

DENNIS HENRY

Curriculum Vitae

www.DennisHenryTheatre.com

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PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION and EDUCATION

MFA in Directing for Stage and Screen

Minor in Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

May 2014

BA in Theatre, Emphasis in Performance

School of Theatre, Television, and Film at San Diego State University

May 2000

Additional Training: Linklater Center for Voice, Neighborhood Playhouse, Society of American Fight Directors

AFFILIATIONS: AEA, SDC, SAFD, ATHE, MATC, Certified in Adult Mental Health First Aid (2022)

UNIVERSITY TEACHING: 9 years full time, 4 years part time, 6 years as teaching artist

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY, Big Rapids, MI

Aug 2023- Current

Assistant Professor of Theatre

THTR 215, Intro to Theatre: Three Sections, 20 students

Topics: theatre fundamentals, jobs in theatre, types of stages, theatre, history of theatre and performance, theatre in politics, DEI in modern theatre, world theatre, being an informed audience member

THTR 222: Acting I: Three Sections, 9 Students

Topics: Stanislavski method, basics of intention, physical action, given circumstances and concentration. Vocabulary of acting and expectations for actors in rehearsal

INDIANA UNIVERSITY KOKOMO, Kokomo, IN

Aug 2019 to May 2023

Visiting Lecturer in Theatre

THTR 100: Intro to Theatre: Seven Sections, 10 students

Topics: theatre fundamentals, jobs in theatre, types of stages, theatre, history of theatre and performance, theatre in politics, DEI in modern theatre, world theatre, being an informed audience member

THTR 115: Oral Interpretation: Four Sections 12 students

Topics: Interpreting and presenting literature including poetry, prose and drama, reading with expression and confidence, finding and expressing the author's voice

THTR 120: Acting I: Seven Sections, 10 Students

Topics: Stanislavski method, basics of intention, physical action, given circumstances and concentration. Vocabulary of acting and expectations for actors in rehearsal

THTR 220: Acting II: Three sections, 5 students

Topics: Continued exploration of Stanislavski. Advanced Scene Study. Focus on integrating external acting with the internal

THTR 340: Directing I: Two Sections, 5 students

Topics: Using blocking to tell story, play analysis, making a ground plan, communicating with actors, directing a scenes for public performance

THTR 349: Theatre Production: One Section, 8 students

Topics: rehearsal and performance of Shakespeare, touring to educational venues, using Shakespeare's language, performing for a visible audience, challenges of touring

THTR 483: Capstone, four sections, 1 student

Topics: leading students through independent study in acting, director, and/or playwrighting project to fulfill their Capstone for theatre minor

HONORS 399: 21st Century Stage Depictions of Dystopia

Topics: elements of dystopian drama, dystopia and politics, principles of playwrighting

COM 121: Public Speaking, Ten sections, 20 students

Topics: writing and speaking in public, brainstorming and organization, effective gesturing, finding confidence, using a powerful and enthusiastic voice

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY, Allendale, MI
Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre

Aug. 2016 to May 2019

THE 101: Intro to Theatre, Thirteen Sections, 60 students each

Topics: theatre fundamentals, jobs in theatre, types of stages, theatre jargon, history of theatre and performance, theatre in politics, world theatre, being an informed audience member

THE 151: Acting Process: One Section, 16 students

Topics: Stanislavski method, basics of intention, physical action, given circumstances and concentration. Vocabulary of acting and expectations for actors in rehearsal

THE 152: Voice for the Actor: Two Sections, 20 Students

Topics: Breathe anatomy, Expanding the breathing cavity, using resonators, Linklater, Laban

THE 160: Theatre Production, One section, 30 students

Topics: exploring professions in theatre, theatre history, fundamentals of theatre jobs, responding to performance

THE 251: Acting Characterization: One Section, 16 students

Topics: Continued exploration of Stanislavski. Advanced Scene Study. Focus on integrating external acting with the internal

THE 400: Touring Theatre Production, Two sections, 7 students

Topics: rehearsal and performance of Shakespeare, touring to educational venues, using Shakespeare's language, performing for a visible audience, challenges of touring

THE 454: Advanced Scene Study, One Section

Topics: Audition, Careers in Theatre, Intensive Scene Study

THE 460: Directing II: One Section, 6 Students

Topics: Using blocking to tell story, advanced scene analysis, communicating with actors and designers, directing a short play for public performance

MAT 300: Music, Art and Theatre in Education, Three Sections 20 students each

Topics: Fundamentals of using theatre in the elementary classroom, integrating theatre with music and art in the classroom, drama games

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN
Temporary Lecturer

Fall 2014

THEA 112G: Intro to Theatre, Two sections, 250 students each

Topics: theatre fundamentals, jobs in theatre, types of stages, theatre jargon, history of theatre and performance, theatre in politics, world theatre, being an informed audience member

