

Langston Hamilton Darby

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Education

- 2017 Certificate of Completion
Atlantic Acting School Professional Conservatory Program
- 2010 Walnut Street Theatre Professional Apprenticeship Program
- 2009 Bachelor of Fine Arts: Theatre; Focus: Performance; Magna Cum Laude
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS
- 2005 Diploma
Mississippi School of the Arts, Brookhaven, MS

Honors/Affiliations

- Practical Aesthetics Scholarship, Atlantic Acting School
- Diversity Scholarship, Upright Citizens Brigade New York Training Center
- Dorothy Haas Acting Apprenticeship at the Walnut Street Theatre (2009 – 2010)
- Alpha Psi Omega
- Simrall Award in Theatre, Scholarship (2008)
- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Irene Ryan Competition Finalist [Partner] (2007)
- Fine Arts Scholarship (2007)
- James and Eileen Simrall Fine Arts Scholarship (2006)

Teaching Interests

- Audition Technique (all ages)
- Acting Technique (Primarily teens and adults but also can work with children)
- Monology (all ages)
- Character Development [Psychology, Voice, Movement, Objectives] (all ages)
- Voice & Speech Technique (all ages)
- Text Analysis (primarily teens and adults)
- Working with Shakespeare and Classic Text (all ages)

Professional Experience

I am an Equity Membership Candidate with Actors Equity Association. I have performed and understudied in over 35 professional productions including regional theatre, summer stock, outdoor theatre, theatre for young audiences, and a tour of educational theatre for young audiences. I was a company member in both ComedySportz Philadelphia (short-form, comedic Improvisation) and Bright Invention (long-form, realistic Improvisation). As a teaching artist, I've designed and taught theatre and performance related classes, residencies, and workshops for various programs and theatres in Philadelphia. I directed and assistant directed for the Walnut Street Theatre summer camp program over five years. I also designed and lead a week of summer camp for White Pines Productions. Additionally, I coached clients through the Walnut Street Theatre Education Department and independently to prepare them for auditions and to sharpen their acting skills.

Teaching Experience

- 2010- **Workshops**— I design and implement workshops with a theatrical or performance emphasis for a variety of purposes. For three consecutive summers, I lead two hour theatrical immersion sessions for St. Joseph's Preparatory School's Camp Magis. I

designed 1-2 hour beginner improvisation workshops for groups such as Congregation Adath Jeshurun in Elkins Park, PA. My most notable workshop project to date is designing a series of interactive dramatic workshops for The Free Library of Philadelphia's One Book One Philadelphia program.

2012-15 **Artist in Residency**— I served as a co-teacher and collaborator for 1812 Productions at the Widener Memorial School in Philadelphia, PA. Widener Memorial is a unique school for students with various physical and/or developmental challenges that serves students from kindergarten through slightly beyond high school age. 1812 Productions has been in residency there for over 10 years, and works with a group of lower school and high school students to learn about comedy and performance and to create two comedic performances at the end of the academic year. Duties included instruction in acting and comedic writing, collaboration on creation of productions and lesson plans, and research for comedic educational media. In addition, I did similar work for 1812 at Benjamin Franklin High School in Philadelphia. We helped ESL students practice their use of English using theatrical games and exercises.

2011-15 **Intermediate Acting**— I've designed and implemented lesson plans for groups of 8-11 and 12-17 year old students at the Walnut Street Theatre. Lessons include sharpening acting technique, voice/speech and movement work, improvisation, scene study, monologue work, and devised pieces based on literature such as *Jabberwocky* and the poems of Shel Silverstein.

I taught a similar course for White Pine Productions in 2014. I have also taught an advanced version of this curriculum focusing on monologue and scene work during summer semesters at the Walnut Street Theatre.

