

JOHN THIEL

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EDUCATION

MFA Theatre Education and Applied Theatre
Emerson College, Boston, MA

Spring 2020

Thesis: Researched how college students connect ensemble-based, devised theatre-making with performative traditions in their upbringing.

MA Theatre Education

Spring 2019

Emerson College, Boston, MA

Capstone project: Researched possible convergences between process drama and Francophone theatre education practices.

BS Elementary Education

Spring 2013

Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA

Minors: Theatre, French & Francophone Studies

Honors: Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

“Stepping Into Action: Possible Convergences Between Process Drama and Francophone Theatre Education Practices,” *Incite/Insight*, 2019

TEACHING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Youth Theatre Co-Director

Summer 2015, 2016, 2017 & 2020

Stockton Civic Theatre, Stockton, CA

- Developed and facilitated educational theatre training for 60 actors ages 7-17.
- Directed the rehearsal process for three musical theatre productions: *Schoolhouse Rock Live!, Jr.*, *Mulan, Jr.*, and *Xanadu, Jr.*
- Facilitate online rehearsals of scripted and ensemble-devised radio plays.
- Teach virtual workshops in acting, auditioning, and musical theatre performance.

Teaching Artist

Winter 2018 – Spring 2020

Play Reading Book Club, ArtsEmerson, Boston, MA

- Led collaborative discussions and readings of plays with adult audience members in preparation for upcoming theatrical productions (including *Saint Joan*, *WET: A DACAdmented Journey*, *Measure for Measure*, *American Moor*, *Triptych*, and *Detroit Red*).
- Facilitated artist-community conversations in pre- and post-show talkbacks.
- Directed participant-devised staged readings of scenes for community showcases.

Drama Teacher

Fall 2018 – Spring 2020

Bright Start Afterschool, Arlington, MA

- Taught acting and directed original productions with groups of 10-20 children, K-5th grade.

Theatre Education Graduate Association Board Member Spring 2018 – Fall 2018
Emerson College, Boston, MA

- Organized professional development festivals, workshops, and social get-togethers, connecting students, university faculty, and practitioners in the field.
- Produced performances and workshops of new work.
- Directed a social justice festival, engaging graduate and undergraduate students and alumni in discussions about the work of justice in our communities through theatre.

Drama Teacher Winter 2017 – Spring 2018
Education Stations, Melrose Public Schools, Melrose, MA

- Taught creative drama and acting with groups of 10-20 children, K-5th grade.

Acting Teacher Spring 2018
Boston Children’s Theatre, Boston, MA

- Taught acting technique and character-centered collaborative playmaking.

Drama Teacher Fall 2015 – Spring 2017
Stockton Collegiate International Schools, Stockton, CA

- Designed and taught units of study in drama for students in grades K-6, emphasizing collaborative playmaking, theatre history, and acting training.
- Cultivated a reflective mindset through instruction on giving and receiving feedback and on responding to life experiences through theatre-making.

Workshop Leader Spring 2016 – present

- Facilitated and taught theatre workshops with young artists and adults.
Emerson College Acting Fundamentals Course
Professor Lizzy Cooper Davis, PhD., Boston, MA, 2020
Emerson College High School Drama Festival, Boston, MA, 2020
Zion Academy of Music, Stockton, CA, 2018
Hyde Square Task Force, Boston, MA, 2018
New Hope Family Shelter, Stockton, CA, 2016
Stockton Ballet School, Stockton, CA, 2017 & 2018

Dance Instructor Fall 2016 – Spring 2017
Stockton Ballet School, Stockton, CA

- Instructed high school students in tap dance technique through weekly classes.
- Choreographed dances for end-of-the-semester concerts.

Co-Choreographer Spring 2015 – Spring 2017
St. Mary’s High School, Stockton, CA

- Created and taught dances in a variety of styles with up to 40 high school students for three musical productions: *The Who’s Tommy*, *Hello Dolly!*, and *The Wiz*.
- Award: Best Choreography in an Education Musical, 2015: Sacramento Area Regional Theatre Alliance (SARTA)

Fifth Grade Teacher Fall 2013 – Spring 2015
Stockton Collegiate International Schools, Stockton, CA

- Taught an integrated multiple subject curriculum within an inquiry-based classroom.

Acting Teacher Winter 2013, Summer 2015
Showbiz Theatre Company, Stockton, CA

- Designed and taught scene study curriculum for beginning adult actors.

Research Assistant Fall 2012 – Spring 2013
French & Francophone Studies Program, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA

- Selected texts for French language learners and evaluated writing assignments.
- Translated a lecture for a visiting Francophone author.

Forum Theatre Team Member
Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA Spring 2012

- Conducted image theater workshops with students and university faculty.
- Investigated and developed solutions for problems that were voiced and embodied by participants in forum theatre performances, focusing particularly on social exclusion, gender-based violence, and bystander interventions on campus.

Children's Camp Facilitator Summer 2011
Transitional Living Center, Tabor Community Services, Lancaster, PA

- Co-led an afternoon camp for children ages 2-14 at a family shelter, integrating applied theatre, visual arts, and literacy instruction.

Resident Fellow Fall 2010 – Spring 2011
Humanities Residential College, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA

- Developed community-building programming for 1st- and 2nd-year college students in a literature-based living-learning community.

Children's Program Director/Teacher Summer 2008, 2009, & 2010
Campus by the Sea, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Avalon, CA

- Supervised and trained staff for working with over 240 children ages 4-11 at a seven-week summer camp.