

Nik Whitcomb

(402) 968-7370

nik.whitcomb@gmail.com

www.NikWhitcomb.com

EDUCATION

Creighton University (Omaha, NE) **2015**

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

Concentration in Performance and Directing

Minor in Philosophy

Actors Theatre of Louisville **2020 - 2021**

Directing Apprentice

Goodman Theatre (Chicago, IL) **2018**

Casting Apprentice

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Administrative Experience

Black Theatre Coalition (BTC) **2022 - Now**

Program Director

- *Develop partnerships with Broadway producers, general management companies, marketing agencies, and other non-acting fields for placements of Fellows & Apprentices.*
- *Strategize the overall development of BTC programming to expand outside of the New York and Broadway market.*
- *Maintain relationships with partnered organizations as well as Fellows & Apprentices in the program.*
- *Identify spaces for strategic expansion of the enrichment and continued development aspects of BTC and curate programming.*
- *Manage all recruitment efforts for Fellowships, Apprenticeships, and other employment opportunities presented by partner organizations.*
- *Develop and maintain the budget for the Programming department.*
- *Represent the Black Theatre Coalition at events, fundraisers, conferences, and career fairs.*
- *Liaison between the John Gore Organization and BTC to manage the Broadway Across America Fellowship program.*

The Stillwell Institute for Contemporary Black Art (Chicago, IL) 2020 - Now
Education Coordinator

Coordinator of programming and logistics for all educational endeavors from the Institute in Chicago Public Schools, juvenile detention centers, other locations on the South Side of Chicago, and other consulting offerings as they arise.

House of Afros, Capes, & Curls (Omaha, NE) 2020 - 2022
Public Relations & Communications Strategist

- *Develop strategies to increase visibility for the House in Omaha, NE and work to connect the community of BIPOC nerds in Omaha to the nerd community at large.*
- *Manage The House social media by creating graphics on Canva and posting to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn using Buffer.*
- *Draft press releases for major House events including AfroCon.*
- *Assist the Chief Innovation Officer with organizational structure, grant reporting, and other administrative tasks as needed.*

Omaha Theater Company for Young People (The Rose) 2020 - 2021
Broadway at The Rose Manager

- *Manage day-to-day operation of The Rose Studios for Youth Artists, a 27,000 square-foot arts training facility.*
- *Maintain finances for all Broadway at The Rose programming including The Dance Lab, the Rose Brigade, and all on and off site classes.*
- *Act as production manager for all workshops, sharings, and performances in the 200 seat performance venue in the studios.*
- *Serve on a number of committees to support EDI and communication improvement areas across the company.*

Guthrie Theater (Minneapolis, MN) 2017
Company Development Assistant

Company Manager and Administrative Assistant for the Guthrie Experience for Actors in Training Program.

Producing

With A Machete Productions (Chicago, IL) **2020 - Now**

Creative Producer - *Hildegard: The Ruppertsberg Tour*

- Offer insight to the writing team as they create a new rock musical about Hildegard von Bingen.
- Assist the Production/Project Manager in troubleshooting logistical concerns and scheduling team meetings.
- Work with Marketing Coordinator to plan, schedule, and execute social media & PR efforts.
- Serve as Resident Casting Director for the production.

The Union for Contemporary Art (Omaha, NE) **2020 - 2021**

Production Manager - *Pursuing Legacy*

Managed all logistics for scheduling the writing, filming, editing, and distribution of a city wide interactive performance/escape room like piece of theatre in North Omaha.

Puppeteers of Color Social (Chicago, IL) **2018 - 2019**

Founder/Artistic Producer

Facilitated the creation of space and provided resources to a cohort of puppeteers of color from across the country to increase visibility of BIPOC puppeteers. Curated, marketed, and produced a two-room puppetry event called "Nasty, Brutish, & Short".

Consulting

Brooklyn Youth Chorus **2022**

Content Consultant

Offered a session on artistic ownership and operative words to the choristers as they prepared to sing a piece with racially motivated content written by two black women.

Vent It Out, LLC (Omaha, NE) **2020**

Strategy Consultant

Offer advice, tools, and strategies to identify opportunities for growth in programming and marketing to expand the reach and impact of Vent It Out to increase conversation about mental health in the North Omaha community.

Actors Theatre of Louisville **2020**

Creative Consultant - *Where Did We Sit On The Bus*

Worked with the creative team to adapt the one-person stage show into a digital production captured in the actors home.

