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TARA WEINTRAUB

EDUCATION:

Master of Fine Arts in Performance Pedagogy 2015
Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia

Master of Arts in Theatre: Directing/Acting, 2011
Binghamton University; Binghamton, New York

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre: Directing/Acting, 2008
Georgia Southern University; Statesboro, Georgia

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Higher Education

Special Topics - Devised Theatre: Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration- *Creator/Instructor*, Virginia Commonwealth University (Spring 2015) An upper division course designed to facilitate and direct the creation, development, and rehearsal process of an ensemble of student actors, designers, playwrights, musicians, and visual artists. With a focus on current issues, the class used the devising approaches of Tectonic Theatre Project's Moment Work and Paul Sill's Story Theatre to create new works for our society.

Introduction to Acting I - *Instructor*, Virginia Commonwealth University (Fall 2014) A freshman acting course focused on the principles of Stanislavski including body, voice and acting. Script & character analysis, acting as doing, text/subtext, objective/obstacle, given circumstances, and tactics, as well as improvisations were also topics of study.

Acting I - *Teaching Assistant*, Virginia Commonwealth University (Spring 2014) A sophomore year-long acting class focused on script analysis, acting techniques, various acting exercises and the discipline of acting as handed down by Stanislavski, Meisner, Grotowski and others.

Directing II - *Instructor*, Virginia Commonwealth University (Spring 2014) A junior/senior level course, building on the fundamental concepts learned in Directing I. They developed an understanding of directing theory and history. Budding directors learned to collaborate with designers and actors to create a fully realized production. The class culminated in a one-act play festival.

Acting for Non-Majors - *Instructor*, Virginia Commonwealth University (Fall 2013) Theatre as component of a liberal arts education, with a focus on self-discovery, taking risks, making choices, experimentation, understanding of others, and appreciation through experience.

Effective Speech - *Instructor*, Virginia Commonwealth University (Fall 2013) As a required course in the university, the course covered formulating an argument, creating presentations, incorporating use of body language, awareness of audience engagement, vocal skills, use of support materials, and handling stage fright.

Directing I - *Instructor*, Virginia Commonwealth University (Fall 2013) A junior/senior level course in which students studied the director's work, including script analysis, ground plans, blocking for proscenium, thrust and in-the-round stages, focus, working with actors, the importance of collaboration, and use of projects to discover students' process and aesthetic.

Directing I - *Teaching Assistant*, Binghamton University (Fall 2010) Assisted in teaching the Directing I course to senior theatre majors; Oversaw the eleven one-act plays the students directed; Responsible for all publicity and office related duties for the classroom.

Fundamentals of Acting - *Teaching Assistant*, Georgia Southern University (Fall 2007, Spring 2008) Assisted in teaching the Fundamentals of Acting courses to freshman theatre majors and minors.

Adult Education

Teaching Artist, *Good Acting Studio* (2011- 2013) Instructor of Good Acting Studio's beginner and intermediate Sanford Meisner Technique classes.

Secondary Education

Theatre Teacher, *Collins Hill High School* (Fall 2015-Present) Choose, design and direct the seven-show theatre season while providing the students with high-quality theatrical training. Assist in the creation of a supportive community for the arts. Build and foster a rich theatre program. Teach introductory, intermediate, and advanced acting courses, technical theatre, musical theatre, scene study, and directing. Manage yearly budget and grow local school funds, as well as the booster organization funds. Recruit and retain for the department. Summer projects include multi-school 24 Hour Play Festival and Theatre Camp Intensive for feeder programs.

Theatre Director, *Saint Gertrude High School* (Fall 2014-Spring 2015) Chose, designed and directed Saint Gertrude's 2014-2015 Theatre Season while providing the students with high-quality theatrical training. Assisted in the creation of a supportive community for the arts.

Theatre Teacher, *Swift School* (Fall 2011- Spring 2013) Designed and implemented Swift's first theatre curriculum as part of the middle division's exploratory schedule. Focus on theatre for students with dyslexia and other language-based learning differences.

Theatre Teacher, *Lucille M. Brown Middle School* (2014) Taught introductory theatre classes to a multicultural and economically diverse group of middle school students.

Children's Theatre

Theatre Teacher, *Atlanta Children's Theatre* (Summer 2011- Fall 2013) Taught introductory, intermediate, and advanced acting courses at local independent and public schools. Led specialized workshops in the Sanford Meisner technique. Directed students in small and large-scale performances.

Assistant Director, *Fabrefaction Theatre Company* (Summer 2011- Spring 2012) Served as a visiting artist for Fabrefaction Theatre Company's 2011-2012 youth production.

Theatre Teacher, *Applause for Kids* (Summer 2008-Spring 2009) Taught theatre courses to students ages three through eighteen; Assistant directed children's theatre productions.

