

# Erin Neal

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## **EDUCATION**

- **Southern Methodist University-** BFA Theatre, English Minor  
Dallas, TX 2002
- **York University-** Artist in Education Certificate  
Toronto, ON 2007
- **Stratford Festival of Canada-** Birmingham Conservatory for Classical Theatre Training  
Stratford, ON 2007
- **British American Dramatic Academy-** Shakespeare Training  
Oxford, England 2000

## **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- Ten years professional theatre experience in a variety of theatres across the United States and Canada
- Develop curricula for theatre-based programs for a variety of ages and abilities
- Ability to work cooperatively and creatively with other teachers and artists to create programming and performance
- Patient, flexible, and culturally sensitive when working with students and colleagues
- Strong commitment to working, learning, and volunteering with a wide range of organizations

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Musical Magic-** Chicago, IL April 2011-Present

### **Music/Movement Classes- Instructor**

- Teach music class for students from birth to four years incorporating imaginative play, fine motor skills, age appropriate musical instruments, storytelling, puppetry, movement, and socialization with other children
- Perform variety of children's songs for child and parent
- Communicate with parents regarding registration and scheduling

**Improv Playhouse-** Libertyville, IL Jan. 2011-Present

### **Acting Conservatory for Teens Director/ Private Acting Coach**

- Facilitate and execute all activities involving the casting, cutting, scheduling, design, staging and rehearsing of a production with a group of teenage actors
- Coach intern teacher through the process of teaching teenagers
- Design and create dramaturgy and dialect materials for the actors
- Created curriculum for group exercises based upon the text of the play
- Write daily rehearsal reports with assessments and evaluations of actors
- Through exercises and individual coaching introduce and hone students skills in vocal technique, movement styles, ensemble building, storytelling, styles of theatre, monologue and scene work
- Prepare students for logistics of audition including introductions, tips to combat nerves, timing of pieces, possible improvisation scenarios, questions asked by auditor

**Dream Big Performing Arts Workshop-** Chicago, IL April 2013-Present

### **Broadway Kids Musical Theatre Instructor/ Drama Teacher Pre-K Montessori Class**

- Develop curriculum for ten week residency at CPS school for kindergarten and first grade students
- Share various age-appropriate musical selections to students and teach a sampling of those selections to students
- Direct original work developed by students through musical games, imaginative play exercises, ensemble building, art projects, and storytelling techniques
- Work with co-teacher to design and implement drama curriculum for classroom of 30 students in a mixed ages (3-5) Montessori pre-school classroom

**Remy Bumpo Theatre-** Chicago, IL 2010

**Tom Stoppard Class- Assistant Instructor**

- Assist instructor with scene coaching and class discussions
- Facilitate class scheduling and scene distribution

**Old Town School of Folk Music-** Chicago, IL 2008

**Radio Theatre Instructor**

- Four weeks of classes to six different groups, ages 5-10
- Developed curriculum for classes which included: focus on audial aspects of performance, oral storytelling, sound effect work with voice and objects, and using children's literature to develop the skills being taught
- Led students in exercises that helped them develop an original story
- Transformed students oral story into original radio play with music and live sound effects

**American Theatre Company-** Chicago, IL 2008

**Teaching Artist Residency**

- Six week arts residency at Chase Community School in an 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies class
- Design and implement curriculum using drama and playwriting exercises to help students in a Latino community engage more actively in the election process and feel comfortable and confident expressing their political opinions and beliefs
- Created and directed an original work based upon the students' writings and experiences

**Redmoon Theatre-** Chicago, IL 2008

**DramaGirls Arts Mentorship**

- Led "little sister" through a variety of artistic exercises including: movement and improvisation workshops, writing exercises, collage projects, and ensemble building activities
- Taught young women about local cultural events and led outings to museums, theatre performances, lectures, etc.
- Worked in a collective with other female artists and elementary school girls to create and perform an original piece

**Prince Charles Public School-** London, ON 2007

**Guest Teacher for Special Needs Class**

- Led drama exercises that incorporated masque technique, music/rhythm, and development of language based performance skills for special needs class ages 6-13
- Work culminated in a presentation of a condensed version of *Macbeth*

**Stratford Festival-** Stratford, ON 2007

**Guest Teacher for Education Department**

- Class visits to French immersion primary school and pre-show workshops for primary and secondary school groups to facilitate students' understanding and participation in a classical play
- Exercises included: practice working with Shakespeare's language, iambic pentameter rhythm activities, mime/character work, tableaux, dialect work, singing, and group discussions

**VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**Girl Scouts-** Chicago, IL and Nacogdoches, TX 1986-2007

**St. Clement School-** Chicago, IL 2008- present

**REFERENCES** (Contact Information Available on Request)

- **James Bohnen**, Artistic Director Emeritus - Remy Bumpo Theatre
- **Katie Jeep Andre**, Director/Owner- Musical Magic
- **Christopher Parker**, Classroom Teacher- Prince Charles Public School