

WHITNEY WICKHAM-ZAENKER

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Objectives

Obtain a position which includes opportunities to aid in the creation and execution of shows, performance and entertainment related milieus. As well as the teaching of youth in performance.

Experience

Owner/Performer • June 2014 - Present

A Spoonful of Magic Princess Parties • 1376 Danvers Parkway, Valparaiso, IN 46383

Writing of original scripts and detailed character backgrounds for performers. Script out performances for large events and charity functions. Organize events from booking to close through communication with performers and clients. Create sets, costumes, and wigs for characters.

Create and execute character performances appropriate for all ages for special events and private birthday parties. Educate and train performers, find new and creative party activities, and create new scripts for events.

Theatre Intern • January 2014 - August 2014

The Memorial Opera House • 104 Indiana Ave. Valparaiso, IN 46383

Duties include Dramaturgy, Assistant Direction, and Directing. Implementation of Dramaturgy skills for the new Theatre for a New Audience program which reaches out to underprivileged youth of the community by providing free theatre performances to them and their families.

- Creation of study guides and hosting question and answer sessions for Theatre for a New Audience performances
- Implementation of all theatrical processes from preproduction to strike for all shows including scheduling, casting, blocking, choreography, costuming, and hair and makeup for a cast of 20.
- Assistant Direction and Dramaturgy for *Company*, Dramaturgy for *The Glass Menagerie*, and Direction for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*

Theatre Arts Director • August 2011 - January 2014

Living Hope Church • Merrillville, IN

Director of theatrical performances through the year. Responsible for re-writes of scripts, writing of original pieces, casting, directing, aiding in set design, choreography, music cutting, production schedule and all steps from pre-production to the strike of the set. Taught students on the elements of performance including, acting and movement in preparation for the National Youth Ministry "Fine Arts" Competition from 2011- 2013. As well as responsible for the writing, casting, and execution of the murder mystery dinner.

- Audience of over 400
- Casting and directing of upwards of 60 performers and 20 crew

Youth Drama Director • August 2011 - June 2014

The Memorial Opera House • Living Hope Church, Merrillville, IN 46383

Writing of script, directed and taught students on the elements of performance including, acting and movement in preparation for the National Youth Ministry "Fine Arts" Competition from 2011- 2013. As well as responsible for the writing, casting, and execution of the murder mystery dinner.

- 1st place at Fine Arts State Competition for Indiana (2013)
- "Excellent" rating at Fine Arts National Competition (2013)

Choreographer • May 2008 - December 2008

Hamburg Hochschule Fuer Musik und Kunst • Hamburg, Germany

Aided in the conceptualization of an Opera, *Das Christ-Elfein*, performed on synthetic ice on a Theater stage. Responsible for teaching performers how to sing while moving and perform figure skating moves such as jumps and spins.

- The Opera was revered by the School as well as the city of Hamburg for its creativity, whimsical fairytale feel, and overall original take on a classic German staple.

Intern Coach ▪ 1999 - 2000

Butte Figure Skating Club ▪ B u t t e , M T

Theatre Intern ▪ Summer 1999 - Summer 2000

Mother Lode Theatre ▪ 3 1 6 W e s t P a r k S t r e e t B u t t e , M T 5 9 7 0 1

Intern Assistant Director/Chorographer ▪ 19998 - 2000

Orphan Girl Theatre ▪ 3 1 6 W e s t P a r k S t r e e t B u t t e , M T 5 9 7 0 1

Aided the Artistic Director with blocking, choreography, costumes, and acting direction with such shows as *Into the Woods*, *Once on This Island*, and various Vaudeville performances. Cast consisted of upwards of 15 people and age ranges from 5 to 60. Children's Theater Camp Assistant working with children between the ages of 3 and 12. Taught dance, improve, acting skills and imaginative play.

Skills

- Dramaturgy, Directing, Stage Management, Writing, Scheduling, Creating Imaginative New Ideas and Leading and Inspiring a Team, Children's Theater Direction, Acting and Dance Instruction.

Education

The University of La Verne

January 2007 ▪ **Bachelor of Fine Arts, French with Emphasis in Theatre and Vocal Performance**

- Graduated with honors and awarded the "Most Valued Student," award

Regent University

August 2014 ▪ **Master of Fine Arts, Theatre**

- 3.49 GPA