

Tasia A. Jones

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<https://tasiaajones.wixsite.com/director>

Personal Statement

I am a director, performer, facilitator, and educator specializing in social justice theater and civic practice. My freelance work focuses on creating artistic spaces that promote under-heard narratives and engages communities around topics of social justice and equity. As an educator, I use theater and performance practice as a means to encourage the mental and emotional growth of youth and young adults, and to give them a space to investigate and understand the issues that affect their communities.

Professional Skills

Directing | Performing | Playwriting | Dramaturgy | Community Engagement |
Youth Development and Advocacy | Curriculum Development | Project Development and Management | Facilitation |
Artistic Collaboration

Education

Northwestern University, MFA Directing
Boston University, BFA Theatre Arts (Acting, Directing, Playwriting)

Workshops, Residencies and Additional Training

2019	Center for Performance and Civic Practice Summer Institute	Chicago, IL
2015	Sojourn Theatre Summer Institute	Chicago, IL
2014	Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab	New York, NY
2006	Lessons of the Trade w/ Olympia Dukakis	Boston, MA

Teaching Experience

2020-Present	Northwestern University <i>Assistant Professor of Instruction-</i> Acting and Directing, Department of Theater <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instruct undergrad and grad level courses in acting, directing, and special topics• Create and implement curriculum• Mentor students• Participate on faculty committees	Evanston, IL
2020	Boston University <i>Guest Artist Mentor</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mentored design students in collaborative process and creation	Boston, MA
2020	Purdue University <i>Director/ Instructor-</i> Acting for the Digital Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instructed course on work of Suzan-Lori Parks• Directed virtual engagement of <i>In the Blood</i>	West Lafayette, IN
2020	University of Illinois at Chicago	Chicago, IL

	<i>Adjunct Lecturer- Acting Fundamentals for Non-majors</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructed undergrad course for School of Theatre and Music • Create and implement syllabus 	
2019	University of Illinois at Chicago <i>Adjunct Lecturer- Script Analysis for Theatrical Production</i>	Chicago, IL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructed undergrad course for School of Theatre and Music • Create and implement syllabus 	
2019	Northwestern University <i>Instructor- Fundamentals of Stage Directing</i>	Evanston, IL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructed Fundamentals of Stage Directing course to undergraduates • Created and implemented syllabus 	
2018-2019	Mudlark Theater Company <i>Lead Teaching Artist</i>	Evanston, IL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taught civil rights and activism residency for 4th graders • Created curriculum and lesson plans 	
2018, 2019	National High School Institute <i>Faculty</i>	Evanston, IL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-taught new play class for high school playwrights and actors 	
2014	Central Square Theatre Summer Stage <i>Instructor</i>	Cambridge, MA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directed participants ages 7-13 in production of Much Ado About Nothing • Lead participants through improv workshop 	
2012	Stoneham Young Company Summer Program <i>Instructor</i>	Stoneham, MA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taught Commedia dell'Arte workshops to students grades 4-8 • Created lesson plan and led students in final presentation 	
2009-2010	Shakesperience Productions, Inc. <i>Resident Artist</i>	Waterbury, CT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performed in touring productions of Rapunzel and Julius Caesar. • Created and edited curriculums for workshops and classes for grade K-12. • Taught theatre classes to children ages 7-13 and directed students in a performance at the end of the course. • Assisted in a residency program for “at-risk” teens. 	

Artistic Leadership

2019-2020	Artistic Fellow, Northlight Theatre, Skokie, IL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist artistic team with season planning and audience engagement • Member of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee
2018-Present	Literary Committee Member, Rivendell Theatre, Chicago, IL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read and review plays for programming consideration

- 2017- Present **Artistic Associate**, *Black Lives Black Words International Project*
- Carry out mission of BLBW and advise on projects as needed
- 2007-Present **Freelance Director**, *Various*
- Direct productions, readings, and workshops for various companies
- 2014- Present **Adjunct Ensemble Member**, *Fort Point Theatre Channel*, Boston, MA
- Provide assistance to the company as needed when available
- 2013-2014 **Co-Artistic Director**, *Fort Point Theatre Channel*, Boston, MA
- Collaborate with directors and company members to select scripts and produce plays
- 2013-Present **Artistic Consultant**, *On With Living and Learning*, Boston, MA
- Provide consultation and assistance in program and script development
- 2015-2017 **Co-Curator and Director**, *Boston Beyond Today*, Boston Metro Area
- Collaborate with other curators to produce and direct several events highlighting racial injustice and police overuse of force

Grants and Awards

- 2022 **Lloyd Richards Best Director of a Play Award**
Black Theater Alliance/ Ira Aldridge Awards
Received for production of *Intimate Apparel* at Northlight Theatre
- 2020 **Year of Chicago Theater Cultural Asset Mapping Grant**
Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, League of Chicago Theaters
Chicago, Illinois
Awarded \$50,000
January – December 2020
Chicago Public Schools Team Member

Directing (*denotes world premiere)

