

# Andrew J. Schwartz

Member of Actor's Equity Association

632 Park Place Drive  
Elgin, SC 29045  
(917) 403-7593  
[andrschwar@gmail.com](mailto:andrschwar@gmail.com)  
[AndrewJSchwartz.com](http://AndrewJSchwartz.com)

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## EDUCATION

**National Theatre Conservatory** M.F.A. Acting (Denver, CO)

Acting: Adler, Strasberg, Meisner, Hagen, Stanislavski methods taught by Lawrence Hecht, Sabin Epstein, Ashlee Temple

Voice: Fitzmaurice Method – Michael Cobb, Dudley Knight

Movement: Skinner Release Method – Bob Davidson

Directing: Lawrence Hecht

**Pennsylvania State University** B.A. Theatre Arts (State College, PA)

Acting: Meisner, Hagen, Stanislavski methods taught by Manuel Duque, Jane Ridley, Cary Libkin

Voice: Linklater Method – Barry Kur

Movement: Viewpoints, Suzuki – Mark Olsen

**Ecole Florent** Diplôme d'études théâtrales (Paris, France) 2 year Certification

Directing: Francois Florent

Movement: LeCoq/neutral mask/clown

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor of Theatre**

Coker University  
Hartsville, SC

August 2015 - present

- Tenure-track teaching position; teach and function as head of theatre performance specialization within Coker's theatre program.
- Direct theatrical productions for the college
- Serve on committees and other professional roles
- Courses taught: (2015 to present):
  - Acting 1 (Intro to Acting), Acting 2 (Improvisation and Intermediate Scene Study), Script Analysis, Acting 3 (Classical Text), Directing 1, Directing 2, Voice and Diction, Theatrical Movement, Acting 4 (Advanced Scene Study), World Dramatic Lit

## **Head Acting Instructor**

Theatre Development Fund  
520 Eighth Avenue, Suite 801  
New York, NY 10018

October 2013 – November 2014

- Leading workshops for students of all ages in and around the NYC area in acting, movement, and ensemble work.
- Preparing students to see and appreciate Broadway plays with appropriate parallel lesson plans.
- Moderating talkback sessions between Broadway professionals and students

## **Instructor**

Denver Center for the Performing Arts  
1101 13th Street  
Denver, CO 80204  
(303) 446-4892

Summer Session 2009, 2010, 2016

- Ensuring a safe, creative, and controlled classroom for theater students ranging in age from 14 to 18 at the Denver Center Theatre Academy.
- Creating a curriculum specifically designed for each particular level of education and interest including teen classes in Physical Theater, Low Flying Trapeze, Audition Preparation, Scene Study, Monologues, Shakespeare, and Camera work.
- Guiding and directing students in the creation of their own original short musical every two weeks.

## **Associate Artist**

The Aquila Theatre Company  
4 Washington Square North  
New York, NY 10003  
(212) 992-9642

Dates Worked: July 2001 – August 2007

- Leading hundreds of workshops in physical theatre, movement for the stage, mask work and classical text analysis to industry professionals, college theater majors, high school seniors, and middle school students in 45 states over a period of six years.
- Leading pre-show discussions and master classes on stage combat and ensemble building.
- Creating workshop curriculums specifically designed for each particular level of education and interest.

## **Visiting Instructor**

NYU Ensemble Acting Course  
Tisch School of the Arts  
721 Broadway  
New York, NY 10003

Dates Worked: July 2003 – August 2003

- Leading a six week, 16 hour a week intensive course on ensemble building for approximately 20 students.
- The intensive was a four credit course given by New York University to current NYU undergrads as well as industry professionals focusing on physical, vocal, and textual skills and culminating in a final showing of scenes and movement pieces.

## **Instructor**

Cours Florent School of Theatre

[www.coursflorent.fr](http://www.coursflorent.fr)

Paris, France

September 1999 – June 2000

- Designing a syllabus and creating a curriculum to teach Acting I to undergraduate French students in French.
  - Designing a syllabus and creating a curriculum to teach Acting in English to undergraduate French students in English.
  - Responsible for creating assignments, grading results, and directing a final presentation
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## **COMMITTEE SERVICE**

- Vice-Chair of Faculty Senate: Coker University, Hartsville, SC (2019 – present)
- Curriculum Committee\*: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2016-present) \* Chair 2017/2018 and 2019/2020
- Recruitment Committee: Dept. of Dance, Music, Theatre: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2016 - present)
- Search Committees:
  - Assistant Technical Director/PAC Director: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2016)
  - Assistant Professor of Music: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2017)
  - Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2019)
  - Assistant Technical Director/PAC Director: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2019)
  - Assistant Professor of Visual Art: Coker University, Hartsville, SC (2019)
- Futures Committee: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2016 – 2018)
- Committee to Develop Statement on Campus Hate Speech vs. Freedom of Expression: Coker College, Hartsville, SC (2016)

