

KATHY D. HARRISON

Artistic Director Performing Arts Management Arts Educator

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Performing Arts Professional experienced as an Artistic Director, Producer, Event Manager and Teaching Artist
- Noteworthy background in mounting devised Theater, Music & Creative Projects with social awareness themes
- Multi-disciplinary Teaching Artist who designs, implements and evaluates program specific curriculum
- Recognized musical theater creator whose work highlights youth in untold stories throughout history
- Proven leadership that is mission driven, collaborative, innovative and results oriented
- Successful experiences in Summer Camp, Experiential Learning and Retreat planning and management
- Strong Fundraising abilities, Volunteer Recruitment and Partnership Development/Management
- Communications-Media background- TV/Music Production, Media Campaign Design

EXPERIENCE

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Diversity Youth Theater Orange, NJ 2006-2016

Visionary Founder/Leader of ensemble youth theatre company that provides training and performance opportunities for ages 7-18 years. Developed year round performing arts programming, educational touring shows and seasonal productions for ages 7-18 years. Entrepreneurial venture that grew from grass roots effort to a reputable theatre company in partnership with Luna Stage Theatre Company, Inc.

- Piloted the Young Urban Artists Retreat in partnership with Look Out Camp in Michigan
- Designed 7 weeks summer performing arts program for Junior (7-12 years) and Senior (13-17years) Ensemble
- Managed year round tuition based programming
- Created Fiscal Year budgets, managed fundraising and grants via non-profit partnerships
- Secured Company Insurance Policies according to NJ State regulations for private youth programs
- Created Company Policies & Best Practices, Child Safety Manuals & Employee Handbooks
- Spearheaded diverse student recruitment efforts through strategic marketing plans
- Secured year round Arts Education Residencies with public, charter and private schools
- Handled print marketing/PR campaigns, website design/maintenance & social networking sites
- Developed partnerships with schools & recreation centers for site based day camp programs
- Wrote and directed 2 educational touring shows per year
- Negotiated and managed booking contracts, purchase orders, tuition payments, staff payments
- Taught on-going musical theater and acting workshops throughout the year
- Created Registration process, Student & Staff Applications, all program documentation
- Ensured Staff First Aid & CPR certifications, Food Service Handling licensing, Fire Safety Training

COMPANY PERFORMER (Contract)

The Paper Bag Players, Inc. New York, NY 2004-2016

Company Member of an Obie Award winning children's theater company. Perform 120 shows per season throughout the Mid-Atlantic region for young audiences ages 3-9 years.

- Tour a 1 hour musical theatre stage show at professional theatres for school and family audiences
- Received highlighted reviews in the NY Time Theatre section and NY One Channel

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REGIONAL MENTOR COORDINATOR

ASSISTANT CAMP DIRECTOR

U.S. Dream Academy, Inc. East Orange, NJ 2009-2012

Managed a Regional Mentoring Program for a National Youth Organization. Increased active Mentors and Volunteers by 64% in less than a year. Served on the 2011 National Committee that designed the Program Model for Mentor/Volunteer Trainings. Piloted a Mentoring Weekend and Summer Leadership Component in 2010. Spearheaded the Dream Academy Summer Camp Program in partnership with Camp Watershed. In 2011, The New Jersey Mentoring Program was featured on a segment of CNN's Anderson Cooper 360.

- Successfully identified new recruitment strategies to increase Mentor & Volunteer population at NJ sites
- Increased the diversity of Mentors/Volunteers by creating targeted marketing campaigns
- Screened potential Mentors/Volunteers by conducting background checks: Fingerprint, Interview, references
- Led initial 4 hours training workshops and supplemental 1 hr trainings every 8 weeks
- Created age appropriate Mentoring and Volunteer activities (Self esteem via arts, Goal setting via sports)
- Planned and coordinated special events: Recruitment Fairs, Awards Dinner, Field Trips, Carnivals
- Managed the Mentor/Volunteer database system utilizing Salesforce
- Provided timely monthly reports regarding mentor program for federal grant purposes
- Operated as the Assistant Camp Director for the summer camp program (recruited volunteers, trained staff)

CAMP DIRECTOR

RETREAT COORDINATOR

1199SEIU Child Care Corporation New York, NY 2006-2008

Managed the Summer Performing Arts Camp & year round Leadership/College Prep Program held at Camp Vacamas, NJ and Camp Mariah, NY. Supervised staff of 45. 400 Students registered to the program.

- Camp Director for 7 weeks Summer Performing Arts Camp held at NY site; 60 students
- Developed Arts Education Curriculum for Seasonal Teaching Staff
- Prepared programmatic reports and presentations for Board of Directors
- Ensured daily site management- safety regulations adherence, incident report, medical logs,
- Planned and coordinated all field trips and community projects
- Led staff training and development workshops: established a collaborative team environment
- Coordinated Annual Teen Leadership Weekend Retreats at Camp Mariah; involving ropes courses, etc.
- Organized student Recruitment and Orientations, Parent Orientations Sessions
- Provided leadership and oversight for the high school component of the Youth Services Division

CONTRACT/CONSULTANT WORK

After School Program Director : Elizabeth Coalition To House The Homeless- Bernice's Place (2008)

Site Director/Arts Facilitator: The Leadership Program New York, NY (2004-2007)

Performing Arts Department Head: Sussex Camp, Sussex, NJ (Summer 2005)

TV & Media Department Head- Long Lake Arts Camp, Long Lake, NY (Summer 2004)

Program Director/Counselor - Crystallaire Camp & Look Out Camp, Frankfort, MI (Summers 1994-1998)

RECOGNITIONS/AWARDS:

The Jubilation Foundation Fellow Recipient (2015) (2016)

City Of Newark/ Mayor Cory Booker Proclamation Recipient (2011, 2012)

U.S. Dream Academy: Regional Mentor Coordinator of the Year (2011, 2010)

EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1997 B.A., Communications/Theatre

Adrian College, MI

2011 Leadership Newark Fellow

SKILLS:

Video/Audio Engineering, Microsoft Office, Salesforce, Social Media Management, Creative Marketing/Design, TV Production, Playwright, Lyricist, Composer, Actor, Director