

Maegan Clearwood

(They/She)

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Education

Sept 2018 -
May 2021

MFA, Dramaturgy | University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Graduate Certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Theatre & Performance Studies Coursework: Performance Theory, Global Theatre History I and II, Activist Theatre, Avant Garde Theatre, Adaptation, Directing, Production Dramaturgy

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Coursework: Introduction to Feminist Theory, Issues in Feminist Research, Historical & Contemporary Constructions of Social Identity & Social Justice Issues In the Classroom, Theorizing Eros

Aug 2016 –
Aug 2018

BA, Theatre and English | Washington College

Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Awards and Honors: Stewart Award for excellence in drama; Maureen Jacoby Prize for publishing and editing; Writers Union Award; finalist for Sophie Kerr Prize, largest undergraduate award for writing in the country

Honors Thesis: *The Wheel Has Come Full Circle: A Dramaturgical Exploration of King Lear*

Academic Experience

Spring semester
2023

Undergraduate English Instructor
Roxbury Community College

- Courses taught: Speech 101

Oct 2021 –
Present

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Committee Member
Five College Women's Studies Research Center

- Research and implement EDI strategies for Five Colleges, Inc.
- Attend EDI-related workshops and trainings; serve as liaison between staff and leadership.

Oct 2021 –
Present

Undergraduate Theatre Instructor
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

- Courses taught: Contemporary Playwrights of Color (Theater 130); Script Analysis (Theater 120)

May 2020 –
Sept 2020

Editorial Intern

Imagined Theatres Journal, Amherst MA

- Edited performance studies articles covering a breadth of artistic genres and styles.
- Communicated with curators, artists, and scholars throughout editorial process.

Sept 2018 –
May 2021

Campus Climate Ambassador

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

- Moderated conversations among students, faculty, and staff to address issues of equity and diversity.

Additional Experience

Oct 2022 –
Present

Proofreader & Ghost Writer

StoryTerrace, Inc

- Copy edit and provide editorial suggestions for novella-length biographies, keeping in mind style, tone, grammar, and narrative structure.
- Ghost write biographies based on Interviews conducted with private clients.

Oct 2022 –
Present

Board Member and Queeries Leader

Beit Ahavah Synagogue, Florence MA

- Lead an intergenerational LGBTQ affinity group; facilitate monthly meetings and regular outings; coordinate funding.
- Participate in planning meetings around budget, membership, long-term goals, and events.

Sept 2022 –
Dec 2022

Devising Teaching Artist

Huntington Theatre EPIC Youth Program, Boston MA

- Facilitated process of generating topic ideas, building writing material, structuring narrative, and staging for original one-act play with class of 12th-grade students.
- Taught fundamentals of devising, including collaboration skills, improvisation exercises, movement, playwriting, dramaturgy, directing.

2014 – Present

Senior Copy Editor

RedPen Bristol, Remote

- Copy edit academic papers, primarily PhD dissertations by ESOL students. Provide recommendations for clarity and to eliminate redundancy and passive voice.

June 2021 –
August 2021

Musical Theatre Playwriting Teaching Artist

Serious Fun After School, Inc, Queens NY

- Taught elements of theatre – performance, design, playwriting, movement – to an ensemble of elementary school children.
- Wrote the script for a one-act musical, based on improvised scenes and other devising material created with the ensemble.
- Co-directed the staged production; created set pieces, costumes, and puppets; designed the program; communicated with parents and administrative staff.

Jan 2021 –
Sept 2022

Study Guide Consultant

IBEX Puppetry, NY

- Created an extensive study guide to accompany an educational touring puppet show about whooping cranes, environmentalism, and various indigenous cultures.

Summer 2019;
Summer 2020

Great Yiddish Books Summer Teacher Seminar Assistant

National Yiddish Book Center, Amherst MA

- Provided administrative assistance for month-long pedagogy program; compiled curriculum packets; organized field trips; scheduled programming; communicated with local vendors.
- Courses attended: 20th Century Yiddish Literature

Sept 2017 – June
2018 and Sept
2014 – June 2015

Literary Associate

Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, Waterford CT

- Organized submission databases and processed over 1,500 applications for six programs.
- Organized, facilitated, and provided dramaturgical support for annual Young Playwrights Festival.
- Taught workshops on production and new play dramaturgy to undergraduate National Theatre Institute students.
- Took National Theatre Institute courses in: Contemporary Dance; New Play Dramaturgy.

