

STEVEN L. BARKER

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/THEATRE EDUCATOR/ARTIST/DESIGNER/TECHNICIAN/ADMINISTRATOR

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stevenlbarker@gmail.com

571.438.8305

Experienced Theatre Educator, Technical Director, Theatrical Designer/Artisan and Facilities Manager in the Arts who takes pride in helping organizations and individuals maximize their impact in the world. Apply a natural talent for technology, outgoing personality, and a love of teaching/mentoring to help others succeed. Industries include higher education, K-12 education, community and recreational arts, event production, corporate training, rental operations, and non-profit arts organizations.

Profile

- Experience in all aspects of technical direction/production management including safety, collaborative processes, technical design, and construction in scenic, lighting, sound, costume, makeup, properties, projections, and stage management as well as marketing and box office/front of house operations.
- Breadth of knowledge spans full scope of theatre education including not only hands-on technical aspects including principles of design, technician skills, design skills and portfolio creation, but also facets of acting, voice, and movement.
- Exceptional facilitator, mediator, and active listener; able to diffuse tense situations and leverage multiple perspectives to gain clarity and progress.
- Demonstrate the highest standard of honesty and ethical behavior.

Key Strengths

- Knowledge – Extensive exposure to all levels of theatre education including secondary, primary, collegiate, community teaching artistry, and professional development for adult learners; readily grasp trends and technologies that change the fields of education and entertainment/performing arts. Energized by presenting and producing quality experiential learning with students/communities for both education and enjoyment.
- Stakeholder Relationships – Innate ability to build an immediate rapport with students, parents, teacher/colleagues, and administrators that foster enduring positive professional relationships; skilled listener and mediator to resolve concerns and conflict towards win-win scenarios.
- Creative Initiatives – Skillful at building upon prior programming success and strategically innovating and implementing change when needed to keep up with trends; adept at partnering with other organizations for mutually beneficial outcomes.
- Organization – Capable of leading/collaborating with a team of 3 to a team of 120; able to plan, prepare, prioritize, and staff projects and programs to meet time-sensitive deadlines for organizational success.

Education

University of Maryland, Global Campus Adelphi, MD Conferred June 2022

M.S. ~ Learning Design & Technology

Arizona State University Tempe, AZ Conferred May 2009

M.F.A. ~ Theatre for Youth (with focus on Youth Theatre, Technical Theatre, & Arts Management)

Virginia Commonwealth University Richmond, VA Conferred August 2001

B.F.A. ~ Theatre Education and B.S. ~ Chemistry

Technical Competencies

Production, Events & Stage Management, Technical Direction, Stage Electrics, Scenic & Lighting Design, Props and Puppetry Design, Computer Aided Design (Vectorworks/Sketchup/Lightwright), Computer Lighting Software (ETC), Sound Design & Editing Software (QLab and Audacity), Scenic Painting, Facilities Management, Arts Management & Grant Writing/Fundraising, Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, InDesign, Premiere, After Effects), Video Editing (AVS4You), Canva, Social Media (Hootsuite, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn) Archetypal Acting & Voice, Improvisation Acting, Stage Voice & Speech, Theatre for Young Audiences, Touring Theatre, Public Speaking, Forensics, Learning Management Software (Blackboard, Moodle, Canvas, Articulate 360, VoiceThread, Flipgrid, Seesaw), Online Teleconferencing (Zoom, Teams, Skype, Google Meets, BlueJeans, WebEx), MS Office, Google Workspace/Classroom

Core Competencies

- Classroom & Online Instruction
- Curriculum & Assessment Design
- Technical Direction & Theatrical Design
- Production/Facilities Management
- Educational Program Design
- Event Management
- Grant Writing & Development
- Collaboration & Conflict Mediation
- Public Speaking & Soft Skills Coaching
- Social Media & Print Marketing
- Point of Sales/Front of House Operations
- Artist/Venue Contract Negotiations
- Customer Service Training & Management
- Customer/Stakeholder Relationships
- Organizational Leadership
- Strategic Planning & Communication
- Troubleshooting & Problem Solving

Professional Service/Achievements (selected)

- 2024, 2023, 2021, 2020, 2019 - MTEA Thrive Conf. Chair
- 2018-present –Maryland Theatre Education Assoc.- VP of Programming, Treasurer
- 2016 Launching “Cash Unchained” – A Johnny Cash tribute act featuring James Tamelcoff
- 2013 AATE Teaching Technical Theatre National Pre-Conference Chair
- 2021, 2020 AATE– National Conference – Presenter
- 2013 Theatre in our Schools 2013, Central Virginia Conf. Chair
- 2011 AATE National Conf., Chicago, IL - Webmaster
- 2010-2012 Theatre in our Schools, Metro DC Conference Co-Chair
- 2009-2011 – Treasurer – Virginia Theatre Association
- 1995 Eagle Scout, 1996 Bronze, Gold & Silver Palms

