
Marcus Denard Johnson

560 West 218th Street Apt. 2E New York, New York 10034

Mobile: 347.292.7274 **Email:** marcusdj@gmail.com

Website: www.marcusdenardjohnson.com

Education

**Master of Science in Adolescent
Special Education**
Hunter College, 2014

Master of Fine Arts in Acting
Florida State University, 2008
Departmental Distinction

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre
Morehouse College, 2005
Summa Cum Laude

Teaching Areas of Specialization

Devised Theatre

Collaboration of an ensemble to create theatre that explores and challenges societal structures -- primarily using the Theatre of the Oppressed techniques of Augusto Boal and the devising structure of The TEAM.

Acting

Skills for actors, including connection to partner, connection to self, and ritual in performance, drawing from the work of Freddie Hendricks, Dr. Sharell D. Luckett, and other POC practitioners.

Shakespeare and Heightened Text

Techniques for approaching heightened language and verse, including scansion, poetic devices and how to allow the language to inform acting choices.

Audition Technique

Best professional practices in audition settings – both musical and non-musical – including essential skill building for pursuing professional theatre projects.

University Teaching Experience

Adjunct Professor, Acting Lab, THR 315

Dean College, Fall 2020

This course investigates acting styles such as commedia, Restoration comedy, clowning skills, Grotowski, solo performance, Asian performance styles (Kabuki, etc.), physical theatre, Viewpoints or any nontraditional acting style. This semester we will explore methods of acting from a culturally responsive lens in an attempt to develop a complex character, which will be presented in a final showcase of “non-traditional” acting methods.

Guest Lecturer, Foundations of Speech Communication, SPCH 11100

The City College of New York, Spring 2014

Instructor of Record: Professor Nissa Perrott

Lecture focused on the foundations of presentation. Students learned how to articulate themselves effectively and project their voice for their audience. Additional components included the use of body language to create a strong personal impact and leave a positive impression. An emphasis was placed on vocal and physical techniques to relax the body and sync the breath.

Guest Facilitator, Gabelli Leadership Certification Program

The Gabelli School of Business at Fordham University, Spring 2019 and Spring 2020

Instructor of Record: Elizabeth Ostler, Manager of Enrichment Programs

In this enrichment – certification program, lectures follow the LEAD (Listen, Engage, Analyze, Discover) learning model, fostering contribution and peer-to-peer engagement in students. Students engage in learning activities that embolden them to analyze challenging situations and engage their team members in the difficult, yet critical, process of feedback.

Teaching Experience

Adolescent Special Education Teacher, Literature and Humanities

Eagle Academy for Young Men, Spring 2012 – Fall 2014

Served as 8th grade team leader, developer of curriculum for Humanities classes, and IEP (Individualized Education Plan) coordinator for grades 6, 7, and 8. Maintained 100% IEP compliance, a 90% student-passing rate on state exams, and an “Exceptional” teacher evaluation rating for the 2013 – 2014 school year.

Workshop: Transforming Spaces in Non-Traditional Settings

Arts in Education Roundtable’s Face-to-Face Conference, Spring 2019

In this workshop, using their own values and framework for teaching and learning, attendees were able to define what a “welcoming environment” looks like within their organization, and developed intentional practices to foster such an environment in any workshop space, even outside of the traditional classroom.

Workshop: The Power of Personal Narrative

The Teaching Artist Project, Spring 2018

In this workshop, attendees of this Teaching Artist certification program were taken through a journey of storytelling through personal narrative. Attendees used their personal narratives as a connection to why they are drawn to arts education and, more practically, a narrative to use when applying for arts education jobs, networking, or simply connecting with students.

Workshop: Devised Theatre for the Inclusive Classroom

Arts in Education Roundtable’s Face-to-Face Conference, Spring 2018

Drawing on social science theory and classroom practice, workshop attendees gained an understanding of how unconscious bias impacts a student’s ability to learn, create, and feel safe in an arts education classroom space. Through reflection, discussion, and practice, attendees gained knowledge and practical strategies to facilitate a classroom or workshop space in which student identities are respected and challenging subject matter can be courageously explored to create original theatre.