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE:

Regional and Community Theatre

<i>It's A Fabulous Life</i>	Assistant Director	Richmond Triangle Players
<i>The Lion and the Alligator</i>	Director	Good Works Project
<i>Attic</i>	Director	Good Works Project
<i>Dealing Mrs. Kassmeyer</i>	Director	Working Title Playwrights
<i>Plaza Suite</i>	Director	Averitt Center for the Arts
<i>Close Encounters</i>	Director	The Academy Theatre

University Theatre

<i>Anansi The Spider</i>	Director	Virginia Commonwealth University
<i>Arabian Nights</i>	Assistant Director	Virginia Commonwealth University
<i>Love Letters</i>	Assistant Director	Virginia Commonwealth University
<i>Crimes of the Heart</i>	Director	Binghamton University
<i>Doubt</i>	Director	Binghamton University
<i>White Liars</i>	Director	Binghamton University
<i>Most Massive Woman Wins</i>	Director	Binghamton University
<i>Three Penny Opera</i>	Assistant Director	Binghamton University

<i>On Dragonfly Wings</i>	Assistant Director	Georgia Southern University
<i>Book of Liz</i>	Director	Georgia Southern University

Secondary School Theatre

<i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Bright Star</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>9 to 5 The Musical</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>PUFFS</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Blithe Spirit</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Boshi and the Great Quest</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Harvey</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Check, Please</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Theory of Relativity</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Chicago High School Edition</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Crimes of the Heart</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Radium Girls</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Puss in Boots & Other Cat Tails</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Shrek</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Peter and the Starcatcher</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Changes of Heart</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>You Can't Take It With You</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Acting Showcase (Annual)</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Musical Showcase (Annual)</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School

<i>The Good Times are Killing Me</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Peace Week (Children's Theatre)</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Anatomy of Gray</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Hairspray</i>	Director	Collins Hill High School
<i>Blithe Spirit</i>	Director	St. Gertrude's High School
<i>Little Women The Musical</i>	Director	St. Gertrude's High School
<i>Annie</i>	Director	The Swift School

Professional Children's Theatre

<i>Seussical the Musical</i>	Assistant Director	Fabrefaction Theatre Company
<i>Once on This Island</i>	Co-Director	Applause for Kids
<i>Lion King</i>	Assistant Director	Atlanta Children's Theatre
<i>Where the Wild Things Are</i>	Co-Director	Atlanta Children's Theatre
<i>Devised Productions</i>	Co-Director	Atlanta Children's Theatre

SPECIALIZED TRAINING:

- *Tectonic Theatre Project's Moment Work* - Moises Kaufman, Andy Paris, Leigh Fondakowski
- *Paul Sills and Viola Spolin's Story Theatre* - Carol Sills
- *Orton Gillingham* - Fellow Joanie Gerken
- *Mask* – Dr. Aaron Anderson
- *Sanford Meisner Technique* -Thomas Kremer
- *Musicalized Movement* – Patti DeBeck
- *Fight Choreography (armed)* - Dr. Aaron Anderson
- *Mass Battle Choreography* - David Leong
- *Linklater Technique* - Susan Schuld
- *Theatre Pedagogy* - Dr. Noreen Barnes
- *Theatre Historiography* - Dr. Noreen Barnes
- *Dramatic Literature- Tragedy* - Dr. Noreen Barnes

- *History of Directing*- Dr. Noreen Barnes
- *Chekhov Intensive* – Wesley Broulik
- *Improvational Comedy* - Thomas Kremer
- *Asian Theatre Studies* - Dr. Don Boros
- *Theatre Histories* - Dr. Don Boros
- *Irish Theatre Studies* - Dr. Gary Dartt
- *Theories of Acting and Directing*- Dr. Don Boros
- *Art of Clown*- Michael Toomey
- *Children’s Theatre and Creative Dramatics* - Stephanie Routman, Spring Mason
- *Teaching College Theatre* - Barry Bell, Thomas Kremer, Kristyl Tift
- *Grant Writing* - Philip Crosby

TEACHING: AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:

- Sanford Meisner Technique
- Acting for Non-Majors
- Acting for Tech and Design Majors
- Scene Study
- Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Acting
- Theatre for Youth
- Devised Theatre
- Mask
- Acting for Musical Theatre
- Beginning Voice for the Actor
- Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Directing
- Improvisational Comedy
- Theatre as Therapy
- Public Speaking

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

- Cross-disciplinary collaboration and alternative processes to creating new theatre.
- Theatre as Therapy, more specifically in correlation with dyslexia and other processing disorders.
- Devised Works shining light on mental illness and learning disabilities, specifically depression and dyslexia.
- Theatre for Youth and Creative Dramatics as a way to increase self-awareness, empathy and open communication.
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ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

- **Co-Founder, Lawrenceville Theatre Festival (2019)** Co-founded and helped plan a new theatre festival for advanced theatre students. Five schools in the district were part of

the inaugural festival. Hired professional theatre artists to come and work with the students throughout the day.

