

Kurt A. Edwards, PhD
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Academic Degrees

PhD, Theatre & Film

- Bowling Green State University, 2008

Master of Arts, Theatre

- University of Missouri, 1996

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre

- University of Missouri, 1995

Teaching Experience

University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 2018-Present, Adjunct Professor of
Communication

Stephens College, Columbia, MO, 2018, Adjunct Professor of Theatre

Hutchinson Community College, KS, 2016-2018, Instructor of Communication and
Theatre

Kansas Wesleyan University, 2014, Assistant Professor of Communication and Theatre

East Central University, OK, 2011-2014, Assistant Professor of Theatre and
Communication

Indiana Wesleyan University, IN, 2004-2011, Assistant Professor of Communication and
Theatre

Bluffton College, OH, 2003, Adjunct Instructor

Other Experience

Driver Supervisor, UPS

Rotary Vocational Exchange Higher Education Fellow in Theatre to Italy (Summer,
2013)

Professional Actor, NYC (member of Actors Equity Association), 1997-2001

Artistic Director, Maranatha Theatre Project, 1999-2002

Rothschild Asset Management, NYC. Marketing Associate and Creative Specialist.
2000-2002

Advantage Human Resourcing, NYC. Associate and Executive Assistant. 1998-2000

Memberships and Affiliations

Society of Directors and Choreographers, 2011

Oklahoma Speech Theatre Communication Association, 2011

Mid-America Theatre Conference, 2007

Association of Theatre in Higher Education, 2004

Central States Communication Association, 2002

American Society of Theatre Research, 2002

Actors Equity Association, 1997

Awards, Honors, and Fellowships

Mid-America Arts Alliance Professional Development Award, \$1000 (2013)
Rotary Group Study Exchange Higher Education Fellow in Theatre to Italy, \$10,000 (2013)
President Circle Funds Recipient for Faculty Travel (\$500), 2013
Masonic Cultural Enhancement Award for Arts (\$2000), 2012
Hind's Fellowship (\$6000 + Load Reduction), 2009-2011
Principium Faculty Lecture Series (\$500), 2009
Dean's Fellowship for Dissertation Research (\$1500), 2007
Lilly Technology Research Scholarship (\$500), 2006
Rhynsburger Award – Best Scenic Design, Independence, 1996
Distinguished Graduate Award, University of Missouri, 1996

Conference Presentations

American Society of Theatre Research, "Ann Bogart and the Destabilization of the Rodgers and Hammerstein Embedded Idea," Dallas, TX, November 2013.
Oklahoma Speech and Theatre Communication Association, "Process and Devised Drama – Building Community Through Performance Engagement," Norman, OK, September 2013.
Mid-America Theatre Conference, "Bogart-ing Myth and Re-Membering" St. Louis, MO, March 2013.
Association for Theatre in Higher Education, "Brecht On Sunday: Sunday on Brecht," Washington, DC, August 2012.
Association for Theatre in Higher Education, "Playing to the Assessment Crowd: Proving Your Program (again and again)," Washington, DC, August 2012.
Rotten Apples: A Symposium on What American Popular Culture gets Wrong (and Right) about Educators, "Framing Educators, Killing Students: Rarely a Theatrical Happy Ending," East Central University, November 2011.
Oklahoma Speech and Theatre Communication Association, "Practical Chekhov: Teaching the Building Blocks of Michael Chekhov," Oklahoma City, September 2011.
International Conference on Religion and Spirituality, "ACTing and PREACHing: A Symbiosis," Chicago, February 2011.
Association for Theatre in Higher Education, "Religious (Under)Mining: Theatre and the Conservative Christian Academic Aesthetic," New York, New York, August 2009.
Southeastern Theatre Conference, "(Re-in) Forcing Theatrical Diversity in the Conservative Church," Chattanooga, TN, March 2008.
Calvin Conference Series, "Communion Story: Acting Pedagogy," Grand Rapids, MI, July 2007.
Association of Theatre in Higher Education, "Her Lost Voice: Bogart-ing subversion in Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific," Chicago, August 2006.
Holidays, Ritual, Festival, Celebration, and Public Display, "The Ceremony of Cars: Experiencing the Indianapolis 500," Bowling Green, OH, June 2004.

