



SOBHA KAVANAKUDIYIL

Arts Education Consultant | Higher Education Leader

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Profile

Arts Education leader with 20+ years advancing inclusive theatre and arts integration across higher education, K–12 schools, and community organizations. Skilled in curriculum innovation, culturally responsive pedagogy, and program evaluation with a record of building partnerships, mentoring educators, and driving impact.

Areas of Expertise

- Arts Integration & Applied Theatre
- Curriculum Development (SEL & Culturally Responsive Pedagogy)
- Teacher & Teaching Artist Training
- Program Evaluation & Strategic Planning
- Leadership Development & Mentorship
- Partnership & Relationship Building
- Teacher Education and Support
- Theatre Pedagogy
- Critical & Anti-oppressive Pedagogies
- Arts-Based Educational Research

Education

Ed.D., Higher Education
Fairleigh Dickinson University (Expected Feb 2026)
M.A., Educational Theatre
New York University (2003)
B.A., Communications/Journalism
Fordham University (1996)

Honors & Awards

- ◆ Fulbright Specialist (2017)
- ◆ NYC Council Citation for Community Service (2017)
- ◆ AATE Citation (2016)
- ◆ Byram Hills Arts Achievement Award (2016)
- ◆ Rees Evans Theatre in Our Schools Award (2015)
- ◆ Colin Powell Fellowship (2011)

Experience Highlights

Director, Graduate Program in Educational Theatre — The City College of New York (CUNY) | 2010–Present

- Director of graduate program with 80+ candidates and 8 adjunct faculty; oversee curriculum, budgets, and partnerships.
- Founded Creative Play Workshops & Harlem Children’s Theatre Festival.
- Expanded arts integration initiatives with schools and cultural institutions.

Arts Education Consultant — New York, NY | 2014–Present

- Design professional learning for teachers, school leaders, and artists.
- Collaborations include Apollo Theater, Tectonic Theater, Urban Arts Partnership, The New Victory Theater, NJ PAC and more.

Board Leadership — NYC Arts in Education Roundtable | 2016–Present

- Chair Emeritus & former Co-Chair; led strategy, budgeting, membership, and Co-Chair Face to Face Conference (since 2017).