

# **Nik Whitcomb**

(402) 968-7370

[nik.whitcomb@gmail.com](mailto:nik.whitcomb@gmail.com)

[www.NikWhitcomb.com](http://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)** **Current**

#### ***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.*

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

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

**House of Afros, Capes, & Curls (Omaha, NE) Current**  
**Entertainment & Community Strategist**

- *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.*

**Public Relations & Communications Strategist 2020 - 2022**

- *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.*
- *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 & 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.*

**Guthrie Theater (Minneapolis, MN) 2017**  
**Company Development Assistant**

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

### **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** Current  
*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 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**

*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](mailto:denise@u-ca.org)

(402) 660-7428

**Carla Stillwell, Founder/Executive Director**

*The Stillwell Institute for Contemporary Black Art*

[thestillwellinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:thestillwellinstitute@gmail.com)

(773) 575-4334

**Jamillah Hinson, Curator & Facilitator**

*Freelancer/Collaborator*

[jhinson09@gmail.com](mailto:jhinson09@gmail.com)

(402) 415-6963

**Jorge Silva, Managing Director**

*Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts*

[jorge.silva@northwestern.edu](mailto:jorge.silva@northwestern.edu)

(773) 860-4807