

# 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, NJDOE, CSED: Theatre & Drama certified.

### Expertise / Core Competencies

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

### Professional Experience

**Dobbs Ferry Middle and High School**, Guest Theatre Director, Per-Diem Sub, Dobbs Ferry, NY Sept '21 - June '22

- 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.
- Organized the theatre department's costume and prop inventory, decreasing production costs.

**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.

**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*, *Curtain Call, Inc.* 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) |

NJDOE: CEAS Theatre and Drama | NYSED: Level 1 Teaching Assistant (exp: Jan 2024)

CTSDOE: Theatre and Drama, Grades Pre-K through 12 (exp: Feb 2025)

### 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