

ASHLEY MALAFRONTE

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EDUCATION

M.A., University of Texas at Austin, anticipated May 2019: Performance as Public Practice, with additional certificate in Arts and Cultural Management and Entrepreneurship

B.A., Muhlenberg College, 2017: Theatre (Concentrations: Directing, Performance Studies) and English with Highest Honors, *summa cum laude*

- Thesis: The Deirdre Complex: Past as Present on the Irish Stage
Thesis Advisors: Alec Marsh, PhD; Matt Moore, PhD; David Rosenwasser, PhD

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

- Morton Brown, Nellie Lea Brown, and Minelma Brown Lockwood Scholarship in Drama, 2019
- Dean of Students Summer Research Grant, Muhlenberg College, 2016
- Mid-Atlantic Writing Center Association Scholarship, 2015
- Honorable Mention for Espi Guinto Award for Best First-Year Writing, Muhlenberg College, 2014
- Presidential Scholar, Muhlenberg College, 2013-2017
- Theater Talent Scholarship, Muhlenberg College, 2013-2017

TEACHING AND TUTORING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, 2019-Present

Courses: Performance as Public Practice (Fall 2019), Introduction to Theatre for Non-Majors (Fall 2019), The Power of Story (Spring 2020)

Writing Associate, Muhlenberg College, 2016

Course: Italian Theater in Translation

Writing Assistant, Muhlenberg College, 2014-2015

Courses: Why We Work (2014); What is Normal? (2015)

Writing Tutor, Muhlenberg College Writing Center, 2014-2017

Lead Tutor, Muhlenberg College Writing Center, 2016-2017

Staff Pedagogical Workshops: "Tutoring as Performance: An Embodied Approach"; "Queering the Writing Center"; "Considering the Agenda: Power Dynamics in Peer Tutoring"

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"[paper in process: *Deirdre in the work of Eva Gore-Booth*]"

Paper to be presented at Mid-America Theatre Conference, 2020

"Two Celtic Revivalisms: Yeats and Synge on Deirdre"

Paper presented at Sigma Tau Delta International Convention, 2017

"The Deirdre Complex: Past as Present in the Celtic Revival," 2017

Thesis presented at Muhlenberg College Senior Honors Thesis Presentations

"Adapting Deirdre"

Poster presented at Muhlenberg College Summer Research Symposium

The Library by Nora M. Whittaker

Production directed as keynote presentation of Youth & Prejudice: Reducing Hatred Conference, Institute of Jewish-Christian Understanding, 2016

"2 B R O 2 B Adapted: A Verbal-Physical Dialectic"

Paper presented at Sigma Tau Delta International Convention, 2016

“The Agenda: A Facade of Balanced Power Dynamics”

Poster presented at International Writing Center Association Conference, 2015

Research received scholarship from Mid-Atlantic Writing Center Association

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

- Stage Directors and Choreographers Society
- Mid-America Theatre Conference

ACADEMIC HONORS SOCIETIES:

- Phi Beta Kappa
- Sigma Tau Delta
- Omicron Delta Kappa

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Social Chair, Muhlenberg College Writing Center 2016-2017

Workshop and discussion facilitator, Youth & Prejudice: Reducing Hatred Conference, Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding, 2014, 2016

ARTISTIC ADMINISTRATION

Artistic Associate, September 2018 to December 2019

The Dare Tactic, New York, NY

- Coordinated all communications between artists and senior staff of The Dare Tactic
- Evaluated script submissions for workshop and mainstage production opportunities
- Supported development and execution of full season of productions, galas, workshops, and other events

Script Reader, November 2018 to December 2018

Normal Ave Productions, New York, New York

- Evaluated pack of 30 full length script submissions based on artistic merit and social relevance

Artistic Intern, June 2018 to September 2018

Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, New York, NY

- Created copy to promote and describe the 50 productions in socially conscious, sustainable theater festival
- Co-facilitated weekly writers group to support development of new works by festival playwrights
- Adjudicated productions and readings for festival's awards ceremony
- Served as a production assistant for fundraiser event, crew for technical rehearsals, box office representative and house manager for festival productions, and Assistant Director of festival awards ceremony

Front Desk Attendant, May 2018 to September 2018

The Artist Co-Op, New York, NY

- Act as point of contact for all members and visitors to lively arts-based co-working space
- Process membership and rehearsal requests

Community Engagement Manager, May 2015 to May 2017

Muhlenberg Theatre Association, Allentown, PA

- Orchestrated all community engagement activities for a club of 500+ students, including two performance festivals, three theatre education programs, and a county-wide series of workshops
- Acted as official liaison between Muhlenberg Theatre Association and Muhlenberg Office of Community Engagement
- Launched inclusivity and equity initiatives, including a popular series of roundtable discussions

Education Coordinator, Summer 2016 | Education Apprentice, Summer 2015

Shakespeare on the Sound, Rowayton, CT

- Taught middle school students *Julius Caesar* in multi-day residency

- Implemented educational programming to introduce audiences to Shakespeare and his work
- Adapted *Hamlet* into a 30 minute play for performance by group of preteens
- Wrote series of three age-specific study guides for mainstage productions

Arts Administration Intern, January 2015 to May 2015

Civic Theatre of Allentown, Allentown, PA

- Wrote and proofed content including press releases, playbills, newsletters, and correspondence with members
- Established database and maintained connections between Civic Theatre and 200 area schools