- Comparative Drama, Ohio State University, "Shakespeare's Christianity: Critical Arguments for Regarding the Bard as a Christ-Driven Playwright," Columbus, OH, April 2004.
- Ohio Academy of History, "John the Baptist: Political and Religious Ramifications of the Character of Sacrament in Tudor Drama," Tiffin, OH, April 2004.
- Central States Communication Association, "Billy Graham: Celebrity of the Great Commission," Cleveland, March 2004.
- Central States Communication Association, "South Pacific: Then and Now," Cleveland, March 2004.
- Performance as Public Practice, "Tradition & The Greatest Spectacle in Racing: An Auto-Ethnographic Examination of the Development of Young Men," Austin, February 2004.

Publications

- An Actor/Preacher Prepares: Billy Graham and the Performance of the New Revivalism*, Champaign, IL: Common Ground Publishing, 2012.
- "ACTing and PREACHing: An Historical Symbiosis," *The International Journal of Religion and Spirituality in Society* (Fall 2011).
- Review of *Performing the Sacred: Theology and Theatre in Dialogue* by Todd E. Johnson and Dale Savidge (Christian Scholars Review, 2010).
- Review of *Clifford Odets and American Political Theatre* by Christopher Herr (Theatre Journal, 2005).
- "John the Baptist: Protestant Character in Tudor Drama," *Proceedings of the Ohio Academy of History*, 2004.

Contributions

- "Durang's History of the Philadelphia Stage" Playwrights portion, Internet Publication (1995)
- "The Computerization of Charles Durang" Playwrights portion, Internet Publication (1995)

Committees & Administration

- 2017-2018: Advising Committee
- 2017-2018: Communication Course Outcomes Taskforce
- 2012-2014: Chair, Cultural Activities Committee, East Central University
- 2012-2014: Chair, Identifying and Helping "At Risk" Students Teaching Circle, East Central University
- 2012-2014: Alpha Chi National College Honor Society Sponsor, East Central University
- 2011-2014: Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society Advisor, East Central University
- 2011-2014: Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region VI Respondent
- 2011-2014: Dorothy Summers Scholarship Committee
- 2011-2014: Performance Studies Tuition Waiver Committee
- 2011-2014: Hallie Brown Ford Fine Arts Center Advising Committee
- 2011-2014: Alpha Psi Omega Advisor (National Theatre Honor Society)

2011-2014: Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society Sponsor
2004-2011: IWU Theatre Guild Faculty Artistic Director
2011: Special Assistant to Curriculum for IWU Adult Professional Studies
2010-2011: Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region III Selection Committee
2010-2011: IWU Liberal Arts Task Force
2010-2011: IWU Multi-Cultural Task Force
2009-2011: John Wesley Honors College Selection Committee
2009-2010: General Education Task Force
2008-2010: Indiana Wesleyan University Faculty Retreat Committee
2008-2010: Indiana Wesleyan University Instructional Technology Council
2008-2009: Lilly Scholarship Sub-Committee
2007-2009: Journalism Hiring Committee
2007-2008: Chapel Building Committee
2006-2007: Elder Hall Building Committee
2005-2008: Indiana Wesleyan University Faculty Enrichment Committee
2006: Technical Theatre Hiring Committee
2006-2007: Communication Department Curriculum Committee
2004-2006: Faculty Retreat Committee
2004: Indiana Wesleyan University Cultural Competence Committee
2003: BGSU Theatre Awards Committee
2003: Arts & Science 110 (Interdisciplinary degree) Development Committee
2002-2003: BGSU Theatre Graduate Seminar
1998-2002: Founder, Maranatha Theatre Company
1995-1996: Graduate Committee on University Affairs
1995-1996: Board Member, Missouri Theatre Workshop

