

KATE POWERS

stage director | SDC

646.872.6465

www.plainkate.com

kate@plainkate.com



Theatre can be good medicine, can cultivate community, can remind us of our mutual connectedness.

I make theatre and hold spaces that foster the feeling of being not merely accepted, but sought out, connected, useful, celebrated as one's authentic self without fear of judgment.

I make theatre that tells great stories powerfully and truthfully in spaces that practice radical acceptance.

I am also committed to theatre work that guts the cultural church of Shakespeare and starts the Shakespeare block party.

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

- Shakespeare
- New play development
- Diversity, inclusion & equity
- Working with the incarcerated
- Strategic planning
- Building a bigger table
- Leadership
- Curriculum design
- Multifaceted teaching strategy
- Communication strategy
- Stakeholder engagement
- Producing
- Creativity

DIRECT AND MAKE ART

DIRECTOR, More than 40 productions (complete production history below)

DIRECTOR, *Our Town*, Sing Sing Correctional Facility | Ossining, NY

- Former American Theatre Wing Executive Director Howard Sherman observed, in *The Huffington Post*, "*Wilder's play came through loud and clear... enough so that the play worked its sad magic on me once again. Kate Powers achieved her own coup de theatre, less instantly startling than the one employed by David Cromer in his rightly hailed **Our Town**, but one organic to the venue and this cast, and deeply, quietly powerful.*"

DIRECTOR, American Shakespeare Center | Staunton, VA

- Directed *The Winter's Tale* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to critical acclaim. Peter Marks, Lead Drama Critic for *The Washington Post*, wrote, "*Crisply and cannily directed by Kate Powers, this **Midsummer** is free of the high-concept distortions rampant in classical theater these days: ... No, here — with Powers' encouragement — the actors simply do the play. And without makeup or spotlights, the production manages to fully evoke Shakespeare's magical night.*"

DIRECTOR, *Humble Boy*, National Theatre UK National Tour | London, UK

- Featuring Hayley Mills, John Burgess and Bridget Forsythe. Michael Billington wrote in *The Guardian*, "*A genuinely touching family comedy that is lovingly directed and supremely designed.*"
- The tour played to 99% capacity throughout the UK & made a profit.

INSPIRE, LEAD, AND ENGAGE

FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, The Redeeming Time Project | Minneapolis, MN

- The Redeeming Time Project uses Shakespeare to effect positive change. We leverage the theatrical arts to enable incarcerated and formerly incarcerated adults to develop social, cognitive, and life skills which they will need to reintegrate into the community.

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEES FOR ANTC, OFF-BROADWAY, COST & LORT CONTRACTS, Stage Directors' & Choreographers Society | New York, NY

- Served as co-chair and/or committee member on numerous contract negotiation committees at SDC since 1999; engaged management at various contract tiers to negotiate best terms for both constituencies.

CHAIR, Hospitality for SDC 50th Anniversary Gala | New York, NY

- Recruited directors and choreographers to staff event; coordinated and supported celebrity presenters as well as assisted executive team.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Dell'Arte Opera Ensemble | New York, NY

- 10+ years: supply substantial grant-writing, prospect research, social media, artistic & administrative consulting, event planning for Dell'Arte.

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DIRECTING CREDITS

Shakespeare

<i>Much Ado about Nothing</i>	William Shakespeare	Guthrie BFA / UMN	Minneapolis, MN
<i>Richard III</i>	William Shakespeare	South Dakota Shakespeare	Vermillion, SD
<i>Measure for Measure</i>	William Shakespeare	Theatre Unbound	Minneapolis, MN
<i>Merchant of Venice</i>	William Shakespeare	Classical Actors Ensemble	Minneapolis, MN
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	William Shakespeare	Sing Sing Correctional Facility	Ossining, NY
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center	Staunton, VA
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Benjamin Britten	Dell'arte Opera Ensemble	New York, NY
<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center	Staunton, VA
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	William Shakespeare	Richmond Shakespeare	Richmond, VA
<i>Measure for Measure</i>	William Shakespeare	UMKC Grad. Acting / KC Rep	Kansas City, MO
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	William Shakespeare	The Juilliard School	New York, NY
<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>	William Shakespeare	North Shore Music Theatre	Beverly, MA
<i>As You Like It</i>	William Shakespeare	Playhouse on the Square	Memphis, TN
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	William Shakespeare	Otterbein College	Columbus, OH
<i>Cymbeline</i>	William Shakespeare	Maine Shakespeare Festival	Bangor, ME
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	William Shakespeare	S.O.S. in the Park	New York, NY
<i>Much Ado about Nothing</i>	William Shakespeare	S.O.S. in the Park	New York, NY