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN
Graduate Teaching Assistant (Instructor)

Fall 2011 to Spring 2014

THEA 202: Play Directing, Three semesters, 11-13 students,

Topics: play analysis, creating stage pictures, blocking, creating show bibles, working with actors, casting

THEA 112G: Intro to Theatre, One semester, 100 students

AMERICAN SHAKESPEARE CENTER ON TOUR
Education Coordinator (4yrs)
Teaching Artist (6yrs)

Jul. 2002-Jun. 2004 & Jun. 2008-Jun. 2011

Taught, developed and supervised creation of interactive workshops and lecture-demos

Institutions included: Georgetown University; University of Ottawa; Black Hills State University (SD); Centenary College (LA); St. Lawrence University (NY); University of Vermont; Virginia Union University; Loyola University of Maryland; Murray St. University (KY); Emory & Henry College (VA)

PUBLICATIONS

<u>An Interview with <i>Luna Gale</i> Director Austin Pendleton, Cleveland Play House Playbill</u>	Feb 2016
<u>The Realities of Foster Care in Ohio, Cleveland Play House Playbill</u>	Feb 2016
<i>Maude and Ellie Play Chess</i> in <u>Scholars and Poets Look at Queens</u> , Palgrave Macmillan, UK Edited by Dr. Carole Levin	Aug 2015
<u>Gender Confusion, Genocide and the Apocalypse: Directing Moira Buffini's <i>Silence</i></u> Master's Thesis, Digital Commons at University Nebraska-Lincoln (1700+ Downloads as of 09/24)	Apr 2014

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Ferris State University

Humanities Planning Committee	2023-2025
Directed <i>Much Ado about Nothing</i> for Pigeon Creek Shakespeare (Ferris Arts and Lectures Series)	Sep 2024
Sponsored Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Guest Artist Shakespeare workshop	Sep 2024
Recruitment: Summer Orientation Tabling	Summer 2024
Directed student cabaret performance for Big Rapids Festival of the Arts	Feb 2024
Volunteer Judge, Ferris Speech Tournament	Dec 2023
Kennedy Center American college Theatre Festival Respondent	Nov 2023

Indiana University Kokomo

Led student experience at KCACTF Region 3 Festival, Flint, MI	Jan 2023
Indiana Thespians Festival, Regional Host	Nov 2022
Indiana Thespians Festival, Regional Host	Nov 2021
Partnered w/ Kokomo Pride for "Community Conversation" after perf. of <i>The Laramie Project</i>	Oct 2020

Grand Valley State University

Co-Chair Grand Valley Shakespeare Conference	2018
Faculty Advisor, Alpha Si Omega	2017-2019
Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival Committee	2016-18

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Academic Appeals Committee (Chair)	2012-13 & 2013-14
Graduate Curriculum and Recruitment Committee	2013-14
Guest Artist Committee	2013-14
Recruitment and Outreach Committee	2012-13
Season Selection Committee	2012-13

PROFESSIONAL and ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

Blackfriars Conference, Staunton, VA Sessions moderated: 1) Staging Sessions (5): Early Modern Play Pitch 2) Paper Session: Textual Violence	Oct 2019
Mid-America Theatre Conference, Cleveland, OH Workshop Presented: "Hip-Hop as a Gateway to Shakespeare"	Mar 2019
Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Madison, WI Workshop Presented: "Easy Steps for Selecting and Performing Your Shakespeare Monologue"	Jan 2019
Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival Conference Co-Chair. Organized and/or managed all aspects of national conference on performance and pedagogy	Sep 2018

Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival Conference, Grand Rapids, MI Oct 2014
 Paper Presented: "I'm Gonna Pop Some Tags: Teaching Shakespeare Using Pop and Hip-hop Music"

University Film and Video Association Conference, Bozeman, MT Aug. 2014
 Films Screened: *Wingman* (producer/director) and *Berenice* (director/producer/adapted screenplay)

British Graduate Shakespeare Conference, Stratford-Upon-Avon, UK Jun. 2013
 Paper Presented: "A Case for the Heart in a Pro-Anus World: The King's Illness in *All's Well That Ends Well*"

PROFESSIONAL ACTING

Member, Actor's Equity Association

Dozens of plays performed in Over 40 US States

Representative Roles:

Brutus	<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Pigeon Creek Shakespeare
Michael	<i>God of Carnage</i>	Nebraska Repertory Theatre
Aunt Agatha	<i>Jeeves Intervenes</i>	Nebraska Repertory Theatre
Polonius	<i>Hamlet</i>	American Shakespeare Center
Pompey	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	American Shakespeare Center
King of France	<i>All's Well That Ends Well</i>	American Shakespeare Center
Dromio of Syracuse	<i>Comedy of Errors</i>	American Shakespeare Center
Friar Lawrence	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	National Theater for Arts and Education

