

TIANA TURNER

EDUCATOR & ARTIST

CONTACT

-  (505) 803-9026
-  tiana.turner9026@gmail.com
-  Tianaturner.com
-  Castle Rock, CO

EDUCATION

Masters of Fine Arts in Theatre for Youth

Arizona State University

2016-2019
GPA: 4.0/ 4.0

MFA Thesis: "Enhancing Home Education Through Drama Integration: creating a dramatic arts integration resource book"

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting

Lipscomb University

2009-2013
GPA:3.89/4.0

Minor in Law, Justice, and Society

EXPERTISE

- Educator: Working as a theatre educator for over 15 years at some of the premiere theatre organizations in our nation. She has experience in all areas of theatre education, from creative dramatics to technical training in acting, movement, and voice.
- Artist: Experienced in acting, directing, devising, and designing. I also love facilitating artist feedback and training new theatre educators.
- Administrator: I have experience in creating programing and classes for organizations. Further experience in training and supporting new theatre educators, and building supplemental materials for theatrical productions.

PROFILE

Tiana Turner is committed to using theatre to lead adventures, tell brave stories and create whimsical & beautiful art.

She has been an Arts Educator and Administrator across the nation working with all ages in many different theatre disciplines.

THEATRE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Theater and Music Teacher

Lewis Palmer District 38: Home School Academy July 2023- Present

- Designed and led theatre classes for 3rd and 4th grade, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of theatrical elements and techniques.
- Developed and implemented engaging music classes, incorporating a variety of instructional methods to cultivate students' musical abilities.
- Specialized in facilitating elective courses such as costume design and improvisation, fostering creativity and self-expression.

Theatre and Music Teacher

Colorado Early Colleges Colorado Springs August 2024-July 2025

- Led music classes, including vocal and instrumental instruction, for students from Kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Taught acting, theatre design, and costume design to students of all ages, fostering creativity and artistic expression.
- Developed and directed theatre productions, including devising original performances with students.
- Created a dynamic, inclusive learning environment that encouraged students to explore various aspects of music and theatre.
- Collaborated with other educators to integrate arts education across disciplines and grade levels.

Director of Education

DogEar Theatre Productions January 2017-June 2019

- Awarded the Tempe Arts in the Parks grant to create a site specific version of the Persephone myth for young audiences in Tempe, AZ, presenting to over 800 audience members to Scudder Park.
- Supervised and advised a team of undergraduate actors, designers, and technicians as they worked on contract for the production.
- Designed and facilitated after school workshops for 200+ preschool through high school aged students focused on devising, design, and characterization for the production, Between Two Worlds.

High School Theatre Specialist

Arizona State University Preparatory Academy November 2017-June 2019

- Developed a new theatre elective program for the Tempe campus.
- Taught drama classes for seventy 9th-12th grade students and lead the after school drama club at the Tempe and Phoenix Campuses.
- Curriculum for both campuses included: acting, theatre history, directing, performance art, theatre for social change, technical theatre, Shakespeare and directing a one act production.

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THEATRE RELATED SKILLS

Facilitation
Training of Facilitators
Viewpoints
Devising
Expert Critical Response Process
Alexander Technique
Community Based Theatre
Community Engagement
Creative Dramatics
Process Drama
Costuming/Sewing Skills
Costume Design
Directing
Stage Makeup
Improvisation
Beginning Acting
Advanced Acting
Misner
Stanislvski
Laban
Textual Analysis

TECHNICAL SKILLS

CPR and First Aid Certified
Curriculum Writing
Digital Content Creation
Social Media Management
Conflict & Crisis Management
Classroom Management
Microsoft Office Suite
Sales
Arts Administration
Content Development Tools (e.g. Canva)
Virtual Training Platforms (e.g., Zoom, Microsoft Teams)
Project Management Tools
Instructional Curriculum Development
Microsoft Office Suite Proficiency
Public Speaking and Presentation
Sales and Negotiation Techniques

