

AMIE F. ROOT

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EDUCATION

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

MFA Directing

Thesis: *Coriolanus*

Member and Choreographer of University Dance Company

Macomb, IL

Anticipated May, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN: STEVENS POINT

BA Drama, emphasis in Physical Theatre and Dance

Stevens Point, WI

June 2020

(Attended 2006-2010, 2019-2020)

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FIGHT DIRECTORS

President

January 2025 - Present

Certified Teacher

July 2015 - Present

Theatrical Firearms Certification

July 2015

Chair Pedagogy Committee

2020-2023

Advanced Actor Combatant

July 2009

Actor Combatant

July 2007

SAFD Certified with Recommendation in Unarmed, 2-Handed Sword, Singlesword, Smallsword, Rapier & Dagger, Sword & Shield, Knife, and Staff.

AWARDS AND HONORS

President's Award Recipient, Society of American Fight Directors

2023

Gil Belles Memorial Assistantship, Western Illinois University

2023-present

Nominee - SETC VP of Equity and Inclusion

2024 & 2025

KCACTF Region 3 - Nomination for Choreography/Directing (*Coriolanus*)

2025

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY – SUMMER ARTS

Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.)

SUMMER 2023

Lead Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Fresno

Stage Combat Rapier and Dagger and the art of Fight Direction.

Contact: Collin Bressie

Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.)

SUMMER 2022

Lead Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Fresno

Stage Combat Singlesword, Comedy and Hollywood

Swashbuckling.

<p>Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.) Lead Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Fresno Stage Combat Longsword and Shakespeare. Contact: Collin Bressie, David Sterritt</p>	<p>SUMMER 2019</p>
<p>Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.) Co-Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Fresno Stage Combat Fighting for Film. Contact: Collin Bressie, Nate Mitchell</p>	<p>SUMMER 2018</p>
<p>Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.) Co-Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Monterey Bay Stage Combat Rapier and Dagger in Classical Theatre. Contact: Collin Bressie, Tony Carriero</p>	<p>SUMMER 2016</p>
<p>Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.) Co-Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Monterey Bay Stage Combat Unarmed in Contemporary Theatre. Contact: Collin Bressie, Tony Carriero</p>	<p>SUMMER 2014</p>
<p>Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.) Assistant Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Monterey Bay Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD) Skills Proficiency Test Course Rapier & Dagger. Contact: Collin Bressie, K. Jenny Jones</p>	<p>SUMMER 2013</p>
<p>Course equivalency: CSU STAGE COMBAT (3cr.) Co-Instructor of Record, Hosted by CSU Monterey Bay Stage Combat Rapier & Dagger for the Action Actor. Contact: Collin Bressie, Tony Carriero</p>	<p>SUMMER 2012</p>
<p>WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY <i>Graduate Teaching Assistantship</i></p>	<p>Macomb, IL</p>
<p>THEA 100 Theatre Arts: Practice and Profession Instructor of Record, Department of Theatre and Dance Introduction to the professional world of theatre through guest lectures and discussions. Contact: Tammy Killian</p>	<p>FALL 2025</p>

THEA 409G Playwrighting 1

SPRING 2025

Instructor of Record, Department of Theatre and Dance
Build an artistic statement, develop tools for active action,
exposition, and strong characters.
Contact: Tammy Killian

THEA 172 Acting 1 for Majors

FALL 2024

Instructor of Record, Department of Theatre and Dance
Craft fundamentals of acting through action verbs, vocal scoring,
character analysis, etc. for BFA, BA and Minors.
Contact: Dr. Hadley Kamminga-Peck

THEA 409G Playwrighting 1

SPRING 2024

Co-Instructor, Department of Theatre and Dance
Build an artistic statement, develop tools for active action,
exposition, strong characters.
Contact: Co-Instructor Tammy Killian

THEA 170 Movement 1 for Majors

SPRING 2024

Instructor of Record, Department of Theatre and Dance
Introduction to an awareness of physical habits, use of Laban,
Neutral Mask, etc. for BFA, BA and Minors.
Contact: DC Wright

CORNELL COLLEGE

Mt. Vernon, IA

THEA 333 Adv. Topics: Stage Combat

SPRING 2022

Guest Lecturer Faculty, Department of Theatre and Dance
Taught Block 8, SAFD Skills Proficiency Test course in
Singlesword. Additional hours in Unarmed foundations.
Contact: Caroline Price

WORKSHOP AND PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE***INSTRUCTOR*****CENTRAL ILLINOIS STAGE COMBAT TEACHER TRAINER**

Macomb, IL

Stage Combat Pedagogy/Andragogy

SUMMER 2025

Founder and Lead Instructor, Hosted by Western IL University,
Teach two-weeks of Pedagogy, Educational Choreography,
Boundaries in the Classroom, Inclusive Practices, and more.
Contact: Tiza Garland, Olivia Willcox

Stage Combat Pedagogy/Andragogy

SUMMER 2024

Founder and Lead Instructor, Hosted by Western IL University,
Teach two-weeks of Pedagogy, Educational Choreography,
Boundaries in the Classroom, Inclusive Practices, and more.
Contact: Tiza Garland, Samantha Kaufman