Jan 2014 –
Sept 2015

Literary Manager & Dramaturg, Director of Audience Engagement

WSC Avant Bard Theatre, Arlington VA

- Programmed annual Scripts in Play reading series, including inaugural season.
- Provided dramaturgical support for eight mainstage productions and various staged readings; created actor packets, lobby displays, and study guides.
- Hired and trained a team of house managers to run box office and front-of-house; tracked budgeting data for ticket sales and concessions.

Sept 2015 –
Aug 2017

Teaching Artist

Signature Theatre, Arlington VA

- Designed sociology-based workshops on the history and contemporary resonances of the women's suffrage movement.
- Taught hands-on, performative, in-school workshops in elementary through high school classes.

Sept 2015 –
Aug 2017

Shakespeare Teaching Artist

The Highwood Theatre, Silver Spring MD

- Taught Shakespeare, including historical context and script analysis, to a classroom of elementary and middle schoolers.
- Led puppetry workshops, culminating in puppets to be used in final productions.
- Cut scripts for and directed abridged Shakespeare plays; coached students in monologue and scene work; communicated with parents.

Sept 2015 –
Aug 2016

Public Programs Assistant

Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington DC

- Supported the Folger's wide range of programming, including literary readings and its 2015-16 theatre season; wrote press releases and marketing material.

Sept 2013 –
Aug 2014

Dramaturgy & Education Apprentice

Olney Theatre Center, Olney MD

- Dramaturged eight productions for mainstage season; created Audience Context Guides, program notes, blogs, actor packets, and lobby display and facilitated talk-backs.
- Taught weekly theatre course to fifth grade students, culminating in an original work.

Publications

2023	New England Theatre Geek "Politically Stale Content v. Beautiful Production Work: <i>The Wife of Willesden</i>" "Swing and a Miss: <i>The Great Leap</i>"
2022	New England Theatre Geek "A Season of Farewells in Western MA: KO Festival of Performance and the Royal Frog Ballet" "Radical Hope and Radical Change: <i>The Hidden Territories of the Bacchae</i>" "Something worth straining for: <i>Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812</i>" "The Politics of Punching Down: <i>A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder</i>" "Loves, Losses and Transformations: <i>The Raft</i>" Severance Magazine "I Just Found Out I'm Jewish, But Am I Jewish?"
2019	Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism "Subjectivity, Identity, and Intersectionality in Arts Journalism: An Interview with Diep Tran"
2018	Everything Sondheim "Some Kind of Obsession: Sondheim as Cinephile and Adaptor, from <i>Night Music</i> to <i>Passion</i>"
2017 – 2018	OnStage Blog "A Cautionary Tale of the Forgivable White Male Genius – or, What the Theatre Community Can Learn from Hugh Hefner" Broadway's 2018 Word of the Year: Complicit "Review: <i>The Invisible Hand</i> at Theaterworks" "Review: <i>The Will Rogers Follies</i> at Goodspeed Musicals" "Review: <i>White Guy on the Bus</i> at Square One Theatre Company" "Review: <i>Rags</i> at Goodspeed Musicals" "What About the Showgirls?" "The White Supremacy & Male Gaze of <i>Evita</i>" "Review: <i>Ghost: The Musical</i> at White Plains Performing Arts Center" "Review: <i>Sister Act: The Musical</i> at the Opera House Players"
2014, 2016	Howlround Theatre Commons "Missing Voices and Misogyny in Shakespeare Theatre Company's All-Male <i>Shrew</i>" "Learning to Shout"

Presentations & Awards

2022	Facilitator: Literary Managers & Dramaturgs of the Americas, Dramaturging the Phoenix Series "Tarot and Witchcraft as Playwrighting Techniques" Speaker: Time & Narrative Learning Colloquium, Hampshire College "Encounters in the Woods: The Transformative Unknown of Musical Theatre"
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2021	Speaker: Literary Managers & Dramaturgs of the Americas, Dramaturging the Phoenix Series “Vigil: Magic as a Tool for Collaborative Devising Process”
2020	Scholarship Recipient: Yiddish Book Center “Weekend of Sholem Asch” Conference
2019	Stipend Recipient: Theater Communications Group Theatre Journalism Track
2013	Panelist: Dramaturgy Debut Panel, Association for Theatre in Higher Education “The Wheel Has Come Full Circle: A Dramaturgical Exploration of <i>King Lear</i> ”