THEATRE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Teaching Assistant

Arizona State University

August 2016-May 2019

- Grader for in-person and online undergraduate film classes consisting of 100+ students:

FMP 201: Film: The Creative Process

FMP 250: Ethics in Film

FMP 405: Hollywood Rebels

FMP 250: Sex and Violence in Film

FMP 405: Hitchcock

FMP 403: Independent Film

Substitute Teacher

Arizona State University

October 2017

- Substitute teacher for the undergraduate level Theatre History class.
- Taught an overview of Greek Theatre and dramatic analysis of the play *Antigone*

College Teaching 598

Arizona State University

Spring 2017

- Lead teacher for several sessions.
- Student Teacher for the undergraduate course, Creative Drama with Youth.
- Dr. Mary McAvoy oversaw and mentored throughout the semester.

Theatre Teacher & Director

Rio Grande Enrichment Studies

October 2014-August 2015

- Primary teacher for the "Theatre Elements" elective class teaching: improvisation, directing, and acting skills for 8th-12th grades.
- Directed the high-school production of *The Comedy of Errors*. Mentored the student directors, blocked, and designed all the elements in the show.

TEACHING ARTIST EXPERIENCE

With over 14 years of experience as an educator across the nation, I have worked as a teaching artist with some of the best Theatre organizations in the country. I have facilitated classes and camps for every age, on almost every theatre related subject, and contracted with many of these organizations in capacities beyond teaching.

ORGANIZATION	GRADES TAUGHT	DATES
• Denver Art Museum	1st -12th	2024- Present
• Denver Performing Arts Center	Preschool	2024-Present
• Joyful Light Youth Theatre	K-12th	2023- Present
• Redemption Dance	1st - 4th	2023-2024
• Asolo Repertory Theatre	K- Adult	2019-2021
• Arizona State University (TYA)	K-4, Adult	2016-2019
• Childsplay Theatre	8th -12th	2016-2017
• CYT Phoenix	3rd - 8th	2016-2017
• Nashville Parks and Recreation	PreK-8th	2015-2016
• Disney Musicals In School	3rd - 4th	2014-2016
• Seattle Children's Theatre	K- 6th	2013
• Nashville Children's Theatre	K- 6th	2011-2016

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JURIED CONFERENCE PAPERS/ PRESENTATIONS:

- “Activating Feedback: Critical Response Process Next Steps”
 - AATE National Conference.
 - Session Chair, Co-presented with Danica Rosengren.
 - New York City, August 2019
- “Active Learning in Alternative Schooling: finding insights from TYA history”
 - AATE National Conference.
 - Session Chair, Co-presented with Kathy Kryzs.
 - Minneapolis, August 2018
- “Base-Camp Devising: reclaiming myths through cross country collaboration”
 - AATE National Conference.
 - Co-presented with Danica Rosengren.
 - Minneapolis, August 2018
- “Home Entertainments: using theatre to activate your curriculum”
 - CAPE New Mexico Homeschool Convention.
 - Albuquerque, May 2018

GENERAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

1st-3rd Grade Teacher

Artios Greenwood Village July 2041 – Present

- 1st -3rd Grade Teacher1st -3rd Grade Teacher
- Artios ·
- Taught History, Language Arts, Science, and Math using theatre-based techniques to engage students.
- Integrated role-playing and storytelling to enhance understanding of academic concepts.
- Fostered creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration through immersive, hands-on learning activities.
- Collaborated with colleagues to align curriculum and ensure consistent teaching practices.
- Increased student engagement and retention by incorporating dramatic techniques into lessons.
- Developed creative projects linking academic subjects with theatrical performances.

Director of School Aged Child Care

Denver Christian School July 2021 – July 2022

- Designed and facilitated an after school child care program for students in grades K-8.
- Built long-term vision and financial plans for a revitalized program.
- Walked alongside, mentored, and trained a team of employees and teachers.
- Coordinated over 25 summer camps and classes for grades K-12, including; marketing, building a team of teachers and volunteers, creating curriculum, and executing the administrative side of summer programming.