Classics

<i>Trifles</i>	Susan Glaspell	Theatre Unbound	St. Paul, MN
<i>Our Town</i>	Thornton Wilder	Sing Sing Correctional Facility	Ossining, NY
<i>Private Lives</i>	Noël Coward	Irish Classical Theatre	Buffalo, NY
<i>The Voice of the Turtle</i>	John van Druten	Westside Repertory Theatre	New York, NY
<i>Fanny's First Play</i>	George Bernard Shaw	Westside Repertory Theatre	New York, NY

Contemporary Plays

<i>In the Next Room, or the vibrator play</i>	Sarah Ruhl	University of Minnesota	Minneapolis, MN
<i>Poof!</i>	Lynn Nottage	Theatre Unbound	St. Paul, MN
<i>Breath, Boom</i>	Kia Corthron	SUNY Purchase Conservatory	Purchase, NY
<i>Becky's New Car with Sandy Duncan</i>	Steven Dietz	Theatre Aspen	Aspen, CO
<i>Superior Donuts</i>	Tracy Letts	Sing Sing Correctional Facility	Ossining, NY
<i>Doubt, a parable</i>	John Patrick Shanley	Weatherwane Theatre	Whitefield, NH
<i>Execution of Justice</i>	Emily Mann	Pioneer Theatre	Salt Lake City, UT
<i>Humble Boy with Hayley Mills</i>	Charlotte Jones	Royal National Theatre	UK national tour
<i>How I Learned to Drive</i>	Paula Vogel	Penobscot Theatre Company	Bangor, ME
<i>Five Women Wearing the Same Dress</i>	Alan Ball	Connecticut Repertory Theatre	Storrs, CT
<i>Beirut</i>	Alan Bowne	Hangar Theatre Lab Company	Ithaca, NY

New Plays

<i>A Few Pearls</i>	Rhianna Yazzie	Theatre Unbound	St. Paul, MN
<i>Starting Over</i>	RTA Woodbourne	Sing Sing Correctional Facility	Ossining, NY
<i>Fräulein Else</i>	Arthur Schnitzler, Amy de Lucia, adapt.	Theatre Five The C Venue	New York, NY Edinburgh Festival
<i>The Ex</i>	David Kravitz	The Turnip Festival	New York, NY
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Charles Dickens	North Shore Music Theatre	Beverly, MA
<i>Pieces</i>	Zohar Tirosh	Blue Heron Arts Center	New York, NY
<i>China Hands</i>	Scott Stein	Exiles Theatre Ltd.	Coleraine, N. Ireland
<i>Slippery Elm</i>	Kate Powers	Women's Project & Productions	New York, NY

Representative Workshops and Readings

<i>Rev. Nathaniel's Daughter</i>	Andie Arthur	Playwrights Center	Minneapolis, MN
<i>Work in Progress</i>	John Olive	Playwrights Center	Minneapolis, MN
<i>Peloponnesus</i>	Tim Lord	Playwrights Center	Minneapolis, MN
<i>Querencia</i>	Benjamin Benne	Playwrights Center	Minneapolis, MN
<i>RunBoyRun</i>	Mfoniso Udofia	Playwrights Center	Minneapolis, MN

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EDUCATE, TRAIN, AND FACILITATE

VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Department of Theatre, Carleton College | Northfield, MN

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR & GUEST DIRECTOR, Department of Theatre, University of Minnesota | Minneapolis, MN

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR & GUEST DIRECTOR, Department of Theatre, Drew University | Madison, NJ

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR & GUEST DIRECTOR, Conservatory of Theatre Arts, SUNY Purchase | Purchase, NY

SENIOR FACILITATOR, Rehabilitation Through the Arts | Ossining, NY

- Taught acting, directing, Shakespeare; facilitated workshops and directed full productions with a group of men incarcerated at Sing Sing Correctional Facility, a maximum security prison north of New York City. Facilitate dialogue, explore non-violent conflict resolution, cultivate critical thinking skills and build confidence through theatrical exploration and practice with men incarcerated at Sing Sing, a maximum security prison. I help the men to create a sense of community in their current straitened circumstances as well as prepare to re-enter the larger community upon their release.

MASTER CLASSES FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS | Venues below

- Shakespeare and audition technique/process at Juilliard, University of Connecticut, University of Missouri at Kansas City, University of Utah, Otterbein College, Trinity College and NYU/Tisch Dramatic Writing Program.

