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EVRIA INCE

THEATRE ARTS DIRECTOR- TEACHING ARTIST CONSULTANT- PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Experience in all aspects theatre. Self-starter, proven ability to assemble effective people and processes necessary for a successful projects or productions. Experienced in team management, program development, outstanding leadership ability and communications skills. Creative thinker.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tilden Senior Center

Brooklyn, NY April, 2015 to Present

Remsen Senior Center

Brooklyn, NY Oct. 2011-Present

Drama Theatre Arts Consultant

- Facilitate acting workshop, fun and creative theatre games.
- Teach basic acting techniques to introduce and connect seniors to the creative process of acting and preparation for the stage, employing engaging teaching methods such as role-play, improvisation and theatre games.
- Produce and direct short plays with senior citizens for in-house and public performances
- Assign seniors not performing on stage to backstage production tasks, such as working with cast in helping with costumes personal props.

Fort Greene Council, Inc.

Brooklyn NY, Oct. 2011 –20014

Grace Agard, Hugh Gilroy, Remsen

Albany (Senior Citizen Centers)

Drama Theatre Arts Consultant

- Create fun and effective Drama/Theatre arts programs, productions for seniors and senior centers.
- Teach basic acting techniques to introduce and connect seniors to the creative process of acting and preparation for the stage, employing engaging teaching methods such as role-play, improvisation and theatre games.
- Assist seniors in creating original plays, monologues, and short stories from their life experiences.
- Produce and direct plays with senior citizens for in-house and public performances
- Worked actively and collaboratively with seniors and center directors to create programs and activities for wider community involvement
- Assign seniors not performing on stage to backstage production tasks, such as working with cast in helping with costumes personal props.

NIA Theatrical Production Company,

Brooklyn NY, Sept. 2006 – Present

Associate Artistic Director

- Work alongside the Artistic Director and as part of the Programming Team to develop,

direct and program a diverse range of shows, performances and projects of the highest quality,

- Direct plays within the season.
- Supervise front-of-house for all NIA productions, managing all public areas of the theatre during performance, ensuring that the experience of each patron is enjoyable and safe.
- Supervising, reading and responding to scripts submitted to the theatre and advising on re-writes and further development of plays.

NIA Theatrical Production Company

Brooklyn NY, Oct 2011 – June 2014

Teaching Artist

Middle School 57

- Collaborating with classroom teachers using creative writing as a tool to reinforce learning of subject matter, create arts-integrated lessons and projects; short plays, stories, monologues.
- Co-teach 60 to 90-minute arts integrated lessons particularly in Social Studies with collaborating classroom teachers.
- Participate in weekly planning sessions with collaborating classroom teachers.
- Document lesson planning and student progress.
- Support classroom and school-wide norms.
- Maintain a safe learning environment by partnering with teacher to manage classroom.
- Communicating regularly with Site-Based Coordinator and Program Director

MIDDLE SCHOOL 117

Brooklyn NY, Sept. 2005-June 2006

Program Specialist/Tutor

- Worked closely with the site coordinator and teachers in planning and implementing arts in education for after school program for 6th, 7th and 8th graders.
- Literacy tutor in ELA for Clark Foundation and SES programs. 6th, 7th and 8th graders.
- Motivated students in ELA to improve writing, reading and thinking skills by using theatre arts: word games, improvisation, creative writing, and acting techniques.
- Worked with guidance counselor in high school preparation process (Clark Foundation) for 6th and 7th graders: numerous high school visits, connecting parents with community resources.
- Asses and documented student progress.

**FORTY GREENE AVENUE CULTURAL CENTER/
PAUL ROBESON THEATRE**

Brooklyn NY, Jan.2000 –Sept.2005

Executive Director

- Planned and managed overall business operations for non-profit organization including, budgeting, program planning and management, fundraising and development, staffing, public relations, education and the arts.
- Prepared comprehensive business operation plan with short range and long-range goals.
- Create and implement yearly calendar of performing arts events, including dance, music, theatre and film.

- Negotiated contractual agreements pertaining to rental of facilities, construction and renovation projects.
- Write policy and procedure manuals for various programs and projects including summer and after school programs.

LOS ANGELES CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

Los Angeles, CA, Nov. 1995- June 1997

Production Assistant/Hostess

- Worked closely with production managers and directors in all aspects of theatrical season and productions for the complex.
- Hostess to celebrities for special events, Academy Awards, American Music Awards, Los Angeles Philharmonic.

