  
TH 410, Theatre of Diversity I  
Virginia Wesleyan University

November 2021 Guest Lecturer: Performance as Activism  
ARTS 495, Art for Social Justice  
Old Dominion University



|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| October 2021   | Guest Lecturer: Theatre of the Oppressed (Dis)Course<br>AFST 1714, Intro to African Studies<br>Virginia Tech  |
| April 2021     | Workshop: Performance and Protest ( <i>virtual</i> )<br><i>Workshop Lead</i><br>Next Act, University of Georgia, Athens, GA.                                |
| March 2021     | Guest Lecturer: Theatre of the Oppressed (Dis)Course<br>WSG 2254, Feminist Activism<br>Virginia Tech  |
| October 2020   | Guest Lecturer: Artistic Process of Solo Performance: <i>Being B.A.D.</i><br>TA 2134, Acting Lab<br>Virginia Tech   |
| September 2020 | Guest Lecturer: Directing ' <i>Echoes: Transcending Through Story</i> '<br>THEA 241A, The Theatre Experience<br>Old Dominion University                     |
| July 2020      | Applied Theatre Performance Technique Workshop: <i>Ur Roots Amplified</i><br><i>Workshop Lead</i><br>Teens with a Purpose, and Open Norfolk <sup>©</sup>    |
| June 2020      | Featured Panelist: <i>Why We Protest: Black Actors and Artists Discuss<br/>Activism in Their Work'</i> Online Forum<br>Virginia Stage Company, Norfolk, VA. |
| May 2020       | Workshop: Flying Solo: <i>Your Story and Solo Performance Exploration,</i><br><i>Workshop Lead</i><br>Get Virtual w/ Virginia Stage Company, Norfolk, VA.   |
| November 2019  | Guest Lecturer: Solo Performance for Social Change<br>ENGL 313, Literature and Social Issues<br>Christopher Newport University                              |
| October 2019   | Workshop: Ensemble Devised Theatre for Teens<br><i>Guest Artist</i><br>Governor's School for the Arts College Fair, Norfolk VA                              |
| October 2018   | Workshop: Ensemble Devised Theatre for Teens<br><i>Guest Artist</i><br>Governor's School for the Arts College Fair, Norfolk VA                              |

*Outreach-Based*

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| January 2018-<br>May 2018 | Theatre for Young Audiences Program<br><i>Project Lead and Co-Collaborator</i><br>Service-learning focused project, developed students led workshops at<br>Coile Middle School, Parkview Community Center (in Athens, GA), and<br>other sites. |
|---------------------------|--|

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| February 2018-<br>April 2018    | G.L.A.M. (Girls Leadership and Mentors of Athens)<br><i>Program Lead/Project Coordinator</i><br>G.L.A.M is a pilot youth empowerment program sponsored through the Emerging Leaders Program at the University of Georgia  |
| May 2014-<br>August 2015        | Girls Incorporated of the Greater Peninsula<br><i>Dir. of Quality Assurance, Special Projects, &amp; Volunteer Coordinator</i><br>— <i>Program Coordinator/Youth Liaison, Virginia Air and Space Center</i><br>— <i>Program Director/ Special Projects Coordinator, L.I.F.T (Leadership Institute for Teens)</i><br>— <i>Program Director/ Special Projects Coordinator, EUREKA! STEM, Girls Incorporated</i> |
| June 2013-<br>March 2014        | Y.W.C.A of South Hampton Roads<br><i>Outreach/Community Advocate &amp; Coordinator</i>  |
| July 2013-<br>October 2013      | Annual Day of Unity – Night of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil<br><i>Chairperson/ Volunteer Coordinator &amp; Event Planner</i>   |
| Summer 2012 &<br>Summer 2013    | Teens with a Purpose (T.W.P)<br><i>Youth Educator/ Advisor</i>  |
| March 2013-<br>December 2013    | Norfolk Botanical Gardens<br><i>Youth Educator/ Intern Supervisor</i>   |
| November 2011-<br>December 2012 | Corinthian Colleges, Inc.<br><i>Career Service Representative/Professional Development Coach</i>  |
| August 2008-<br>January 2010    | Centerstage Inc. Children’s Theatre<br><i>Program Director/Drama and Speech Instructor</i>  |

**REPRESENTATIVE CREATIVE WORK**

**Acting (Limited)**

|      |  |               |  |
|------|--|---------------|--|
| 2021 | <i>Race</i>  | Susan         | Generic Theater, Norfolk, VA   |
| 2021 | <i>Pedigree</i>  | Person A      |  |
| 2020 | <i>‘Untitled’</i>  | Principal     | Overnight Sensations 2020, Hollins University  |
| 2020 | <i>Being B.A.D.</i>  | Kendra Foster | 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Richmond Fringe Festival<br>2020 GCWG, Newport News, VA   |
| 2019 | <i>Being B.A.D.</i>  | Kendra Foster | V.T.A. Conference, Norfolk VA<br>Women Theatre Festival Fringe 2019<br>Black Theatre Network Conference ‘19<br>G.B.T. Conference, Roanoke VA |
| 2019 | <i>The Intersection</i>  | Sandra Bland  | 9 <sup>th</sup> Annual A.A.A.D Conference  |
| 2019 | <i>Three Hysterical<br/>Women: One-Woman<br/>Show Collective</i> | Kendra Foster | Virginia Tech (Solo Perf.)   |