Workshop: The Inclusive Classroom: A World Café Discussion

SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center (Neighborhood Bridges Program), Winter 2018

In this workshop, attendees learned practical tools for holding space for discussions around EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) practices within their school communities. Attendees were public school theatre teachers and from 6th to 12th grade.

Relevant Employment

Director of Programs

Opening Act, Inc., Fall 2018 - Present

Responsible for overseeing the programmatic vision of Opening Act, expanding the program, developing curriculum, facilitating goal setting and quarterly reviews of program staff, and establishing and maintaining alignment of all programs.

Communications Consultant

Working Voices, Inc., Fall 2014 – Present

Responsible for facilitating interpersonal communication workshops that draw from psychological, sociological and physiological perspectives to achieve engagement and genuine long-term changes in client behavior.

Associate Director of Programs

Opening Act, Inc., Fall 2014 – Fall 2018

Responsible for development and training of teaching artist staff, as well as the creating the curriculum and development plan for Opening Act’s Student Leadership Company and Summer Arts and Leadership Conservatory.

Professional Credits

Acting

<i>Pipeline</i>	Xavier	Mile Square Theatre	Kevin R. Free
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Bob Cratchit	Titan Theatre Co.	Lenny Banovez
<i>Richard III</i>	King Edward IV/Archbishop	Titan Theatre Co.	Edward Morgan
<i>Enemy of the People</i>	Aslaksen	Smith Street Stage	Beth Ann Hopkins
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Antonio	Titan Theatre Co.	Lenny Banovez
<i>Othello</i>	Othello	Hudson Warehouse	Nicholas Martin-Smith
<i>Henry V</i>	Westmoreland	The Gallery Players	Padraic Lillis
<i>Love's Labor's Lost</i>	Boyet	Hip to Hip Theatre Co.	David Mold
<i>The Tempest</i>	Alonso	Hip to Hip Theatre Co.	Jason Marr
<i>This One Time in Last Chance</i>	Leroy	Attic Theatre Co.	Laura Braza
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Claudio	American Bard Theatre	Jefferson Slinkard
<i>Hamlet</i>	Osric	Titan Theatre Co.	Jack Young
<i>The Meeting</i>	Dr. M. L. King, Jr.	Ocean State Theatre	Amiee Turner
<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	Ensemble	Asolo Rep	Michael Donald Edwards
<i>Equus</i>	Ensemble	Asolo Rep	Michael Donald Edwards
<i>Smash</i>	Photographer	Asolo Rep	Lilian Groag
<i>The Play's the Thing</i>	Mr. Mell	Asolo Rep	Greg Leaming
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Rev. Sykes	Asolo Rep	Howard Milman

Directing

<i>The African Company Presents: Richard III</i>	Titan Theatre Co.
<i>Truth: The Testimonial of Sojourner Truth</i>	Hope Summer Rep
<i>Cornrow Mojo</i>	National Black Theatre
<i>The Wiz</i>	Hope Summer Rep
<i>Romeo & Juliet</i>	Periwinkle Theatre for Youth
<i>The Me You Don't See</i> (An Original Devised Work)	Opening Act YESfest Play Festival
<i>Confessions from My Skin: A Play About Colorism</i> (An Original Devised Work)	Opening Act YESfest Play Festival

Assistant Directing

<i>Opening Act's 15th Annual Gala Play Reading</i>	Opening Act	Kenny Leon
<i>Tartuffe</i>	Titan Theatre Co.	Lenny Banovez
<i>Hamlet</i>	Titan Theatre Co.	Lenny Banovez
<i>Opening Act's 14th Annual Gala Play Reading</i>	Opening Act	Kamilah Forbes
<i>Pericles</i>	FSU/Asolo Conservatory	Greg Leaming