Stage Combat Pedagogy/Andragogy

SUMMER 2023

Founder and Lead Instructor, Hosted by Western IL University,
Teach two-weeks of courses in Classroom Management, Script
Building, Lesson Planning, Educational Choreography, Boundaries
in the Classroom, Inclusive Practices, and more.
Contact: Tiza Garland, Melissa Freilich, Ashley White

Stage Combat Pedagogy/Andragogy

SUMMER 2022

Founder and Lead Instructor, Hosted by Western IL University,
Teach two-weeks of courses in Classroom Management, Script
Building, Lesson Planning, Educational Choreography, Boundaries
in the Classroom, Inclusive Practices, and more.
Contact: Tiza Garland, DC Wright, Sarah Flanagan

SAFD TEACHER CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP

Ruston, LA

Co-Lead Teacher

Anticipated SUMMER 2026

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University
Responsible for pedagogical content and assessment of SAFD
Certified Teacher Candidates.
Contact: Jason Paul Tate

Pedagogy Instructor

SUMMER 2025

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University
Responsible for pedagogical instruction of SAFD Certified
Teacher Candidates.
Contact: Nicky Jasper

CENTRAL ILLINOIS STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Macomb, IL

Course equivalency: THEA 470(G) ST:COM

SUMMER 2019

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Western IL University
(SAFD) Skills Proficiency Test Course Smallsword and Staff.
Contact: DC Wright

Course equivalency: THA220 Movement for the Actor SUMMER 2018
Certified Teacher, Hosted by Eureka College
(SAFD) Skills Proficiency Test Course Singlesword and Sword & Shield.
Contact: DC Wright

Course equivalency: THA220 Movement for the Actor SUMMER 2016
Certified Teacher, Hosted by Eureka College
(SAFD) Skills Proficiency Test Course Knife and Smallsword.
Contact: DC Wright

Unarmed and Movement SUMMER 2012
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Eureka College
Taught additional non-SPT course weapon.
Contact: DC Wright, John Tovar

2-Handed Sword and Movement SUMMER 2011
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Eureka College
Taught additional non-SPT course weapon.
Contact: DC Wright, Paul Denhardt

Unarmed and Movement SUMMER 2010
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Eureka College
Taught additional Non-SPT course weapon.
Contact: DC Wright, H. Russ Brown

THEATRICAL FIREARMS COURSE

SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety and Performance Course SPRING 2024
Assistant Teacher, Hosted by Western Illinois University
Co-taught 2 day SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety Test Course
Contact: Lead Instructor DC Wright

SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety and Performance Course SPRING 2023
Assistant Teacher, Hosted by Western Illinois University
Co-taught 2 day SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety Test Course
Contact: Lead Instructor DC Wright

SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety and Performance Course SPRING 2022
Assistant Teacher, Hosted by Western Illinois University
Co-taught 2 day SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety Test Course
Contact: Lead Instructor DC Wright

<p>SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety and Performance Course Assistant Teacher, Hosted by Eureka College Co-taught 2 day SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety Test Course Contact: Lead Instructor DC Wright</p>	<p>SPRING 2019</p>
<p>SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety and Performance Course Assistant Teacher, Hosted by Eureka College Co-taught 2 day SAFD Theatrical Firearms Safety Test Course Contact: Lead Instructor DC Wright</p>	<p>SPRING 2018</p>
<p>UNTO THESE HILLS OUTDOOR DRAMA</p>	<p>Cherokee, NC</p>
<p>SAFD Skills Proficiency Test Courses Certified Teacher SAFD SPTs in Unarmed, Knife, Smallsword, Singlesword, Rapier & Dagger, Staff, Sword & Shield, 2-Handed Sword. Contact: Co-Instructor D. Granke</p>	<p>SUMMER 2024</p>
<p>SAFD Skills Proficiency Test Courses Certified Teacher SAFD SPTs in Unarmed, Knife, Smallsword, Singlesword, Rapier & Dagger, Staff, Sword & Shield, 2-Handed Sword. Contact: Co-Instructor D. Granke</p>	<p>SUMMER 2023</p>
<p>SAFD Proficiency Test Courses Certified Teacher SAFD SPTs in Unarmed, Knife, Smallsword, Singlesword, Rapier & Dagger, Staff, Sword & Shield, 2-Handed Sword. Contact: Co-Instructor D. Granke</p>	<p>SUMMER 2022</p>
<p>SAFD Skills Proficiency Test Courses Certified Teacher SAFD SPTs in Unarmed, Knife, Smallsword, Singlesword, Rapier & Dagger, Staff, Sword & Shield, 2-Handed Sword. Contact: Co-Instructor D. Granke</p>	<p>SUMMER 2021</p>
<p>SAFD NATIONAL STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP</p>	<p>Ruston, LA</p>
<p>Advanced Actor Combatant Workshop Certified Teacher, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University SAFD SPTs in Singlesword and Staff. Contact: Co-Instructors Sean Micheal Chin, Andrew Ray</p>	<p>SUMMER 2025</p>

Actor Combatant Workshop

SUMMER 2019

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University
SAFD Skills Proficiency Test Course in Rapier & Dagger.
Additional non-testing hours in Staff.
Contact: Co-Instructor FM Brian Byrnes

Intro to Stage Combat Workshop

SUMMER 2015

Instructor, Hosted by University of NC School for the Arts
SAFD Skills Proficiency Test Course in Rapier & Dagger.
Additional non-testing hours in Staff.