ARTISIC/ ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Lead Director

Joyful Light Youth Theatre July 2023 – Present

- Spearheaded full-scale theatre productions with 50+ children, grades 1st-12th, including directing and managing all aspects of production.
- Led and managed a creative team, overseeing choreography, set design, costumes, and music direction.
- Directed and coordinated rehearsals, ensuring smooth transitions between scenes and fostering collaboration among the cast and crew.
- Directed notable productions, including Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella, Oklahoma, The Wizard of Oz, Pirates Past Noon, and 101 Dalmatians.
- Organized and managed production schedules, ensuring timely completion of all production milestones.
- Achievements
- Successfully directed large-scale productions involving a diverse cast, maintaining a high standard of performance while ensuring the safety and engagement of all participants.
- Enhanced the skill set of students by creating opportunities for growth in acting, stage presence, and teamwork

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 - AATE National Conference.
 - Co-presented with Danica Rosengren.
 - Minneapolis, August 2018
- “Home Entertainments: using theatre to activate your curriculum”
 - CAPE New Mexico Homeschool Convention.
 - Albuquerque, May 2018

ARTISTIC/ ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Education and Engagement Specialist

Asolo Repertory Theatre

October 2019- June 2021

- Wrote, developed, and curated a new curriculum website for the live-stream production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Digital curriculum involved website creation, video editing, and podcast creation.
- Created a new line of digital engagement and education content which reached thousands of viewers and reinvigorated Asolo Rep's digital presence, including pioneering a homeschool arts integration program of digital classes.
- Piloted, launched, and taught online theatre classes for ages 8-adult.
- Curated curriculum and coordinated teaching artists for the Kaleidoscope program. Kaleidoscope works with young people and adults with disabilities in life skills classes and assistance organizations. Kaleidoscope transitioned digitally and continued during the pandemic.
- Developed curriculum for the Mainstage Student Series that connects the art they see on stage with their lives and the curriculum they are studying in school. This program brings over 2,000 young people into theatre each year.

Critical Response Process Facilitator

Freelance

August 2018-Present

- Facilitator for the Critical Response Process on various artistic works in progress with the intention of helping the artist deepen and finish their work.
- Trained on the Critical Response Process with McArthur Genius Fellows Liz Lerman and John Bortsel. Training included methodology for the classroom, rehearsal hall and in scientific research. Additionally, extensive facilitation training.

Co-Creator/Featured Artist

DogEar Theatre Productions

January 2017-June 2019

- Awarded the Tempe Arts in the Parks grant to create a sight specific version of the Persephone myth, *Between Two Worlds*, for young audiences in Tempe, AZ.
- Worked with playwright Danica Rosengren as an artistic partner to create the structure of a new devised work.
- Edited and consulted on the writing of the script and creation of movement, puppetry, and design elements in the production.

Facilitation Captain/Jury Foreman

Sojourn Theatre & ASU Theatre, The Race

November 2017

- Worked to devise and create, The Race, in partnership with Michael Rohd and Sojourn Theatre— an all-day performance on election day engaging the community on the subject of leadership.
- Coordinated the performers, worked on the creation of event materials, lead a team to be the connection point for the audience while collecting questions and survey data.

Administrative Intern

American Alliance for Theatre Educators

August 2017

- Administrative intern for the 2017 national conference in New Orleans, LA. Coordinated room set up for workshops, live-streamed events, maintained social media for the organization and fulfilled other general conference tasks.

