

# Ashley Marinaccio

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## EDUCATION

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### Ph.D. in Theatre

Graduate Center at City University of New York

- Certificate in Women and Gender Studies

New York, NY

May, 2021 (anticipated)

### M.A. in Performance Studies

New York University, Tisch School of the Arts

- Full Scholarship Recipient and Graduate Assistant
- **GPA:** 4.0

New York, NY

May, 2008

### B.A. in Sociology/Anthropology and Theatre with concentration in Directing

Pace University

- Women/Gender Studies Minor and Middle Eastern Studies Minor
- Honors Student, **GPA:** 3.63 – Latin Honors: Cum Laude

New York, NY

May, 2007

### Lebanese American University

SINARC Program

- Studied intensive Arabic language and Middle Eastern Studies

Beirut, Lebanon

Summer, 2006

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Applied Theatre

Theatre practices in war zones

Applications of theatre in social justice movements

Politics and performance in times of crisis

Community based theatre

Intersections between anthropology and theatre

Middle Eastern Theatre

Israel/Palestine

Refugee performance

Gender studies

Feminist and Queer performance

Documentary Theatre

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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### Pace University

Adjunct Instructor

International Performance Ensemble (4 sections – Fall, 2013; Spring, 2014; Fall, 2014; Spring; 2015)

The Drama of Social Change (2 sections – Fall, 2014; Fall, 2016)

Introduction to Theatre (1 section – Fall, 2016)

New York, NY

September, 2013 - Present

### Graduate Center at City University of New York

Assistant Managing Editor of Arab Stages

- Edited journal submissions from scholars and Middle Eastern studies experts

New York, NY

September, 2016 – Present

- Prepared journal articles for online publication on Word Press

**CUNY Applied Theatre Program**  
*Master's Thesis Reader*

**New York, NY**  
May, 2015

- Read, analyzed and provided critique on Applied Theatre Master's Candidates theses

## RESEARCH

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## ACADEMIC ARTICLES

"Book Review: Long Suffering: American Endurance Art as Prophetic Witness", In *Performing Arts Journal (PAJ)*, (2017): forthcoming.

"Casting Out Violence: Queer Youth Combatting Violence Through Performance", In *Anthropology News*, 58, no. 1 (2016): 12-13.

"Waiting to Be Seen: A Photographic Exploration of NYC Actors", In *About Performance*, 13, no. 3 (2015): 5-21.

"Janice Langben, Lisa Pond and the Injustices of Institutionalized Homophobia", In *Humanus: NYU Journal of Human Rights*, (2009): 45-49.

## AWARDS, HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

2015 Pace University Jefferson Award Bronze Medal – outstanding community service and mentorship to students  
2014 American Anthropological Association – Photo of the Year  
2013 League of Professional Theatre Women's Recipient of Lucille Lortel "Women's Visionary Award"  
2013 Recipient of "Outstanding Production" for 9mm America at PCTF (Planet Connections Theatre Festivity)  
2013 Recipient of "Planet Activist Award" at PCTF  
2012 Recipient of "Outstanding Director" for Trafficked at PCTF  
2012 Recipient of "Planet Activist Award" at PCTF  
2012 CUNY Graduate School of Journalism IPPIE Award for "Best Photo Essay"  
2012 Delivered TEDx Talk at Columbia University entitled "Give it up for Rush Limbaugh"  
2010 Recipient of the "Planet Activist Award" for full-length play *Decadent Acts* at PCTF  
2008 Recipient of the "Performance Studies Award" from the faculty of NYU's Performance Studies Department  
2007-2008 Performance Studies Fully Funded Masters Candidate and Graduate Assistant, New York University  
2007-2008 Recipient of NYU's Office of Multicultural Affairs '-ISM' Grant for Documentary Theatre project  
2007 Pace University Commencement Community Service Award  
2007 Project Pericles Student Leadership Award  
2007 Marilyn Thornton Williams Memorial Prize for Excellence in Women's and Gender Studies  
2007 Pace University Sociology/Anthropology Departmental Academic and Service Award  
2006 LUNA BAR National Award for Outstanding Production of "The Vagina Monologues"  
2004-2005 TADA! Theatre's "Young Playwright of the Year" Award

