

# JACOB MANN CHRISTIANSEN

THEATRE DIRECTOR | [jacobmannchristiansen.com](http://jacobmannchristiansen.com)

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## EDUCATION

PHD | Interdisciplinary Studies (Theatre & Literature)  
University of Montana (dissertation completion expected May 2026)

MASTER OF FINE ARTS | Theatre Directing  
University of Montana (2024)

BACHELOR OF ARTS | Theatre / Writing & Rhetoric  
Northwestern College, IA (2015)

## CERTIFICATIONS

DESIGNATED MEISNER TEACHER  
The Meisner Institute, 2022

COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER  
Arts & Science Classes LLC, 2021

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING

### UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA [\*=multiple semesters]

#### ACTING III, THTR 320\*

Process-based and systematic approach to scene work, character development and rehearsal, focusing on new and emerging playwrights of the contemporary era (21st century). Implement techniques from Meisner, Hagen, and Donnellan in practical rehearsal.

#### PLAYWRITING, THTR 391

Practical playwriting course, focusing on a skills-based approach to dialogue writing, story structure, dramatic imagination, character development, etc. Advanced training in script analysis. Course culminates in a festival of student-written plays.

#### DRAMATIC LITERATURE, THTR 235\*

An interdisciplinary introduction to diverse theatre texts and the foundations of play analysis which integrates historical context, performance theory, and critical writing. By emphasizing collaborative, creative responses to play texts, students learn to incorporate systematic methodologies for approaching dramatic literature into the active work of their own creative practice.

#### PRODUCTION PRACTICUM, THTR 395\*

Implement advanced acting techniques into work in the rehearsal studio on university productions.

CREATIVE DRAMA/DANCE: K-8, THTR 239\*

Introduction to creative drama and dance as educational tools, promoting scholarship through kinesthetic teaching.

### MISSOULA COLLEGE [\*=multiple semesters]

INTRODUCTION TO ACTING, THTR 120\*

Introduction to the fundamental techniques and principles of a performance career alongside essential “life skills” in voice, movement, and public speaking. Using collaborative exercises, improvisation, and character work, participants developed confidence and effective communication strategies applicable across diverse career paths. Emphasis on creative expression fostered a supportive environment for personal and professional growth.

INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE, THTR 101

Overview of elements of play production and dance, theatre history, and the basic artistic principles underlying dance, theatre and all of the arts.

### TEACHING ASSISTANT WITH LECTURE RESPONSIBILITIES (UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA)

ADVANCED ACTING: CLASSICS, THTR 421

DIRECTING I, THTR 375

MOVEMENT FOR THE ACTOR I, THTR 315

ACTING I, THTR 220

ACTING II, THTR 221

THEATRE HISTORY I, THTR 330

THEATRE HISTORY II, THTR 331

DRAMATIC LITERATURE, THTR 235

SEMINAR: FIRST YEAR, THTR 194

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

GRADUATE INSTRUCTOR | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

2021 – PRES.

THEATRE DIRECTOR | FREELANCE (Ex: Trike Theatre, Montana Repertory Theatre, Smokehouse Players)

2014 – PRES.

TEACHING ARTIST | NO JOKE PRISON THEATRE PROJECT

2021 – PRES.

NATIONAL SALES DIRECTOR | TIMOTHY MOONEY REPERTORY THEATRE

2023 – 2024

OPERATIONS MANAGER | NORTHWEST ARKANSAS JAZZ SOCIETY

2019 – 2023

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR | WALTON ARTS CENTER

2016 – 2019

TEACHING ASSISTANT | NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE  
2013 - 2015

SPEECH FELLOW | NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE  
2013 - 2015

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR | DRAMA MINISTRIES ENSEMBLE  
2013 - 2015

DIRECTOR | DAKOTA PLAYERS  
2014

ACTOR | TREASURE VILLAGE CHILDREN'S THEATRE  
2014

## OTHER CREATIVE EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

HOST + PROGRAM DIRECTOR | NO SCRIPT THEATRE PODCAST | 2018 – PRES.

