

CHRIS DONOVAN

HE/HIM/HIS

SAG-AFTRA, SAFFD

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EDUCATION

MFA - ACTING: CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, BROOKLYN COLLEGE, 2014

Thesis Production: *Clybourne Park* by Bruce Norris, Dir. Mary Beth Easley

MA - DIRECTING: CHICAGO COLLEGE OF THE PERFORMING ARTS, ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY, 2023

Thesis Production: *Passage* by Christopher Chen

BA - THEATRE PERFORMANCE: WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY, 2010

Portfolio Production: *Shakespeare's Villains* by Steven Berkoff, Dir. Josh Wagner

MUSICAL THEATRE CONSERVATORY/ARTS EDUCATION: CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE THEATER SCHOOL, 2001

Final Productions: *Into The Woods* by Stephan Sondheim, Dir. Theodore Man

The Children's Hour by Lillian Hellman, Dir. Stephan Porter

Teaching Artist Residency: P.S. 11 Chelsea NYC, Playmaking with Children with Daniel Judah Sklar

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY POST, 2023 - PRESENT

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER, DANCE, & ARTS MANAGEMENT

THE 227 MEISNER TECHNIQUE

A practice-based acting class based on the technique of Sanford Meisner. This method is an offshoot of the Stanislavski Technique, focusing on the reality of doing, and behaving truthfully in imaginary circumstances. Students will leave with an understanding of how to respond to their part.

DIRECTOR - PROPS/MAKEUP/PUPPET DESIGNER

PETER AND THE STARCATCHER BY RICK ELICE

POST THEATRE COMPANY

FALL 2024 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing. Students set specific goals for the semester with their instructor and carry out their project responsibilities within their own schedule.

THE 221 BASIC ACTING I

Basic Acting I is an introductory studio course focused on acting exercises, improvisations, and basic scene work. Through practical explorations, the course intends to develop the student's imagination and ability to identify intentions and given circumstances. Students can expect to leave with the necessary vocabulary and practical skills to undertake the work of the actor working with contemporary material.

THE 222 BASIC ACTING II

Introduction to scene study and basic character development; continuation of THE 221. Basic Acting II is a practice-based studio course. Students can expect to leave with the necessary vocabulary and practical skills to undertake the work of the actor working with contemporary material.

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY, 2017 - 2021

****2019 OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARD - WINNER**

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

THR 402: SPECIAL TOPICS - THE MEISNER TECHNIQUE

An introduction to Sanford Meisner's approach to acting technique and his acting exercises that develop the actor's ability to work organically, creating truthful, expressive behavior in acting.

THR 387: DEVISED THEATER WORKSHOP**PRODUCTION: *THE DEVILS MISCHIEF* BY ED MARQUAND**

An exploration of the collaborative process to develop and perform original work created by the group. Utilizing Improvisation, Viewpoints, Suzuki, Lecoq, Mask, spontaneous group writing, solo performance, transformation exercises, and story-telling, participants will focus on ensemble building, theatrical design and production, storytelling, music, media, art, movement, voice, and problem solving.

THR 201: PLAYMAKING FOR CHILDREN

A study of the various techniques and skills associated with the practice of creative drama. Utilizing activity-based work, literature-based work/story drama, and situation-based work/process drama and through the use of informal dramatic forms incorporating art, music, stories, games, poetry and improvisation, students will develop a practical understanding of the various skills and techniques needed to use creative drama strategies as an art form and as a teaching tool in a variety of contexts.

THR 181: ACTING I - CHARACTER STUDY

The foundations for playing a character explored through theater games, improvisation, and scene study. The course will explore The Stanislavsky Method for actors. Emphasis will be on script analysis, performance and discussion within a laboratory environment.

THR 180: INTRODUCTION TO THEATER ARTS

A study of the basic practical and theoretical elements of the theatre arts. Topics include: acting, directing, playwriting, genre, dramatic structure, design, and theatre spaces. These elements will be studied and discussed from the standpoint of both the audience and the participants. Emphasis will also be placed on the various non performance jobs in theater and the opportunity that are available within the entertainment industry.

