

CURRICULUM VITAE: CLAIRE DERRIENNIC

Teacher and Youth Theatre Artist

Portfolio: 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

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*.

- 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 play creation session for ages 4-12. Guided students in the creation of an original work inspired by a piece of visual art.
- 2014-2016** **French Immersion Counselor** Concordia Language Villages, MN
 Planned and taught 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.

THEATRE FOR THE VERY YOUNG

- 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** **Instructor, *Autumn*** Bamboo Theatre, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
 Introduced play-centered theatre creation 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** **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** **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.

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

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024	International Theatre for Young Audiences Research Network	Havana, Cuba
	Paper working group: <i>Disrupting and Imagining: Liberatory Methods for Devising Theatre for the Very Young with Teens</i>	
2024	American Alliance for Theatre and Education	
	Relearning to Play: Devising Theatre for the Very Young with Teens	IL
2022	Drama-Based Pedagogy in Translation: Adapting Story Drama for Language Learners	RI
2023	Applied Drama Institute	Warsaw, 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.	
2022	Performance Studies International #27 Hunger	virtual
	Hunger Action Session: radio play version of <i>Taste Buds: The Adventures of Cake and Broccoli</i>	
2022	Children, Youth, and Performance Conference	virtual
	Project Snapshot: <i>The Day the Crayons Quit</i> - Using Story Drama to Teach ELA	

HONORS

	Concordia Language Villages	MN
2024-25	2024 Dietrich Fellow. Recipient of annual merit-based \$25,000 travel award given to a staff member of Concordia Language Villages who has shown exceptional dedication to global citizenry and language education and is a passionate, compassionate leader of others. Will travel to Canada, Spain, France, Sénégal, and Mongolia, partnering with theatres.	
2020	Recognition of Five Years on Staff	
	University of Texas, Austin	TX
2022	Nominee- Donn and Elizabeth Doyle Fellowship	
	Georgetown University	DC
2017	Magna Cum Laude	
2017	Phi Beta Kappa	
2017	Academic Achievement in French and Francophone Studies	
2017	Davis Performing Arts Center Director's Award	
2017	Selected Speaker, Theatre and Performance Studies Senior Celebration	
2013-17	Dean's List (all semesters)	

THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

<i>Pen Pals</i>	Writer/Actor	2024	arenaAPRENDE, Murcia, Spain
<i>Taste Buds: The Adventures of Cake and Broccoli</i>	Writer staged reading	2024	University of Texas New Theatre Festival, TX
<i>Little Red Riding Hood</i>	Writer/Actor	2022	Davis Performing Arts Center Variety Show, Georgetown University, DC
<i>The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe</i>	Directing Fellow	2019	Imagination Stage, MD

THEATRE TRAINING

2025	Short Course: Clown	Ecole Philippe Gaulier, Étampes, France
	Participated in a two-week intensive, with movement training from acrobat Juri Kussmaul and clown training from expert clown Carlo Jacucci.	
2023	Forum Theatre Workshop	University of Texas, Austin TX
	Participated in a two-day workshop with visiting artists from Centro de Teatro do Oprimido in Rio de Janeiro.	
2019	Ningyo Joruri (Bunraku Puppet) Training Program	Awa Jurobe Yashiki Theatre, Japan
	Spent three months in Tokushima, Japan training with local 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.	

ARTS ADMINISTRATION

2017-2019 **Marketing Associate** Imagination Stage, MD
Planned and executed direct and digital marketing campaigns for professional productions (9 yearly) at an award-winning Theatre for Young Audiences. Drafted and project-managed programs, brochures, press releases, social media, emails.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

2018-2020 **Concessionaire** Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, DC
Sold beverages and snacks at a midsized theatre. Processed transactions efficiently using the Tessitura ticketing database and Point of Sale, restocked concessions and tidied lobby.

2017-2020 **Receptionist and Box Office Associate** Imagination Stage, MD
Greeted and directed incoming guests, responded to customer phone calls, sold tickets and subscriptions over the phone and in person using the Tessitura database.

SKILLS

- Fluent French
- Curriculum and lesson planning
- Teaching and camp counseling
- Project management
- Playwriting and performing
- Google Suite
- Microsoft Office
- Canva