(upcoming)	<i>Ready for Revolution</i>	Director	Court Theatre
(upcoming)	<i>A Place to Live</i>	Director	On With Living and Learning, Inc.
2022	<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	Director	American Players Theatre
2022	<i>1919</i>	Director	Steppenwolf Theatre Company
2022	<i>1919</i> (digital recording)	Director	Steppenwolf Theatre Company
2022	<i>Intimate Apparel</i> (remount)	Director	Northlight Theatre
2021	<i>The Crucible</i> (theatrical film)	Director	University of Illinois at Chicago
2021	<i>Intimate Apparel</i>	Director	Utah Shakespeare Festival
2020	<i>Somewhere</i> (digital)	Director	Milwaukee Repertory Theater
2020	<i>In the Blood</i> (virtual workshop)	Director	Purdue University
2019	<i>Intimate Apparel</i>	Director	Northlight Theatre
2019	<i>Small Mouth Sounds</i>	Director	UCCS Theatreworks
2019	<i>The MLK Project</i>	Director	Writers Theatre
2019	<i>Voyeurs de Venus</i>	Director	Northwestern University
2018	<i>The Inside</i>	Director	Northwestern University

2018	<i>Seussical the Musical</i>	Director	Jean's Playhouse
2018	<i>White</i>	Director	Northwestern University
2017	<i>No Child</i>	Director	Northwestern University
2016	<i>Nighthawks</i>	Director	Monro Saturday Night Performance Series
2015	<i>Hidden Faces of Courage</i>	Director	On With Living and Learning (OWLL)
2014	<i>The Archives*</i>	Director	Fort Point Theatre Channel
2013	<i>For Colored Girls</i>	Director	Boston University
2013	<i>Hidden Faces of Courage</i>	Director	On With Living and Learning (OWLL)
2013	<i>Harbor Lights*</i>	Director	Fort Point Theatre/ Boston Theatre Marathon
2012	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Director	Central Square Theatre: Summer Stage
2011	<i>Oleanna</i>	Director	Can't Wait Productions
2010	<i>Margaret in Search of Herself*</i>	Director	New African Co/ ARRT
2008	<i>Fair Game</i>	Director	New Urban Theatre Lab
	<i>Jess & DJ: A Baby Mama Dramey*</i>	Director	Bostonia Bohemia/ Interim Writers
2006	<i>Autobahn</i>	Director	Boston University School of Theatre
2005	<i>Railing it Uptown</i>	Director	Boston University School of Theatre

Assistant and Associate Directing

2021	<i>Fannie</i> <i>(The Music and Life of Fannie Lou Hamer)</i>	Associate Director	Goodman Theatre Dir. Henry Godinez
2018	<i>The Steadfast Tin Soldier</i>	Assistant Director	Lookingglass Theatre Company Dir. Mary Zimmerman
2018	<i>The Roommate</i>	Assistant Director	Steppenwolf Theatre Company Dir. Phylicia Rashad
2018	<i>Smart People</i>	Assistant Director	Writers Theatre Dir. Hallie Gordon
2017	<i>Marie Christine</i>	Assistant Director	BoHo Theatre Dir. Lili-Anne Brown
2017	<i>Pass Over</i>	Assistant Director	Steppenwolf Theatre Company Dir. Danya Taymor
2015	<i>Quixote in Kabul</i>	Assistant Director	Boston University/ Voces Hispanas Dir. Megan Sandberg-Zakian
2013	<i>The Mountaintop</i>	Assistant Director	Underground Railway Theater Dir. Megan Sandberg-Zakian

Performance (Partial List)

Theater

<i>Saturday Night/Sunday Morning</i>	Gladys	The Lyric Stage Company Dir. Dawn M. Simmons
<i>Our Town</i>	Woman in the Balcony	Long Wharf Theatre Dir. Gordon Edelstein
<i>Good Television</i>	Tara	Zeitgeist Stage Company Dir. David Miller
<i>Good Person of Setzuan</i>	Mrs. Shin	Fort Point Theatre Channel Dir. Marc S. Miller

<i>The Embryos</i>	Condoleeza/Dr. Kaganda	Fresh Ink Dir. Dawn Simmons
<i>Grimm</i>	Futura/ Black Girl	Company One Dir. Summer Williams
<i>The Inside</i>	Emma	Can't Wait Productions Dir. Corianna Moffat
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Portia/ Calpurnia/ Messala	Shakespeare Productions, Inc. Dir. Emily Mattina
<i>Rapunzel</i>	Rapunzel	Shakespeare Productions, Inc. Dir. Emily Mattina
<i>Stuff Happens</i>	Condoleeza Rice	Boston University (Professional) Dir. Jim Petosa
<i>The Bluest Eye</i>	Claudia	Company One Dir. Summer Williams

Film

<i>Awakenings: Marlo</i>	Marlo (lead)	Foley Ellis Ibidapo/ Marisa Prince
<i>Dark Haul</i>	Redhead (supporting)	Colin Theys
<i>Alien Opponent</i>	Lux (supporting)	Colin Theys

Commercial

National Grid, Dunkin Donuts, Tervis, Liberty Mutual, Eastern Bank, Connecticut State Lottery, CVS, BJ's

Industrial

TJX, CVS, Drinkstory.com, Wolters Kluwer, NKP Media