Directing

Coterie Theatre <i>Director/Choreographer - Alice's Wonderland (World Premiere)</i>	June 2022
Benson Theatre <i>Director/Choreographer - Choir Boy</i>	March 2022
Actors Theatre of Louisville <i>Co-Director/Facilitator - Now Becomes Then (World Premiere)</i>	2020
Omaha Theatre Company for Young People <i>Director/Co-Choreographer - Ella Enchanted: A New Musical</i>	2019
Collaboraction Theatre Company (Chicago, IL) <i>Director - When The Snow Melted Down In Chicago (World Premiere)</i>	2018
The Theatre School at DePaul (Chicago, IL) <i>Director - A Black Body In Space And Time</i>	2018

Full Performing & Teaching Experience Available Upon Request

Casting

Paskal Rudnicke Casting, Inc. (Chicago, IL) **2018 - Now**
Casting Associate

- *Manager of Northlight Theatre (LORT D) casting process for two consecutive seasons.*
- *Coordinated non-actor (or "Real People") audition searches for three commercial campaigns (US Bank, AT&T, Swedish American Hospital).*
- *Assist in running auditions and completing booking paperwork for major television and film projects working for clients such as Marvel/Disney +, AMC, HBO Max, Amazon Prime, Comedy Central, and MarVista Entertainment.*

Freelance Casting Director **2018 - Now**

The Pretenders (Short Film - Chicago)
Coterie Theatre (Alice's Wonderland)
Bluebarn Theatre (Red Summer, King Lear, Buffalo Women)
Organic Theatre Company (Melancholy Play & The Memo)
Haven Chicago (Director's Haven - 2 seasons & Titus Andronicus)
Pride Films & Plays (Summer Play Festival 2018 & After Glow)

Residencies

I AM DANCE (Omaha, NE) **2021**
Led theatre classes across various topics including ensemble, acting tools, story structure, scenic design, and musical theatre dance for dance students ages 4-18.

The Stillwell Institute For Contemporary Black Art (Chicago, IL) **2019**
Conceived and devised a theatrical movement and music piece called [TO THE SEA](#).

Quincy Community Theatre (Quincy, IL) **2016**
Planned and taught 2 creative drama classes for students ages 6-10, 1 creative drama class for students on the autism spectrum, and 1 on-camera acting class for students in middle school while performing the role of Eddie Souther in "Sister Act the Musical".

PRESENTATIONS

THE COME UP with Nik Whitcomb **2020 - Now**
Creator/Host/Editor
Moderate a series of discussions with working artists and activists about the power of creative work and what it looks like to enact social change in tangible ways.

The League of Excellent\Extraordinary Negroes **2020 - Now**
Contributor & Guest Moderator
Participate in critical discussion on a review series about television and film content across nerd and black culture.

Roosevelt University, Chicago College of Performing Arts **2019 - 2020**
Guest Lecturer
Visited freshman and sophomore classes to speak about equity in theatre & casting.

The Theatre School at DePaul University (Chicago, IL) **2019-2020**
Guest Panelist
Attended mini showcase with other casting professionals and work

Great Plains Theatre Commons (Omaha, NE) **2020**
Panelist - "A Strange Loop"

House of Afros, Capes, & Curls - AfroCon (Omaha, NE) **2020**
Master of Ceremonies/Moderator/Panelist
Moderator for two mainstage events and panelist on "BIPOC Arts Institutions Post Pandemic".

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Stage Directors & Choreographers Union 2021 - Now
Associate Member

American Alliance for Theatre & Education (AATE) 2020 - Now
Mentor - Leaders of Color Institute
Distinguished Play Committee

The Union for Contemporary Art 2016 - Now
Core Ensemble Member - Performing Arts Collective

HONORS & AWARDS

American Theatre Magazine April 2020
Theatre Worker You Should Know

Omaha Entertainment & Arts Award
2016 - Winner: *Best Supporting Actor (Musical, Caroline or Change)*
2020 - Winner: *Best Musical & Best Choreography (Director & Co Choreographer, Ella Enchanted)*

Theatre Arts Guild (Omaha, NE) 2016
2016 - Winner: *Best Featured Actor (Musical, Caroline or Change)*

Omaha Theater Company for Young People 2015 - 2016
Artistic Fellowship

REFERENCES

Denise Chapman, Producing Artistic Director
Union for Contemporary Art (Omaha, NE)
denise@u-ca.org
(402) 660-7428

Carla Stillwell, Founder/Executive Director
The Stillwell Institute for Contemporary Black Art
thestillwellinstitute@gmail.com
(773) 575-4334

Jamillah Hinson, Curator & Facilitator
Freelancer/Collaborator
jhinson09@gmail.com
(402) 415-6963

Jorge Silva, Managing Director
The Neo-Futurists
jorge@neofuturists.org
(773) 860-4807