Professional Memberships

Actor's Equity Association
Phi Beta Kappa
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
New York Community Trust Fellows

Professional Training

Voice

Catherine Fitzmaurice, Patricia Delorey (Fitzmaurice), Patsy Rodenburg, Charmian Hoare (Rodenburg)
Saule Ryan and Carol Mendelsohn (Roy Hart), Deb Hale (Linklater)

Singing

Steven Cirillo, Eric Michael Gillett

Acting

David Brunetti (Meisner), Barbara Redmond (Meisner), Bruce Roach (Meisner), Carl Foresman

Shakespeare

Patsy Rodenburg, Barbara Redmond

Movement

Margaret Eginton (Feldenkrais, Viewpoints, Alexander), Jimmy Hoskins (Ballroom)

Commedia

Antonio Fava, Margaret Eginton

Stage Combat

Robert Wesley (unarmed – SAFD)

Script Analysis

Greg Leaming

Playwriting

Mark Wheatley, Crystal Skillman

Directing

John Gould Rubin

Programs

FSU London Study Summer 2007: Patsy Rodenburg for Shakespeare and voice (Head of Voice at The National Theatre and Guildhall School), Mark Wheatley for writing (Head of FSU London Studies and former literary manager for Complicite), Charmian Hoare for voice (Voice coach at The Royal Shakespeare Company and Guildhall School)

Service

The Teaching Artist Project Cohort Member

- ❖ Served as co-chairperson of the Teaching Artist Project Cohort for the 2018 – 2019 academic year. The Cohort seeks to develop cohesive practices, as well as shared resources and opportunities throughout the teaching artist community in New York City.
- ❖ Currently serving as a professional development consultant and facilitator for teaching artists engaged in the yearlong teaching artist certification program.

Arts in Education Roundtable Member

❖ **Teaching Artist Affairs Committee Member**

- Collaborate with other members of this committee to promote conversations around the field of teaching artistry, as well as create events and forums that encourage alignment.
- Currently co-planning the annual Arts in Education Job Fair hosted by Borough of Manhattan Community College.

❖ **Member of the Task Force on Equity and Inclusion**

- Assist in creating and developing programming that challenges the Roundtable to be an active voice in the work of EDI and take a leadership role in the field of Arts Education.
- Currently co-planning the annual Day of Learning event, which will focus on strategies that lead toward SEL (Social Emotional Learning) development.

Titan Theatre Company Artistic Associate

- ❖ Currently serving as a youth programming and audience development consultant.

Grants

National Endowment for the Arts Grant

Opening Act, Fall 2020

This 1-year grant will allow Opening Act to continue to offer free high quality theatre programs to over 500 students across New York City.

Mother Cabrini Health Foundation Grant

Opening Act, Winter 2019

Through the joint efforts of Opening Act's Programs and Development teams, this grant will fund our Act 2 College and Career Access program, specifically, workforce development for alumni.

Youth Inc. Metrics Program

Opening Act, Summer 2018

This 2-year impact grant will guide Opening Act through measuring SEL impact in our students.

Awards and Honors

Wilde Awards Best One Person Show Winner, *TRUTH* (Actor: *Jasmine Bracey*)

Hope Summer Rep, 2019/2020

HI Impact Award, Hello Insight and Youth Inc.

Opening Act, Winter 2019

Wilde Awards Best Musical Nomination, *The Wiz*

Hope Summer Rep, Summer 2018/2019

Professional References

Erika Atkins

Bloomindale School of Music - Executive Director

Email: eatkins@bsmny.org

Phone: 703.431.2402

Lenny Banovez

Titan Theatre Company – Artistic Director

Email: lbanovez@titantheatrecompany.com

Phone: 262.914.1203

Daniel Kozar

Dean College – Theatre Program Coordinator

Email: dkozar@dean.edu

Phone: 508.541.1643

Kevin R. Free

Freelance Director

Email: kevinrfree@gmail.com

Phone: 347.418.5976