2013-14 **Director of Camp Discovery Division**— I served as a teacher and director for the Walnut Street Theatre's summer camp. I taught three classes daily (Character Development and Acting). I was primarily the director of the "Discovery 2" group. "Discovery 2" is comprised of mostly pre-to-middle teenaged students (11-15) who are only beginning to acquire stage experience. Students in this division actually devise and write their own 45-60 minute show that features at least three original musical numbers. I led my group (over 15 students) in the conception, development, and realization of our play, *Battle of the Cliques*, by providing direction, acting coaching, and collaborating on the writing and editing of the script.

I performed similar work for White Pines Productions in the summer of 2014. I designed and implemented a week of day camp revolving around performing and writing poetry and improving communication skills ("Say It Like You Mean It"). Students (age 6-11) studied different poetic forms and learned about various poets of note while working on understanding and effectively using language. The week culminated in a devised production featuring student produced haiga (pictures incorporated and based on haikus) and theatrical adaptations of Shel Silverstein poems and *Jabberwocky*.

2010-11 **Audition and Acting Technique** – I instructed students age 12-17 on acting techniques and auditioning for theatre at the Walnut Street Theatre. I focused heavily on preparing monologues for auditions and using those monologues as a vehicle to explore and practice acting technique. I also discussed basic audition procedures and etiquette, headshots, and resumes.

2010-11 **Acting for the Camera** – I instructed students age 10-16 on basic acting techniques, working in front of a camera and audition skills for the Walnut Street Theatre. I focused on

getting students comfortable with being in front of a camera, appearing natural, having a sense of play, and basic acting discipline.

2010-14 **Assistant Director of Camp Theatre Performance** – I served as a teacher and assistant director for the Walnut Street Theatre’s summer camp. I taught two classes, Improvisation and Acting. I taught the classes twice a day for four days a week for various age levels. In addition to teaching, I acted as the assistant director for the “Theatre Performance” group’s production of *Romeo and Juliet* under the direction of David Stradley. “Theatre Performance” is mostly made up of slightly older (13-17), experienced, and skilled campers/students who perform an abridged version of one of Shakespeare’s works. I assisted David in various ways including scene work, character development, and company/stage management. In the summer of 2014 I returned to this position and assisted Krista Apple with many of the same tasks for an abridged production of *Much Ado About Nothing* (I also taught classes in Acting and Ensemble Building)

I returned to the Walnut’s summer camp program in the summer of 2011 and 2012 where I served as assistant director to the “Discovery 2” performance group under the direction of Amanda Snarski. I assisted Amanda by directing scenes, collaborating on the writing and editing of lyrics and script, and acting as company/stage management. I also taught three class sessions daily, Acting and Theatre Production (basically theatre production and technology) in 2011. I taught Camera, Script Analysis, and Movement in 2012.

2010-15 **Artist in Residency** – I acted as an assistant instructor to Kaleo Bird at the KenCrest Early Childhood Learning Center in Kensington, PA for the Walnut Street Theatre. There were two groups of preschool age students. The residency focused on developing the student’s aesthetic sense/appreciation and their social, communicative, and physical skills through theatre education. We touched on all different areas of theatre through a variety of activities. The residency culminated with a group performance of *Chicken Little*.

I’ve also served as co-teacher for collaborations between the Walnut Street Theatre and The Free Library of Philadelphia Teen Tuesday program. For three years, I lead two-part theatrical workshops focused on themes such as: the relationship between music and lyrics, character creation, and job interview skills.

I recently completed a residency at the Hillside Elementary School in Mount Laurel, New Jersey. As part of a school-wide theatre immersion week, I worked with my class to adapt, rehearse, and perform the fable *The Mouse and The Weasels* into a short play.

2009 **Assistant Teacher** – I assisted teaching artist Kristen Burke with two different musical theatre classes at the Walnut Street Theatre. One class included students from age range 8-12 and the other 13-17. The focus of both classes was to introduce students to basic musical theatre concepts and let them experiment with them— the class culminated in a showcase.

2005-09 **Peer Acting Coaching** – I worked with fellow students, at and below my experience level, to prepare for main stage auditions, scene work, and full productions.