- **Artistic Director**, *Good Works Theatre Festival* (2012-2015) Co-founded a play festival in Atlanta for emerging playwrights. Programmed works for the festival, cast the productions, and oversaw all artistic aspects of the festival.
- **President**, *Guild of Graduate Students* (2014-2015) Pursued and led community outreach activities for the graduate students. Formed relationships with secondary schools, providing educational theatre workshops to underprivileged schools, while creating teaching opportunities for the graduate students. Led fundraising efforts to assist the graduate students in travel costs to participate in national conferences, obtain rights for productions, and provide funding for set and prop construction. Created a collaborative and positive professional environment. Represented the Theatre program at community and regional events.
- **Box Office Manager**- *Virginia Commonwealth University* (2014-2015) Managed the TheatreVCU box office during the 2014-2015 season.

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS:

- Orton-Gillingham Certified Level Workshop: (2013) **Presenter** - *Theatre and the Dyslexic Mind*: Presentation of my newly developed pedagogical concept, blending the multi-sensory objectives of The Academy of Orton-Gillingham with Educational Theatre to increase processing speed, verbal and physical communication, memorization skills, and prosody.
- South Eastern Theatre Conference (2015) **Presenter** - *Theatre and Dyslexia: Arts and Sciences*: Presentation of my newly developed pedagogical concept, blending the multi objectives of The Academy of Orton-Gillingham with Educational Theatre to increase processing speed, verbal and physical communication, memorization skills, and prosody.

AFFILIATIONS:

- Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers (SDC)
- Member of Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC)
- Member of Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
- Member of Sigma Alpha Iota, International Music Fraternity for Women (2004-2008)
- Certified instructor of Dramatic Writing
- Certified Georgia Educator- Drama (P-12)
- Certified Classroom Educator with The Academy of Orton- Gillingham

AWARDS:

- GHSA One Act Competition Region Champions (*Blithe Spirit* 2021)
- GHSA One Act Competition Region Best Actor (*Blithe Spirit* 2021)
- GHSA One Act Competition Region Best Supporting Actress (*Blithe Spirit* 2021)
- Georgia High School Musical Theatre Awards: Best Direction of a Musical: Honorable Mention (*CHICAGO: High School Edition* 2020)
- Georgia High School Musical Theatre Awards: Best Actor: Honorable Mention (*CHICAGO: High School Edition* 2020)
- GHSA One Act Competition Best Supporting Actress (*Crimes of the Heart* 2019)
- GHSA One Act Comp. State Runners Up (*Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* 2018)
- GHSA One Act Comp. Best Set (*Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* 2018)
- GHSA One Act Competition Best Actor (*Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* 2018)
- GHSA One Act Competition Best Costumes (*Anatomy of Gray* 2017)
- Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts Graduate Travel Grant (2015)
- Virginia Commonwealth University Graduate Assistantship (2014)
- Recipient of merit-based scholarship at Binghamton University (2010)
- Recipient of the Leadership Award at Binghamton University (2011)
- Recipient of the Hope Scholarship (2004-2008)
- Recipient of Irene Ryan Nomination for Directing (2008)

SERVICE:

- Assist in running Georgia Thespians Conference
- GHSA State One Act Play Adjudicator
- Governor's Honors Program Theatre Adjudicator
- Adjudicator for Buford City Schools Literary Competition
- President of the Guild of Graduate Students (GOGS) at Virginia Commonwealth University
- Adjudicator for freshman auditions at Virginia Commonwealth University
- Adjudicator for Sophomore Assessments at Virginia Commonwealth University
- President of the Graduate Arts and Learning Association (GALA) at Binghamton University
- Adjudicator for Directing I student productions at Binghamton University
- Performer in Sigma Alpha Iota Fundraising Event, contributing to providing instruments to low economic schools.

REFERENCES:

Zechariah Pierce - Zechariah.Pierce@ung.edu / phone: (404) 918-5011/GTA Artistic Director, University of North Georgia

Kerensa Wing - Kerensa.Wing@gcpsk12.ga.org / phone: (770) 682-4101/Former Principal, Collins Hill High School

Violet Pledger - Violet.C.Pledger@gcpsk12.ga.org / phone: (404) 242-2700/ Choral Director, Collins Hill High School

Natalie Dollar – Natalie.Dollar@gcpsk12.ga.org / phone: (770) 298-9232/ Instructional Coordinator/ Dance Teacher, Fine Arts Collins Hill High School.