

EDUCATION

- July 2001 **New York University, New York, NY**
Certificate in Arts Administration
Arts management, grant writing, budgeting, fundraising, marketing/audience development.
- December 1991 **University of California; Irvine, California**
Master of Fine Arts in Drama, emphasis Musical Theater
- December 1987 **Elmhurst College; Elmhurst, Illinois**
Bachelor of Arts - Illinois Teaching Certificate for grades 6-12
Major - Speech/Theatre Education Second Major – Spanish
- Additional Training:
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| Meisner | Larry Silverberg |
| Acting: | Uta Hagen, Robert Cohen, Eli Simon |
| Shakespeare: | John Basil (Folio Method), Robert Cohen |
| Musical Theatre: | Helen Gallagher, Clayton Garrison, Dennis Castellano, David Brunetti |
| Voice: | Mahlon Schanzenbach |
| Dance: Jazz: | Chris Chadman, Bob Rizzo, Chet Walker, Jim Corti, Fred Walton, Buzz Miller |
| Ballet: | Alexander Filipov, Florence Lessing, Larry Rosenberg, El Gabriel |
| Playwriting: | Daniel Judah Sklar |

TEACHING

- May 2012 – Present **Executive Director, Mantua Theater Project, Pennsylvania**
An official replication of the 52nd Street Project teaching young at-risk students in the Mantua and Powelton neighborhoods the basics of playwriting and then performing the plays using professional actors and directors. In addition to being the Executive Director I am also the resident “Playmaking” instructor.
- Sept. 05 – Present **Teaching Professor, Drexel University, Pennsylvania**
Classes taught: Acting Fundamentals, Intro to Musical Theatre, Contemporary Musical Theatre, Intro to Theatre, Scene Study, Directing, Responsible for directing one production a year, Practicum classes in arts administration
- Mar. ‘08 – Aug. ‘08 **Master Acting Teacher, Hedgerow Theater, Media, Pennsylvania**
Taught acting class in professional theater conservatory to students 18 years and older
- Sept. ‘02 – Sept. ‘05 **Assistant Professor, Mercer County Community College, New Jersey**
Classes taught: Fundamentals of Acting, Scene Study, Musical Theatre History & Performance, and Speech & Human Communication, as well as directing one play a year
- July ‘01 – June ‘02 **Adjunct Assistant Professor, Mercer County Community College, New Jersey**
Classes taught: Fundamentals of Acting, Speech & Human Communication
- Jan. ‘00 – August ‘05 **Playwriting Teacher, The State Street Project, Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey**
Taught playwriting to young people using the “Playmaking” model created by Daniel Judah Sklar in his book Playmaking: Children Writing and Performing Their Own Plays.
- Aug ‘89 – May ‘91 **University of California; Irvine, California – Teaching Assistant**
Coached undergraduate students on song performance technique.
- June – Aug. ‘88 **Gaby Just Dance Studio; Dusseldorf, Germany – Jazz Dance Instructor**
Taught Beginning and Advanced levels of dance to adults.
- Sept. ‘86 – May ‘87 **Suburban School of Performing Arts; Westmont, Illinois**
Song Performance – Taught various levels of musical theatre styles to students ranging from 10-18 years of age at private performing arts conservatory.
Advanced Acting – Taught acting technique to students 14-18 years of age. Advised adults on audition preparation – i.e. selection of material, photos, resumes, etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- May '12 – Present **Executive Director/Founder/Playmaking Instructor, Mantua Theater Project, Philadelphia, PA**
The Mantua Theatre Project addresses the needs of the communities of Mantua, Powelton Village and the surrounding neighborhoods with activities that engage At-Risk youth in worthwhile and meaningful experiences where they can realize their self-worth and the diversity of their imagination, through positive, self-affirming experiences of success in theater arts.
- July '08 – Present **Theater Program Director, Drexel University, Pennsylvania**
Coordinate all aspects of the Theater Program including class scheduling, hiring instructors, creation of new curriculum, creation of the Director's Lab, maintenance of Theater Minor and Producing/Artistic Direction of a six show season.
- Sept. '05 – Present **Professional Theatre Coordinator, Drexel University, Pennsylvania**
Responsible for the creation and operation of the Mandell Professionals in Residence Project (MPiRP). MPiRP brings professional theater companies to campus to work with students and co-produce one production a year. Over its five years this program has earned four Barrymore nominations and received one award for Outstanding Sound Design.
- Sept. '02 – Present **THE LATE NIGHT SERIES, Producing Artistic Director/Founder**
I founded this company to promote developing young artists so they would have an artistic home to work on new material. The Late Night Series produces a weekly open mic/variety show as a post-theatre event featuring poetry, music, dance, comedy, & drama. It is currently running at two successful locations in New Jersey and Philadelphia. Neil Genzlinger of the New York Times called The Late Night Series "an eclectic performance orgy," and "a coffee house/poetry slam/hip hop amalgam." (www.latenightseries.com).
- Oct. '00 – Sept. '05 **Coordinator Theatre & Dance Programs, Mercer County Community College, NJ**
Accomplishments: Cultivated new multi-purpose theatre space, developed new curriculum and new Associate of Arts program, advised students and hired faculty for community college offering Associate & Associate of Fine Arts Degrees in Theatre and Dance.
- Jan. '00 – Jan. '04 **Education Director/Artistic Associate, Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey**
Supervised education program and managed small staff for developmental theatre working under an Actors' Equity Small Professional Theatre contract.
- Accomplishments as *Education Director* included:
- Artistic Direction of replication of *52nd Street Project* called the *State Street Project*.
 - Expanded education program and produced 3 fully staged productions a season.
 - Developed and enhanced new educational outreach programs in Playwriting, Poetry, Technical Theatre and Performance for children from the ages of 8 – 18.
 - Grant writing and reporting, budgeting, and financial oversight.
- Accomplishments as *Artistic Associate* included:
- Outreach, community relations and audience development.
 - Producing special events (spoken word/poetry/music).