2005 National Association for Campus Activities, East Coast Undergraduate Scholarship Recipient  
2005 Golden Setter Award for Outstanding Community Service – Pace CARES  
2005-2006 Recipient of Pforzheimer Honors College Research Grant to study feminist theatre in NYC  
2004 Project Pericles Service Recognition Award at Pace University

## **PANELS, LECTURES and CONFERENCES**

### **Committee on Sustainable Development**

“Child Brides: Raising Awareness of a Travesty”

Panelist

**United Nations, 2015**

### **United Nations Department of Public Information**

“Human Trafficking: Through the Lens of Civil Society”

Panelist

**United Nations, 2015**

### **TEDxCUNY**

“Theatre as a tool of activism and social change”

Student Workshop Leader

**John Jay College, 2014**

### **TEDxTeachersCollege**

“Give It Up for Rush Limbaugh”

TED Speaker

**Columbia University, 2013**

### **Planet Connections Theatre Festivity**

“Making Art in Conflict Zones – At Home and Abroad”

Organizer/Chair

**Gene Frankel Theatre, 2013**

### **Planet Connections Theatre Festivity**

“True Life: I have \$150,000 Worth of College Debt and a Theatre Degree – Community Discussion on Student Loan Debt”

Organizer/Chair

**Gene Frankel Theatre, 2013**

### **TEDxWomen, Hosted by Jane Fonda**

“Girl Be Heard: Congo”

Performance Director

**Paley Center, 2012**

### **Planet Connections Theatre Festivity**

“Non-Traditional Casting and Theatre for Social Change”

Panelist

**Playwrights Horizons, 2010**

### **Lincoln Center Directors Lab**

“Social Activism through Theatre”

Workshop Presenter

**Lincoln Center, 2009**

### **American Anthropological Association Meeting**

**San Francisco, 2008**

“Radical Theatre as Cultural Intervention: Exploring Arts and Politics in Anthropology’s Center Stage”

Panelist

**Performance Studies International: 13**

“New Techniques in Acting”

Panelist

**New York University, 2008**

**The Politics of South Africa Conference**

“Documentary Theatre Performance on HIV/AIDS in America and South Africa”

Panelist

**Pace University, 2005**

**Periclean Leaders National Conference**

“The Importance of Civic Engagement for College Students”

Panelist

**McCalister College, 2005**

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**The Eagle Project**

*Steering Committee Member*

**New York, NY**

*April 2013- Present*

**Pace C.A.R.E.S.**

*Founder/President*

**New York, NY**

*October 2003-May 2005*

- Created Pace C.A.R.E.S. to assist AIDS/HIV and to promote safer sex and HIV/AIDS awareness to Pace University students
- Developed materials to help Pace University students understand how to advocate for HIV/AIDS issues

**The Student Global AIDS Campaign**

*Steering Committee Member and Student Advocacy Coordinator*

**Washington, DC**

*January 2005-May 2005*

- Created strategies to help SGAC achieve increases from Congress in funding for AIDS
- Helped chapters implement advocacy tactics such as district meetings with their congressmen and letter writing campaigns
- Organized mobilization for largest student AIDS March in history on February 26th 2005 in Washington D.C.

