

CHRIS GIORDANO (he/him)

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Residing in: Westchester County, NY

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Theatre Educator | Director | Actor | Producer

Twelve years experience in theatre industry enhances classroom instruction. Kindergarten through college conservatory levels. Artistic director for over twenty educational theatre productions. Leading with curiosity and a collaborative spirit. An organizational godsend. NYSED: Theatre certified.

Expertise / Core Competencies

- Curriculum Design & Lesson Planning
- Youth Theatre Directing
- Classroom Management
- Acting & Musical Theatre
- Monologues & Scene Study
- Non-profit Organizations
- Audition Technique & Business of Acting
- Improvisation

Professional Experience

American Musical Dramatic Academy (AMDA), New York, NY

July 2017 - Aug '21

Head Teacher, GAP Program, Acting in the Theatre (College)

- Designed and delivered a rigorous curriculum in collaboration with National Director of Curriculum Development, two weeks ahead of schedule.
- Developed original syllabus, depicting expectations, achieving a 50% boost in student class preparedness.
- Wrote daily reports, outlined students' individual growth or concerns, thereby accelerating student intervention.

Acting Faculty Member, Three Subjects (College)

- Enhanced and implemented four-part curriculum in Audition Technique: Cold Readings, fostering student-centered learning by promoting student reflections and peer assessments.
- Taught two sections of Improv Fundamentals, improving students' physical improv and storytelling skills.
- Advised drama showcase directors in four productions, leveraging student feedback in all facets of the process.

Head Teacher, Acting For the Stage Program (High School Summer Conservatory)

- Established detailed curriculum, facilitated classes and rehearsals, and communicated students' individual growth and concerns in daily supervisor reports, resulting in seamless process and improved student confidence and skills.
- Directed performances for parents, awarded "Most Organized Director" by program technical director.

Dobbs Ferry Middle and High School, Guest Director for Theatre Department, Dobbs Ferry, NY

Jan 2022 - Current

- Appointed to direct middle school musical by school board and administrators, getting rave reviews from administrators and parents for successful execution of the show.
- Created alternative solutions for production and artistic needs, due to COVID-19 restrictions and space availability, resulting in streamlined performances.

Todd Elementary School, General Education Teaching Assistant (4th Grade), Briarcliff Manor, NY

Sept 2020 - June '21

- Informed direct observations of teaching and learning offered actionable feedback to the main teacher and support services, working with colleagues to create responsive learning opportunities, leading to student growth.
- Planned lessons with clear learning objectives, meeting NYC Theater Blueprint and state learning standards and ensuring students had hands-on experiences through arts integration.

Artist-in-Residence, NYC, Westchester County Schools, and National Programs

June 2013 - Current

Represented seven DOE-approved arts organizations teaching K-12 residencies in 21 public school settings. Selected representation below. Other organizations include: *Play Group Theatre*, *Camp Broadway*, *92nd Street Y*, and others. Full academic C/V upon request.

Inside Broadway, Musical Theatre & Improv (Grades 3-12), New York, NY

- Facilitated 3rd-grade residencies for three years with 120 students per year, receiving praise from 95% of classroom teachers and administrators for a well-organized process and polished product.
- Modified instructions and goals for D75 school, increasing inclusion of students with special needs.
- Devised musical, integrating social studies unit study, celebrating student heritage and community culture with 120 4th and 5th-graders, mentoring student-driven community interviews regarding the immigrant experience.

TexARTS, Musical Production Intensive Day Camp (Grades 1-8), Lakeway, TX

- Directed “Disney’s The Little Mermaid Jr.,” collaborating with professional design team, creating cohesive production vision and performance, endowing 100% student responsibility on stage and backstage.

Arts Administration and Management Experience

Theatre Now New York, New York, NY **Producing Director** Feb 2017 - June ‘20

- Curated and edited first anthology of 25 short musicals, overseeing design and content while fostering artist relationships when negotiating contracts, leading to faster contract execution duration.
- Conceived and spearheaded licensing of short musicals for schools, adding an additional income stream, and partnership with Music Theatre International thus growing brand to over 60 countries worldwide.
- Produced nine different programming events, managing a team of 115 actors, directors, writers, and volunteers.

Brooklyn Acting Lab, Brooklyn, NY **Managing Director** Sept 2015 - June ‘16

- Managed and trained five new hires, providing feedback in evaluations, increasing performance ratings.
- Assembled staff handbook, establishing new policies and procedures, achieving a 40% increase in productivity.
- Directed "Seussical Jr.," organizing a formal rehearsal schedule, promoting collaboration with students on 70% of staging and choreography while maintaining cohesive production vision.

Student Teaching Experience

Dobbs Ferry Middle & High School, Theatre Arts (Grades 6-12), Dobbs Ferry, NY Sept - Dec 2021

- Created and conducted differentiated curriculum, accommodating special needs students, and meeting individual learning styles and preferences.
- Developed assessments using NYP standards, resulting in stronger feedback and revisions from 92% of students.

New York Film Academy’s Musical Theatre Conservatory, (College), New York, NY Jan - May 2018

- Originated three lessons on crafting story structures, combining tableaux and musical theatre technique for a Musical Theatre exploratory studio class, which increased student’s creativity resulting in stronger performances.
- Shared assessments and modifications on student development and curriculum, thereby strengthening overall class instruction.

Professional Certifications

NYSED: Theatre Classroom K-12 (exp: Aug 2027) | CTE Drama 7-12 (exp: Jan 2027) |

BPSS Private Career School Teacher in Acting (exp: Oct 2022) | Level One Teaching Assistant (exp: Jan 2024)

Education

Master of Science in Education, Educational Theatre, The City College of New York, New York, NY

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Musical Theatre, Pace University, New York, NY

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre Arts Directing, Minor in Dance, Pace University, New York, NY