Kennedy Center – American College Theatre Festival Responses

Clybourne Park, by Bruce Norris, Oklahoma University, Dir. Alissa Millar
Two Rooms, by Lee Blessing, St. Gregory's University, Dir. Macy Conley
Cheese, by Laurel Ollstein, Oklahoma University, Dir. Kelcie Miles
The Lark, by Jean Anouilh, Central Oklahoma University, Dir. Don Bristow
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, by Jeffrey Hatcher, Rose State College, Dir. Rick Nelson
Dracula, Adapted by William McNulty from the novel by Bram Stoker, Oklahoma University, Dir. Tom Huston
The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas (adapted by Charles Morey), Taylor University, Dir. Tracy Manning
Art by Yasmina Reza, Miami University, Dir. Lewis Magruder
A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams, Taylor University, Dir. Tracy Manning
Company by Stephen Sondheim, Ball State University, Dir. Beth Turcotte
Picnic by William Inge, Huntington University, Dir. Jay Duffer
The Good Person of Szechuan by Bertolt Brecht, Indianapolis University, Dir. Jennifer Loia Alexander
Urinetown by Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis, Indiana University/Purdue University – Fort Wayne (Fort Wayne, IN), Dir. Craig A. Humphrey

Scapin by Moliere (trans. by Bill Irwin), Huntington University (Huntington, IN), Dir. Jay Duffer

Natural Selection by Eric Coble, Depauw University (Greencastle, IN), Dir. Susan Anthony

Guest Lectures, Workshops, and Critiques

"Community Improvising = Improvising Community" 2014, Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival, Region VI, Shreveport, LA

"American Acting: The Russian Model with French Terms?" 2013, Emilia-Romano, Italy

"Introduction to the Meisner Listener," 2013, Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival, Region VI, Shreveport, LA

"The Risk of Speech Performance," 2012, East Central University Honor's College, Dr. Steve Benton

"International Shakespeare: How Shakespeare translates across cultures," 2012, International Christian University-Kyiv, Ukraine

"Constant Consonants – The Hard Sound Dialects," 2011, Dr. Rick Groetzinger's Voice and Diction

"Listening and Focus: Meisner Style," 2010, Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival, Region III, Saginaw, MI

"Theatre as a Business," 2010, Human Communication Symposium, IWU.

The Visitor by Thomas McCarthy (film), 2010, Indiana Wesleyan University

"Billy Graham and the Performance of a New Revivalism," IWU Principium Faculty Lecture Series Speaker, 2009

"Developing Character in Rehearsal Through Chekhov," 2009, Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival, Region III, Saginaw, MI

"The Essence of Drama is Conflict – Script Analysis in Film," 2008, Media Scriptwriting Symposium, IWU

The Laramie Project by Moisés Kaufman and members of the Tectonic Theater Project, 2003 (play) and 2008 (film), Indiana Wesleyan University

Billy Elliot by Lee Hall, 2007 (film), Indiana Wesleyan University

Therapy by Rachel Newman, 2006, Indiana Wesleyan University

"Using Emotional Presses in Performance," 2005, Speech Communication, IWU

Dutchman by Amiri Baraka, 2004, Bowling Green State University

Antigone by Jean Anouilh, 2004, Bowling Green State University

"Using Emotional Presses in Performance," 2003, Introduction to Performance Studies, BGSU

Our Country is Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker, 2003, Bowling Green State University

"Professional Acting," Bowling Green State University, 2003

"The Spiritual Responsibility of Plays," Chelsea Studios (In association with the Maranatha Theatre Group), 1998

Adjudication

Oklahoma High School Academic Bowl Adjudicator (Shakespearean Verse Monologues), 2011-2014

Rotary 4-Way Test Speech Contest Judge, 2011-2014

Associate Editor, "The International Journal of Religion and Spirituality in Society" 2011-2013

American College Theatre Festival Region VI Respondent

American College Theatre Festival Region III Respondent

Bowling Green State University Forensics Judge, 2003-04

Missouri State High School Theatre Festival One-Act judge, 1995-96

Hickman H.S. Theatre Festival Judge, 1993

Rock Bridge H.S. Theatre Festival Judge, 1992-95

Personal Development

Rotary Vocational Exchange Higher Education Fellow in Theatre to Italy (Summer, 2013)

