

Michael Morrison - Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

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Objective: To produce art that is relevant to current sociological issues and movements. To educate young professionals with a holistic approach to performance technique and the collaborative process. To continue to research new innovations in style and technique within the theatrical process.

Education:

- The University Southern Mississippi (USM) - MFA in Theatre Performance (2015)
- Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) - BS in Liberal Studies *emphasis in Music and Theatre Performance* (2010)

Certifications:

- Lessac Vocal Practitioner - Lessac Institute (active since May 2017)
- Unarmed Combat - Dueling Arts International (inactive – pursuing renewal)
- Small Sword - Dueling Arts International (inactive – pursuing renewal)

Training:

- **Lessac Vocal Technique:** Robin Aronson (President Emeritus - Lessac Institute, Lessac Certified Trainer, USM).
- **Classical Voice Training:** Stephen Smith (MTSU, Stockholm Opera) Tommy Gaines (Memphis Opera)
- **Dialects:** Robin Aronson(USM)
- **Suzuki Technique:** Robin Aronson (USM)
- **Voice Over Technique:** Robin Aronson(USM)
- **Musical Theatre:** Robin Aronson(USM), Dale McGuilliard (MTSU)
- **Spoken Word Technique:** Robin Aronson (USM)
- **Shakespeare:** Monica Hayes (USM)
- **Greek Theatre:** Monica Hayes (USM)
- **Uta Hagen Process:** Monica Hayes (USM)
- **Lugering Movement:** Sean Boyd (Lugering certified Master Teacher, (USM)
- **20th Century Theatre:** Louis Rackoff (USM)
- **Music Industry:** Cedric Dent (10 time Grammy award winning member of *Take 6*)
- **Stage Movement:** Kim Nofsinger (MTSU)
- **Ballet:** Shellie Neilson (USM)
- **Modern Dance:** Marsha Barskey (MTSU)
- **Jazz Dance:** Kim Nofsinger (MTSU) Erin Rehberg (MTSU)

Teaching Experience

A.D. Players Theatre (August 2017 – Present)

Teaching Artist/Dialect Coach

Responsibilities – Dialect coach for the Young Adult Professionals production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Teaching Artist for the Theatre Arts Academy. Classes taught included an eight-week unarmed stage combat class, a semester long character development class using *Peter and the Starcatcher* as source material, and an improv class. All classes culminated with a showcase performance.

Theatre Under The Stars (May 2017 – Present)

Teaching Artist/Showcase Director

Responsibilities – Guest Artist specializing in teaching Lessac Voice, Stage Combat and Acting. Showcase director for the scene and song study class which taught students to approach character creation in musical theatre using the techniques of Uta Hagen, Lessac, Lugerling, and Viewpoints.

Lone Star College Montgomery (October 2016-present)

- **Adjunct Professor/Theatre – Fall 2016 – Spring 2019**

Responsibilities - Created and implemented curriculum based on the objectives of the theatre department and institution requirements. Class requirements for Theatre Appreciation and Film Appreciation included: ability to analyze and critique the theatrical and film making process, the ability to understand and identify the various artistic styles, genres, and periods associated with each artistic medium, and being an active participant in the creative process through collaboration with fellow students. Each student was required to demonstrate these abilities through writing, intelligent discussion, and various creative projects

One section of Theatre Appreciation and six sections of Film Appreciation totaling 21 hours of instruction.

The University of Southern Mississippi (2012-2015)

- **Theatre Appreciation Instructor - Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, and Spring 2015**

Responsibilities - Creating and implementing curriculum for a non-major theatre appreciation class. Class requirements included being able to recognize, analyze, and critique the theatrical process as well as theatrical styles and periods. Each student was required to demonstrate these abilities through writing, intelligent discussion, and various creative projects.

Five sections totaling 15 hours of instruction.

- **Graduate Teaching Assistant - Musical Theatre Performance - Spring 2015**
Responsibilities - Weekly voice lessons with each student on their graded pieces and showcase material, created a process of script analysis combining music theory and acting technique for students to use on each project, graded all written work, created and graded all quizzes based on reading curriculum, directed various scenes for the end of the semester showcase.
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant - Dialects - Fall 2014**
Responsibilities - Weekly dialect coaching session with each student on that week's project, grading of all written work, developed and led the class in a Lessac based warm up specific for each dialect, directed scenes for the end of the semester showcase.
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant - Fundamentals of Acting - Spring 2014**
Responsibilities - Graded all written work and quizzes, led daily warm ups based on the Lessac vocal technique and Lugerling Movement technique, instructed on script analysis and vocal technique, coached students on graded work, and directed scenes for end of the semester showcase.
- **Vocal Coach - Acting, Period Styles 1 - Spring 2015**
Responsibilities - coached students on the correct vocal process for Greek and Shakespearean theatre.

