

# Lauren Diesch

*Theatre Maker and Administrator*

SDC Associate Member, SAFD Certified

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## ***Leadership Experience***

**Arden Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA**

**March 2025—Present**

The **Director of Education** oversees the educational work of the Arden, including Arden For All, Drama School, Apprenticeship Program, and Internship programs in collaboration with the artistic director and education team.

**CLIMB Theatre, Inver Grove Heights, MN**

**August 2011—June 2021**

The **Associate Artistic Director/Director of Education** shapes the vision of the organization by setting and maintaining the educational standards, and shepherding the creation of new plays, classes, and residencies.

- Led a team of six to ten resident artists
- Secured 2 million dollars in granted funds
- Co-produced ten-fourteen plays per season
- Directed four productions annually
- Collaborated with designers and partner organizations to develop new work
- Projected and managed departmental and project budgets
- Spearheaded curriculum design and evaluation for all programs, including all granted projects

Previously as **Outreach Coordinator (May 2012-May 2013)**, I exceeded team sales goals, nurtured strategic partnerships, maintained our CRM, and developed marketing strategies. As a **Team Lead Resident Artist (August 2011-May 2012)**, I used applied theatre to teach thousands of students of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds social emotional skills, including lessons about EDIA.

## **Additional Leadership Roles:**

- Graduate Student Government Representative—Indiana University (2021-2024)
- AATE Conference Planning Committee Member (2018)
- Vice President of the Board—Chameleon Theatre Circle (2018-20)
- Company Member: Umbrella Collective (2017-21), Theatre Coup d'Etat (2015-18), and Bakerloo Theatre Project (2010-14)

## ***Select Teaching Artist***

**Indiana University, Bloomington, IN**

**August 2021-May 2024**

**Associate Instructors/Graduate Assistants** are assigned various work supporting IU's Department of Theatre and Contemporary Dance, but primarily serving as associate instructors. I was Professor of Record for the following courses: Fundamentals of Acting (seven sections), Acting 1 for Majors (one section), Acting II (two sections)

**Constellation Stage and Screen Bloomington, IN**

**May 2022-December 2023**

**Lead Teaching Artist** for weeklong summer camps: Improv and Comedy for Teens, Theatre for Teens, Comedy for Kids, Theatre for Kids, and Theatre for Littles. Additionally, hired for the '23 Indiana Educator Fellowship for Creative Teaching Grant, a collaboration between Constellation and White River Valley Middle School.

**Indiana Educator Fellowship for Creative Teaching Grant**

**September 2024-December 2024**

Awarded two grants by the Indiana State Arts Council to serve as at **Teaching Artist** to plan, create, and lead custom applied arts lessons for two schools: St Vincent DePaul Catholic school in Bedford, IN and Columbus North High School in Columbus, IN.

## Select Professional Directing

|                                        |                  |                          |                         |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Baltimore Waltz</i>                 | by Paula Vogel   | Theatre Coup d'Etat.     | Minneapolis, MN         |
| <i>Dragonshield*</i>                   | Buffy Sedlacheck | CLIMB Theatre            | Inver Grove Heights, MN |
| <i>Flora and Fauna's Stream*</i>       | Benjamin Domask  | CLIMB Theatre            | Inver Grove Heights, MN |
| <i>Tuluah Rabbit's New Habit</i>       | Buffy Sedlacheck | CLIMB Theatre            | Inver Grove Heights, MN |
| <i>Polka Dot Shoes *</i>               | Christina Pippa  | CLIMB Theatre            | Inver Grove Heights, MN |
| <i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i> | Dale Wasserman   | Chameleon Theatre Circle | Minneapolis, MN         |
| <i>All You Can Eat*</i>                | Anton Jones      | CLIMB Theatre            | Inver Grove Heights, MN |
| <i>Rude Rudy Roo*</i>                  | James Rone       | CLIMB Theatre            | Inver Grove Heights, MN |

## Educational Theatre

|                       |                        |            |                 |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| <i>Orlando</i>        | by Sarah Ruhl          | IU Theatre | Bloomington, IN |
| <i>Everybody</i>      | Branden Jacobs-Jenkins | IU Theatre | Bloomington, IN |
| <i>Vox Pop!</i>       | David Davila           | IU Theatre | Bloomington, IN |
| <i>Why Liliya Why</i> | Annalise Cain          | IU Theatre | Bloomington, IN |

## Staged Readings

|                            |                  |                          |                 |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>The Piñata</i>          | by David Davila  | IU Theatre               | Bloomington, IN |
| <i>Mesquite Tree</i>       | David Davila     | IU Theatre               | Bloomington, IN |
| <i>Tracy Jones</i>         | Stephan Kaplan   | Chameleon Theatre Circle | Virtual         |
| <i>Apocalypse Pet Care</i> | Richard A. Pauli | Chameleon Theatre Circle | Bloomington, MN |

## Associate/Assistant Directing

|                               |                |                   |                    |                 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Falstaff (Assistant)*</i>  | Giuseppe Verdi | IU Opera Theatre  | dir. Michael Shell | Bloomington, IN |
| <i>Forever Plaid (Assoc)*</i> | by Stuart Ross | IU Summer Theatre | Ansley Valentine   | Bloomington, IN |

## Select Professional Acting Experience

|                                |                   |                          |                |                  |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>More Perfect Places</i>     | Woman 2           | IU                       | Seth Bockley   | New Harmony, IN  |
| <i>Shakespeare's Will</i>      | Anne (Understudy) | Indiana Rep. Theatre     | Brenda DaVita  | Indianapolis, IN |
| <i>Lilies of the Field</i>     | Sister Elizabeth  | Open Window Theatre      | Joy Donley     | Minneapolis, MN  |
| <i>Antigone</i>                | Antigone          | Park Square Theatre      | MJ Leffler     | St. Paul, MN     |
| <i>The Gun Show</i>            | Playwright        | Uprising Theatre         | Emily England  | Minneapolis, MN  |
| <i>Bull</i>                    | Isobel            | Hypnic Jerk              | Kari Steinbach | St. Paul, MN     |
| <i>Awakening</i>               | Chloe/Merriman    | Umbrella Collective      | Laura Leffler  | Minneapolis, MN  |
| <i>Crucible</i>                | Mary Warren.      | Theatre Coup d'Etat      | Brian Joyce    | St. Paul, MN     |
| <i>Love of the Nightingale</i> | Procne            | Bakerloo Theatre Project | Lily Junker    | Troy, NY         |
| <i>Twelfth Night</i>           | Feste             | Bakerloo Theatre Project | Will Addis     | Troy, NY         |

## Education

**Indiana University** **2021-2024**  
MFA in Theatre Directing

**University of Pittsburgh** **2005-2009**  
B. A. in Theatre, Minor in English Literature, Magna Cum Laude

## Awards and Recognition

- **Foster Harmon Fellowship**, Indiana University **2023-2024**
- **Mathew Everett's Top Ten List**, *Baltimore Waltz*, Theatre Coup D'Etat **2017**
- **Lavender Magazine Best Costume Design**, *Moby Dick*, Theatre Coup D'Etat **2017**
- **Employee of Distinction**, CLIMB Theatre **2014**

## Special Skills

Program Design and Management – Evaluation Design and Analysis – Financial Management and Budgeting  
New Work Development – Community and Educational Art Making – Strategic Planning – Grant Writing  
Viewpoints – Meisner Technique – Improvisation – Devising – Applied Theatre – Heightened Language –Intimacy