**V-Day Campaign: To End Violence Against Women**

*Director of Vagina Monologues Production*

**New York, NY**

*February 2004-February 2012*

**Tisch WOMB: Empowering Women in the Arts at New York University**

*Co-Vice President*

**New York, NY**

*October 2007- May 2008*

**Women’s Action Network at Pace University**

*President*

**New York, NY**

*Sept. 2005- May 2006*

**WomINs Herstory Month at New York University**

*Junior Co-Chair*

**New York, NY**

*November 2007-March 2008*

**Circle of Health International V-Day Campaign**

Director of Performance Committee

**New York, NY**

December-March 2008

**Performance Studies International Conference at New York University**

Organizing Committee Member/Book Exhibit Organizer

**New York, NY**

September- November 2007

**Notes for Peace: Tolerance through Artistic Collaboration**

Board Member

**New York, NY**

September 2007- May 2009

**Al Jisser Group: Made in Palestine Art Exhibit**

Planning Committee

**New York, NY**

April 2004 - October 2006

## LANGUAGES

Reading knowledge of Arabic and Spanish

## INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Bosnia and Herzegovina

September, 2015

- Devised and directed performance called "Under One Sun" about global feminist movements with Girl Be Heard company members at the Pitchwise Festival, Bosnian Cultural Center and various street locations throughout Sarajevo
- Led workshop on theatre as a tool for social change for Pitchwise Theatre Festival participants
- Invited guest of the U.S. Embassy diplomat to Bosnia and Herzegovina's dinner for work with Girl Be Heard pertaining to ending violence against and using theatre as activism

Thailand

June, 2015

- Led 18 Pace University undergraduate students on cultural and artistic immersion course to Bangkok
- Participated in Thai cultural dancing, music and theatrical intensive

Taiwan

October, 2014

- Invited guest of the Garden of Hope Foundation to lead theatrical workshops and devise piece with young women living in domestic violence shelters
- Toured performance created by workshop participants to theaters in Khaoshung and Taipei

Lebanon, Syria and Jordan

Summer, 2006

- Studied Arabic Language, Middle Eastern Studies and Lebanese Theatre

Israel/Occupied Territories

April, 2008

- Studied Theatre/Art in Conflict Zones
- Worked with NGO arts organizations in devising peace building activities through the arts

South Africa

January, 2005

- Studied HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention
- Conducted interviews with people affected by HIV/AIDS for anthropological research and documentary playwriting
- Studied political and racial struggles to determine how historical events enable the current health crisis

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS****BOOKS**

Frommer's MTV USA Road Trip Guide Wiley Publishing 2007  
 Wrote and Edited Chapter, "The Paranormal Northeast"  
 Winner - NATJA's (North American Travel Journalist Association) "Best Overall Editorial Excellence 2007"

***GirlPower: Survival of the Fittest*** (editor, full-length drama)  
 Published in 2010 Book of Estrogenius, *Drama Book Shop* 2010

***GirlPower: Voices of a Generation*** (editor, full-length drama)  
 Published in 2008 Book of Estrogenius, *Drama Book Shop* 2009

**FULL LENGTH PLAYS**

**THERE ARE NO CAMELS IN BEIRUT** (autobiographical drama, 2w/2m)  
*What does it mean to be on the wrong side of conflict? A story about living in Beirut during the 2006 war.*  
 Culture Project, Workshop in Summer Reading Series 2015  
 Estrogenius Festival, Staged Reading 2014  
 Co-Op Theatre East, Staged Reading 2014

**DECADENT ACTS** (drama, 7w/3m)  
*Set in late 1980s New York City, Decadent Acts chronicles the story of a lesbian couple struggling against legislated discrimination. When television personality Farah White falls fatally ill, her partner, professor Jolene Shatila, along with their daughter Nicole, are faced with unexpected challenges that will change their lives forever. From child custody laws, to hospital visitation rights, Decadent Acts spotlights the harsh reality of discriminatory regulations against same-sex partners, plumbing emotional and political depths with grace and searing honesty.*  
 Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, Production 2012  
 Co-Op Theatre East, Production 2009

Co-Op Theatre East, Staged Reading	2008
Pace University Honors Thesis, Workshop	2008
Pace University Student Directing Festival, New York City	2006

**DOCUMENTARY: A SUICIDE NARRATIVE** (drama, 12w/2m)

*Documentary: A Suicide Narrative uses testimonial-style theatre to share the story of a 16-year-old suburban high school student trying to find her identity. When Ariel Valeria falls for a mysterious new student, Fatima Zee, the homophobic attitudes of the school take their toll on the young women. Documentary: A Suicide Narrative combines a contemporary love story with the personal narratives of young adults experiencing similar issues.*

Brecht Forum, New York City, Staged Reading	2010
Gene Frankel Theatre/Co-Op Theatre East, Production	2008
Pace University Student Directing Festival, Production	2006
Staten Island Shakespearean Theatre, Staged Reading	2006
TADA! Theatre, New York City, Staged Reading	2005