# PROFESSIONAL ACTING RESUME

-Member of Actor's Equity Association

## New York Theatre

<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Lysander/Flute	New Victory Theatre (Off-Broadway)
<i>A Comedy of Errors</i>	Antipholus	Classic Stage Company (Off-Broadway)
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Orsino	Aquila Theatre Company (Off-Broadway)
<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	Dr. Chasuble/Lane	Baruch Performing Arts Center (Off-Broadway)
<i>The Wrath of Achilles</i>	Patroclus	Lincoln Center Institute (Off-Broadway)
<i>Oedipus at Colonus (w/Bill Pullman)</i>	Polynices	Baruch Performing Arts Center (Off-Broadway)
<i>Why We Left Brooklyn</i>	Jason	Blue Coyote (Off Off Broadway)

## Regional Theatre

<i>Henry V</i>	Henry V/Dauphin	Folger Theatre DC (dir. Robert Richmond)
<i>As You Like It</i>	Oliver	L.A. Shakespeare Center (dir. Ken Sabberton)
<i>Taming of the Shrew</i>	Grumio	Denver Center (dir. Kent Thompson)
<i>Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	Sid Sawyer	Denver Center (dir. Jane Page)
<i>A Comedy of Errors</i>	Angelo	La Jolla Playhouse (dir. Robert Richmond)
<i>The Grouch</i>	Sostratos	Shakespeare Festival of NJ (dir. Jason K. Jones)
<i>A Comedy of Errors</i>	Antipholus	L.A. Shakespeare Center (dir. Robert Richmond)
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	All Roles	Edinburgh Fringe/Assembly Hall, UK
<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>	Eros	Shakespeare Festival of NJ (dir. Bonnie Monte)
<i>Rhinoceros</i>	Another Jean	Shakespeare Festival of NJ (dir. Paul Mullins)
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Andrew Aguecheek	Globe Theater, Neuss, Germany
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Romeo	Festival of the Aegean, Athens, Greece
<i>The Pavilion</i>	Peter	Full Circle Productions, Columbia, SC
<i>Arden of Faversham</i>	Mosby	Full Circle Productions, Columbia, SC

## National Tours

<i>Hamlet</i>	Hamlet	Aquila Theatre Season 2005/2006
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Romeo	Aquila Theatre Season 2006/2007
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Orsino/Aguecheek	Aquila Theatre Season 2004/2005
<i>The Tempest</i>	Ferdinand	Aquila Theatre Season 2002/2003

## Audio Recordings for The Folger Shakespeare Library

<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Lysander
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Benvolio

## Fight Captain at The Denver Center for the Performing Arts

Superior Donuts, Adventures of Tom Sawyer, and Taming of the Shrew

## HIGHLIGHTS OF DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

<i>The Threepenny Opera</i>	Coker University, Hartsville SC	March 2020
<i>We are Proud to Present...</i>	Trustus Theatre, Columbia SC	January 2020
<i>The Crucible</i>	Coker University, Hartsville SC	October 2019
<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Coker College, Hartsville SC	April 2019
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Coker College, Hartsville SC	February 2019
<i>Shakespeare in Love (University Premiere)</i>	University of South Carolina	October 2018
<i>We are Proud to Present...</i>	Coker College, Hartsville SC	February 2018
<i>Our Town</i>	Coker College, Hartsville SC	October 2017
<i>The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	Coker College, Hartsville SC	March 2017
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Coker College, Hartsville, SC	December 2016
<i>Almost, Maine</i>	Coker College, Hartsville, SC	February 2016
<i>Dinner Fugue</i>	The Grand, Williamsburg, Brooklyn	May 2014
<i>As You Like It</i>	Sparrow Theatre Group, Denver, CO	May 2010
<i>Robin Hood</i> 2009	Denver Center Theatre Academy, Denver, CO	May
<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	Access Theater, NYC	August 2008
<i>Three Sisters</i>	Access Theater, NYC	July 2003
<i>Sexual Perversity in Chicago</i>	Place Barrault, Paris, France	June 2000
<i>Spike Heels</i>	Studio 6, State College, PA	Dec. 1997
<i>Bajazet</i>	Studio Florent, Paris, France	August 1999

## RECENTLY TAUGHT WORKSHOPS AND MASTERCLASSES

- Southeastern Theatre Conference (2020): *Strong Choices, Better Shakespeare - Making inspired choices with Shakespeare from the audition to opening night*
- South Carolina Theatre Association Conference (2019): *Playing Positive Action*
- Trinity Byrnes Prep (2019): *How to Approach Classical Text - A Simple Checklist*
- Oklahoma City University (2018): *Strong Choices, Better Shakespeare - Making inspired choices with Shakespeare from the audition to opening night*
- Sumter Little Theatre (2018): *Intro to Stage Combat for the Actor*
- Trinity Byrnes Prep (2018): *Intro to Stage Combat for the Actor*
- Southeastern Theatre Conference (2018): *How to Approach Classical Text - A Simple Checklist*
- South Carolina Theatre Association Conference (2018): *How to Approach Classical Text - A Simple Checklist*
- South Carolina Theatre Association Conference (2017): *Improvisation and Positive Action*
- St. Francis Prep (2017): *Intro to Stage Combat*
- Virginia Theatre Association (2017): *How to Approach Classical Text - A Simple Checklist*
- Sumter Little Theatre (2017): *Intro to Stage Combat for the Actor*
- *How to Approach Classical Text*: Southeastern Theatre Conference (2017, 2018); South Carolina Theatre Association Conference (2017, 2018); Virginia Theatre Association (2017); Trinity Byrnes Prep (2019)
- *Playing Positive Action*: South Carolina Theatre Association Conference (2018)