Directors Include: Katherine Mayberry, Judy Hart, Virginia Smith, Doug Finlayson, Jim Warren, David Hay, Ellen Lieberman, Rebekkah Dunn, Delicia T. Sonnenberg, Christopher Owens, Nick Hutchison, Ralph Alan Cohen, Murray Ross, Giles Block (Master of the Word, Shakespeare's Globe)

PROFESSIONAL STAGE DIRECTING

<i>Much Ado about Nothing</i>	Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Co., Grand Rapids, MI	Aug 2024
<i>Measure for Measure</i>	Hoosier Shakespeare Festival, Marion, IN	Jun 2023
<i>Macbeth</i> (Tour)	Hoosier Shakespeare Festival	Oct 2022
<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	Hoosier Shakespeare Festival	Jun 2022
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Hoosier Shakespeare Festival	Dec 2021 & 2022
<i>The Tempest</i>	Hoosier Shakespeare Festival	Jun 2021
<i>The Santaland Diaries</i>	Hoosier Shakespeare Festival	Dec 2020
<i>As You Like It</i>	Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Co.	Oct 2018
<i>Cymbeline</i>	Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Co.	Aug 2017
<i>Othello</i>	Sweet Tea Shakespeare, Fayetteville, NC	Jun 2017
<i>Henry IV, parts 1 & 2</i>	Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Co.	Aug 2016
<i>On the Beam</i>	Cleveland Play House (100 th Anniversary Festival)	Oct 2015
<i>Lies, Lies, Lies</i>	Cleveland Play House	Oct 2015
<i>Headlines</i>	Cleveland Play House	Oct 2015
<i>Monkeys</i>	Random Acts Chicago	Aug 2015
<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Co.	Jun 2015
<i>Eleemosynary</i>	Angels Theatre Company, Lincoln, NE	Nov 2014
<i>Coriolanus</i>	Pigeon Creek Shakespeare	Jul 2014
<i>Red Line Stories</i>	Nebraska Repertory Theatre, Lincoln, NE	Jul 2013
<i>Boatloads of Shame</i>	Masonic Theatre, Staunton, VA, Under St. Mark's, H.T. Theatre Group, Los Angeles	Summer 2009
<i>Aventuras de Don Quijote</i> (Tour)	National Theatre for Arts & Education, Bridgeport, CT	2007 & 08
<i>Shakespeare's Coming Attractions</i>	Excellent Motion Shakespeare Co, San Diego, CA	Spring 2007
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	American Shakespeare Center	Dec 2003

UNIVERSITY DIRECTING

<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Ferris State University	Apr 2025
<i>Urinetown the Musical</i>	Ferris State University	Nov 2024
<i>Radium Girls</i>	Ferris State University	Mar 2024
<i>Working: A Musical</i>	Ferris State University	Nov 2023
<i>An Enemy of the People</i>	Indiana University Kokomo	Nov 2022
<i>The Laramie Project</i>	Indiana University Kokomo	Nov 2021
<i>Nevermore: Tales of E. A. Poe</i>	Indiana University Kokomo	Oct 2020
<i>All in the Timing</i>	Indiana University Kokomo	Feb 2020
<i>The Imaginary Invalid</i>	Grand Valley State University	Mar 2019
<i>Twelfth Night</i> (Tour)	Grand Valley State University	Nov 2018
<i>Cabaret</i>	Grand Valley State University	Nov 2017
<i>Good Kids</i>	Grand Valley State University	Nov 2016
<i>Macbeth</i> (Tour)	Grand Valley State University	Oct 2016
<i>Prometheus Forgotten</i> (devised)	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	May 2014
<i>Silence</i>	Kennedy Center ACTF, Region V	Jan 2014
<i>Silence</i>	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Oct 2013
<i>The Pillowman</i>	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Sep 2012

PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANT DIRECTING

Windy City Playhouse	<i>This</i> , dir: Carl Meninger	Jul 2016
Cleveland Play House	<i>The Comedy of Tenors</i> , dir: Stephen Wadsworth (World Premiere)	Oct 2015
Nebraska Repertory Theatre	<i>Emma</i> , dir: Catherine Weidner	Jul 2013
American Shakespeare Center		2002-2004 & 2009-2011

Asst. Director in Charge of Touring Each Tour: 150 performances over 10-12 months

Maintained the artistic integrity of the performances while on tour

Gave notes to actors and adjusted blocking for each venue

Ran brush-up and put-in rehearsals

Wrote reports on each performance for the artistic director

As You Like It, Macbeth, Measure for Measure, All's Well That Ends Well, Knight of the Burning Pestle, Romeo & Juliet, Two Gentlemen of Verona, 1 Henry IV, The Tempest, Coriolanus, Taming of the Shrew