## SHORT PLAYS

**WWAGD: WHAT WOULD AMY GOODMAN DO?** (10 minute one act, dark comedy 2w/1m)

*A post apocalyptic broadcast of Democracy Now featuring guest President Chris Christie (formerly NJ Governor)*  
Co-Op theatre East, Radio Play Festival 2014

**RIDING IN CARS WITH HEZBOLLAH** (10-minute one act, drama 1m/1w)

*Amidst the 2006 war, an American student and Lebanese cab driver attempt returning back to Beirut.*  
Culture Project's IMPACT FESTIVAL, Performance 2012  
Co-Op Theatre East, Staged Reading 2011

**THE WALKING TOUR** (10-minute one act, dark comedy 3w)

*This play is a walking tour set in post apocalyptic Tompkins Square Park, New York City.*  
Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, Fresh Perspectives Festival 2013

**DEE TEE GOES TO WASHINGTON** (10-minute one act, dark comedy 3w)

*In the year 2033 Dee Tee (Formerly Dzhokhar Tsarnaev) is a reality TV star. His publicists have discovered a problem and must act quickly to save him (and their own careers) from the public's outrage over a sex tape.*  
Co-Op Theatre East, Radio Play Festival 2013

**THE BEST LITTLE WHORE IN TEXAS** (10-minute one act, drama 2w)

*A sixteen year-old's third abortion prompts a doctor to question access to birth control, contraception and the newly adapted "Personhood Amendment".*  
Co-Op Theatre East, Staged Reading 2011

**LIVE FROM POD 305** (10-minute one act, drama, 2w)

*At the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women, two pod mates discuss the concepts of revisionism and escape through a nightly grassroots radio broadcast from Pod 305.*  
Manhattan Theatre Source Estrogenius Festival, Production 2011

Co-Op Theatre East, Staged Reading 2010

**STANDING IN FRONT OF 9/11 WAITING FOR THE END OF THE WORLD** (10-minute one act, comedy, 1m/1w)  
*Professional disaster tour guides Toby and Rachel are in need of some quick cash. While standing in front of the World Trade Center site, they attempt to create a business plan that will demolish the competition of the surrounding street vendors and 9/11 memorabilia peddlers.*

Altruistic Theatre Company, Production 2011

Co-Op Theatre East, Staged Reading 2010

**1-800-DIAL-A-DAD** (10-minute one act, 2w)

*Two women invent a special service for people with "daddy issues".*

Testogenius Festival - Manhattan Theatre Source, Production 2011

## ARTICLES

"One on One with Tyce Diorio", In *Dancer Magazine*, (2008).

"Brian Friedman: Mastering the Universe One Career at a Time", In *Dancer Magazine* (2008).

"Alternative Study Abroad Options", In *NYUINC Disorientation Guide*. (2007).

"A Guide to New York City's Alternative Media Scene", In *NYUINC Disorientation Guide*, (2007).

"Muslim-American United Nations Delegation Visits Europe," *Student Operated Press*, (2006).

"Absolute Genius: A Film Review of Absolute Wilson", In *Pace Press*, (2006).

"University Introduces Middle Eastern Studies Minor", In *The Pace Press*, (2005).

"Remembering 9/11: Pace University Four Years Later", In *The Pace Press*, (2005).

"In The Neighborhood: The Ballad of Chelsea", In *The Pace Press*, (2005).

"After the Sunset: Film Review", In *The Pace Press*, (2005).

"Do Campaigns such as 'Choose or Lose' Really Have College Students 'Rocking the Vote?', *Pace Press*, (2004).

"11 Pace Professors You Can't Afford to Miss", In *The Pace Press*, (2004).

"A Day in the Life of a Punk", In *The Pace Press*, (2004).

"The Magnolia Bakery: A Review," In *The Pace Press*, (2004).

"Procrastination 101: How to Cure the Disease," In *The Pace Press*, (2004).

"Dali Llama Makes Rare New York Appearance," In *The Pace Press*, (2003).

"Instant Messenger and the College Girl," In *The Pace Press*, (2003).

## PHOTO ESSAYS and PHOTOGRAPHY

### THE INDYPENDENT

"When Existence is Resistance", *The Independent* (New York, NY), August 5, 2015. Photo Essay.

