

LAUREN E. BRENDEL

ACTOR | THEATRE EDUCATOR | TEACHING ARTIST

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EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA Tuscaloosa, AL
M.F.A. Theatre, Acting Concentration May 2024
Capstone Performance/Thesis: Cassius in *Julius Caesar*
Advisor: Seth Panitch
Full Tuition Scholarship and Teaching Assistantship, Summa Cum Laude

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY Harrisonburg, VA
B.A. Theatre, Theatre Studies Concentration December 2018
Thesis: *Justine Johnstone: Bringing a Remarkable Woman to Life Through Performance*
Magna Cum Laude, Tom King Scholarship recipient, member of Honors College

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

WISCONSIN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL Eau Claire, WI
Teaching Artist, Summer Acting Intensive May – July 2024

- Collaborated with other teaching artists and educators to design and lead a week-long acting curriculum for 20 students aged 12 through 18
- Adapted complex acting methodologies into accessible lesson plans to successfully engage a wide range of student ages/experience levels

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA Tuscaloosa, AL
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Theatre and Dance August 2021 – May 2024

Instructor of Record, TH 448: Rehearsal Process - Showcase, Fall 2023

- Guided senior B.F.A. Acting majors in their selection of appropriate materials for agent showcases in New York City and Los Angeles
- Coached students through scene and monologue work and provided oral and written feedback to help them prepare for their final showcase presentations

Instructor of Record, TH 242: Acting II - Intro to Scene Study, Fall 2022

- Led 15 undergraduate students through acting exercises inspired by the work of Stanislavski, Meisner, Adler, Hagen, and modern screenwriters and psychologists
- Assessed student scene work using guidelines of preparation, knowledge and application of specific techniques, and improvement from the beginning of the course

Performance Coach/Consultant, TH 499: Independent Study, Fall 2022

- Reviewed and curated appropriate monologue selections for 6 B.F.A. Acting majors to record and present to professional theatre companies
- Organized coaching sessions and provided both written and oral responses to students' work to help them produce polished final products

Teaching Assistant, TH 445: Acting V - Shakespeare, Spring 2024

- Organized supplemental coaching sessions for undergraduate students to help them prepare a wide variety of Shakespeare monologues and scenes
- Held office hours to assist students with scansion and text analysis

Teaching Assistant, TH 446: Advanced Voice and Speech Performance, Spring 2022

- Assisted professor in leading in-class activities and discussions
- Helped assess student progress throughout different course modules including Fitzmaurice Voicework, Patsy Rodenburg's techniques, and Archetype work

Teaching Assistant/Acting Coach, TH 240: Beginning Movement, Spring 2022

- Organized supplemental coaching sessions for undergraduates to help them prepare for final scene showings
- Provided feedback on students' use of the Alexander Technique and other class methods in performance

Discussion Lab Leader, TH 114: Intro to the Theatre, Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Fall 2023

- Led two sections of 15-25 undergraduate students through discussions and activities related to course lectures and required production attendance
- Created and graded course assessments to ensure students understood material covered in both lecture and lab classes

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE IN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE

Performer, Department of Theatre and Dance, The University of Alabama, 2021 – 2024

- Serve as a mentor to undergraduate students in at least one university production each academic year (2021-22: *Pipeline*, 2022-23: *The Imaginary Invalid*, 2023-24: *Julius Caesar*, *Oedipus*, *Love & Information*)

Acting Coach, Crimson Stage, The University of Alabama, 2022 – 2024

- Provided scene coaching sessions for plays produced by Crimson Stage, an undergraduate student-run theatre organization

Performer, Alpha Psi Omega's Greater Giving Fundraiser, The University of Alabama, Fall 2022

- Performed in Greater Giving, a benefit concert created by the university's theatre honor society Alpha Psi Omega, which raised funds for Five Horizons Health Services

Acting Liaison, Dept. of Journalism & Creative Media, The University of Alabama, Spring 2022

- Collaborated with leadership from the Department of Journalism and Creative Media to create a new contract for student films to protect both on-screen talent and undergraduate directors/crew members

SELECT PROFESSIONAL ACTING EXPERIENCE

WISCONSIN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Eau Claire, WI

Performer, 2024 Season

May 2024 – July 2024

Olivia in *Twelfth Night*, The Prince in *Romeo and Juliet*, and Evie Hone in the live premiere of *Female Nude Seated*.

SEED CREATIVE

Tuscaloosa, AL

Lead Actor, Alabama Good Samaritan Law PSA

2023

Southeast Regional Emmy winner for Single Spot Public Service Announcement, 2023

WINDISH ENTERTAINMENT

Westchester, PA/Pittsburgh, PA

Performer/Show Captain, *Celebrate Kennywood 125*

May 2023 – August 2023

Singer/Dancer and Show Captain/Swing Rehearsal Leader for two different 30-minute sets which ran four times a day, six days per week

PITTSBURGH MUSICAL THEATER

Pittsburgh, PA

Performer, *HAIR*

December 2019 – February 2020

Featured Singer and ensemble member in *HAIR*; earned admission into the Equity Membership Candidacy Program through this production.

THE ROUND BARN THEATRE

Nappanee, IN

Core Company Member, 2019 Season

April 2019 – December 2019

Performed in six different musicals: Ruth Winters in *Plain and Fancy*, Aunt Spiker in *James and the Giant Peach*, Ensemble in *Freaky Friday*, Miss Watson in *Big River*, Mrs. Barry in *Anne of Green Gables*, and Silly Girl/Dancer in *Beauty and the Beast*; presented over 250 total shows.

Full Acting Resume available upon request.

OTHER SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

American Council on Exercise (ACE) Certification in Group Fitness Instruction; Experience leading classes at Orangetheory Fitness; Experience designing and leading Boxing Fitness, Spinning, HIIT, and Body Sculpt classes (Fitness resume available upon request)

First Aid/CPR/AED certified (Adult and Pediatric)

REFERENCES

Seth Panitch

Head of MFA Acting Program, Professor of Acting
Department of Theatre and Dance
The University of Alabama
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Julio Agustin Matos, Jr.

Director/Choreographer, Former Professor
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Allison Hetzel

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