SUNY WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 2023 - PRESENT**ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER****THEAT 111 ACTING 1**

An introduction to the craft of acting. Acting skills are explored and developed through both structured and improvised classroom activities. The emphasis of this course is on liberating the student's creative energy and expression.

THEAT 101 INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE

An overview of theatre and its many facets, including the art of the actor, director, designer, and playwright. Students are involved in the reading of plays, the writing of scenes, and the viewing of live performances.

DIRECTOR - SET/PROPS DESIGN, COSTUME DESIGN, LIGHTING DESIGN***PASSAGE* BY CHRISTOPHER CHEN****FALL 2023 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION**

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing. Students set specific goals for the semester with their instructor and carry out their project responsibilities within their own schedule.

DIRECTOR - SET/PROPS DESIGN, COSTUME DESIGN, LIGHTING DESIGN, SOUND DESIGN***A COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA ABRIDGED* BY ADAM LONG, REED MARTIN, & AUSTIN TICHENOR****SPRING 2025 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION**

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing. Students set specific goals for the semester with their instructor and carry out their project responsibilities within their own schedule.

CUNY MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE/THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK, 2016 - 2025**ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER****THTR 13100 (HONORS): INTRODUCTION TO THEATER ARTS**

A study of the basic practical and theoretical elements of the theatre arts. Topics include: acting, directing, playwriting, genre, dramatic structure, design, and theatre spaces. These elements will be studied and discussed from the standpoint of both the audience and the participants. Emphasis will also be placed on the various non performance jobs in theater and the opportunity that are available within the entertainment industry.

FACULTY DIRECTING ADVISOR:

***FIRES IN THE MIRROR* BY ANNA DEAVERE SMITH**

SPRING 2018 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing.

CUNY BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 2015 - 2023

****2020 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD - NOMINEE**

ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH, COMMUNICATION AND THEATER

THE 100 INTRODUCTION TO THEATER ARTS

A study of the basic practical and theoretical elements of the theatre arts. Topics include: acting, directing, playwriting, genre, dramatic structure, design, and theatre spaces. These elements will be studied and discussed from the standpoint of both the audience and the participants. Emphasis will also be placed on the various non performance jobs in theater and the opportunity that are available within the entertainment industry.

UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT ST. VINCENT, 2025

GUEST ARTIST, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

***NEW YORK ACTOR* BY JOHN GUARE**

FIGHT DIRECTOR

SPRING 2025 CAHILL THEATRE (BLACK BOX PRODUCTION)

Instructor: Unarmed Combat Workshops

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO, 2022

GUEST ARTIST, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

***SWEAT* BY LYNN NOTTAGE**

FIGHT DIRECTOR & ROLE OF STAN:

SPRING 2022 SPRINKLE THEATRE (BLACK BOX PRODUCTION)

Instructor: Meisner Technique Workshops, Unarmed Combat Workshops

GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 2021

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

DRA 211: THEATER HISTORY I

The development of theatre from its origin to the closing of the European Theatre of the 1800's. Topics include the history, aesthetics, and representative dramatic literature of the period.

ONLINE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY, Spring 2020-Fall 2021

Acting I, Playmaking with Children

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK - CUNY, Spring 2020- Summer 2024

Intro to Theatre, Public Speaking

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE - CUNY, Spring 2020- Spring 2022

Intro to Theatre, Public Speaking

ALIGN ACTORS STUDIO, 2021

Meisner Intensive, Business of Acting Seminar

WORKSHOPS

UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT ST. VINCENT, 2025

Unarmed Stage Combat Workshop

CLASSICAL SINGER MAGAZINE - CS MUSIC PANEL AUDITIONS, 2025

Musical Theatre Adjudicator

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO, 2022

Meisner Workshop

Unarmed Stage Combat Workshop

ALIGN ACTORS STUDIO, 2021

Meisner Intensive

Business of Acting Seminar

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK - CUNY THEATER FESTIVAL, 2017 - 2019