"Generation Debt", *The Independent* (New York, NY), September 25, 2012. Photo Essay.

"Green New York/Springing Into Action", *The Independent* (New York, NY), May 11, 2012. Cover and Photo Essay.

"We Contain Multitudes: Occupy Wall Street Photos" *The Independent* (New York, NY), September 11, 2011. Contributor to Photo Essay.

"Finding A Road through Recession: An Interview with Make the Road Organizer Julissa Bisoño" *The Independent* (New York, NY), March 12, 2013. Portrait.



“Experience is the Best Teacher: Bronx School Fights to Save Building Trades Program”, *The Independent* (New York, NY) February 10, 2010. Photo Essay.

“Inside Columbus High School”, *The Independent* (New York, NY), January 29, 2010. Cover and Photo Essay.

### **NY DAILY NEWS**

“It’s Girl Power Brooklyn Style: Performance Group Travels City Acting out Women’s Issues”, *NY Daily News* (New York, NY), February 23, 2012.

### **HUFFINGTON POST**

“New York Theatre Gets Political, Explores Sex Trafficking and Bradley Manning”, *Huffington Post* (Washington, DC), August 7, 2012.

### **TIME OUT NY**

Photo of the Week: 9mm America (2013)

## **ARTISTIC DIRECTION**

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### **Co-Op Theatre East**

*Co-Founder/ Director*

**New York, NY**

*April 2008-Present*

- Co-founded Co-Op Theatre East to promote using art and theatre as dialogue for social change
- Produces, Directs and/or Performs productions
- Oversees and implements artistic vision of Co-Op Theatre East

### **Girl Be Heard**

*Co-Founder/Artistic Director*

**New York, NY**

*August 2008-August 2016*

- Co-founded Girl Be Heard to provide young women with a safer space to write and perform their own theatrical work and connect their stories to the larger narrative of women and girls worldwide
- Created Girl Be Heard’s body of theatrical work, for which the organization received numerous national and international awards and accolades
- Developed and implemented curriculum that utilized playwriting, acting and research to encourage dialogue on pressing social issues
- Created, oversaw and implemented artistic vision of Girl Be Heard
- Curated, edited and developed workshops to help participants mold individual writing into cohesive group performance pieces
- Built and maintained relationships with partner organizations including non-profits, theaters and NGOs

## **DIRECTING**

### **INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL TOUR**

Under One Sun

Girl Be Heard: Europe

Girl Be Heard: Taiwan

Bosnian Cultural Center, 2015

Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict (UK), 2014

Garden of Hope Foundation/Girl Be Heard, 2014

Mothers and Daughters  
Voices Without Borders: Congo

United Nations Girl Up Campaign, 2012  
Girl Be Heard/TEDxWomen, 2012

### REGIONAL

Next to Normal  
Voices Without Borders: Congo  
Voices of Our Generation

Porch Light Productions, 2014  
White House, 2012  
New Jersey State Theatre, 2012

### NEW YORK - SELECTED

Swartz (Workshop)  
Riding in Cars with Hezbollah  
UN Women Beijing + 20  
9mm America  
Trafficked  
The Vagina Monologues  
Ten Years Later: Voices from Post 9/11  
GirlPower: Survival of the Fittest  
Voices Without Borders  
Girl's Liberation Front  
Decadent Acts  
My Name is Rachel Corrie  
Documentary: A Suicide Narrative  
Ivan's Way Out  
Johnny Got His Gun (Adaptor/Director)  
Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens

Culture Project/Women Center Stage, 2013  
Culture Project/IMPACT Festival, 2012  
The Apollo Theatre, 2014  
Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, 2013  
45 Bleecker Street Theatre, 2012  
Site Specific – Street/Building in Harlem, 2012  
Peter Jay Sharp/Living Theatre, 2011  
NY International Fringe Festival, 2012  
United Nations, 2012  
NY International Fringe Festival, 2011  
Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, 2010  
Kraine Theatre, 2010  
Gene Frankel Theatre, 2009  
Samuel French Playwriting Festival, 2009  
Pace University, 2008  
Pace University, 2008