TEXAS INTENSIVE STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Houston, TX

Associate Instructor Training Program

FALL 2022 - 2025

Coordinator and Lead Instructor, Hosted by University of Houston
2 day pedagogy intensive for teaching introductory stage combat.
Contact: Jack Young, Adam Noble

Stage Combat Pedagogy and Inclusive Practices

FALL 2021

Instructor, Hosted by University of Houston
Contact: Co-Instructor Orion Couling

Fight Directing and Directing Collaboration Intensive

FALL 2019

Instructor, Hosted by University of Houston
Contact: Co-Instructor Ashley White

MENTORING ADVANCED COMBATANTS WORKSHOP

Bloomington, IN

Advanced Actor Combatant Intensive

Anticipated SPRING 2026

Instructor and Mentor, Hosted by Indiana University
5 days of instruction in all weapons for stage and film.
Contact: Leraldo Anzaldua, Samantha Kaufman

Advanced Actor Combatant Intensive

SPRING 2019

Instructor and Mentor, Hosted by Indiana University
5 days of instruction in all weapons for stage and film.
Contact: Leraldo Anzaldua, Samantha Kaufman

THE FREDERICKSON STAGE COMBAT INTENSIVE

Ann Arbor, MI

Smallsword Intensive

SPRING 2025

Certified Teacher, Hosted by the University of Michigan

Taught 20 Certified hours in Smallsword.

Contact: Christina Traister

MITTEN MAYHEM STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Ypsilanti, MI

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

FALL 2024

Instructor, Hosted by Eastern Michigan University

Taught class in Smallsword, Singlesword, Pedagogy over 2 days.

Contact: Joe Wright, Jen Pan

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

FALL 2023

Instructor, Hosted by Eastern Michigan University

Taught class in Smallsword, Singlesword, Knife over 2 days.

Contact: Joe Wright, Jen Pan

THE STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP AT LOUISIANA TECH

Ruston, LA

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2023

Instructor, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University

Taught class in stage combat and pedagogy over 2 days.

Contact: Mark Guinn, Andrew Ray

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2019

Instructor, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University

Taught class in stage combat and pedagogy over 2 days.

Contact: Mark Guinn, Andrew Ray

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2018

Instructor, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University

Taught class in stage combat, movement and voice over 2 days.

Contact: Mark Guinn

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2017

Instructor, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University

Taught class in stage combat, movement and voice over 2 days.

Contact: Mark Guinn

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2016

Instructor, Hosted by Louisiana Tech University

Taught class in stage combat, movement and voice over 2 days.

Contact: Mark Guinn

CAPITAL COMBAT WORKSHOP

Lubbock, TX

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SUMMER 2024

Instructor, Hosted by Texas State University

Taught class in Singlesword, Smallsword, and Staff over 2 days.

Contact: Toby Minor, George Appling

FULLERTON COLLEGE

FALL 2022

Smallsword and Partner Work Masterclass

Guest Artist

6-hour workshop for performance majors on Smallsword for the actor and partnering.

Contact: Collin Bressie, Micheal Mueller

LONESTAR SMASH STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Dallas, TX

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

FALL 2021

Instructor, Hosted by SC Dallas

Taught class in Singlesword, Smallsword, and Knife over 2 days.

Contact: Ashley White

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

FALL 2018

Instructor, Hosted by SC Dallas

Taught class in Singlesword, Smallsword, Unarmed over 2 days.

Contact: Ashley White

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

FALL 2017

Instructor, Hosted by SC Dallas

Taught class in Singlesword and Smallsword over 2 days.

Contact: Ashley White

SWORDS IN THE SMOKIES

Cherokee, NC

Stage Combat Pedagogy/Andragogy Intensive

SPRING 2020

Instructor, Hosted by Cherokee Historical Association

One-week intensive on best practices for teaching stage combat.

Contact: D Granke

THE TOURIST TRAP STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Orlando, FL

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2020

Instructor, Hosted by University of Central Florida

Taught Singlesword, 2-Handed Sword, and Smallsword over 2 days.

Contact: Jason Paul Tate

BRAWL OF AMERICA STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Minneapolis, MN

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2018

Instructor, Hosted by the University of Minnesota

Taught class in stage combat, theatrical firearm safety and pedagogy over 2 days.

Contact: Mike Lubke

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2017

Instructor, Hosted by the University of Minnesota

Taught class in Smallsword, Unarmed and Rapier & Dagger.