Production & New Play Dramaturgy

*Asterisk indicates new play workshops

2020	<i>The Interrobangers</i>, M. Sloth Levine* PlayLab, UMass Amherst Josh Glenn-Kayden, director
	<i>Mr Burns, A Post-Electric Play</i>, Anne Washburn UMass Amherst Michelle Hendrick, director Dramaturgy Website
2019	<i>Sweat</i>, Lynn Nottage UMass Amherst Gilbert MacCauley, director Audience Packet
2017	<i>queens</i>, Maryna Majok (asst. dramaturg)* Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, National Playwrights Conference Danya Taymore, director John Baker, dramaturg
	<i>The Gospel at Colonus</i>, Lee Breuer WSC Avant Bard Jennifer Knight, director
2016	<i>Lizzie</i>, Steven Cheslik-DeMeyer, Alan Stevens Hewitt. Tim Maner Pinkie Swear Productions Marie Sproul, director
	<i>TAME.</i>, Jonelle Walker* WSC Avant Bard Angela Kay Pirko, director Audience Packet
	<i>A Bid to Save the World</i>, Erin Bergman* Rorschach Theatre Lee Liebeskind, director

- 2015
- Static*, Tom Horan***
 Source Theatre Festival
 Bridget Grace Sheaff, director
- A Midsummer Night's Dream*, William Shakespeare**
 WSC Avant Bard
 Randy Baker, director
[Audience Packet](#)
- Holiday Memories*, Russell Vandenbroucke, adapted from work of Truman Capote**
 WSC Avant Bard
 Tom Prewitt, director
[Audience Packet](#)
- 2014
- World Builders*, Johnna Adams**
 Forum Theatre
 Amber Jackson, director
- End of Shift*, Jenny Connell Davis (asst. dramaturg)***
 Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, National Playwrights Conference
 Daniella Topol, director
 Kelly Miller, dramaturg
- Slaughterhouse Five*, Adele Ahronheim and Jed Feuer (asst. dramaturg)***
 Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, National Playwrights Conference
 Lindsey Hope Pearlman, director
 Carrie baker, dramaturg
- To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Christopher Sergel, adapted from work of Harper Lee**
 Olney Theatre Center National Players
 Shirley Sherotsky, director
- As You Like It*, William Shakespeare**
 Olney Theatre Center National Players
 Gus Haegerty, director
- Colossal*, Andrew Hineraker***
 Olney Theatre Center, NNPN Rolling World Premiere
 Will Davis, director
- The Piano Lesson*, August Wilson**
 Olney Theatre Center
 Jamil Jude, director
- I and You*, Lauren Gunderson***
 Olney Theatre Center
 Eleanor Holdridge, director

Additional Trainings & Coursework

Nusah Survey Course: Shabbat Morning Tefillah, led by Rabbi Deborah Sacks Mintz, 2023
Jumpstart Your Biblical Hebrew, Jewish Theological Seminary, 2023
Tools Engaging in Conversations Around Identity and/or Inequity, Amherst College, 2022
Whose Canon is it Anyway: An Exploration of Jewish Storytelling, led by Marques Hollie, UnYeshiva, 2022
“Weekend of Sholem Asch” Conference, Yiddish Book Center (grant recipient), 2021
Theater Journalism Workshop, Theater Communications Group Conference, 2021
Playwriting Course, The Theater Workshop, 2020
Facilitating an Engaging First Day of Class, UMass Amherst Faculty Development, 2020
Group Facilitation Workshop, UMass Amherst, 2019
New Play Dramaturgy/Directing, taught by Suzanne Agins, National Theater Institute, 2016

Skills

Curriculum design & lesson planning; digital education; public speaking; group facilitation; graphic design; database and budget management; event planning; printer unjamming; copy editing
Languages: English (native); American Sign Language (intermediate); Yiddish (beginner-intermediate); Hebrew (beginner-intermediate)
Editing proficiencies: AP, MLA, APA, Chicago
Computer proficiencies: Adobe Creative Suite; Google Drive; Wordpress; Filemaker; Final Draft

References

Harley Erdman

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English Institute at Middlesex Community College
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