### CHOREOGRAPHY

Performance Lab  
Performance Outlet

Steps On Broadway  
Broadway Dance Center

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### JOURNALISM

**The Independent**  
*Staff Photographer*

**New York, NY**  
*January, 2010- Present*

- Executes photographic assignments decided upon by editorial team
- Contributes ideas for photo essays and news coverage
- Writes captions for assignments and contributes articles pertaining to photography

**Wake Up Call with Deepa Fernandes: WBAI/Pacifica Radio Station**

Associate Producer

- Write and edit segments for radio program
- Research headlines and guests for interviews on breaking news stories
- Edit, write and read news headlines at the top of each hour

**New York, NY**

*March 2007-October 2007*

**Pace Press**

Features and News Writer

- Reviewed films and theatre
- Created popular recurring column on the gentrification of neighborhoods in Manhattan and Brooklyn
- Covered 2004 Presidential Campaign

**New York, NY**

*Sept. 2003- May 2007*

**Student Operated Press**

Broadcaster and News Writer

- Broadcasted nightly audio reports from Beirut, Lebanon during the Summer 2006 Lebanese/Israeli Conflict
- Wrote articles on Middle Eastern affairs

**Beirut, Lebanon**

*June-August 2006*

**COMMUNITY ARTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE PROGRAMMING**

**McCarter Theatre Center**

Teaching Artist

- Developed curriculum and taught "Spotlight on Sizwe Banzi Is Dead... Political and Activist Theatre" to high school students at McCarter Theatre Center, which focused on political and activist theatre movements
- Developed curriculum and taught "Spotlight on Baby Doll... The American Canon" to high school students at McCarter Theatre, which focused on scene study and monologue work
- Developed curriculum, and taught ensemble devised theatre to middle school students at McCarter Theatre Center, which focused on creating theatrical work in groups

**Princeton, NJ**

*February, 2015 - March, 2016*

**Battery Park City Parks Conservancy**

Programming Leader

- Implements and leads arts, nature, aquatic and recreational programming to park visitors
- Provides visitors with logistical information and historical background
- Assists experts and specialists on nature, fishing and bird tours

**New York, NY**

*April, 2009- October, 2012*

**University Settlement STRIDE Program**

Youth Development Specialist

- Facilitator of "Idea Lab", a specialized after school arts and leadership program for at risk youth
- Writes and develops arts and leadership curriculum for middle school students
- Assists in academic tutoring, athletics and various other specialized courses for youth afterschool program

**New York, NY**

*August 2008-June 2009*

**East Village Community Coalition**

Community Organizer/Outreach Coordinator

- Develop outreach initiatives and promote annual "Kids Art Bike Parade"

**New York, NY**

*April 2008-October 2008*

- Generate enthusiasm and interest amongst youth and adults in the community for the “Kids Art Bike Parade”
- Serve as liaison between the East Village Community Coalition and local businesses for

**Brooklyn Arts Council**

Outreach Coordinator of Brooklyn Maqam Arab Music Festival

**Brooklyn, NY**

*Dec. 2007-March 2008*

- Connect with Middle Eastern and Arab communities in Brooklyn to promote Arab Music Festival
- Generate enthusiasm and interest for the Arab Music Festival within the communities through meetings with local leaders

**The Center for Community Outreach and Project Pericles: Pace University**

Outreach Coordinator

**New York, NY**

*April 2004- May 2007*

- Work with student body and organizations to plan and create service projects and events with non profit organizations
- Maintain close relationship with local non profits and serve as liaison between Pace University agency
- Organize events to raise political and social awareness for students on campus

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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SAG/AFTRA – Member

American Anthropological Association – Member

League of Professional Theatre Women – Member

TCG (Theatre Communications Group) – Member

ART NY (Alliance of Resident Theatres) – Member

The Civilians – Field Research Team Member

Lincoln Center Director’s Lab – Alumna

Hemispheric Institute’s EMERGENYC - Alumna

American Theatre Wing’s SpringboardNYC - Alumna

Old Vic/New Voices Directing Lab - Alumna

Fractured Atlas – Member

**REFERENCES**

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References available upon request.