DaVinci Spring Invitational Forum on Assessment (2013, David Burkus, Jeff King, Steven Wilson, Jean Hendrickson)

Grant Writing Workshop (11, Gail Wood)

Alexander Technique Workshop (08, Lisa Lowery)

Arthur Lessac Workshop (07, Dale Wittenger)

Helping Emotionally Distressed Students (07, Dr. David Smith)

The Inseparability of Faith and Learning (07, Dr. Brad Garner)

A Dialogue with Peers on Publishing (07, Dr. Jerry Pattengale)

Life Calling Training Workshop (06, Dr. Bill Millard)

Culturally Responsible Teaching (06, Latrese Moffitt)

Improving Your Teaching Using IDEA Evaluation Interpretations (06, Dr. Burt Webb)

Advanced Blackboard Training (05, Brian Hertzog)

Michael Chekhov Semester Workshop (04, Dr. Jonathan Chambers)

Curriculum Development

Performance/Musical Theatre Performance/Technical Theatre Curriculum, East Central University

- Board of Curators approved Spring 2013
- Completed study of RUSO and Oklahoma State theatre programs
- Standardized classes with Oklahoma State statutes
- Implemented changes through campus and off campus departments

From Communication Major to Theatre Major, Indiana Wesleyan University

- Provided rubric for all Communication and Theatre majors
- Implemented Theatre Major/Minor Fall 2007

Special Curriculum Advisor (Provost Appointed), Indiana Wesleyan University College of Adult and Professional Studies (CAPS)

- Critical review of existing School of Liberal Arts (SOLA) curriculum.
- Developed Curriculum maps for course inconsistencies
- Recommended changes adhered to Bloom's Taxonomy.

Study Abroad Leader

Russian Theatre in Kiev and Moscow, 2012
Los Angeles 2010
Chicago 2006-2011
Theatre History in Great Britain, 2007, 2009, 2011
New York City 2006, 2008

Senior Thesis Led

Hannah Hendricks, 2017, Honors College Communication Response Theory
Corey Scott, 2013, Direction, *Doubt* by John Patrick Shanley
Lacey Elliott, 2013, Princess Winnifred the Wobegone, *Once Upon a Mattress*
Rachel Marley, 2010, Euripides' *Medea* (Directing)
Elizabeth Campbell, 2009, Robert Fulghum's *All I Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* (Directing)
Nathanael Gray, 2009, *Waiting for Godot* (Directing)
Grace Briner, 2008, *Androcles and the Lion* (Directing)
Tim Rockstroh, 2008, *All in the Timing* (Acting)
Zach Stonerock, 2008, *All in the Timing* (Acting)
Mel Raines, 2007, *The Real Inspector Hound* (Directing)
Melissa Mowat, 2006, *The Miracle Worker* (Directing)
Rachel Newman, 2006, *Therapy* (Playwriting)
Katherine Doyle, 2006, *Lost in Yonkers* (Directing)
Emily Robinson, 2005, *Over the River and Through the Woods* (Directing)
Jeryl Stouffer, 2005, Stage Management Handbook
Daniel Williams, 2003, *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (Acting)

Independent Studies Directed

Corey Scott – Script Analysis and Dramaturgy, 2012
Barb Tiry – Acting for the Festival, 2012
Douglas Idlett – Acting for the Festival, 2012
Jenny Barrett – Stage Management, 2012
Erik Stangland – Voice and Interpretation, 2007
Mary Kennedy – Stage Directing, 2005
Steve Abel – Stage Directing, 2004
Megan Iazeolla – Stage Directing, 2004

Production Experience

Direction (Sample)

Plays

The Importance of Being Earnest, 2017
Proof, 2014
Chickasaw Tales, 2012
Romeo and Juliet, 2010
The Curious Savage, 2009
The Diviners, 2008

Rhinoceros, 2007
Antigone, 2006
All My Sons, 2005
Harvey, 2004

Musicals

SchoolHouse Rock Live!, 2014
Once Upon a Mattress, 2013
Cabaret, 2012
Where Fortunes Lie (new musical), 2010
Sunday in The Park With George, 2008
Fiddler on the Roof, 2007
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, 2006
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, 2005