ELEMENTARY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

WCSU ACADEMY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, DANBURY CT

Playmaking with Children: Master Teacher 2017-2019, 3rd Grade

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK - CUNY EXPLORERS WORKSHOPS, 2017 - 2019

Acting Workshop: Master Teacher 2016-2019, 7th Grade

MILL RIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, DANBURY CT

Playmaking with Children: Master Teacher 2017-2019, 2nd Grade

MAINSTAGES/CAMP TWELVE TRAILS

Acting/Improvisation: Teaching Artist 2017, K-6th Grade

CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE THEATER SCHOOL AT PS 11

Residency Assistant: 2016, 3rd Grade

SUMMER ON STAGE - MUSICALS AT RICHTER, DANBURY, CT

Acting/Improvisation: 1997-2000, K-6th Grade

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

NATIONAL TOURS

<i>The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas</i>	Mayor/Senator (u/s Melvin Thorpe)	US/Canada Tour, Dir. Jeffery B. Moss
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REGIONAL THEATRE

<i>Come From Away</i>	Oz and others (u/s Claude)	The Engeman Theatre, Dir. Scott Weinstein
<i>The Music Man</i>	Charlie Cowell (u/s Harold Hill)	The Argyle Theatre, Dir. Evan Pappas
<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i>	Constable	The Argyle Theatre, Dir. Evan Pappas
<i>Hairspray</i>	Male Authority (u/s Edna, Wilbur)	White Plains Performing Arts, Dir. F. Portanova
<i>Jersey Boys</i>	Tommy DeVito	Winnepesaukee Playhouse, Dir. Teisha Duncan
<i>A Midnight Clear</i>	Elias Tompkins	The Riverside Theatre, Dir. Allen D. Cornell
<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Harry Bright	Plaza Theatrical, Dir. Kevin Harrington
<i>Damn Yankees</i>	Dell/Ensemble (u/s Joe/Applegate)	The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Jenn Thompson
<i>A Flea in Her Ear</i>	Guest (u/s Chandabise, Poche, Finache)	The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Owen Thompson
<i>Lost in Yonkers</i>	u/s Eddie, Louie	The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Evan Thompson
<i>Bus Stop</i>	u/s Bo Decker, Will Masters	The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Julia Kiely
<i>Art</i>	u/s Marc, Serge, Ivan	The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Warren Kelley
<i>Annie and Bill</i>	Frank Butler	The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Joan Shepard
<i>Kaleidoscope</i>	Ring Master	Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Dir. Sal Trapani

NYC THEATRE

<i>Macbeth</i>	Banquo (u/s MacBeth, MacDuff)	Edin. Fringe/Judith Anderson NYC, Dir. S. Trapani
<i>The Cherry Orchard</i>	Lopahin	The Raw Space, Dir. S. Trapani
<i>The American Girls Review</i>	Uncle Gard/Jiggy Nye	The American Girls Place, NYC, Dir. Mea Hack