|      |  |                       |  |
|------|--|-----------------------|--|
| 2018 | <i>Resilient Sustainability Simplified</i>           | Self                  | Virginia Tech, Communicating Sciences  |
| 2018 | <i>Barbarism: Story of Medea</i>                     | Jason                 | University of Georgia (Staged Reading) |
| 2017 | <i>The Last Witch</i>                                | Elspeth Begg          | University of Georgia                  |
| 2017 | <i>Titus Andronicus</i>                              | Lavinia               | University of Georgia                  |
| 2017 | <i>Being B.A.D</i>                                   | Kendra Foster         | University of Georgia (Solo Perf.)     |
| 2017 | <i>The Intersection</i>                              | Sandra Bland          | University of Georgia (Solo Perf.)     |
| 2016 | <i>Jane Eyre</i>                                     | Jane Eyre             | University of Georgia                  |
| 2016 | <i>Fires in the Mirror</i>                           | Ntozake Shange        | University of Georgia                  |
| 2015 | <i>You Can't Take It With You</i>                    | Ms. Miriam Kirby      | University of Georgia                  |
| 2015 | <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>                           | Ruth Younger          | Keep the Change Productions            |
| 2013 | <i>Extremities</i>                                   | Marjorie              | Iron Street Productions, LLC., VA      |
| 2013 | <i>Fraction of Light</i>                             | Nettie                | Virginia Playwriting Forum, VA         |
| 2013 | <i>Raising Awareness/Raising Hope</i>                | Ellen Johnson Sirleaf | Venue on 35th Street Theatre, VA       |
| 2012 | <i>The Trial of One Short-Sighted:Black Woman...</i> | Judge                 | Venue on 35th Street Theatre, VA       |
| 2011 | <i>Julius Caesar</i>                                 | Portia/Calpurnia      | Virginia Stage Company (Workshop)      |
| 2011 | <i>Chaos in the House</i>                            | Juju                  | James McNeil Person Productions        |
| 2011 | <i>Fragments</i>                                     | Solider               | Old Dominion University                |
| 2010 | <i>Intimate Apparel</i>                              | Esther                | Old Dominion University                |
| 2009 | <i>Persephone Wept</i>                               | Persephone            | Old Dominion University                |
| 2009 | <i>For Colored Girls...</i>                          | Lady in Purple        | Virginia Commonwealth University       |
| 2008 | <i>Negras Eros</i>                                   | Principal             | Shaffer Street Playhouse               |
| 2006 | <i>Abolitionist Museum</i>                           | Harriet Tubman        | Juneteenth Festival Players            |
| 2005 | <i>Goodly Creatures</i>                              | Chorus                | Virginia Stage Company                 |

### Film/Television

|       |                                     |                       |                                     |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2021  | <i>Pedigree</i>                     | Person A              | Dir. Brittney Harris & Russ Fulmore |
| 2014- | <i>Traffick Stop (Pilot)</i>        | Officer Kimberly Ball | Traffick Stop Productions           |
| 2017  |                                     |                       |                                     |
| 2013- | <i>Precinct 757</i>                 | Officer LaTia Britton | FulCamp Productions                 |
| 2017  |                                     |                       |                                     |
| 2015  | <i>Wicked Attraction- Ep. 303</i>   | Co-Star               | M2 Pictures                         |
| 2015  | <i>22:42</i>                        | Lead                  | Dir. Amena Anderson                 |
| 2014  | <i>The Homecoming</i>               | Lead                  | Dir. Russ Fulmore                   |
| 2014  | <i>Charades</i>                     | Lead                  | Dir. Russ Fulmore                   |
| 2014  | <i>Bad Service</i>                  | Principal             | Dir. Chris Abaya                    |
| 2013  | <i>I Dated a Psycho Ep. 1.5</i>     | Principal             | M2 Pictures                         |
| 2012  | <i>Miracle of the Murders</i>       | Principal             | Dir. Joseph Baum                    |
| 2011  | <i>FBI Criminal Pursuit Ep. 402</i> | Supporting            | M2 Pictures                         |
| 2011  | <i>Ellie</i>                        | Supporting            | M2 Pictures                         |
| 2010  | <i>Happily Never After Ep. 110</i>  | Featured              | M2 Pictures                         |

### Writings (Playscripts)

|      |                          |                    |
|------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 2020 | <i>Pedigree</i>          | 10-Minute Play     |
| 2018 | <i>The Amazin' Jason</i> | 10-Minute Play     |
| 2017 | <i>How to Tie a Tie</i>  | Short Play/One-Act |

|      |  |                    |
|------|--|--------------------|
| 2017 | <i>The Request</i>   | One Act            |
| 2016 | <i>Being B.A.D.</i>  | Short Play         |
| 2016 | <i>The Intersection</i><br><i>(The Sandra Bland Project)</i> | Short Play/One-Act |
| 2012 | <i>Fourth</i>  | Full-length        |