RESTORATION ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER

Brooklyn, NY, Sep 1993 – Aug 1995

Director's Assistant

- Coordinating after school arts program and Dance Africa project.
- Managed daily administrative duties, which include but not limited to, maintaining calendars, student files, writing and reviewing reports.
- Serve as liaison to the administrative staff, teachers and parents.
- Recruited students from various New York City public Schools for participation in Dance Africa Project.

PHIPPS CENTER DAY CAMP

Harlem, New York, July 1993- Aug. 1994

Youth Counselor/Drama Teacher

- Developed, organized and initiated daily activities for primary boys.
- Developed drama program and end of camp theatre performance.
- Responsible for supervision and monthly evaluation of six summer youth employment workers.
- Documented and reported students progress to parents on a weekly basis.

Awards

Proclamation- - Outstanding Cultural and Artistic contribution to the Borough of Brooklyn-Brooklyn Borough President Hon. Marty Markowitz (2004)

Outstanding Leadership Award – Paul Robeson Theatre (2004)

Education:

BA. Theatre and Film-Hunter College City University of New York, Los Angeles State University, CA

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Lester E. Ford

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Over 20 years Performing Arts experience includes:

- Teaching adults and college-aged students from all level of expertness in acting, directing, creative writing and play production.
- Performed in numerous Off B'Way productions as an actor.
- Wrote and directed several award nominated plays.
- Developed and implemented a performing arts public school in 2004.
- Dramaturge for several NY City theatre organizations.

Academic Preparation

Doctorate of Education, School of Education, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 1998.

Specialization – Arts Integration and Development and Management of Programs.

Areas of Study: Arts Integration, Adolescent Development, Research and Evaluation, Pedagogical Strategies, Curriculum Development, Lesson Planning and Presentation, Leadership, Program Development, and Emerging Technologies.

Dissertation: *A Methodological Study of Arts-Based Programs on the Academic Quality of Underachieving High School Students. Studied how art integrated coursework improved the educational achievement of low-achieving students at public schools in urban settings around the country.*

Masters of Fine Arts, School of Performing Arts, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY, 1989.

Concentrations: Acting, Directing, Play Writing and Play Production.

Thesis: *Wrote thesis book, Performed, Produced and Directed the play “My Sweet Charlie.” Performed all tasks associated with producing the show. Established production team, auditioned actors, performed lead role, designed set in addition, lighting scheme and costume construction.*

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, School of Performing Arts, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY, 1976.

Concentrations: Learned basic acting, directing and technical theatre theories and skills.

Research Skills:

Survey and evaluation research techniques.

Languages:

Dialect – Gullah.

Professional Experience

Representative Teaching Experience:

1998-Present –Instructional Supervisor

Nia Theatrical Production Company, Inc., Brooklyn, NY.

Currently in my position as Instructional Supervisor, I am involved in all aspects of the company's educational and play production programs. My responsibilities as Instructional Supervisor include administering the company's Arts-in-Education program with focus on recruiting then educating within classroom and workshop teaching sessions young aspiring actors. Moreover, I develop the curriculum, write reports, sign employees' time sheets, and conduct strategy meetings with workers.

I instruct students either in one-on-one sessions or in group sessions. Within the one-on-one classes, I usually work with adult and child actors who are currently working in a show. Classes usually focus on the nuance of building a character. Acting exercises center on the text and those mental and physically techniques the actor needs to fully realize a vibrant and realistic character on stage. These sessions are done intermittently with actors as the need arise during the rehearsal and performance components of the show.

I conduct with young college students (not in a college setting) group sessions in acting and directing. These students, who are in drama programs at their colleges, come to the program for additional education in acting. These students come to improve upon all aspects of their craft. Classes cover units in (a) voice projection, (b) diction, (c) scene study, (d) building a character, (e) play analysis, (f) audition techniques, and more. Learning activities include students acting in and directing scenes involving their classmates.

2004-2005, Artist-in Residence

Performing Arts and Technology High School, Brooklyn, NY.

As an Artist-in-Residence my duties were to teach first year students basic acting. The acting course centered on instructing beginners in voice projection, diction, scene study and character development. Educative exercises involved skill attainment through improvisation, role-play, and play production. Using the tools students were able to learn, utilized the course skill objectives, and garner the underlying mental and physical techniques necessary to become adept actors. During the course, as part of their learning process, I frequently presented students in dramatic vignettes for the school community as well as directed students in an end of year production

The school, a new small school, needed my expertise for evolving performing arts programs and to put in place standards, evaluative processes and training regime for the

teaching staff. My duties also involved me in developing, with a team of artists, curricula materials for dance, music (vocal and instrumental) and theatre. Each art curriculum was devised under state mandated guidelines for skill accomplishment and presentation. I also managed the artistic staff and wrote reports for supervising authorities.

