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JESSICA YAGODA

Education

- ❖ **M.A.** in Theatre Education & Applied Theatre- Emerson College, Graduating Summer of 2020
- ❖ **B.F.A.** in Theatre Performance- Niagara University Class of 2016
 - Minor in Design/Technology (Concentration in Lighting Design)
- ❖ Vassar College & New York Stage and Film's Powerhouse Theatre Training Program (2014)
 - Acting Apprentice: Viewpoints, Soundpainting, Shakespeare
- ❖ Victoria Buda's Academy of Theatrical Arts (2004-2015)

Teaching & Instruction Experience

- ❖ **Snowden International High School Student Teacher ~ Boston, MA ~ Spring 2020**
 - Student taught with cooperating teacher Laurie DeMarco
 - Learned how to teach and create International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum
 - Observed my cooperating teacher
 - Create lesson plans following IB curriculum and implement them in the classroom
 - Cooperatively taught with Laurie DeMarco
 - Lead teacher for 10-12 grade theatre classes
 - Scaffolded within warm ups, lessons, units, and an overall course
 - Invited students with various needs to participate in a variety of ways and work to find their growing edge.
 - Performing, stage crew, stage management, directing, projections, light board operation, dramaturgy, sound/light/costume design
 - Attended a student teaching seminar
 - Created rubrics for self-assessment and for student assessment
 - Substitute taught
- ❖ **All Saints Episcopal Day School Teaching Artist/Instructor ~ Hoboken, NJ ~ 2017-2019**
 - Instructed and created curriculum for 1-8 grade theatre classes once a week
 - Foundations of Theatre, Improv, Playwriting
 - Directed, music directed, and created choreography for two fall musicals and two spring plays
 - Fostered a learning environment where students could learn at their own capacity
 - Developed feedback and audience skills within all students at the school
 - Encourage character development
 - Authored with other teachers to write an adaption of a book for students to perform
 - Integrated what students were learning in other classes
 - Crafted a professional development workshop for faculty, encouraging the use of theatre in their classrooms
- ❖ **Brooklyn Acting Lab (BAL) Teaching Artist ~ Brooklyn, NY ~ 2017-Present**
 - Personalized lesson plans for classes and workshops based on objectives/intentions for each class
 - Personalized opening and closing rituals including reflection questions and processing beats
 - Created scaffolding in lessons
 - Offered modifications for students with autism spectrum disorder and IEPs
 - Ensemble building
 - Established community agreements coming from the students own needs and objectives
 - Devised "Play in a Day" plays with 1-4 grade
 - Used Process Drama based on themes to collaboratively create and perform a play in one day
 - Design arts and crafts activities to be incorporated as props and setting in our show
 - Tailored this process to week-long summer plays

- Taught theatre classes to 5-9 grade, devising a final piece collaboratively
 - Confronted topics that are important to the students and affect their daily lives
 - Racism, gender, climate change, mental health, cell phone usage, cyber bullying, xenophobia
- Devised plays with many age groups over a semester based on themes chosen by the students
 - Harry Potter, GhostBusters, The Lorax, Superheroes, The Magic Realm, TV Channel Hopping, Shakespeare, Star Wars, Improv
- Introduced Soundpainting to create live composition for actors.
- Welcomed students to bring their whole, ever-changing selves into the room
- Directed and choreographed You're A Good Man Charlie Brown in a summer intensive
- Recorded written reflections after every session and make appropriate adjustments
- Include students in the planning process
- Trained other teaching artists on devising and process drama
- Set goals for the future of the program with the artistic directors
- ❖ **Hoboken Children's Theatre** **Teaching Artist ~ Hoboken, NJ ~ 2017-Present**
 - Coached actors and singers
 - Directed, music directed, and prepared choreography for three shows and age groups each season
 - Guided four improv classes each Saturday as well as during our summer intensives
 - Collaborated with other teaching artists, designers, and the artistic director
 - Identified areas of growth for individual students
 - Reinforced theatre conventions
- ❖ **EmersonTHEATRE** **Assistant ~ Boston, MA ~ Fall 2019- Present**
 - Assisted Bethany Nelson in providing a safe environment for urban high school and college students
 - Supported and participated in shaping an atmosphere of vulnerability through storytelling
 - Observed Bthany playmaking
 - Built and maintained relationships with students
- ❖ **Kids 'n' Art** **Camp Counselor ~ Niagara Falls, NY ~ Summer 2015**
 - Counseled summer campers and facilitated activities each day to teach theatre
 - Wrote a play each week based on ideas collected from the campers
 - Design arts and crafts activities to be incorporated as props and setting in our show
- ❖ **Creative Drama with Jessica** **Founder, Facilitator ~ North Brunswick, NJ ~ Fall 2016**
 - Facilitated free children's theatre workshops at North Brunswick Public Library twice a week
 - Led students in activities with the intention to have fun
 - Communicated basic theatre terms and put them into practice
- ❖ **Page to Stage** **Founder, Director ~ Niagara Falls, NY ~ Summer 2016**
 - Founded and promoted a free program for children in Niagara Falls
 - Adapted and directed Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
 - Inspired students to have confidence on stage
 - Prioritized and Provided an opportunity for community engagement
 - Enriched the lives of participating students and their families

Relevant Artistic Experiences

- ❖ Developed a workshop series with Mark Schneider (Resident Director, Billy Elliot, Miss Saigon, Broadway) called Play Practice
- ❖ French Horn (10 years), amateur piano, reading music
- ❖ Lighting Design for Niagara University productions
- ❖ Equity Membership Candidacy
- ❖ Theatre for Young Audiences- Niagara University Repertory Theatre
 - Played over 25 roles in adaptations of children's books
 - Toured up to three shows a day in Western New York
- ❖ Associate Producer/Director for CRASH Theatre Co.'s adaptation of *Three Sisters*
- ❖ Teaching Artist at The Arc
 - Provided a space for people with intellectual disabilities to have fun and perform theatre