Scenic Design

Marian, or the True Tale of Robin Hood, by Adam Szymkowitz, 2018
Chucks Jungle, by David Sexton, 2018
Once Upon a Mattress, by Mary Rodgers (music), Marshall Barer (Lyrics and book), and Jay Thompson and Dean Fuller (book), 2013
Little Women (musical) by Allan Knee, Mindi Dickstein, and Jason Howland (based on the book by Louisa May Alcott), 2011
Wit by Margaret Edson, 2010
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown by Clark Gesner (based on characters created by Charles M. Schulz), 2006
All My Sons by Arthur Miller, 2005
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers book by Lawrence Kasha and David Landay, music by Gene de Paul, Al Kasha and Joel Hirschhorn, and lyrics by Johnny Mercer, Al Kasha and Joel Hirschhorn, 2005
Harvey by Mary Chase, 2004
Oh Lusitania! by Mark Hasburn (New York Premiere), 2001
Independence by Lee Blessing (Rhynsburger Award – Best Set), 1996
A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams, 1995
Belle Reprise by Lois Weaver, Peggy Shaw, Bette Bourne, and Precious Pearl. Split Britches and Bloopips, 1995

Lighting Design

All My Sons by Arthur Miller, 2005
Don Juan in Hell by George Bernard Shaw, 1999
Cain & Abel by Lord Byron, 1999
Independence by Lee Blessing, 1996
Master Electrician (Rhynsburger Theatre and Corner Playhouse), 1995-1996

Playwriting (Original Work)

Clear Water Over the Brooklyn Bridge, Greensboro Fringe Theatre Festival (2012)

Aliens & Strangers (published), Maranatha Theatre Project (2001)
Stätsia, New York Fringe Festival (2000)
Perspectives, Maranatha Theatre Project (2000)
Follow the Leader, Maranatha Theatre Project (1999)

Acting (Sample)

<i>It's A Wonderful Life</i>	George Bailey	McSwain Theatre
<i>Take Two</i>	Gil Rafferty	Chalmers Herman Theatre
<i>She Stoops to Conquer</i>	Sir Charles	Eva Marie Saint Theatre
<i>An Ordinary Miracle</i>	Fortis, the magician	The Medecine Show
<i>Antigone</i>	Miocles	Theatre 22, Sign of the Times
<i>Tamburlaine, Part II</i>	Orcanes	The Marlowe Project
<i>Doctor Faustus (B text)</i>	Mephostophilis	The Marlowe Project
<i>The Wedding Band</i>	Herman	Missouri Repertory
<i>Stanton's Garage</i>	Silvio	Missouri Repertory
<i>All in the Timing</i>	Bill, Milton, Don, Al, Charlie	Rhynsburger Theatre
<i>Night of the Tribades</i>	August Strindberg	Missouri Renaissance Thr. Co.
<i>The Foreigner</i>	Ellard Simms	Maplewood Barn Theatre
<i>1940's Radio Hour</i>	Clifton Feddington	Missouri Repertory
<i>42nd Street</i>	Julian Marsh	Missouri Repertory
<i>Annie Get Your Gun</i>	Billy	Maplewood Barn Theatre
<i>Annie</i>	Rooster	Maplewood Barn Theatre

References

Dr. Charlene Widener
Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Learning
North Iowa Area Community College
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Mason City, IA 50401
620-664-2323
Charlene.Widener@niacc.edu

Aubrey Abeyta
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University of Missouri
2401 West Broadway
Columbia, MO 65203
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Samantha Gossard Dykstra
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Lyric Opera of Kansas City
Kansas City, MO 64111
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Deidre Mattox
Director of Theatre
Hutchinson Community College
1400 N. Plum
Hutchinson, KS 67501
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Patrick Reading
Production Manager for Fine Arts
Kirkwood Community College
6301 Kirkwood Boulevard SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
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patreading@yahoo.com