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

- Oct 2013 **TEDx**
Presented at TEDx at Drexel
Topic: *The Power of the Many*
- May 2012 **TEDX**
Presented at TEDX at Drexel
Topic: *Why Not Engage in the Wonderful World of Theatre*
- Sept. '09 – Present **Board of Directors, EgoPo Classic Theatre**
- Feb. 2009 **Panelist, "Alternative Spaces and Collaborations"**
Theatre Alliance of Philadelphia, Spark Event
- Sept. '08 – July '10 **Voter, Barrymore Award for Excellence in Theatre**
- Sept. 13 - Present Theater Alliance of Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The Barrymore Award for Excellence in Theatre is Philadelphia's equivalent to the TONY awards. I am a member of the voting committee that choose the outstanding nominees and award winners.

- Sept. '07 - Present **Advisory Board – Entertainment & Arts Management Program, Drexel University**
- Sept. '02 – June '05 **Advisory Board – Performing Arts High School, Mercer County, NJ**
- Sept. '00 – June '02 **“Seed” Subcommittee, Weed & Seed, City of Trenton, New Jersey**
Federally funded program that “weeds” out criminal elements in a neighborhood and “seeds” with cultural program.
- Feb. 2002 **Unity Conference, East Brunswick African-American Cultural Commission, NJ**
Taught a one-day creative playwriting workshop with a culminating performance of participants' work
- Jan. 2001 **Moderator for Panel Discussion, New Jersey State Council on the Arts
Empowerment Summit on Diversity IV, Trenton, NJ**
Moderated a panel discussion for young inner city students on employment opportunities in the arts.
- Jan. 2000 **Workshop Presenter, New Jersey State Council on the Arts
Empowerment Summit on Diversity III, Trenton, NJ**
Directed “Pavlova” by R.N. Sandberg and demonstrated an example of State Street Project's “One on One” programming to arts educators. The show was followed by a discussion about the process.
- Jan. 1999 **Workshop Presenter, New Jersey State Council on the Arts
Conference on Arts Education, Trenton, NJ**
Directed “Sunny and Dogi” written by 9 year old student as a demonstration of State Street Project “Playmaking” programming for arts educators. The show was followed by a discussion about the process.

AWARDS & HONORS:

Association of Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Leadership Conference 2012

Chosen to train alongside leaders in theater in Higher Education that include Department Heads, Deans, Presidents of Universities. Acceptance into the Leadership Conference is highly competitive and once a candidate has become a member they have access to classes and mentors from Universities around the country.

