

DEBRA L. FREEBERG

THEATRE DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

CONTACT

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KEY STRENGTHS

Directing in Educational and Professional contexts
Acting coach
Ensemble Development
Text Analysis and Dramaturgy
Production Management
Crisis Management
Strategic Planning
Intercultural Communication

EDUCATION

DOCTORATE OF PHILOSOPHY

MASTER OF ARTS

Theatre

University of Pittsburgh

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Theatre

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Seminars in Arts Management & Fundraising: FEDAPT and The Grantsmanship Training Center.

A versatile director with an established record of creating intelligent, visually engaging stage productions. Exceptional ability in building ensemble casts, working collaboratively with designers and production staff. Extensive cross-cultural and international experience that demonstrates an ability to thrive in diverse and intercultural contexts. Intentional attention paid to diverse communities and cultures in play selection.

Key Accomplishments

- Directed over fifty stage productions: straight dramas, comedies and musicals.
- Thirty-five years of educational theatre experience: twenty years serving as Director of Theatre at two universities
- Fifteen years of professional and community theatre direction
- Managing Director of the Metropolitan Stage Company at Carnegie Mellon U
- Associate Producer of the Three Rivers Shakespeare Company at U of Pittsburgh
- Grants and awards received including from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Thord-Gray Memorial Fund Scholarship, American-Scandinavian Foundation, Calvin College Research Fellowship, Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship (CCCS), McGregor Fellowship, Valparaiso Project for the Education and Formation of People of Faith, State of Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA)
- Theatre lecturer in the U.S., Canada, Sweden and Norway

Skills & Abilities as a Theatre Director and working artist

- Ability to communicate with a variety of constituencies, working within school, community and professional theatre organizations.
- Uphold high standards while building strong relationships among production theatre staff, cast and crew
- Possess wide knowledge of the history and practice of theatre across cultures and communicating story in a vibrant and engaging manner
- Ability to root artistic production in historical and contemporary contexts, communicating story in a vibrant and engaging manner

Skills & Abilities as an Artistic director

- Establish clear direction after obtaining input and feedback on options
- Build individual and collaborative capacity into others
- Craft balanced and exciting theatre seasons
- Understand and work within budget parameters
- Proven fundraiser and grant writer

Director of Theatre, Professor of Communication Calvin University, 1991-2020

Assistant Professor, Director of Drama, Geneva College, PA. 1985-1991

Associate Producer, Three Rivers Shakespeare Festival, Pittsburgh, PA. 1983-1984

Managing Director, Pittsburgh Metropolitan Stage Company, PA. 1981-1983

Tour and Projects Manager, The Independent Eye, Lancaster, PA. 1980-1981