1999-2003, Drama Instructor

Congressman Major Owens Arts Initiative Project, Brooklyn, NY.

In 1997, Congressman Owens created a performing arts project to bring arts and culture to underserved communities in Brooklyn, NY. My duties were to instruct young thespians from around the borough in basic acting and produce plays for the community.

1998-2000, Drama Instructor

New Jersey School for the Arts, Newark, NJ.

I instructed young adults in basic acting and directing techniques. Course used only original scripts for study and main stage productions. Over the course of my tenure, I wrote two short plays that were professionally produced at the school.

1990-1994, Drama Instructor

Louis Pink Community Center, Brooklyn, NY.

I taught middle and high school students acting techniques, and produced shows twice each year with the students. Many of the plays produced were taken on community tours.

1988-1990, Drama Instructor

Arts Without Walls, Brooklyn, NY.

Taught acting to high school students. Within this after school, program students were able to receive additional and/or first-time instruction in basic acting techniques. Students performed, analyzed, and produced plays for public consumption.

Representative Dramaturge Experience:

1998-Present, Dramaturge

Nia Theatrical Production Company, Inc., Brooklyn, NY.

My work as Dramaturge involves me in writing plays and providing literary advice. In 2002, I was commissioned to write a play for production in 2004. The play "A Role Once Played" was produced Off B'Way May 2004 and nominated for an OBIE and an Audelco award. From 1998-2005 I have advised the company on plays selected for production and served as director for each production.

1990-1993, Dramaturge

The Huggy Bean Doll Show, New York, NY.

I wrote and directed radio plays, as well as hire/train actors and technicians for "The Huggy Bean Doll Show." The show was a nationally syndicated radio show sponsored by the Golden Ribbon Toy Company. The show featured radio plays based on African fables and folklores. The purpose of the show was to instruct young children in African history as well as acquaint the audience with the doll "Huggy Bean."

1990-1992, Dramaturge

The Alonzo Players, Brooklyn, NY.

My duties involved me in reading and selecting plays for future production. I also wrote plays for production as well as performed the duties as director for most of the shows produced by the company.

Representative Stage Experience:

Play	Role	Venue	Year
The River Niger	Al	East Orange Arts Center, NJ.	1986
Friday the Thirteenth	Igor	Roger Furman Theatre, NY, NY.	1986
The First Wife	John Richards	Alonzo Players, B'klyn, NY.	1989
The 85 Yr. 'Ol Swinger	Doc	Theatre off Park, NY, NY.	1991
Home	Cephus	CrossRoads Theatre, NJ.	1994
Blues for Mister Charlie	Arthur	Broward Theatre, Fla.	1994
Five on the Black	Gideon	Cherry Street Theatre, NY, NY.	1999
Hand Side			
No Place to be Somebody	Melvin	African-American Theatre Festival, NC.	2001

Publications:

Ford, L. (2004), *Theatre Companies with a Mission*. Intermission Magazine, Vol. 23. p.3.

Ford, L. (2005), *Creating Theatre for the Future: A Prescription for Theatre Entrepreneurs*. Intermission Magazine, Vol. 27, pp.4-6.

Professional Presentations:

-The Actor and the Stage (lecture demonstration), A.R.T./New York, New York, NY, 2004.

- Educating Actors for the Future (workshop) New York State Association of Theatre Educators, NY, 1997.

Current Interests:

-Organizing New York City theatre entrepreneurs into a consortium centered on developing a city-wide program for training talented students in theatre arts and assist them in starting theatre companies.

-Creating a professional theatre company in Brownsville Brooklyn, NY.

Professional Memberships:

Association of Resident Theatre of New York

Actors Equity

AFTRA

American Educational Research Association

Honors and Awards:

Outstanding Dissertation Award (2nd. runner-up), Nova Southeastern Univ., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 1998.

Community Involvement:

1992-Present Program Planner - P. E. Gorman Housing Co., Brooklyn, NY. Bring to community free performing arts events.

1985-1987 Stage Manager - CB Theatre Brooklyn, NY.

1982-1985 Reading Tutor - Esplanade Gardens Housing Co., New York, NY.

1976-1978 Homework Helper - Louis Pink Community Center,
Brooklyn, NY.

References:

Furnished upon request.