Barrymore Award for MPiRP Production of “THE LONG CHRISTMAS RIDE HOME”

MPiRP resident company received two nominations and won for Outstanding Sound Design for the production of THE LONG CHRISTMAS RIDE HOME.

Barrymore Nomination for MPiRP Production of “BLUEBIRD,” August 2009

MPiRP resident company received a nomination for Unique Collaboration with EgoPo Productions and Orchestra 2001

Live Arts & Festival Fringe Blog – Featured Artist Profile

Barrymore Nomination for MPiRP Production of “PROM,” August 2008

MPiRP resident company received a nomination for Outstanding Movement/Choreography for the production of PROM.

Academic All American

National Collegiate Speech & Dramatic Arts Award

Alpha Mu Gamma (Foreign Language Honorary)

Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges

Theta Alpha Phi (Drama Honorary) – President

Company Member Pulse Ensemble Theatre, NY

Omicron Delta Kappa, National Honor Society

Member Actors' Equity Association

Received several grants for my work as Education Director of the Passage Theater in support of the State Street Project including: Dodge Foundation, TCG Next Generation, New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Horizon Foundation, and many more.

Featured Guest spotlight on “Breezin with Bierman,” Princeton local cable access show.

DIRECTING/CHOREOGRAPHY

Professional

- March 2020 **ROCKET SEX MAGIC by David White (stage reading)**
Bristol Riverside Theater, Bristol, Pennsylvania
- March 2017 **ROCKET SEX MAGIC by David White (stage reading)**
Writers Theater of New Jersey, Madison, New Jersey
- Jan. 2017 **FESTIVAL QUARTET, by David White (stage reading)**
Bristol Riverside Theater, Bristol, Pennsylvania
- Jan. 2017 **UNDER PRESSURE, Director staged reading**
Mainstreet Musicals, Philadelphia, PA
- Jan. 2014 **ONE MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL, Director**
Passage Theatre-Playwrights Unit, Trenton, New Jersey
Streamed live on www.newplaytv.info
- Jan. 2013 **ONE MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL, Director**
Passage Theatre-Playwrights Unit, Trenton, New Jersey
Streamed live on www.newplaytv.info
- Aug 2012 **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW, Artistic Director**
Mantua Theater Project, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Feb 2012 **Playwrights Lab, Director and Dramaturg**
Passage Theatre-Playwrights Unit, Trenton, New Jersey
- June 2011 **OIL ON THE BEACH, Director, Original Music**
State Street Project, Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey
- June 2011 **STOLEN by Lynne Elson, Director/Dramaturg (Developmental Reading)**
Passage Theatre-Playwrights Unit, Trenton, New Jersey
- June 2009 **INFANTA by Peter Gruen, Director**
Passage Theatre-Playwrights Unit, Trenton, New Jersey
- June 2009 **MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE by Sonya Aronowitz, Director**
Passage Theatre-Playwrights Unit, Trenton, New Jersey
- May 2009 **DON'T ERASE MY BRAIN & SUPERBABY & SUPERBOT, Director**
State Street Project, Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey
- Mar. 2009 **SOLO FLIGHTS FESTIVAL: YOU A MAN NOW by Mo Beasley, Director**
Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey
- Aug 2008 **AUTUMN'S END by Andy Kozak, Director/Dramaturg (Musical reading)**
Hedgerow Theater Play Development, Media, Pennsylvania
- June 2008 **THE KIDS ARE IN CONTROL, Co-Director/Multi-Media Design**
Co-Artistic Director of student written plays performed by professional adult actors
- June 2008 **THE LIFE OF CONTINENTINO AND ALEXIYA, Director/Choreographer/Original Music**
State Street Project, Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey
- Mar. 2008 **CERTAIN REPORTS OF UFOS & THE GAME OF LIFE, THE CHOSEN, Director/Dramaturg**
Developmental Staged Reading, Young Playwrights of Philadelphia @ Drexel University
- June 2007 **21st CENTURY PLAYS, Passage Theatre, Trenton, NJ, Co-Director/Multi-Media Design**
Co-Artistic Director of student written plays performed by professional adult actors.
- June 2007 **DIARY OF MY FRIEND(Z), Director**
State Street Project, Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey
- Aug 2006 **Excerpts from LOVESUITES & NO GOOD N-WORD BLUEZ, by Mo Beasley, Director**
New Freedom Theater, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Presented as part of the Philadelphia Fringe Festival
- Dec. 2003 **A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN NEW JERSEY, by R. N. Sandberg, Director/Musical Staging**
Passage Theatre Company, Trenton, New Jersey
Commissioned, developed, and directed new musical for young students and adult professionals.