TRAINING IN 'UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING' | FACULTY INQUIRY PROJECT | 2022

TRAINING IN 'LABAN FOR ACTORS' | MOMENTUM STAGE INC. | 2022

PRODUCTION STAGING CONSULTANT | NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE | 2015

TEAM LEADER | THE BLACK V IMPROV COMEDY GROUP | 2014 – 2015

## HONORS & AWARDS

PLAYWRITING COMMISSION | 2024 | MONTANA REPERTORY THEATRE

PLAYWRITING COMMISSION | 2023 | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

BERTHA MORTON FELLOWSHIP | 2023 | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT IN DIRECTING | 2023 | KCACTF

FRANK FOUNDATION GRANT FOR RESEARCH | 2023 | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

GEORGE R CALDWELL SCHOLARLY PAPER MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD | 2023 | KCACTF

FRANK FOUNDATION GRANT FOR RESEARCH | 2022 | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP FUND AWARD | 2022 | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

FULL TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP | 2021, 2022 | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

HARRINGTON SCHOLARSHIP AWARD | 2021, 2022 | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

SHORT SCREENPLAY SEMI-FINALIST | 2020 | NYC MIDNIGHT

FACULTY HONORS | 2016 | NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

OUTSTANDING SENIOR | 2016 | NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

PEALE SCHOLAR | 2012-2016 | NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

SIGMA TAU SENIOR HONORS | 2015 | NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

THEORA WILCOX DRAMATIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: 2015

10-MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL WINNER | 2015 | KCACTF

HELD PRODUCTION, DIRECTOR | 2015 | KCACTF

MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT IN DIRECTING FOR *VISITING* | 2015 | KCACTF

IRENE RYAN NOMINATION | 2013, 2014 | KCACTF

BEST FILM REVIEW | 2014 | IOWA MEDIA ASSOCIATION

NEBRASKA YOUNG ARTIST AWARD | 2011 | UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

## SERVICE

READER, PLAYFEST 2024 | SOAPBOX STAGEWORKS

READING COORDINATOR | ROYER PLAYWRITING AWARD

GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE | ATHE FOCUS GROUP

CHAIR, STUDENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

SEASON SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBER | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

STUDENT REP, FACULTY EVALUATION COMMITTEE | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

PRESIDENT, STUDENT THEATRE ENSEMBLE | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MODERATOR | COMMUNITY SCRIPT CLUB

ADJUDICATOR | 4H THEATRE FESTIVAL, MISSOULA | 2022

## CONFERENCES, PAPERS, & PRESENTATIONS

PUBLISHED PAPER | *Western States Drama Review*

Topic: "The Primal Eldest Curse: Ecology, Blood Curses, and the Divine in Kin Murder Dramas"

PUBLISHED PAPER | *Asian American Literature: Discourses & Pedagogies*

Co-Authored with Dr. Quan Ha, Topic: "David Henry Hwang's Yellow Face: Fictional Autoethnography and a Parody on Racialization"

PAPER PRESENTATION | Association for Theatre in Higher Education

Topic: "Dramatic Imagination and Embodied Absence – Devices for Staging Grief"

PAPER PRESENTATION | GradCon, University of Montana

Topic: "The Work of Dramatic Imagination in Embodying Unvoiceable Loss – Devices for Staging Grief"

RESEARCH ASSISTANT | National Endowment for the Humanities Grant Project

Topic: "Re-Imaging Death: Conversations About Loss, Dying & Grief"

PAPER PRESENTATION | International Federation for Theatre Research Conference (Iceland)

Topic: "The Primal Eldest Curse: Ecology, Blood Curses, and the Divine in Kin Murder Dramas"

PAPER PRESENTATION | Association for Theatre in Higher Education

Topic: "The Primal Eldest Curse: Ecology, Blood Curses, and the Divine in Kin Murder Dramas"

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

MEMBER            INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

MEMBER            ASSOCIATION FOR THEATRE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