<i>Shakespeare in Space</i>	Joseph Stalin	The Mint Theatre, Dir. Annie Ward
<i>Pride and Prejudice: A New Musical</i>	Mr. Bingley	Theatre for a New City
<i>Cymbeline</i>	Belarius	The Brick Theatre, Dir. Jeannie-Marie Brown
<i>Delilah: A New Musical</i>	David/Ya'ir	Midtown Festival/The Chain, Dir. Seth Duerr
<i>Assassins</i>	Leon Czolgosz	The Gallery Players, Dir. Noel McDuffie
<i>King John</i>	The Bastard of Falconbrigde	The Producers Club, Dir. Emily Whittaker
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Toby Belch	TODO Con Nada 45, Dir. Mick Mellamphy
<i>Will of Love</i>	Benedict	The Shell Theatre NYC, Dir. Pam McDaniel
<i>The Man Who Hated Shakespeare</i>	Bone Crusher	The Producers Club NYC, Dir. Sam Kellerman
<i>The Velveteen Rabbit</i>	Narrator	Circle In the Square, Dir. Larry Crabtree
UNIVERSITY THEATRE		
<i>Into The Woods</i>	Rapunzel's Prince (u/s Baker)	Circle In The Square, Dir. Theodore Mann
<i>The Children s Hour</i>	Dr. Joseph Cardin	Circle In The Square, Dir. Stephen Porter
<i>Sweat</i>	Stan	UNC Greensboro (Guest Artist)
<i>A Midsummer's Night Dream</i>	Theseus	Ives Concert Park, WCSU (Guest Artist)
<i>The Seagull</i>	Shamryev	Columbia University (Guest Artist)
<i>Clybourne Park</i>	Russ/Dan	CUNY Brooklyn College
<i>The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek</i>	Chas Weaver	CUNY Brooklyn College
<i>The Rimers of Eldrich</i>	Judge/Preecher	CUNY Brooklyn College
<i>City of Angels</i>	Stine	Western Connecticut State University
<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i>	Constable (u/s Tevye, Lazar)	Western Connecticut State University
<i>A Flea in Her Ear</i>	Dr. Finache	Western Connecticut State University
<i>Shakespeares Villains</i>	Various	Western Connecticut State University
<i>Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory</i>	Mr. Salt	Western Connecticut State University
<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>	Mysterious Man	Western Connecticut State University
FILM & TV		
<i>How We Look</i>	Lead	TBD Festivals '25/Dir. Sofiya Cheyanne
<i>The Iceman and the Psychiatrist</i>	Supporting	HBO/Dir. Arthur Ginsberg
<i>Rescue Me</i>	Supporting	FX/Dir. Peter Tolan
<i>Under New Management</i>	Supporting	NBC/Dir. Joe Otting
<i>Law and Order: Criminal Intent</i>	Featured	NBC/Jean de Segonzac

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE**REGIONAL THEATRE**

<i>The Music Man</i>	Assistant Director	The Argyle Theatre, 2025
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NEW YORK THEATRE

<i>Gi60: International 1 Minute Play Festival</i>	Director/Assoc. Prod.	The Tank, NYC 2025
<i>Gi60: International 1 Minute Play Festival</i>	Director/Assoc. Prod.	The Tank, NYC 2024
<i>Gi60: International 1 Minute Play Festival</i>	Director/Assoc. Prod.	New Workshop Theatre 2018
<i>Child Playwrights: A One Act Festival</i>	Director	Circle in the Square Theater, 2016
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Artistic Director/Producer	Todo 45 NYC, 2004
<i>King John</i>	Artistic Director/Producer	The Producers Club II NYC, 2003

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

<i>The Complete History of America Abridged</i>	Director/Designer	SUNY WCC Hankin Arts Center, 2025
<i>Peter and the Starcatcher</i>	Director/Designer	LIU Post Theatre Company, 2024
<i>Passage</i>	Director/Designer	SUNY WCC Hankin Arts Center, 2023
<i>Sweat</i>	Fight Director	UNCG Sprinkle Theater, 2022
<i>New York Actor</i>	Fight Director	University of Mount Saint Vincent, 2025
<i>The Devils's Mischief: A Devised Project</i>	Director/Playwright	WCSU Studio A Theater, 2019
<i>Cleo</i>	Director/Assoc. Prod.	WCSU Rich Reimold Theater, 2002
<i>Extremities</i>	Assistant Director	WCSU Rich Reimold Theater, 2002
<i>A Styx of the Eye</i>	Director	WCSU Rich Reimold Theater, 1998

COMMUNITY THEATRE

<i>The Mystery of Edwin Drood</i>	Director	Musicals at Richter, 2020 (*canceled)
<i>Seussical: The Musical Jr</i>	Director	Musicals at Richter, 2020 (*canceled)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING & WORKSHOPS**THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FIGHT DIRECTORS:**

SAFD Master Michael G. Chin (1yr Unarmed) 2014

Certified Teacher Neil Massey - (2 Week Unarmed & Short Sword) 2022

STAGE COMBAT TRAINING:

B.H. Barry (2yrs Unarmed, Rapier/Dagger, Quarterstaff, Short Sword)1999-2001

PHYSICAL THEATER INSTITUTE:

Lecoq Technique: Movement Theater Studio, NYC, Summer 2013

THEATRICAL INTIMACY TRAINING: Greg Geffrard (2 Week Workshop) 2023

INTIMACY IN THEATER - THEATRICAL INTIMACY EDUCATION: Kim Shively, 2022

BEST PRACTICES IN INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKPLACES: AEA Diversity & Inclusion Workshop, 2022

INTIMACY IN THEATRE: AEA Diversity & Inclusion Workshop: Chelsea Pace/Laura Rikard, 2021

BUILDING INCLUSIVE REHEARSALS: Artists Breaking Limits & Expectations, 2023

STORYTELLING PRACTICES: Maggie Andersen, 2023

ACTOR COACHING PEDAGOGY: Barbara Zahora, 2023

LIZ LERMAN'S CRITICAL RESPONSE PROCESS: Nathan King, 2023

CONTROVERSY/CENSORSHIP IN SCHOOLS: Kristen Mackie, 2023

BLOCKING AND STAGING ENSEMBLES: Timothy Ortmann, 2022

WAYS TO "RESET" YOUR POST-PANDEMIC THEATRE PROGRAM: Andy Sinclair, 2022

MULTICULTURALISM MEETS POLYCULTURALISM: Jamil Khoury, 2021

IMPROV/ENSEMBLE BUILDING TECHNIQUES: Scott Shallenbarger, 2021

STORYTELLING AND PUPPETRY FOR CHILDREN: Spellbound Theater, 2017

THEATER GAMES THAT STICK: Paul Brewster & Renata Townsend, 2017

MUSICAL THEATER: YOUNG PERFORMER EFFICIENT AUDITIONS: Disney Theatrical Group 2017

PRE AND POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT: WT McRae, 2017

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER: Rita Gendelman, 2017

COLLABORATION AND TEAM TEACHING: Renata Townsend, 2017

STUDENT ASSESSMENT: Gail Winar, 2016

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT: Leese Walker, 2016

SPEAKING SHAKESPEARE: Andrew Wade, 2013/2014

AUDITION: Heidi Griffiths 2013, 2014

ACTING AS A BUSINESS: Brian O'Neil, 2001

RELATED EXPERIENCE**HR ARTIST MANAGEMENT - NYC**

Talent Scout (Showcases, Audition Panels, Theatre Productions) 2024-Present

GI60: INTERNATIONAL ONE-MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL - BROOKLYN, & NYC

Associate Producer/Director/Actor 2013-Present

OWTAVA HAT ENSEMBLE - NYC

Artistic Director/Producer. 2003-2005

THE RIVER REP - IVORYTON, CT

Acting/Technical Intern, 2001

ACADEMIC SERVICE**ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY - CHICAGO, IL**

Graduate Assistant to Program Coordinator 2023-2024

BROOKLYN COLLEGE, CUNY - BROOKLYN, NY

Assistant Artistic Director 2012-2014

Assistant Producer: MFA Industry Showcase, 2012-2014

BFA Audition Panel, 2015

CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE THEATER SCHOOL, NYC

Administrative Assistant, 1999-2001

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY - DANBURY, CT

Student Center Building Manager/Venue Coordinator: Black Box Theater, 1998-1999

GRADUATE THEATER ORGANIZATION - BROOKLYN COLLEGE, CUNY

Graduate Liaison, 2012-2013

CENTER STAGE, WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Vice-President/Festival Producer, 2001-2002

Sargent at Arms, 1997-1998

CLICK ANY OF THE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO VIEW

[Performance Projects](#)

[Directing Projects](#)

[Thesis Documentation](#)

[Sample Syllabi](#)

[Courses of Study](#)

[Recommendation Letters/Observation Reports](#)

[Transcripts](#)

REFERENCES

VALERIE CLAYMAN-PYE - Long Island University at Post - Department of Theatre

Professor/Chair of Theatre Department

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EVAN PAPPAS - The Argyle Theatre - Babylon, NY

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Former Broadway & National Touring Performer

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