



ROBERTA EMERSON

PROFILE

Highly motivated and dedicated Director, Producer and Theatre Arts educator with more than 10 years' experience overseeing a play's production and being responsible for providing creative leadership, conducting rehearsals, approving production designs and budgets, guiding the cast and the crew, and interpreting scripts. Strong leadership skills and the ability to communicate with and inspire a team. Experience directing theatrical projects and leading collaborative processes. Success at teaching and building educational programming and willingness to be a passionate representative of the company.

Excellent organizational skills including schedule management, budgeting, programming, and creation. Genuine passion to cultivate and support a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible work environment and a drive to create world-class theater that has a significant impact in the community and beyond.

*References available upon request.

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota, Guthrie BFA Acting Training Program

2006 – 2010

Degree: BFA in Acting. Minor in Theatre Management

Summa Cum Laude

New York University

2010 - 2013

Degree: MFA in Acting

WORK EXPERIENCE

WDM Theatre Co- Executive Artistic Director-Board Seat

Serving as a Board seat of the new start professional Theatre Company, based in Orlando Florida. Developing new policy, structure, and programming along with educational and artistic staffing decisions. Define the artistic life for WDM Theatre, constantly focusing on an evolving and expansive vision. Demonstrate an expansive commitment to diversity and inclusion in the development of exciting and relevant artistic programming. Plan theatrical productions and events in a collaborative manner that incorporates a wide range of styles and themes that speak directly to and with the Central Florida community

Orlando Shakespeare Theatre- Director of New Play Development

Plan and coordinate the annual Festival of New Plays and execute one to two artistic assignment(s) and support other activities as directed and needed. Currently includes participation with IDEA committee and structuring cultural coordination in rehearsal process. At UCF- teach one to two courses and execute one artistic assignment; advise and recruit students; and participate in department and university committees and governance.

Disney Live Entertainment- Show Director

Responsible for ideating, developing, and providing creative direction on a wide range of entertainment projects. These projects may include character experiences, stage and atmosphere shows, as well as on-site and off-site conventions and special events that serve the business needs of Retail, Marketing, Public Relations, and Public Affairs partners. From inception through production, Show Directors oversee large and small memorable Guest experiences that are innovative, experiential,

and immersive. Show Directors are responsible for establishing and maintaining Entertainment Show Quality standards in partnership with entertainment operational areas.

Garden Theatre- Artistic Directing Consultant/Associate Artistic Director

Collaborates with and supports the Artistic Director on programming, educational and artistic staffing decisions. Direct 1- 2 mainstage productions per season. Attend production meetings, designer runs, technical rehearsals, previews, and special events based on availability and in collaboration with the Artistic Director. Facilitate community conversations between artists and the audience at regularly scheduled talkback performances and as needed for special events and mentor young people as part of our educational programming. Engage in the ongoing recruiting process to cultivate diverse candidate pools for available opportunities on design teams, staff, teaching artists, apprentices and other opportunities. Participate regularly in hiring processes.

Central Florida Community Arts – Associate Producing Consultant

2021–Present

Interim Artistic Direction. Responsible for selecting a season of diverse productions that appeal to a diverse audience and to our local performers. Communicates shows and tentative dates to Director of Administration to ensure performance rights are secured. Reviews budgets created by Theatre Coordinator for each production and schedules and leads department meetings and one-on-ones with appropriate staff as necessary. Recommends changes to the process for securing and developing creative teams and production timelines. Works in partnership with creative teams and marketing department to ensure each show has a marketing plan and selects and provides oversight to Theatre Coordinator, theatre interns, and creative teams.

Montverde Academy - Director of Theatre

2016–2021

Artistic direction for five theatrical performances per year. Created and Founded the Theatre Conservatory, which trains students for professional and collegiate career paths. Director of Acting Troupe including planning of special events, community events, travel, international and national, theatrical competitions and officer team. Manage budget, curriculum and creative vision of all performances. Lead school to multiple Districts and State awards and nominations as well as National recognition.

Dr. Phillips High School Theatre Magnet - Director of Theatre

2013–2016

Artistic Direction for eight theatrical productions per year. Director of Acting Troupe including planning of special events, community events, travel, international and national theatrical competitions and officer team. Theatrical instructor for 100 students - Instruct students in all aspects of Theatre from performance to technical. Create full curriculum and assessment for program. Director of six theatrical productions with tasks including: Casting, Set Design, Lighting, Sound, Costuming and Makeup, Rehearsal schedules, Budgets, and Publicity. Lead school to multiple Districts and State awards and nominations as well as National recognition.

Independent Producer/General Manager.

2010–Present

Produce and/or manage multiple full scale events for various organizations. Some include: Eve Ensler's V-Day, The Movement Theatre Company, The Guthrie Theatre (House Management) Twin Cities Theatre Company, The Public Theatre Shakespeare Lab, The Globe Theatre (London), etc. Responsibilities include: Production management, including supervision of artists, directors, VIP seating coordination, and production team, payroll and budget maintenance, house management, marketing and development, maintaining relations with actors, directors or guest artist, and managing rehearsal and performance schedules.

Independent Contractor- Director/Actor

2010–Present

Professional Theatre Acting and Directing experience includes: The Studio Theatre Tierra Del Sol, Florida Reparatory Theatre, Orlando Youth, Garden Theatre, Orlando Shakespeare, Orlando Reparatory, Twin Cities Theatre, Movement Theatre Company, Theatre South, Manhattan Theatre Club, Lincoln Center, The Public Theatre, The Guthrie Theatre, Negro Ensemble Company, The Ensemble Company, Walker Arts Theatre, The Globe, National Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare and various television and film productions.

SKILLS

Computer Skills: Financial Edge, VPN STAR Client, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe PageMaker

Additional Skills: Acting, Dance, Directing, Producing, film/tv, organizational and leadership abilities, communication skills, works well both independently and in group settings. CPR certified. Stage Combat. Alexander Technique. Vocal Coach.