Contact: Mike Lubke

GUTHRIE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION PROGRAMING

Minneapolis, MN

“Diversity Daisies” Girls Empowerment Through Education

FALL 2017 & 2018

Guest Teacher, Guthrie Theatre

Taught communicating boundaries and consent through unarmed.

Contact: Aaron Preusse

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY - SUMMER ARTS

Motion Capture Masterclass

SUMMER 2016

Instructor, Hosted by CSU Monterey Bay

Co-taught Creature Workshop with Nickelodeon Animation using motion capture suits and student designs.

Contact: Nate Mitchell, Collin Bressie

Collaborating with Foley Masterclass

SUMMER 2014

Instructor, Hosted by CSU Monterey Bay

Co-taught live Foley for action with Happy Feet Foley, including designing action shots, storylines, pacing for the Foley and film fighting.

Contact: Jeffrey Wilhoit, Collin Bressie

THEATRE RED RENEWAL SERIES

Milwaukee, WI

SAFD Skills Proficiency Renewal (SPR) Series

FALL 2016

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Theatre RED

Taught SPRs in Smallsword, Singlesword, and Staff

SAFD Singlesword Skills Proficiency Renewal (SPR)

SUMMER 2016

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Theatre RED

Contact: Co-Instructor Christopher Elst

CARNAGE IN THE CORN STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Des Moines, IA

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2017

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Drake University

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days. Observed instructors and gave pedagogical feedback.

Contact: Mike Speck, Karla Kash

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2016

Certified Teacher, Hosted by Drake University

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days. Observed instructors and gave pedagogical feedback.

Contact: Mike Speck, Karla Kash

- Conference Classes in Stage Combat** SPRING 2015
Certified Teacher, Hosted by Drake University
Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days. Observed instructors and gave pedagogical feedback.
Contact: Mike Speck, Karla Kash
- Conference Classes in Stage Combat** SPRING 2014
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Drake University
Taught 2-handed sword & Smallsword over the course of 2 days.
Contact: Mike Speck, Karla Kash
- Conference Classes in Stage Combat** SPRING 2013
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Drake University
Taught Singelsword over the course of 2 days.
Contact: Mike Speck, Jay Burkhardt
- Conference Classes in Stage Combat** SPRING 2012
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Drake University
Taught Singlesword over the course of 2 days.
Contact: Mike Speck, Karla Kash
- Conference Classes in Stage Combat** SPRING 2011
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Drake University
Taught Sword & Shield over the course of 2 days.
Contact: Mike Speck, Karla Kash
- Conference Classes in Stage Combat** SPRING 2010
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Drake University
Taught Unarmed & Singlesword over the course of 2 days.
Contact: Mike Speck, Micheal Chin
- Conference Classes in Stage Combat** SPRING 2009
Associate Instructor, Hosted by Drake University
Taught Smallsword over the course of 2 days.
Contact: Mike Speck, Ian Rose

A-TOWN THROWDOWN STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Atlanta, GA

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2015

Instructor, Hosted by Georgia Tech

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days.

Contact: David Sterritt

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2013

Associate Instructor, Hosted by Kennesaw State University

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days.

Contact: David Sterritt

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2012

Associate Instructor, Hosted by Kennesaw State University

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days.

Contact: David Sterritt

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY (STC)

Washington D.C.

“District Shakes”

School Year 2014 - 2015

Actor and Instructor

Perform and teach Shakespeare in DC public schools lacking theatre arts programming.

Contact: Vanessa Hope

“Shakespearience”

SY 2014 - 2015

Actor and Instructor

45min - 1hr. 30 min Shakespeare preparation courses for inner city DC schools attending STC shows through our outreach programming.

Contact: Vanessa Hope

Camp Shakespeare

SUMMER 2014

Movement and Stage Combat Instructor

Taught Ages 12-14, two-week camps, 7 hours a day, culminating in an abridged performance of *Romeo and Juliet*.

<p>“District Shakes” Actor and Instructor Perform and teach Shakespeare in DC public schools lacking theatre arts programming. Contact: Vanessa Hope</p>	SY 2013 - 2014
<p>“Shakespeareience” Actor and Instructor 45min - 1hr. 30 min Shakespeare preparation courses for inner city DC schools attending STC shows through our outreach programing. Contact: Vanessa Hope</p>	SY 2013 - 2014
<p>Camp Shakespeare Movement and Stage Combat Instructor Taught Ages 12-14, two-week camps, 7 hours a day, culminating in an abridged performance of <i>Macbeth</i>.</p>	SUMMER 2013
<p>“District Shakes” Actor and Instructor Perform and teach Shakespeare in DC public schools lacking theatre arts programming. Contact: Vanessa Hope</p>	SY 2012 - 2013
<p>“Shakespeareience” Actor and Instructor 45min - 1hr. 30 min Shakespeare preparation courses for inner city DC schools attending STC shows through our outreach programing. Contact: Vanessa Hope</p>	SY 2012 - 2013
<p>Camp Shakespeare Movement and Stage Combat Instructor Taught Ages 12-14, two-week camps, 7 hours a day, culminating in an abridged performance of a <i>Taming of the Shrew</i>.</p>	SUMMER 2012
<p>Camp Shakespeare Movement and Stage Combat Instructor Taught Ages 12-14, two-week camps, 7 hours a day, culminating in an abridged performance of <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i>.</p>	SUMMER 2011

WINTER WONDERLAND WORKSHOP

Chicago, IL

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

WINTER 2013

Associate Instructor, Hosted by MACE

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 3-days.