Main Street Theatre - Houston - Summer 2016 -Summer 2017

- **Summer Performing Arts Camp – Acting and Dance Instructor**
Responsibilities - Taught fundamentals of acting and dance for multiple age groups as well as a class for international students at the KIPP Charter School. Each class culminated in a showcase where the students created and performed their own one act play.

Playhouse On The Square - Memphis - Spring 2012

- **Children's Musical Theatre - Teaching Assistant**
Responsibilities - Assisted in an 8-week class that taught children ages 6-12 the basics of musical theatre performance culminating in a showcase focused on golden age Broadway standards.
- **Teen Musical Theatre - Instructor -**
Responsibilities - Co-led an 8-week class teaching teens ages 13-18 the basics of musical theatre performance culminating in a showcase. Showcase required every student to perform a standard from Broadway's golden age and a modern musical theatre selection.

- **Teen Acting - Instructor**

Responsibilities - Led an 8-week class teaching the fundamentals of acting and auditioning techniques to teens ages 13-18 culminating in a showcase. Students were required to perform both a monologue and a scene. This class was focused on modern theatrical trends and students were tasked with finding scenes in their age range and character type with guidance from the instructor.

- **Children's Shakespeare - Teaching Assistant**

Responsibilities - Assisted with the *After School Acting Program* teaching grade school students, up to 6th grade, the basics and history of Shakespeare. Students competed in a short one act competition winning best characterization.

Lifeway Christian Resources, Fuge Camps (2008-2012)

- **Drama Instructor- Summer 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012**

Responsibilities - Taught weekly beginning acting to a new class of 40 students culminating in an end of the week performance in front of a camp audience of between 500 - 2000 students, depending on the week. Most summers lasted between 7-9 weeks.

- **Creative Movement Instructor- Summer 2009 and 2010.**

Responsibilities - Taught a weekly class of 30 students a three-minute dance to be performed in front of a camp audience of 500 - 2000 at the end of each week.

- **Creative Movement Video Instructor - Summer 2009**

Responsibilities - Cast and trained 6 actors/dancers to perform in a 30-minute training video for that year's creative movement instructors - I was the featured instructor for the video.

- **Choir Track Instructor- Summer 2011**

Responsibilities - Trained beginning singers to perform one song at the end of each weekly camp for an audience of 800 - 2000 students.

- **Worship Leadership Instructor - Summer 2012.**

Responsibilities - Taught a small class of 15 the process of organizing a worship service from the perspective of a music minister.

Directorial Experience

Director/Playwright – A Non Equity Love Medley (Valentines Cabaret) – Feb 2018

Responsibilities – Directed, wrote, and compiled a Valentines- themed cabaret for A.D. Players theatre in Houston Texas. This production included the staging of hit songs in popular music and musical theatre as well as original works. Full scale production elements were used while still keeping an intimate cabaret aesthetic.

- **Assistant Music Director - Violet - University of Southern Mississippi - Fall 2015** Responsibilities - Coached the cast on the different musical styles within the musical and how to properly sing them, responsible for rehearsals when the music director was unable to attend, privately coached the lead actors on their individual songs as well as worked on big ensemble numbers.
- **Production Director - Student Life Camps – Summer 2013**
Responsibilities - Directed all actors, technicians, worship leaders, and camp pastors for a 13-week national tour to various locations for Student Life Camps, serving an average of 800-1500 campers a week. Responsibilities included: planning and managing load in and load out of all set and technical equipment; planning each night's worship service with the pastor and worship leader, implementing planned sketches and videos; rehearsing actors and technicians, calling every show; leading in pre-worship meeting/prayer. Worked with nationally known worship leaders/pastors such as Charlie Hall, Rush of Fools, Unhindered, Bellarive, Brett Younker, Jeff Johnson, Wade Morris, Landon Dowden, Ed Norton, Wes Hamilton, and Tony Merida.
- **Production Director - Fuge Camps – Summer 2008**
Responsibilities - Directed all actors, technicians, worship leaders, and camp pastors for a 6-week camp in Jenness Park, California, serving an average of 400 campers a week. Responsibilities included: planning and managing load in and load out of all set and technical equipment; planning each night's worship service with the pastor and worship leader, implementing planned sketches and videos; rehearsing actors and technicians, calling every show; leading in pre-worship meeting/prayer.

