

Nik Whitcomb

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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

Bag&Baggage Productions **Current**

Producing Artistic Director

- *Collaborate with a full time staff of six to enact the mission, vision, and values of Bag&Baggage.*
- *Develop and maintain an annual budget in collaboration with the General Manager.*
- *Steward the artistic vision of Bag&Baggage Productions and The Vault.*
- *Liaise with city, county, state, and Federal officials to insure support for all arts & culture in the city of Hillsboro.*
- *Artistic Producer of Bag&Baggage five show main season.*
- *Curate and produce additional entertainment and cultural events for The Vault.*
- *Oversee fundraising efforts and draft grant proposals as needed.*
- *Advise on development and execution of marketing, community engagement, audience development, and education initiatives.*
- *Grow and maintain meaningful relationships within the community of Hillsboro and Washington County.*
- *Connect with local and national artists to identify spaces for potential collaboration.*
- *Serve as an active voting member on the Bag&Baggage Board of Directors.*

House of Afros, Capes, & Curls (Omaha, NE)

Entertainment & Community Strategist

Current

- *Assist in idea generation and execution for all House events.*
- *Strategize potential partnership for the House in Omaha and beyond.*
- *Draft press releases for House events as needed.*
- *Host in-person and online panels & events for The House.*

Black Theatre Coalition (BTC)

2022 - 2023

Program Director

- *Develop partnerships with Broadway producers, general management companies, marketing agencies, and other non-acting departments for placements of Fellows, Apprentices, & Observers.*
- *Strategize the overall development of BTC to expand outside of the New York and Broadway market.*
- *Maintain relationships with partnered organizations as well as Fellows & Apprentices in the program.*
- *Expand the enrichment and continued success aspects of BTC and curate meaningful programming & networking events for participants.*
- *Manage all recruitment efforts for Fellowships, Apprenticeships, and other employment opportunities presented by partner organizations.*
- *Develop and maintain the budget for the Programming department in collaboration with the Executive Director.*
- *Monitor the programmatic financial operations within the company (donations, invoicing, Fellow/Apprentice payments, and other transactions)*
- *Represent the Black Theatre Coalition at events, fundraisers, conferences, and career fairs.*
- *Assist in program development and management for the BTC/Broadway Across America Regional Fellowship with the John Gore Organization.*

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 & house 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.*

Producing

UNOTheatre/Megan Ann Rasmussen Productions 2022
Associate Producer - Heaven Come Home Workshop

With A Machete Productions (Chicago, IL) 2020 - Now
Creative Producer & Casting Director - Hildegard: The Ruppertsberg Tour

The Union for Contemporary Art (Omaha, NE) 2020 - 2021
Production Manager - Pursuing Legacy

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".

Directing

The Twenty-Sided Tavern 2022 - Now
Resident Director

Benson Theatre Spring 2022
Director/Choreographer - Choir Boy

Actors Theatre of Louisville Fall 2020
Co-Director/Facilitator - Now Becomes Then (World Premiere)

Omaha Theatre Company for Young People Fall 2019
Director/Co-Choreographer - Ella Enchanted: A New Musical

Collaboraction Theatre Company (Chicago, IL) Winter 2018
Director - When The Snow Melted Down In Chicago (World Premiere)

The Theatre School at DePaul (Chicago, IL) Spring 2018
Director - A Black Body In Space And Time

Full Directing, 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 review series about tv, film, and blerd culture.

House of Afros, Capes, & Curls - AfroCon (Omaha, NE) 2020 - Now
Master of Ceremonies/Moderator/Panelist

Roosevelt University, Chicago College of Performing Arts 2019 - 2020
Guest Lecturer

Led acting workshops and spoke about equity, inclusion, and access in casting.

The Theatre School at DePaul University (Chicago, IL) 2019 - 2020
Panelist

Attended the end of the year mini showcase and workshopped scenes with students.

Interlochen Arts Academy (Interlichen, MI) 2019 - 2020
Panelist

Panelist for Senior Agency Showcase.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Stage Directors & Choreographers Union 2021 - Now
Associate Member

The Union for Contemporary Art 2016 - Now

Chair, Advisory Committee - The Shirley Tyree Theater

Core Ensemble Member - Performing Arts Collective

The Stillwell Institute for Contemporary Black Art 2019 - Now
Advisory Committee

American Alliance for Theatre & Education (AATE) 2020 - 2022

Mentor - Leaders of Color Institute

Distinguished Play Committee

HONORS & AWARDS

American Theatre Magazine

Theatre Worker You Should Know

April 2020

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

Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts

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