Contact: DC Wright, John Tovar, Richard Raether

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

WINTER 2012

Associate Instructor, Hosted by MACE

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 3-days.

Contact: DC Wright, John Tovar

WILLIAM E. DOAR JR. PCS FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Washington D.C.

Theater and Shakespeare (3rd - 5th and 6th - 8th)

SY 2012 - 2013

Drama Instructor, Hired through Shakespeare Theatre Comp.

Taught public speaking, self-confidence, and collaboration, through acting and Shakespeare's text. Culminated in abridged performance.

WOOTEN HIGH SCHOOL

Rockville, MD

Movement & Unarmed in *Taming of the Shrew* (10th grade)

SPRING 2013

Teaching Artist

Section of 10th Grade AP English, bringing Shakespeare to life.

Movement & Unarmed in *Romeo and Juliet* (10th grade)

SPRING 2012

Teaching Artist

Section of 10th Grade AP English, bringing Shakespeare to life.

LINCOLN ASSASSINATION STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

Lincoln, NE

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2012

Associate Instructor, Hosted by University of Nebraska Lincoln

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days.

Contact: Ian Borden, Harris Smith, Paul Steger

CEASE AND DESIST STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP Newport, KY

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2012

Associate Instructor, Hosted by Northern Kentucky University

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days.

Contact: John Baca, Gina Cerimele-Mechley

Conference Classes in Stage Combat

SPRING 2011

Associate Instructor, Hosted by Northern Kentucky University

Taught all weapons styles over the course of 2 days.

Contact: John Baca, Gina Cerimele-Mechley

SPOTLIGHTERS THEATRE

Baltimore, MD

Summer Young Actors Academy

SUMMER 2012

Teaching Artist

Taught two high school summer academy groups stage combat and movement courses.

IMAGINATION STAGE

Bethesda, MD

Youth Theatre Education Outreach

SY 2011 - 2012

Teaching Artist

Stage combat for middle schools and high schools in the DMV.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Chicago, IL

Hollywood Swashbuckling Masterclass

FALL 2011

Instructor, University of Chicago Theatre and Dance

Taught 3-hour master class on classic styles of stage combat.

SCHOOL FOR CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Cincinnati, OH

Stage Combat Masterclass

SPRING 2011

Instructor, Secondary School

Taught master class in Knife and physical listening.

SWORDS AND SCHOONERS

Chicago, IL

Stage Combat Performance and Boat Stunts

FALL 2010

Instructor, Hosted on the Tall Ship Windy

Two days of stage combat and stunt instruction on a tall ship.

Contact: Orion Couling

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Stage Combat Workshop Louisiana Tech, Louisiana Tech, Ruston LA, 2012 - 2014

A-Town Throwdown, Georgia Tech, Atlanta GA, 2014

SPT courses, CT Jenny Male, Howard Community College, SY 2013-14

Independent SPT Courses, CT Lewis Shaw, Howard Community College, SY 2011-13

Independent SPT Smallsword, FM Ian Rose, Philadelphia PA, 2011

Stage Combat, Teacher Casey Kaleba, Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, 2011

Lincoln Assassination, University of Nebraska Lincoln, 2011

Music Camp, Teacher Christopher Elst, Lakeland College, 2010

SPT Singlesword, CT DC Wright, University of WI Stevens Point, 2009

THEA 382 Stage Combat, CT H. Russ Brown, University of WI Stevens Point, 2008

INTERNSHIPS

Summer Sling Stage Combat Workshop, City College of NY, 2012

Winter Wonderland Stage Combat Workshop, MACE, Chicago IL, 2011

Virginia Beach Bash Stage Combat Workshop, Regent University, 2011

SAFD National Stage Combat Workshop, University of NC School of the Arts, 2011

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

GRANT WRITING

Assistant to the Primary Investigator, Tracy Family Foundation, Youth Performing Arts

Series, funding professional development for WIU students and free arts access and bus reimbursement for 15 local IL county school districts, performance *Starling Shakespeare Comedy of Errors*. (2025-26)

Primary Investigator, Illinois Arts Council Grant, Youth Performing Arts Series, funding free

arts access and bus reimbursement for 15 local IL county school districts, performances by *Desueño* (Afro-Latin) Dance and *The Black Rep* St. Louis. (2024-25)

Primary Investigator, Illinois Arts Council Grant, Youth Performing Arts Series, funding free

arts access and bus reimbursement for 15 local IL county school districts, performances by *Ayodele* (West African) Drum and Dance. (2023-24)

ACADEMIA

Coordinator, Teacher, Advisor for Professional Auditions Preparation Screenings, Department of Theatre and Dance, Performance majors (including MFA Actors, BFA Musical Theatre, and BA Performance majors) pass screenings allowing them to audition for summer work including UPTAS. (2024 - 2026)