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HONORS AND AWARDS

- Tempe Arts in the Parks Grant Recipient** – City of Tempe
October 2018-April 2019
- The Barn Arts Collective Fellow-** June 2017
- Special Talent Scholarship Awardee-** Herberger Institute for Design and Arts 2017-2018
- K. Herberger Theatre Scholarship-** Herberger Institute for Design and Arts 2017-2018
- Rita Christe Travel Award-** June 2017- May 2019
- Alpha Chi National College Honor Society-** Lipscomb University May 2011
- Student Governing Board Senior Representative-** Lipscomb Theatre Department 2012-2013
- President of Self-IMPROVment** at Lipscomb University 2012-2013
- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges-**Lipscomb University 2013
- Barbizon Award for Theatrical Costume Design Nominee-** Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Foundation 2013

ARTISIC/ ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Stage Manager/Devisor/Actor

ASU TourBus: The Boy Who Drew Cats Spring 2017

- Stage Manager for the touring production- organized rehearsals, created daily calls, and ran rehearsals.
- Ensemble member contributing to the devising process of the script.
- Acted as "Futatsu" and puppeteer.

Devisor/Actor/Hospitality Coordinator

Sojourn Theatre & ASU Theatre, The Race Fall 2018

- Worked to devise, create and perform, *The Race*, in partnership with Michael Rohd and Sojourn Theatre– an all-day performance on election day engaging the community on the subject of leadership.
- Coordinated the performers, worked on the creation of event materials, lead a team to be the connection point for the audience while collecting questions and survey data.

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Multiple Devised Plays | Various |
| <i>Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella</i> | Joyful Light Youth Theatre |
| <i>Pirates Past Noon KIDS</i> | Joyful Light Youth Theatre |
| <i>The Wizard of Oz YE</i> | Joyful Light Youth Theatre |
| <i>Oklahoma JR</i> | Joyful Light Youth Theatre (2 Casts) |
| <i>101 Dalmatians KIDS</i> | Joyful Light Youth Theatre |
| <i>A Journey Through Darkness</i> | DogEar Theatre Productions |
| <i>Lion King KIDS</i> | Sylvan Park Elementary, DMIS |
| <i>The Comedy of Errors</i> | Rio Grande Enrichment Studies |
| <i>Aladdin KIDS</i> | Lakeview Elementary, DMIS |

ACTING EXPERIENCE

- | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>The Compass</i> | Jury Foreman | Arizona State University |
| <i>The Boy Who Drew Cats</i> | Futatsu | ASU TourBus |
| <i>The Apple Boys (Staged Reading)</i> | Woman 1 | Arizona State University |
| <i>The Race</i> | Self | Arizona State University |
| <i>The Mad King Lear</i> | Regan | Nashville Stagecraft |
| <i>The Pajama Game</i> | Mable | Lipscomb University |
| <i>Exposure</i> | Melinda | Lipscomb University |
| <i>Leading Ladies</i> | Florence | Lipscomb University |
| <i>The Lion... the Wardrobe</i> | Mrs. Beaver | Lipscomb University |
| <i>Ragtime</i> | Harry Houdini's Mother | Lipscomb University |
| <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> | Friar Frances | Lipscomb University |
| <i>Improvisation</i> | Troupe Member | Self-IMPROVment |
| <i>Friend or Foe</i> | Astronaut | Nashville Symphony |
| <i>King Lear</i> | Lear | Merely Players |
| <i>Two Gentlemen of Verona</i> | Julia | Merely Players |
| <i>Little Women</i> | | Merely Players |

SELECT GRADUATE LEVEL COURSES

- THP 598 Generative Critique- Liz Lerman
- THE 598 Devising Collaboration- Michael Rohd
 - THE 504 Dramatic Theory/Criticism- Dr. Kristen Hunt
 - THP 611 Sites of Inquiry and Performance- Dr. Mary McAvoy
 - THE 511 Methods of Teaching Drama- Dr. Mary McAvoy
 - THE 524 Advance Studies in Theatre for Youth – Pamala Sterling
 - THP 551 Arts Management- Dr. Linda Essig
 - THE 581 Methods of Teaching Theatre- Dr. Mary McAvoy
 - THE 581 Community-Based Theatre- Dr. Stephanie Ethridge Woodson
 - THP 494 The Atlas of Creative Tools- Liz Lerman