- Sept. 2002 **Live @ The Trenton Public Library, Producer/Book Adaptation**
Adapted A Hero Ain't Nuthin but a Sandwich by Alice Childress for three actors to perform at all the Trenton Library locations. Performances were followed by role-playing and discussion.
- 1999 - 2004 **THE STATE STREET PROJECT, Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey**
1999 SUNNY & DOGI, Director
2000 AFTER THE FALL, Director
2001 EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN, Director
2001 BY HOOK OR BY CROOK, Director
2001 MIXED BLESSINGS FOR THE HOLIDAZE, Director/Choreographer
2002 YOUR CHEATIN HEART, Director
2002 ON THE JOB, Director
2002 MIXED BLESSINGS FOR THE HOLIDAZE II, Director/Choreographer
2002 PAVLOVA, Director/Choreographer
2002 DOUBLE YOUR FUN, Director
2003 THE LUCKY PLAYS, Director
2003 MIXED BLESSINGS FOR THE HOLIDAZE III, Director/Choreographer
2004 RESPECT, Director
- Oct. 2001 **NIGHT OF THE LIVING DUMMY by R.L. Stein, Director/Adaptation**
Directed my own adaptation for Passage Theatre @ Borders Bookstores.
- July 2001 **HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN, Director/Adaptation**
Directed my own adaptation for Passage Theatre @ Borders Bookstores.
- Feb. 2000 **THE #1 COMBINATION by David Lipman; Director**
Pulse Ensemble Theatre, New York, New York
- July 1997 **FATHER & SON, Director/Musical Staging**
Passage Theatre, Trenton, New Jersey
- May 1997 **FORT CHAFFEE (Workshop) by Cliff Fanin Baker, Contributing Composer/Actor/Musician**
Arkansas Repertory Theatre; Little Rock, Arkansas
- May 1995 **COUNTRY MUSICAL REVUE, Assistant Choreographer**
Musicana Dinner Theatre; Clearwater, Florida
- June 1990 **OVER THE RAINBOW, Director/Choreographer**
Playhouse Production; Nappanee, Indiana – Jill Stover, Producer
- June 1990 **PLAIN & FANCY, Resident Choreographer**
Playhouse Production; Nappanee, Indiana – Jill Stover, Producer
- University**
- Nov 2019 **ALIEN8, Director (world premiere musical)**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- May 2018 **BE MORE CHILL, Director**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- May 2017 **GODSPELL, Director**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Feb 2015 **ALMOST, MAINE, Director**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- May 2014 **BLOODY, BLOODY ANDREW JACKSON, Director**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- May 2013 **GRAPES OF WRATH, Director** - Inaugural Production in the URBN Annex Black Box Theater
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- March 2012 **A CHORUS LINE, Director**
Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Nov. 2011 **12TH NITE, Director and Adaptor**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Feb. 2011 **OUR TOWN, Director**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 2010 **REEFER MADNESS, Director/Musical Staging**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sept. 2008 **CUMBUSTIBLE RADIO THEATER, Director/Head Writer/Foley Creation**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nov. 2008 **BLOOD BROTHERS, Director/Musical Staging**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Feb. 2008 **LEND ME A TENOR, Director**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nov 2006 **THE LARAMIE PROJECT, Director/Sound Designer**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 2005 **ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN, Director/Musical Staging**
Mercer County Community College, Trenton, New Jersey

Dec 2005 **SUBURBIA, Director**
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nov. 2004 **VIETNAM: LETTERS AND REMEMBRANCES, Director/Adaptation/Original Music**
Mercer County Community College, Trenton, New Jersey