Professional Experiences

Associate Professor of Theatre (Tenure-Track) & Technical Director

2024-present Prince George’s Community College – Humanities/Theatre Largo, MD

- Developing, deliver, and grade relevant assignments, discussions, tests and other activities that measure student progress towards mastery of concepts and applications of theatre design and technology.
- Facilitating classroom instruction within the appropriate pedagogical framework that reflects current practices, research, and developments in theatre arts and supports departmental goals.
- Working with the Technical Director to complete design and technology work on 4 productions each year
- Working with the Department Chair to maintain the production budget.
- Supervising undergraduate students in building scenery, props, lighting, and other aspects of design and tech for 4 productions each year
- Maintaining portfolio of research, activities, and professional theatre work, as well as academic coursework to be consistent with and for evaluation and review.

Master Teaching Artist

2023 – present Interact Story Theatre/Independent State of Maryland

Adjunct Professor – Stagecraft, Stage Management

2023- present Bowie State University Bowie, Maryland

Technical Director

2021 – 2024 The Publick Playhouse – ACHD/DPRPG/MNCPCC Cheverly, Maryland

- Managing technical operation of facility support performing arts productions. Establishing technical operating procedures for facility. Monitoring building utility systems to ensure proper operations. Performing on-going and routine maintenance of complex technical theatre equipment including but not limited to audio visual, lighting, sound, rigging, and special effects. Making minor repairs to physical plant.
- Consulting with all clients of the facility on a variety of topics including monitoring, set-ups, load-ins, strikes, rehearsals, and performance, scenic, sounds, and lighting design. Recommending types of equipment and techniques to achieve necessary effect on product. Developing and implementing classes in technical theatre and design. Providing active oversight of productions stage manager, lighting designer, and sound engineers for in-house productions.
- Supervising staff of part-time technicians, personnel from production company, and volunteers. Evaluating and counseling part-time staff. Recruiting, selecting, and training part-time staff and volunteers. Planning, scheduling, and assigning work.
- Conducting research. Reviewing trade literature, meeting with vendors and professionals and exchanges information on new methods and equipment useful to facility.
- Facilitating any lighting, audio or other technical requirements for exhibition installations and receptions.
- Ensuring safe operation of facility. Ordering and maintaining inventory of equipment and supplies and re-orders, as necessary.
- Managing facility rental program including the intake of new inquiry in a timely manner, assessing the requirements, coordination with the Assistant Director, presenting a proposal to Director for approval and communication back to the client.
- Assisting in the development of facility budget. Making recommendations for equipment and supplies and obtaining bids and price quotes. Participating in grant development. Initiating purchase requisitions.
- Keeping Records. Maintaining records of inventory of supplies and equipment, completing timecards, and writing administrative reports. Performing other duties as assigned.

Managing Director/Master Teaching Artist

2017 – 2021

Story Tapestries

State of Maryland

- Supervising overall daily operations (Programming, Marketing, Finance, and Human Resources) of the Story Tapestries organization.
- Developing, implementing, and adhering to an annual budget of the Story Tapestries organization, subject to board approval.
- Recruiting, engaging, supervising, evaluating, and, if necessary, discharge of qualified staff (excluding the Executive Director and Development Director) and teaching artists to assist in all pertinent operations of the organization.
- Representing the Story Tapestries organization to the public, press, and partnering entities.
- Fostering partnerships that strengthen the Story Tapestries organization.
- Researching, purchasing, and maintaining all teaching/presentation equipment and platforms, analog and digital, for Story Tapestries.
- Designing, creating, implementing, and analyzing of marketing for Story Tapestries and its products.
- Supporting the Board of Directors as requested from time to time by members of the Board.
- Reporting regularly on the operations of the Story Tapestries organization to the Board of Directors.
- Master Teaching Artist and Program/Curriculum Supervisor for Story Tapestries, providing mentoring expertise and program supervision/development/facilitation to after-school and summer residencies.
- Camp Director for summer programs supervising a staff of nine paid teachers and ten youth volunteers for a five-week camp for a devised musical with middle school youth, Summer 2019.
- Summer Reads Teaching Artist for Young Audiences of Maryland, Summer 2018 & 2019

Adjunct Professor – Acting for the Camera, Theatre Appreciation, Introduction to Communication

2021-2023

Northern Virginia Community College

Alexandria VA

Adjunct Professor/ Full-Time Lecturer, Theatre Design and Technology

2019 – 2021

McDaniel College – Department of Theatre

Westminster, MD

- Developing, deliver, and grade relevant assignments, discussions, tests and other activities that measure student progress towards mastery of concepts and applications of theatre design and technology.
- Facilitating classroom instruction within the appropriate pedagogical framework that reflects current practices, research, and developments in theatre arts and supports departmental goals.
- Working with the Technical Director to complete design and technology work on 4 productions each year
- Working with the Department Chair to maintain the production budget.
- Supervising undergraduate students in building scenery, props, lighting, and other aspects of design and tech for 4 productions each year
- Maintaining portfolio of research, activities, and professional theatre work, as well as academic coursework to be consistent with and for evaluation and review.