THEATER EDUCATION

Founder & Coordinator, January 2016 to January 2017

Northhampton Theatre Workshops, Northhampton Area High School, Northhampton, PA

- Oversaw curriculum for monthly series of theatre workshops geared toward high school students
- Coordinated volunteer involvement, including transportation and clearances

Founder & Coordinator, August 2015 to December 2016

Devised Theatre at Dieruff, Dieruff High School, Allentown, PA

- Taught devised theatre practices to high school students in weekly curricular theatre program
- Facilitated creation of original theatrical work devised by class of 25 high school students
- Coordinated volunteer involvement, including transportation and clearances

Founder & Coordinator, October 2014 to May 2017

Theatre Arts at Jefferson, Jefferson Elementary, Allentown, PA

- Led weekly theatre program for 20 elementary school students
- Coordinated volunteer involvement, including transportation and clearances
- Developed and implemented curriculum of improvisation-based theatre games

Program Counselor, Dance & Creative Writing Intensive Assistant, Summer 2013 and Summer 2014

Audubon Arts at Neighborhood Music School, New Haven, CT

- Led group of preteens through creation of several half-hour original musical theatre productions
- Choreographed ballet, tap, jazz, and hip hop pieces for public performance at end of session
- Created writing exercises focusing on generation and revision of original poetry, prose, and dramatic work for publication and public reading

Assistant Dance Teacher, Summer 2012

Celebration Presents! Dance School, Guilford, CT

- Taught musical theater dance, tap, and hip hop to children ages 8-14

THEATRICAL DIRECTION (SELECTED CREDITS)

The Last Blueberry on Earth by Gage Tarlton

[app]arition by Daniel Pérez

Mac Beth by William Shakespeare (*asst. dir.*)**

And the Trees Fall Down by Viviana Prado-Núñez

Internet Love Story by Michael Andrews

Break Room by Max Keane

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare

The Cherry Orchard by Anton Chekhov (*asst. dir.*)

North of Providence by Edward Allen Baker

Vaudeville Population Two by Will Eno

Shoelaces by Maggie Esposito (*reading*)

The Solitary Voice created by the ensemble*

The Library by Nora M. Whittaker

WOW Café Theater, 2019

The Navigators, 2019

Red Bull Theater, *adaptor and dir. Erica Schmidt*, 2019

Center at West Park, 2018

Blue Pearl Theatrics, 2018

Shipwreck Theatre Company, 2017

Shipwreck Theatre Company, 2017

Muhlenberg College, *dir. Matt Moore*, 2017

Muhlenberg College, 2017

Muhlenberg College, 2017

Muhlenberg College, 2017

Pier House, Inis Mór, Ireland, 2016

Inst. Jewish-Christian Understanding, 2016

Codified by Blake Chernin (*reading*)
Ulysses in Nighttown by Marjorie Barkentin (*asst. dir.*)
Deirdre by Ashley Malafronte (*reading*)

Future is Female Festival, Lehigh Valley Edition, 2016
Muhlenberg College, *dir. Jim Peck*, 2016
Muhlenberg College, 2016

This Property is Condemned by Tennessee Williams
Talk to Me Like the Rain... by Tennessee Williams
2 B R O 2 B adapted by the ensemble
Sour Eggs by Kyra Baldwin (*reading*)
Arabian Nights by David Ives

Muhlenberg College, 2016
Muhlenberg College, 2016
Muhlenberg College, 2015
Shakespeare on the Sound, 2015
Muhlenberg College, 2014

* SDCF Directing Observership

** conceived, directed, and performed with acting and creative writing students studying abroad in western Ireland

DEvised THEATER

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Exchange</i> | Asst. Director, PSM | A Broken Umbrella Theater |
| <i>Wrecked</i> | Writer, Performer | Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project |
| <i>What You Will</i> | Performer | Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project |
| <i>Devil's Backbone</i> | Performer | Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project |
| <i>What think you of love?</i> | Performer, Director | Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project |
| <i>Myself O'erthrown</i> | Performer, Director | Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project |

EVENT AND PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

Showcase Director, *The Dare Tactic Kick-Off Gala*, The Dare Tactic, 2018
Stage Manager, *HalloQueen*, The Dare Tactic, 2018
Assistant Director, *10th Annual Planet Awards Ceremony*, Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, 2018
Producer, *Muhlenberg Political Art Festival*, Muhlenberg Theatre Association, 2017
Producer, *Budding Bards Festival of New Work*, Shakespeare on the Sound, 2015-2016

PLAYWRITING

How I Wonder

co-written with Kate O'Donoghue

September 2017 Production, Muhlenberg College Mainstage, dir. Drew Maidment
April 2017 Staged Reading, Muhlenberg College New Play Reading Series, dir. Sarah Bedwell

Deirdre

October 2016 Staged Reading, Muhlenberg College, dir. Ashley Malafronte
Summer 2016 Recipient of 2016 Student Summer Research Grant, Muhlenberg College

A Revolution

October 2015 Staged Reading, Muhlenberg College Arts Marathon, Dir. Genevieve Wall
June 2015 Staged Reading, Shakespeare on the Sound, Dir. Thomas Shuman

2 B R O 2 B

adapted from a short story by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

November 2015 Production, Muhlenberg College Red Door Play Festival, dir. Ashley Malafronte