## CONFERENCES ATTENDED AND RECRUITMENT EXPERIENCE

- Southeastern Theatre Conference (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- South Carolina Theatre Association (2017, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- Georgia Thespians Conference (2016, 2018)
- Virginia Theatre Association (2017)
- NACAC Performing Arts College Fair (2018)

## HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Directed Coker's production of *We are Proud to Present...* which was the SC premiere. It has been chosen to be a part of Trustus Theater 2019-2020 season featuring Coker students in Columbia, SC
- Awarded CETL Mini-Grant from Coker University (2019)
- Directed U.S. College and University Premiere of *Shakespeare in Love* at the University of South Carolina, October 2018
- Awarded CETL Mini-Grant from Coker University (2018)
- Broadway World Nomination for Best Supporting Actor, *The Pavilion* (2016) and *Arden of Faversham* (2017)
- Awarded CETL Mini-Grant from Coker University (2017)
- Awarded CETL Mini-Grant from Coker University (2016)
- Madrid International Film Festival Nomination; Best Supporting Actor, *Thanksgiving Dinner*, 2015
- National Theatre Conservatory; Full Scholarship Three Year MFA Program; 2012
- Associate Artist, Aquila Theatre Company; Professional Company in Residence at NYU, 2003
- Class Libre, Ecole Florent, Paris, France; Two Year Audition Based Full Scholarship to Competitive French Conservatory, 1999

**Prof. Andrew Schwartz**

## **Teaching Philosophy**

I believe that creating a safe, controlled and focused environment is the key to promoting active learning. Students can learn a tremendous amount from each other. My goal as an educator is to set the students up for success by creating the right atmosphere, and then guiding them so that they can discover for themselves the awesome power of the theatrical art form. In order to have the courage to do something as unnatural as stand in front of a group of people and pretend to be something that you are not, you need to feel safe and supported. Establishing that support is, I believe, a huge part of my job as an educator in the performing arts.

I like to remind students that in order to create theatre in its most basic form you only need two things: an *actor* and an *audience* - and that they are of equal importance. Without one or the other, theatre is not possible. I tell my students that when they are assuming the role of the *audience* in studio work, they need to remember that it is an active role. They need to feed the actor energy in order to maximize the theatrical potential. In turn, the actor is encouraged to make bold and specific choices, to be true to the script, and to be generous with their scene partners. Theatre is about asking difficult questions and allowing the audience to discover their own answers.

I think it's important for students to understand that, in a way, theatre is the combination of several other art forms. Theatre is writing, music, poetry, visual art, and dance all mixed into one cohesive piece to tell a story to make us feel something. It is essential that students develop an interest and appreciation for other the artistic disciplines because theatre represents the ultimate in collaboration. What I have enjoyed most in my teaching experience is collaborating with other faculty members and students. It is an art form which involves other people. You can't practice theatre in a vacuum, at least not for very long.

Teaching theatre is about teaching empathy. Seeing the world through another person's eyes is the essence of character creation. Sometimes we discover the character within ourselves and sometimes we work from the outside in, but theatre is about celebrating human diversity in all its forms. There are so many stories to be told, and it is essential that in order to explore the broad spectrum of the human experience that all people regardless of race, gender, religion (or lack thereof), economic opportunity, and/or sexual orientation have the opportunity to present their perspective.

Finally, I would like to emphasize a sense of play. Theatre can be an extremely difficult and frustrating pursuit. One day you are brilliant and for some reason, the next day you aren't. What happened? Where did the magic go? How do we find it again? Keeping a sense of humor amidst the chaos is a great way to preserve sanity. Theatre should be fun. Even when it's hard, exhausting, frustrating and tragic, it's fun. I believe that great art requires great discipline, sacrifice, and commitment, but I would also add that a sense of humor is not a bad thing either.





ANDREW J. SCHWARTZ

Directing Images





*The Crucible*, 2019 Coker University



*Our Town*, 2017 Coker University





*Twelfth Night*, Coker University 2018



*Shakespeare in Love*, University of South Carolina 2018

(South Carolina Premiere)



We are Proud to Present..., Trustus Theatre, Columbia, SC

(South Carolina Premiere)



*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Coker University 2017





*Little Shop of Horrors, Coker University 2018*



*Almost, Maine, Coker University 2016*