

JACOB MANN CHRISTIANSEN

THEATRE DIRECTOR | jacobmannchristiansen.com

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EDUCATION

PHD | Interdisciplinary Studies (Theatre & Literature)
University of Montana

MASTER OF FINE ARTS | Theatre Directing
University of Montana

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

CERTIFICATIONS

DESIGNATED MEISNER TEACHER
The Meisner Institute, 2022

COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER
Arts & Science Classes LLC, 2021

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

DIRECTING I, THTR 3400

Introduction to the craft of stage directing, emphasizing script analysis and interpretation, staging and rehearsal techniques, actor coaching, and artistic collaboration. Course culminates in a rehearsed scene and director's book demonstrating research, analysis, and directorial interpretation.

ACTING I, THTR 1300

Introduction to the craft of acting, emphasizing active listening and responsiveness, playing actions, text analysis, and sustained attention to scene partners. Students develop foundational skills in concentration, collaboration, and the actor's creative process through practical scene work and rehearsal.

DIRECTING II, THTR 4400

Advanced study and practice of directing, emphasizing work with actors, conceptual development, visual storytelling, and collaboration with designers. Course culminates in a public ten-minute play festival requiring students to lead rehearsals, coordinate production, and realize a cohesive artistic vision.

SPECIAL TOPICS: IMPROVISATION, THTR 3000

Foundational training in improvisational theatre drawing on Spolin's techniques, with emphasis on presence, active listening, ensemble collaboration, and spontaneous performance. Explores short- and long-form improvisation and its applications to acting, directing, playwriting, and devised performance.

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

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.

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. Hybrid delivery, including significant multimedia elements.

MISSOULA COLLEGE

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.

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 & II, THTR 330/1

DRAMATIC LITERATURE, THTR 235

SEMINAR: FIRST YEAR, THTR 194

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

INSTRUCTOR OF DIRECTING | UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA (2025 – PRES.)

THEATRE DIRECTOR | FREELANCE (2014 – PRES.)

GRADUATE INSTRUCTOR | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA (2021 – 2025)

TEACHING ARTIST | NO JOKE PRISON THEATRE PROJECT (2021 – 2025)

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 REVIEW: *Theatre Journal*
Topic: Duncan Macmillan's "People, Places & Things" on National Theatre at Home

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: "Ghostly Grieving: The Dramaturgy of Perception and the Body in Contemporary American Ghost Plays"

PANEL PRESENTATION | Association for Theatre in Higher Education

Topic: "Five Ideas for Facilitating Games"

PANEL PRESENTATION | Association for Theatre in Higher Education

Topic: "Playwriting Keywords"

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
SHE LOVES ME	Joe Masteroff, et. al.	University of Neb. at Omaha
LITTLE WOMEN	Kate Hamill	University of Neb. at Omaha
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR	Andrew Lloyd Webber	University of Neb. at Omaha
JABBERDOGGY (*~)	JM Christiansen	Montana Repertory Theatre
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

GAREDEN OF MEMORIES	Jessica Bashline	Royer Award
THE GET AWAY	Rich Rubin	Anaconda Ensemble Theatre
PROPERTY LINES	Germaine Shames	Anaconda Ensemble Theatre
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

^IN PRODUCTION OR EXPECTED
 *TOURING PRODUCTION
 ~WORLD PREMIERE

PLAYWRITING PRODUCTIONS

MONTANA REPERTORY THEATRE | *HER-cules: The Twelve Trials and the Story I Told*

MONTANA REPERTORY THEATRE | *Jabberdoggy*

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*