

# CURRICULUM VITAE: CLAIRE DERRIENNIC

Teacher and Youth Theatre Artist

Portfolio: [clairederriennic.com](http://clairederriennic.com)

A teacher and youth theatre artist with ten years of experience in extracurricular, university, and classroom settings. I hold a public school teaching certification in K-12 drama and a Master of Fine Arts in Drama and Theatre for Youth. I am a student-centered educator who employs experiential and collaborative teaching methods to engage students of all ages. My artistic focus is in devised theatre, particularly devised theatre for audiences under the age of five.

## EDUCATION

- 2024**      **Master of Fine Arts**      University of Texas at Austin, TX  
Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities  
Thesis: *Playing in the Threshold: Devising Theatre for the Very Young with Teens*
- 2024**      **K-12 Public School Certification in Drama Education**      University of Texas at Austin, TX
- 2017**      **Bachelor of Arts**      Georgetown University, DC  
Majors: French and Francophone Studies, Justice and Peace Studies  
Minor: Theatre and Performance Studies  
Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude

## THEATRICAL DEVISING

- 2026**      **Creator & Director, *Fishing for Stars***      John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, DC  
Co-created the Kennedy Center's first commission for audiences under age 6. Devised and originated the role of Moore and produced the play for UT Austin's New Works Festival in 2023. Co-led developmental workshops in summer 2024 and 2025, and will direct the show's professional premiere in 2026 alongside other members of the collective.
- 2025**      **Devising Instructor, *Autumn***      Bamboo Theatre, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
Introduced retrospective devising methods to adult artists at Bamboo Theatre in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Led a six-week devising process, creating a new piece for ages 2-5 that will be performed as part of Bamboo's upcoming season.
- 2023**      **Lead Instructor, High School Devising Class**      ZACH Performing Arts Academy, TX  
Led a group of teen devisers in the creation of a new piece of theatre for ages 0-2. Explored new concepts of devising and theatre for the very young, facilitated collaboration, play, and co-creation of new material. Trained my co-teachers in collaborative devising methods.
- 2023**      **Devised Theatre Instructor, Spring Intensive**      New London Barn Playhouse, NH  
Co-taught an intensive two-day devising session for ages 4-12. Guided students in the creation of an original work inspired by a piece of visual art.
- 2023**      **Dramaturg, *This Day That Night* Workshop**      Imagination Stage, MD  
Collaborated with devisers, director, and playwright during the creation of a new play for ages 0-5.

**2023**      **Deviser and Playwright, *The Materials that Make US***      Pittsburgh Children's Museum, PA  
Co-devised, wrote, and performed a museum theatre play and art-making workshop exploring multiplicity in abstract art. Presented the play in 2022 at the University of Texas Galleries at Black Studies and in 2023 at Pittsburgh Children's Museum.

## **K-12 TEACHING**

**2017-present**      **Staff Team Leader, French Immersion Program**      Concordia Language Villages, MN  
Co-manage an immersion program of 120 campers and counselors from across the United States and around the Francophone world. Train and support counselors in language instruction, project and arts-based lesson planning. Write and coordinate nightly theatre program. Set daily schedules and teaching responsibilities and coordinate opening days welcoming campers and parents.

**2024**      **Student Teacher, Middle School Theatre**      Pflugerville ISD, TX  
Completed a placement in a diverse Austin-area middle school theatre classroom. Mentored by a cooperating teacher, I took on a teaching load of five classes, including planning and teaching a two-week unit on armed and unarmed stage combat.

**2024**      **Student Teacher, Elementary School Performing Arts**      Leander ISD, TX  
Completed a placement in an Austin-area elementary school music and theatre classroom. Mentored by a cooperating teacher, I took on a full teaching load, including planning and teaching units on Malian music and Indonesian shadow puppetry and conducting rehearsals for the first-grade play and after-school production of *Frozen JR*.

**2014-2016**      **French Immersion Counselor**      Concordia Language Villages, MN  
Planned and taught in-person and virtual French learning activities for youth and adults, including cultural explorations of Francophone countries. Led theatre and art activities relating to the Francophone world, organized activities for up to 100 campers.

## **UNIVERSITY TEACHING**

**2023**      **Assistant Instructor, Fundamentals of Acting**      University of Texas, Austin, TX  
Developed curriculum and taught a class on acting basics for non-majors. Guided students in character work and script analysis, supported performance of neutral scenes, monologues, and duo scenes.

**2023**      **Assistant Instructor, Theatre for Young Audiences**      University of Texas, Austin, TX  
Co-taught a class on plays for youth and current issues in the field of Theatre for Young Audiences.

**2023**      **Assistant Instructor, Introduction to Improvisation**      University of Texas, Austin, TX  
Developed curriculum, created and graded reflective assignments, and taught an undergraduate course exploring short-form and long-form improv comedy.