COACHING | New York, NY and Minneapolis, MN

- Coach actors, opera singers on audition materials, preparation, acting technique, text analysis.
- Coach business professionals on presentation of self, delivery of speeches in conference room, board room and other public speaking environments.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

DIRECTOR OF CONTENT, Jennifer Brown Consulting, LLC | New York, NY and Minneapolis, MN (2011-present)

- Research, design, develop, and deliver / facilitate curricula and other learning and development opportunities in the areas of diversity and cultural competency / responsiveness.
- Write, edit, design and create content for training programs, white papers, and strategic planning initiatives.
- Cultivate inclusive workplaces through needs assessment processes, feedback sessions and data to develop content for and lead trainings, coach executives, facilitate executive off-sites & webinars, and create toolkits.
- Conduct focus groups, 1-on-1 executive interviews; synthesize data for key themes, patterns and actions.
- Audit and analyze policies, procedures, practices for inclusivity and equity.

PRODUCE, DEVELOP AND BUDGET

CO-PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR, *Fräulein Else*, Edinburgh Festival & Off-Broadway | Edinburgh & New York

- Co-produced both the Edinburgh Festival and off-off-Broadway incarnations of this project with performer Amy de Lucia; dramaturged script, created a budget, booked venues, coordinated PR and marketing, selected and contracted design teams and production staff.

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, *Some Other Shakespeare (S.O.S.) in the Park* | New York, NY

- Founded Some Other Shakespeare in the Park.
- Drafted budgets, led fundraising, negotiated with the NYC Dep't of Parks and local Community Boards, directed productions, coordinated publicity, co-designed the productions, passed the hat, and carted rapiers & daggers on the subway.

PARTICIPANT, Commercial Theatre Institute (CTI) | New York, NY

- Workshops in creative development, budget analysis, legal issues, marketing, promotion & press.

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EDUCATION

SHAKESPEARE INSTITUTE | Stratford-upon-Avon, University of Birmingham, UK: **M.A. with Distinction.**

- **FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR** | United Kingdom: Shakespeare
- Dissertation: *Twinned Lands: Cultural Imperialism, Cultural Anxiety and the 2002 RSC and OSF Productions of The Winter's Tale.*

TRINITY COLLEGE, Department of Theatre & Dance | Hartford, CT: **B.A. with Honors.**

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY, Department of Drama, BFA Candidate in Directing | Pittsburgh, PA.

Additional Courses and Trainings

INTIMACY IN PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP, Tonia Sina, Intimacy Directors International | Chicago, IL.

SHAKESPEARE'S SONNETS, SOLILOQUIES & SPEECHES, Kristin Linklater Voice Center | Orkney, Scotland.

TEACHING ARTIST WORKSHOP and DROPPING IN WORKSHOP, Shakespeare & Company | Lenox, MA.

- Creating ensemble for incarcerated and student actors by exploring language, emotion, stage violence.

MONTH-LONG INTENSIVE, Shakespeare & Company | Lenox, MA.

CERTIFICATE IN ARTS ADMINISTRATION, New York University | New York, NY.

- Coursework in fundraising, grant writing, financial management, marketing, not-for-profit ethics and management.

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR | United Kingdom.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR to David Leveaux, *Electra*, Barrymore Theatre | New York, NY.

SDC OBSERVERSHIP with Barry Edelstein, *Julius Caesar*, New York Shakespeare Festival | New York, NY.

DRAMA LEAGUE DIRECTING FELLOW | Hangar Theatre, Ithaca, NY.

REFERENCES

JOHN CAIRD, Tony and Olivier Award-winning director, Principal Guest Director of the Royal Dramatic Theatre, Stockholm | London, UK

- Tel: +44 (0)20 8340 1755
- Email: johncaird48@gmail.com

DAVE CILIBERTO, Senior Consultant, Jennifer Brown Consulting | New York, NY

- Tel: 917.620.4145
- Email: dvciliberto@aol.com

KATHERINE VOCKINS, Executive Director, Rehabilitation Through the Arts | Katonah, NY

- Tel: 914.232-7566
- Email: katherine.vockins@rta-arts.org

JIM WARREN, Director and Founder, American Shakespeare Center | Staunton, VA

- Tel: 540.849.0465
- Email: jimwarren.director@gmail.com

AMY WRATCHFORD, Managing Director, American Shakespeare Center | Staunton, VA

- Tel: 646.765.3165
- Email: amy@americanshakespearecenter.com