MEMBER            THE MEISNER INSTITUTE

## DIRECTING HISTORY

TITLE	PLAYWRIGHT	COMPANY
METAMORPHOSES (^)	Mary Zimmerman	University of Montana
NOW. HERE. THIS. (^)	Susan Blackwell, et al.	MissCast Productions
MONSTER + FARMER (*~)	JM Christiansen	Montana Repertory Theatre
THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW (~)	JM Christiansen	University of Montana
THE ODYSSEY (*~)	Briandaniel Ogelsby	Montana Repertory Theatre
MEN ON BOATS	Jaclyn Backhaus	University of Montana
DINNER WITH FRIENDS	Donald Marguiles	THTR & CO.
ONE LANE BRIDGE	Stephen Gregg	University of Montana
THE COMEDY OF ERRORS (*)	William Shakespeare	NWAAT
LONG DAY'S JOURYNEY INTO NIGHT	Eugene O'Neill	Nomadic Theatre Collective
EARLY ONE MORNING	Ron Melrose	Arts Center of the Ozarks
SEE HOW THEY RUN	Philip King	Arts Center of the Ozarks
THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT...	Barbara Robinson	Arts Center of the Ozarks
SEPTEMBER BEARS	Jeff Barker	Nomadic Theatre Collective
VALENTINES AND KILLER CHILI	Kent R. Brown	Smokehouse Players
IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE	Kent R. Brown	Smokehouse Players
PORCH	Jeffrey Sweet	Nomadic Theatre Collective
BAREFOOT IN THE PARK	Neil Simon	Arts Center of the Ozarks
DOUBT	John Patrick Shanley	Eastcheap Theatre Collective
THE REST IS SHAKESPEARE (~)	arr. of Shakespeare	Grand Marais Playhouse
VISITING (~)	JM Christiansen	Northwestern College
CAMPFIRE TALES (*)	Martha Crouse	Dakota Players
DOCTOR FAUSTUS	Christopher Marlowe	Northwestern College

## DEvised OR SPECIAL PROJECTS

NEW PLAY FESTIVAL	Various	University of Montana
ZOEY'S PERFECT WEDDING	Matthew Lopez	Montana Repertory Theatre
ENOUGH! PLAYS TO END GUN VIO...	Various	Montana Repertory Theatre

CLIMATE CHANGE THEATRE ACTION	Various	Griz Downstage
THE LATE AFTERNOON... (*)	Brett Neveu	Downtown Springdale Assoc.
SURE THING (*)	David Ives	Arts Center of the Ozarks

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

FELLOWSHIP HALL (Leah Joki) (*~)	Ean Kessler	No Joke Prison Theatre Project
DUI PROJECT (Leah Joki) (~)	Assorted	No Joke Prison Theatre Project
CASTLE WITH... (Michael Legg) (*~)	Sam Myers	Montana Repertory Theatre
FABLED (John DeBoer)	Various	University of Montana
PETER PAN (Kassie Misiewicz)	Douglas Irvine	Trike Theatre
PRINCESS AMANDA & THE DRAG.. (*)	Hannah Barker Nickolay	Northwestern College

FOR PRODUCTION PHOTOS, PLEASE VISIT:  
[JACOBMANNCCHRISTIANSEN.COM](http://JACOBMANNCCHRISTIANSEN.COM)

^IN PRODUCTION OR EXPECTED  
 \*TOURING PRODUCTION  
 ~WORLD PREMIERE

## PLAYWRITING PRODUCTIONS

BOISE CONTEMPORARY THEATRE | *Monster + Farmer*  
 POTOSI HIGH SCHOOL | *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*  
 MONTANA REPERTORY THEATRE | *Monster + Farmer*  
 UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA | *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*  
 THE STUDIO THEATRE | *Big Money*  
 WEST DES MOINES COMMUNITY SCHOOLS | *The Unparalleled Adventures of One Hans Pfaall*  
 TREASURE VILLAGE CHILDREN'S THEATRE | *The Frog Prince\**  
 AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL | *Choice*  
 AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL | *Glass*  
 AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL | *For the Victims Of*  
 NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE | *Visiting*