Directors: Jim Warren, Ralph Alan Cohen, Joyce Peifer, Colleen Kelley, Fred Nelson

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY

Hoosier Shakespeare Festival: *Macbeth*

Grand Valley State University: *The Jungle Book, Twelfth Night, Oklahoma!, Cabaret, Macbeth*

Pigeon Creek Shakespeare: *As You Like It, Cymbeline*

Sweet Tea Shakespeare: *Othello*

National Theatre for Arts and Education: *Las Aventuras de Don Quixote* (twice)

*SAFD proficiency in Broadsword (2019) and Single Sword (2012), 20 hours in Rapier (2019)

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCING and MANAGEMENT

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, Hoosier Shakespeare Festival Nov 2020- Jun 2023
Oversee all artistic matters, season planning, casting, hiring artistic team, working within assigned budget

ARTISTIC AND DIRECTING FELLOW, Cleveland Play House Jul 2015-Feb 2016
Supported projects for Associate Artistic Director and Literary Manager, researcher for Managing Director, new play reader, season selection committee, directing and assistant directing duties

ASSISTANT PRODUCER, Cleveland Play House Centennial Play Series Oct 2015

PRODUCER, Nebraska Repertory Theatre's "Destinations Series" Summer 2013
Coordinated all aspects of production of NRT summer performance series

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER, Nebraska Repertory Theatre	Summer 2013
COMPANY MANAGER, American Shakespeare Center On Tour	2002-2004 & 2009-2011
Facilitated tour stops with approximately 40 venues per year	
Maintained artistic integrity of shows & wrote extensive reports on each venue	
Created & implemented daily schedule for troupes of 9-12 actors (including travel/ meals/lodging)	
TOUR MANAGER, National Theater for Arts and Education	Spring 2006; Fall 2007; Spring 2008
Made contact with 30-50 venues to coordinate national touring productions	
Made travel arrangements and managed daily schedules for troupes of 8-10 actors	
PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, Excellent Motion Shakespeare Co.	Jan 2006 to Apr 2007
Coordinated all aspect of two productions that toured nine venues in CA and AZ	

FILM and MEDIA DIRECTING

<i>Berenice</i> , Director and Producer	Short Film, 8 minutes, 2014
<i>Wing Man</i> , Director and Producer	Short Film, 7 Minutes, 2013
<i>Digs</i> , Casting Director & Assistant to Director	Short Film, 29 Minutes, 2012
Director: Donald Petrie (<i>Miss Congeniality</i> , <i>Grumpy Old Men</i>)	
<i>Haunted Temple</i> , Director	Radio Commercial, 30 seconds, 2013

AWARDS and HONORS

Professional Awards

Oscar Wilde Award Nomination, Best of the Bard, Director, <i>Henry IV</i>	2017
Broadway World Detroit, Best Shakespeare Play Nominee, <i>Henry IV</i>	2017
Broadway World Detroit, Best Shakespeare Play Nominee, <i>Coriolanus</i>	2015

Ferris State University

Professional Development Travel grant	2024
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Grand Valley State University

Recipient, Creative and Scholarly Excellence Faculty Dissemination Travel Grant	Jan 2019
Recipient, GVSU LGBT Faculty Staff Association Grant for <i>Cabaret</i>	Oct 2017
Recipient, Academic and Professional Enrichment Grant for <i>Macbeth</i> Dominican Republic Tour	Mar 2016

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Johnny Carson School Faculty Scholarly Activity Travel Grant	Sep 2014
Nebby Film Festival, Awarded "Best Direction of a Film" for <i>Wingman</i>	May 2013
Recipient, UNL Sharpless Fellowship	2013-14
Recipient, UNL Chancellor's Fellowship	2011-12 & 2012-13
Recipient, Hixson-Lied College Scholarly Presentation Grant	May 2013
Recipient, Hixson-Lied College Creative Activity Grant	Nov. 2012 & Jan. 2013

KCACTF

Invited Production, <i>Silence</i> , Kennedy Center ACTF, Region V	Jan 2014
Certificate of Merit for Directing, Kennedy Center ACTF, Region V	Jan 2014
Society of Directors & Choreographers Scholarship Audition, Regional Finalist	Jan 2013
Society of Directors & Choreographers Scholarship Audition, Regional Finalist	Jan 2012

San Diego State University

Recognized at Matriculation as "Distinguished in Major"	May 2000
Marion Ross Scholarship for Outstanding Performance	May 1999
Mack Owen Scholarship for Most Promising Actor	May 1998