Vocal and Acting Coaching Experience

- Dialect Coach – Arsenic and Old Lace – A.D. Players Theatre Arts Academy (*Fall 2017*)
- Acting Coach - The Crucible - Frank Black Middle School (*Fall 2015*)
- Vocal Coach - Spring Awakening - University of Southern Mississippi (*Spring 2015*)
- Vocal Coach - Taking Steps - Southern Arena Theatre (*Summer 2014*)
- Vocal Coach - Clybourne Park - University of Southern Mississippi (*Spring 2014*)
- Vocal Coach - Rent - University of Southern Mississippi (*Fall 2013*).

Organizations

- Actors Equity Association - Equity Membership Candidate (Equity eligible 8/10/18)
- Lessac Institute - Social Media Director, Certified Practitioner, and Member
- Alpha Psi Omega Lambda Nu - University of Southern Mississippi - Hattiesburg MS
- International Thespian Society - Cordova High School - Memphis, TN

Awards/Nominations

Best Male Actor in a Musical nominee (2107) – Broadwayworld.com Houston

Role: Max Bialystock, **Production:** The Producers, Stageworks Theatre

Irene Ryan Award Nominee and Semi- Finalist, 2015

Role: Karl/Steve, **Play:** Clybourne Park, University of Southern Mississippi

Performance Experience

Regional Theatre

A Lie of the Mind	Frankie	Dirt Dogs Theatre
Parade	Leo Frank	Kirkwood Music Services
God's Favorite	Ben	A.D. Players Theatre
Littleboro Valley Story	Goshen	A.D. Players Theatre (tour)
Rock Nativity	Melchior	A.D. Players Theatre
Hark the Harold	Harold	A.D. Players Theatre (tour)
Best Christmas Pageant Ever	Fireman	A.D. Players Theatre
Titanic	Isidor Straus	Kirkwood Music Services
Peter and The Starcatcher	Smee	Stageworks Theatre
The Producers	Max Bialystock	Stageworks Theatre
The Energized Guys	Multi Role	National Theatre/Children
Born Yesterday	Barber/Bellhop	Alley Theatre (Houston)
Sweeney Todd	Adolfo Pirelli	Springer Opera House
Urinetown	Mr. McQueen	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
Rent	Benny	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
The Fantasticks	El Gallo	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
YAGM Charlie Brown	Charlie Brown	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
The Little Mermaid	Chef Louis	Peach State Summer Thtr.
Les Miserables	Enjolras	Peach State Summer Thtr.
Taking Steps	Roland Crabb	Southern Arena Theatre
Les Miserables	Enjolras	Hattiesburg Civic Opera
King Lear	Multi Role	New Moon Theatre
L'Histoire du Soldat	Joseph	CODA at Rhodes
A Christmas Carol	Fred/Y. Scrooge	Theatre Memphis
A Christmas Carol	Christmas Present	Theatre Memphis

Academic Theatre

Spring Awakening	Adult Men	Univ. Southern Mississippi
The Liar	Cliton	Univ. Southern Mississippi
Clybourne Park	Steve/Karl	Univ. Southern Mississippi
Rent	Benny	Univ. Southern Mississippi
Assassins	The Proprietor	Univ. Southern Mississippi
The Firebugs	Fire Captain	Univ. Southern Mississippi
Ragtime	Henry Ford	Mid. Tennessee State Univ.
Oklahoma	Ensemble	Mid. Tennessee State Univ.
Anything Goes	Ensemble	Mid. Tennessee State Univ.

Special Event Performance

Star Wars in Concert*	Choir Member	Lucas Film/Another Planet
A Non-Equity Love Medley	Actor	A.D. Players Theatre
People	Soloist	The Kaleidoscope Theatre
The Lost Book	Cooties McGee	Student Life Inc.
The Pursuit	Actor	Fuge Ridgecrest
Connect	Actor	Fuge Ridgecrest
Kairos	Actor	Fuge Mobile
Move	Actor	Fuge Glorieta

**Star Wars in concert and partnership with the London Philharmonic*

Choral Performance

- Mozart's Requiem (2005, 2009)
- Handel's Messiah (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)
- Faure Requiem (2006)
- Haydn's Hymn of Praise (2007)
- Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass (2008)
- Haydn's Creation (2008)
- Bernstein's Chichester Psalms (2009)

All concerts performed with the Middle Tennessee State University Concert Chorale and Schola Cantorum

References

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