English 12 Honors Teacher; Production Manager/Technical Director; Theatre Arts Teacher;

2017 – 2019

Howard County Public Schools ~ Mt. Hebron High School

Ellicott City, MD

- Producing and supervising the after-school theatre program including all performance, technical and administrative aspects of multi-departmental productions.
- Providing technical support in sound, lighting, and stage management to all non-theatre department events in the auditorium.
- Devising and teaching Theatre Arts curriculum including Stage Lighting Design, Sound Design & Engineering, Production Design and Technical Direction, and Stage Management as well as Creative Dramatics, Acting, Improvisation, and Theatre Appreciation
- Devising and teaching English curriculum, including Literary Analysis, Grammar, Spelling, Vocabulary, Writing and Oral Presentation Skills

Instructional Design Team Member; English 9 & English 10 Teacher

2016 – 2017

Chesterfield County Public Schools ~ Lloyd C. Bird High School

Chesterfield, VA

Executive Director (2016); Events & Outreach Coordinator (2015)

2015 - 2016

State Theatre of Culpeper

Culpeper, VA

- Deciding the overall artistic and educational programming of the State Theatre organization.
- Developing, implementing, and adhering to an annual budget (\$500,000) of the State Theatre Foundation and all associated entities, subject to board approval.
- Negotiating and approving contracts with all visiting performance artists, vendors, partnering organizations, and teaching artists.
- Managing the social media, press, and print marketing for all events of the State Theatre organization.
- Recruiting, engaging, supervising, evaluating, and, if necessary, discharging qualified staff and guest artists to assist in all pertinent operations of the organization.
- Representing the State Theatre organization to the public, press, and partnering entities.
- Fostering partnerships with corporate, educational, and other non-profit entities that strengthen the State Theatre organization.
- Reporting regularly on the operations of the State Theatre to the Board of Directors.

Teaching Fellow; Technical Curriculum Lead; Materials Lead; Props/Sets Assistant

2014 – 2015

The Redhouse Arts Center

Syracuse, NY

- Leading the Technical Curriculum writing team and serving as Senior Advisor to the Drama, Dance, and Music Curriculum writing teams.
- Collaborating with program administration to order sufficient supplies for classroom teachers.
- Devising and teaching fused Common Core/Core Arts curriculum using Arts-focused Project-Based Learning to teach STEAM/Core Concepts to Elementary Students

Production Manager/Technical Director; Theatre Arts Teacher

2011 – 2014

DDESS ~ Lejeune High School

Jacksonville, NC

Adjunct Professor - Public Speaking & Theatre Appreciation

2011 – 2013

Carteret Community College & Campbell University

Morehead City, NC

Sales and Production Associate; Lighting, Sound and Event Rentals

2009 - 2010

Artistic Concepts Group

Chantilly, VA

Adjunct Professor – Technical Theatre, Touring Theatre, Stage Lighting & Sound, Acting, and Theatre Appreciation

2009 – 2010

Northern Virginia Community College

Alexandria & Sterling, VA

Professional References

Eric S. Kildow	Assoc. Professor – Kent State Univ. Trumbull	ekildow@kent.edu	(912) 713-7922
Ali Oliver-Kruger	Executive Director – InterAct Story Theatre	ali@interactstory.com	(301) 646-5527
Joanna C. Fellows	Teacher – Seneca Valley High School	joannachilcoat@gmail.com	(410) 960-7002
Julian Lazarus	President – Maryland Theatre Education Assoc.	julianlazarus1@gmail.com	(410) 977-2346
G. Michael Hudson	Former President – Virginia Theatre Association	gm.hudson@me.com	(703-587-7997
Laura Macario	Owner – Artistic Concepts Group	laura@artisticconceptsgroup.com	(571) 436-0136
Arianna Ross	Executive Director - Story Tapestries	storytapestries@gmail.com	(301) 518-8607
Gina Hackett	English Department Chair - L.C. Bird High School	gina_hackett@ccpsnet.net	(804) 239-8202