Committee Member & Student Advocate, Western Illinois University, Season Selection Committee. (2025-2026)

Committee Member & Student Advocate, Western Illinois University, Committee for student success and accommodations, (2024)

Student Recruitment, traveled to Chicago, Quad Cities, and St. Louis, teaching free stage combat workshops in recruitment efforts for Western Illinois University. (2023 - Present)

PROFESSIONAL

Selection Committee Member, Society of American Fight Directors, Development Department *Expand, Educate, Empower* Grant Outreach Program, (2021 – Present)

Official Mentor, Society of American Fight Directors, (2015 – Present)

Chair of Pedagogy Committee, Society of American Fight Directors, Created Associate Instructor Training Program. (2020-2023)

Chair of Selection Criteria Rubric Teacher Certification Committee, Society of American Fight Directors. (2026 - Present)

Board of Advisees, Edge of Orion Theatre, inclusive theatre practices for marginalized communities, (2020-2023)

Co-Artistic Director, Live Action Theatre, Washington D.C., (2013-2015)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Member, Society of American Fight Directors, built the Concern Resolution Pathways document as a resource for regional workshops and the SAFD National Workshop.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DIRECTION

**denotes Graduate work*

Co-Director *BYOPlay New Works Festival** Western IL University SPRING 2026

Director	<i>Coriolanus*</i>	Western IL University	FALL 2025
Director	<i>Comedy of Errors</i>	Starling Shakespeare Company	SUMMER 2025
Co-Director	<i>Bring Your Own Play*</i> <i>New Works Festival</i>	Western IL University	SPRING 2025
Director	<i>The Mad Ones*</i>	Western IL University	SPRING 2025
Asst. Director	<i>The Garbologists*</i> Dir. Tamera Izlar	Western IL University	SPRING 2024
Director	<i>A Pirates Life for She</i>	Oconaluftee Little Symphony Society	SUMMER 2022
Co-Director	<i>Romeo & Juliet</i> Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Shakespeare Theatre Company (D.C.)	SUMMER 2014
Co-Director	<i>Macbeth</i> Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Shakespeare Theatre Company (D.C.)	SUMMER 2013
Co-Director	<i>Taming of the Shrew</i> Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Shakespeare Theatre Company (D.C.)	SUMMER 2012
Co-Director	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Shakespeare Theatre Company (D.C.)	SUMMER 2011

PLAYWRITING

(Works can be found on New Play Exchange)

**denotes Graduate work*

A Pirate's Life for She

Full Production - Rocky Mountain College, Billings MT	SPRING 2026
Full Production - University of Maine, Orono ME	FALL 2023
Full Production - Western IL University, Macomb IL	FALL 2022
Full Production - Oconaluftee Little Symphony Society, Cherokee NC	SUMMER 2021
Workshop - Three-week Zoom Workshop, Western IL University	SUMMER 2021
Virtual Reading - Self-Produced YouTube Stream	SPRING 2021
Virtual Reading - Private Zoom Reading, Self-Produced	FALL 2020

Baked with Love

Full Production - Bring Your Own Play*, Western IL University	SPRING 2025
Full Production - Oconaluftee Little Symphony Society, Cherokee NC	SUMMER 2024

Kegel Games

Reading* - Western IL University

FALL 2024

Reading - Oconaluftee Little Symphony Society, Cherokee NC

SUMMER 2023

The Habit

Reading* - Western IL University

FALL 2023

FIGHT DIRECTION

**denotes Graduate work*

Fight Director	<i>Bach at Leipzig</i> Western Illinois University (IL)	Dir. DC Wright	SPRING 2026
Fight Director	<i>BYOPlay New Works Festival</i> Western Illinois University (IL)	Dir. Tammy Killian	SPRING 2026
Fight Director	<i>Eurydice</i> Western Illinois University (IL)	Dir. Michael McNamara	SPRING 2026
Fight Director	<i>Ironbound</i> Forward Theatre (WI)	Dir. Marcy Kearns	WINTER 2026
Fight Director	<i>Misery</i> Peninsula Players (WI)	Dir. Georgette Verdin	SUMMER 2025
Fight Director	<i>Unto These Hills</i> Cherokee Outdoor Drama (NC)	Dir. D Granke	SUMMER 2025
Fight Director	<i>Comedy of Errors</i> Starling Shakespeare Company (MI)	Dir. Amie Root	SUMMER 2025
Fight Director	<i>Henry IV Part I</i> Utah Shakespeare Festival (UT) Educational Tour	Dir. Marcy Kearns	WINTER 2025
Co-Fight Director	<i>Rocky Horror Picture Show*</i> Western IL University (IL)	Dir. Hadley Kamminga-Peck	FALL 2024
Fight Director	<i>Unto These Hills</i> Cherokee Outdoor Drama (NC)	Dir. D Granke	SUMMER 2024
Fight Director	<i>Hamlet</i> Utah Shakespeare Festival (UT) Educational Tour	Dir. Stewart Shelley	WINTER 2024
Fight Director	<i>Unto These Hills</i> Cherokee Outdoor Drama (NC)	Dir. D Granke	SUMMER 2023