<b>2023</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant, Secondary Methods</b>	University of Texas, Austin, TX
	Facilitated in-class activities for preservice teachers building high school teaching skills.	
<b>2022</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant, Directing the Young Performer</b>	University of Texas, Austin, TX
	Coordinated undergraduate student directors working with high school actors. Facilitated session on feminist directing practices.	
<b>2022</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant, Creative Drama II</b>	University of Texas, Austin, TX
	Coordinated Story Drama fieldwork for undergraduate students, observed and assessed fieldwork, facilitated in-class sessions using drama based strategies.	
<b>2022</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant, Student Teaching Seminar</b>	University of Texas, Austin, TX
	Collected, organized, and project managed all documentation for undergraduate student teachers.	
<b>2021</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant, Classroom Management</b>	University of Texas, Austin, TX
	Coordinated K-12 classroom observations for undergraduate students, graded assignments, facilitated session on culturally responsive classroom management.	

## CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

<b>2024</b>	<b>International Theatre for Young Audiences Research Network</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	Havana, Cuba
	Paper working group: <i>Disrupting and Imagining: Liberatory Methods for Devising Theatre for the Very Young</i> with Teens		
<b>2024</b>	<b>American Alliance for Theatre and Education</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	
	Relearning to Play: Devising Theatre for the Very Young with Teens		IL
<b>2022</b>	<b>Drama-Based Pedagogy in Translation: Adapting Story Drama for Language Learners</b>		RI
<b>2023-24</b>	<b>TYA/USA Festival and Conference</b>	<b>Attendee</b>	AZ,GA
<b>2023</b>	<b>Applied Drama Institute</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	Poland
	Co-facilitated 3-day professional learning workshop hosted by the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw. Supported 75 Ukrainian and Polish educators to integrate the arts into language teaching.		
<b>2022</b>	<b>Performance Studies International #27 Hunger</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	virtual
	Hunger Action Session: radio play version of <i>Taste Buds: The Adventures of Cake and Broccoli</i>		
<b>2022</b>	<b>Children, Youth, and Performance Conference</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	virtual
	Project Snapshot: <i>The Day the Crayons Quit</i> - Using Story Drama to Teach ELA		

**SKILLS:** Fluent French. Devising, directing, playwriting. Canva. Microsoft Office Suite. Google Suite. Organization and project management.

# OTHER THEATRE EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

## THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

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<i>Pen Pals</i>	<b>Writer/Actor</b>	<b>2024</b>	arenaAPRENDE, Murcia, Spain
<i>Taste Buds: The Adventures of Cake and Broccoli</i>	<b>Writer</b>		
	staged reading	<b>2024</b>	University of Texas New Theatre Festival, TX
	radio play	<b>2022</b>	Performance Studies International, virtual
	staged reading	<b>2022</b>	Old Miner Children's Playwriting Finalist, UT
	script competition	<b>2021</b>	PLAYground semi-finalist, IL
<i>Lady White: A Trickster Tale</i>	<b>Writer/Director</b>	<b>2022</b>	UT Theatre and Dance Studio Project, TX
<i>Little Red Riding Hood</i>	<b>Writer/Actor</b>	<b>2022</b>	Davis Performing Arts Center Variety Show, Georgetown University, DC
		<b>2021</b>	<i>Paperplay!</i> Georgetown University, DC
<i>The Lion, the Witch, &amp; the Wardrobe</i>	<b>Directing Fellow</b>	<b>2019</b>	Imagination Stage, MD

## SEMI-IMPROVISED FRENCH LANGUAGE PERFORMANCES

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<i>Pierre Pain</i>	<b>Co-Writer</b>	<b>2024</b>	Concordia Language Villages, MN
<i>Donjons et dragons</i>	<b>Instructor- student writers</b>	<b>2023</b>	Concordia Language Villages, MN
<i>Romain et la fortune de sa mère</i>	<b>Writer</b>	<b>2021</b>	Concordia Language Villages, MN
<i>Minou à l'exposition feline</i>	<b>Writer</b>	<b>2020</b>	Concordia Language Villages, MN
<i>Joyeuse Noëlle</i>	<b>Co-Writer</b>	<b>2017</b>	Concordia Language Villages, MN

## THEATRE TRAINING

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<b>2025</b>	<b>Short Course: Clown</b>	Ecole Philippe Gaulier, Étampes, France
	Participated in a two-week intensive training at a physical theatre school, with movement training from acrobat Juri Kussmaul and clown training from expert clown Carlo Jacucci.	
<b>2023</b>	<b>Forum Theatre Workshop</b>	University of Texas, Austin TX
	Participated in a two-day workshop with visiting artists from Centro de Teatro do Oprimido in Rio de Janeiro. Learned a sequence of exercises to develop a Forum Theatre performance.	
<b>2020-21</b>	<b>Directing with Joy Zinoman</b>	Studio Acting Conservatory, DC
	As a student of Studio Acting Conservatory Founder Joy Zinoman, directed scenes from several TYA plays, including <i>Squeakers</i> and <i>Mr. Gumdrop</i> , <i>In a Pickle</i> , <i>The K of D</i> .	
<b>2019</b>	<b>Ningyo Joruri (Bunraku Puppet) Training Program</b>	Awa Jurobe Yashiki Theatre, Japan
	Spent three months in Tokushima, Japan training with local Ningyō Jōruri (Bunraku) troupes made up of elders. I performed in several public shows at the Awa Jurobe Yashiki Theatre and Museum, presenting scenes dating back to the 1700s and learning to operate the head, right hand, and feet.	