Fight Director	<i>She Kills Monsters</i> University of Southern Miss (MS)	Dir. Caitlyn Herzlinger	SPRING 2022
Fight Director	<i>Unto These Hills</i> Cherokee Outdoor Drama (NC)	Dir. D Granke	SUMMER 2022
Fight Director	<i>Unto These Hills</i> Cherokee Outdoor Drama (NC)	Dir. D Granke	SUMMER 2021
Fight Director	<i>Human Combat Chess</i> Six Elements Theatre (MN)	Dir. Mike Lubke	SUMMER 2018
Fight Director	<i>Twelfth Night</i> Door Shakespeare (WI)	Dir. Joseph Hanreddy	SUMMER 2017
Fight Director	<i>Human Combat Chess</i> Six Elements Theatre (MN)	Dir. Mike Lubke	SUMMER 2017
Fight Director	<i>The Heart of Robin Hood</i> Door Shakespeare (WI)	Dir. Shanara Gabrielle	SUMMER 2017
Fight Director	<i>Human Combat Chess</i> Six Elements Theatre (MN)	Dir. Mike Lubke	SUMMER 2016
Fight Director	<i>Human Combat Chess</i> Six Elements Theatre (MN)	Dir. Mike Lubke	SUMMER 2015
Fight Director	<i>Romeo & Juliet</i> Shakespeare Theatre Comp. (D.C.) Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Dir. Amie Root Dir. George Grant	SUMMER 2014
Fight Director	<i>Human Combat Chess</i> Six Elements Theatre (MN)	Dir. Mike Lubke	SUMMER 2014
Fight Director	<i>John Blade Super Spy.</i> Live Action Theatre Fringe Festival (D.C.)	Dir. Chris Niebling	FALL 2013
Fight Director	<i>Shakespeareance</i> (Educational Tour) Shakespeare Theatre Comp. (D.C.)	Dir. Vanessa Hope	SUMMERS 2013-15
Fight Director	<i>Macbeth</i> Shakespeare Theatre Comp. (D.C.) Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Dir. Amie Root Dir. Jim Gagne	SUMMER 2013
Asst. Fight Director	<i>Two Gentleman of Verona</i> Shakespeare Theatre Comp. (D.C.)	Dir. PJ Paparelli FD Paul Denhardt	SPRING 2012
Fight Director	<i>Taming of the Shrew</i> Shakespeare Theatre Comp. (D.C.) Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Dir. Amie Root Dir. George Grant	SUMMER 2012

Fight Director	<i>Romeo & Juliet-together (And Alive)</i> The Langley School (VA)	Dir. Joanna Edie	FALL 2012
Fight Director	<i>The Three Musketeers</i> Montgomery Blair HS (MD)	Dir. Kelly O'Connor	FALL 2011
Fight Director	<i>Robin Hood</i> The Langley School (VA)	Dir. Joanna Edie	FALL 2012
Fight Director	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> Shakespeare Theatre Comp. (D.C.) Camp Shakes (Ages 12-14)	Dir. Amie Root Dir. George Grant	SUMMER 2011
Fight Director Blood SFX	<i>Drakul</i> Walking Shadow Theatre (MN)	Dir. John Heimbuch	WINTER 2010
Fight Director Firearms Wrangler	<i>Peter Pan</i> Kaukauna Community Theatre (WI)		SUMMER 2008

INTIMACY DIRECTION

Intimacy Director	<i>Lady Disdain</i> Forward Theatre (WI)	Dir. Jen Uphoff Grey Rolling Premiere	SPRING 2026
Intimacy Director	<i>Eurydice</i> Western Illinois University (IL)	Dir. Michael McNamara	SPRING 2026
Intimacy Director	<i>Ironbound</i> Forward Theatre (WI)	Dir. Marcy Kearns	WINTER 2026
Intimacy Director	<i>Misery</i> Peninsula Players (WI)	Dir. Georgette Verdin	SUMMER 2025
Intimacy Director	<i>Great Expectations</i> Door Shakespeare (WI)	Dir. Samantha Martinson	SUMMER 2025
Intimacy Director	<i>Twelfth Night</i> Door Shakespeare (WI)	Dir. Scott Mckenna-Campbell	SUMMER 2025
Intimacy Director	<i>Henry IV Part I</i> Utah Shakespeare Festival (UT) Educational Tour	Dir. Marcy Kearns	WINTER 2025
Intimacy Director	<i>Hamlet</i> Utah Shakespeare Festival (UT) Educational Tour	Dir. Stewart Shelley	WINTER 2024

ACTING & PERFORMANCE

**denotes Graduate work*

<i>Jo and Kiki's Misinvention</i>	Jo (puppetry)	Youth Performing Arts Series (IL)	SPRING 2026
<i>Noises Off*</i>	Dotty	Western IL University	SPRING 2025
<i>King Stag* (devised)</i>	Smeraldina	Western IL University	FALL 2024
<i>Tiny Dances*</i>	Dancer (Dance Instillation)	Macomb Art Center	SPRING 2025
<i>Dance Escape*</i>	Dancer (Dance Concert)	Western IL University	SPRING 2024
<i>1968* (devised)</i>	Dancer (Dance Concert)	Western IL University	FALL 2023
<i>Stages of Grief</i>	Dancer (Dance Concert)	Oconaluftee Little Symphony Society	SUMMER 2021
<i>The Amazing Wonderful Cabinets of Kismet (devised)</i>	Actor/Puppeteer	Wits End Puppetry	SPRING 2013
<i>Macbeth (Abridged)</i>	Lady Macbeth, MacDuff, Witch	Chesapeake Shakespeare Company	FALL 2013
<i>Scenes for Shakespeare's Birthday</i>	Joan of Arc	Folger Theatre	SPRING 2012
<i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	Mistress Quickly	Bard in the Barn (IL) Unrehearsed Shakes	FALL 2011
<i>Coriolanus</i>	Brutus	Unrehearsed Shakes Host: Eureka College	SUMMER 2010
<i>Troilus and Cressida</i>	Pandarus/Cassandra	Bard in the Barn (IL) Unrehearsed Shakes	FALL 2009
<i>Henry V</i>	Mistress Quickly	Unrehearsed Shakes Host: Eureka College	SUMMER 2009
<i>Robin Hood Fight Cast</i>	Donne Mortali/Stunt Performer	Bristol Renaissance Faire	SUMMER 2008

TRAINING

Movement

Laban
Neutral Mask

	Viewpoints	DC Wright, H. Russ Brown
	Suzuki	Matthew Crider
	Alexander Technique	Melissa Freilich
	Commedia d'el Arte	Christopher Beaulieu, DC Wright, Sydney Schwindt, Dr. Hadley Kamminga-Peck
	Chekov	Hugh O'Gorman, Tiza Garland, H. Russ Brown
	Puppetry	Wit's End Puppets, Pointless Theatre
	Meyerhold	Nigel Poulton
	Restoration Comedy	Stephen Trovillian Smith
	Motion Capture	Andrew Dylan Ray Michelle Ladd
Directing		Dr. Hadley Kamminga-Peck, Dr. Tamera Izlar, Georgette Verdin, Tyler Marchant, Shanara Gabrielle, H. Russ Brown
Acting	Meisner	Sara Goff
	Stanislavsky	H. Russ Brown
	Auditions Work	Tony Carriero, Jennifer Rudin, Dave Clemmons, Lysa Fox
	Black Acting Methods	Sharell D. Lockett, Dr. Tamara Izlar
	Inclusive Theatre Methods	Orion Couling, Sins Invalid
Voice	Kristin Linklater	Carolyn Blackinton
	IPA	H. Russ Brown
	Fitzmaurice	Jean Kerr
Dance	Tap	Jeannie Hill
	Ballet	Joan Karlen
	Modern	Jeannie Hill, Donald Laney
	Musical Theatre	Jeannie Hill, Donald Laney, Kristin Kavanagh, Alicia Pociask, Jenny Male
	History	Donald Laney
Musical Theatre	Performance	Roger Nelson, Tim Howard, Donald Laney
	Intention through Song Audition Work	Jason Robert Brown Michelle Pawk, Lysa Fox

Intimacy	Trauma-Informed Facilitating Cycle of Consent	Samantha Kaufman Ashley White Tonia Sina, Michelle Ladd, Sam McDonald, Ashley White, Samantha Kaufman, Alicia Rodis, Dr. Hadley Kamminga-Peck
	Intimacy for the Stage	
Stage Combat	Society of American Fight Directors	Micheal Chin, DC Wright, Tiza Garland, H. Russ Brown, Michelle Ladd, Mark Guinn, Jenny Male, Ian Rose, Scot Mann, Lewis Shaw, J. David Brimmer, Nigel Poulton, J. Allen Suddeth, Jason Paul Tate, K Jenny Jones
	Dueling Arts International	DC Wright, Tiza Garland, Paul Dennhardt
	Fight Directors Canada	Ian Rose, Joe Wright, Eli Lynn
	British Academy of Stage & Screen Combat	Richard Ryan, Roger Bartlett, Mark Guinn, Tiza Garland
Theatre Pedagogy	Stage Combat/Movement	DC Wright, D Granke, Tiza Garland
	Youth Outreach Education	Dr. Katherine Norman, Vanessa Hope, Stewart Shelley
	Inclusive Theatre Practices	Orion Couling, Sins Invalid
Playwrighting		Tyler Marchant, Tammy Killian, Lauren Gunderson, Qui Nguyen, H. Russ Brown

ORGANIZATION/COMPANY

Society of American Fight Directors
Dueling Arts International
Fight Directors Canada
British Academy of Stage & Screen Combat
Intimacy Directors and Coordinators
New Play Exchange
Utah Shakespeare Festival
Cherokee Historical Association
Door Shakespeare Company
Peninsula Players Theatre
Starling Shakespeare Company

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