

# AARON BROWN

## Education

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Master of Fine Arts	Baylor University (2018) Directing
Teaching Certification	Texas Teachers (2009) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Education Theatre and Business
Bachelor of Music	Oklahoma City University (2009) Musical Theatre Voice student of Dr. Frank Ragsdale

## Teaching

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### **Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX**

**Assistant Professor (2019-2023)/Co-Coordinator of Musical Theatre (2021-Present)**

#### THEA 4371: History of the American Musical

- Upper-Level course that examines the history, roots, and development of the American musical and its structures, themes, and traditions.
- Course designed use the history of musical theatre as a road map for the current and future state of the musical theatre genre
- Section of approximately 25 students

#### THEA 4366: Directing I

- Introductory course for students to introduce students to the way a director examines the text and to develop the tools and skills a director uses to bring the text to life on stage.
- Course designed as a writing enhanced course at Sam Houston State University
- Sections of approximately 16 students

#### THEA 4190: Senior Showcase

- Upper-level course for senior musical theatre majors
- Course designed as a capstone experience that prepares seniors to enter the professional realm. The experience culminates with workshops and a performance showcase in New York City.
- Section of approximately 12 students

#### THEA 4094: Special Topics: African American Theatre

- Upper-level course designed to explore of the contribution of African American playwrights to the American theatre canon. Students discuss their cultural significance, recurring themes, and shared history that exist between works to gain a

fuller understanding of the often oppressed or silenced voice of the African American playwright.

- 24 students

THEA 4094: Special Topics: Director/Designer Collaboration

- Upper-level course designed to explore the unique collaborative relationship and processes that exists between directors and designers in the production process.
- Course is designed to explore a variety of plays and genres to develop the creation of directorial concepts and production designs, skills for collaborative communication, working with limitations, and how collaboration helps shape interpretation.
- Section of 10 students

THEA 4094: Special Topics: UIL One-Act Play

- Upper-level course to prepare theatre education majors for the UIL One-Act Play contest in Texas. Students are introduced to the rule book, cutting and designing a one-act, and interviewing educators active in the field.
- Course is designed to provide practical and philosophical approaches to OAP
- Section of 10 students

THEA 4094: Special Topics: Sophomore A/D Workshop

- Sophomore level course to grow, strengthen, and hone students' acting technique through collaboration with student directors on a variety of projects. The sophomore acting/directing students enrolled in this workshop serve as a core group of actors for students in Directing 1.
- Co-taught class
- 8-10 students

THEA 2368: Intermediate Acting

- This course builds upon beginning acting by deepening each student's personal acting technique and artistry by developing their unique approach to the performance. The course is interested in the process more than the product.
- Course designed to explore crafting honest performances on stage through play analysis, developing dynamic characters, practicing active listening, and consistently playing action
- Sections of approximately 16 students

THEA 2367: Play Analysis for Theatre

- Introductory course for students to learn how to move beyond the superficial and read plays with an analytic eye vital for all theatre practitioners
- Course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to delve into a playwright's text for the purpose of performance, design, and criticism.
- Section of approximately 20 students

THEA 2336: Voice I for the Actor

- Introductory course for students to improve their ability to communicate through more effective use of the voice.

- Course designed to explore the basic processes of voice, speech, movement and acting and how they can be further integrated and unified for the performer
- Sections of approximately 16 students

THEA 1364: Beginning Acting

- Introductory theatre course for students to introduce the actor to foundational acting techniques involving the voice and body. Students will explore the process and craftsmanship necessary for a career as professional actor
- Course designed to explore physical and vocal warm-ups, improvisation, character analysis, text analysis, and professionalism.
- Sections of approximately 16 students

THEA 3117: Musical Theatre Workshop (Co-Instructor)

- Upper level course for musical theatre majors
- Course designed to equip musical theatre majors with a variety of musical theatre performance skills and techniques for professional success
- Section of approximately 30 students

**Baylor University, Waco, TX**  
**Full-Time Lecturer, 2018-2019**

THEA 4378: Dramaturgy: Theory and Practice

- Upper level course for theatre majors
- Course designed to examines the functions and methods of the dramaturg and bridge the perceived gap between the study of theatre history/literature/theory and the practical creative work of theatre-making.
- Section of approximately 10 students

THEA 3113/4113: Musical Theatre Workshop

- Upper level course for students in the musical theatre concentration
- Course designed to equip theatre majors with a variety of musical theatre performance skill showcased in an end of semester revue
- Sections of approximately 12 students

THEA 1110: The Fine Arts: An Survey of Music, Art, and Film, Lecturer

- Introductory course for freshmen students involved in the arts
- Course fosters an interdisciplinary perspective, with emphasis on specific performances and exhibitions, service, collaboration, and a small group focus on new student experiences
- Section of approximately 150 students

THEA 1314: Acting for Non-Majors

- Introductory theatre course for non-theatre majors

- Course designed to make non-theatre majors comfortable with performance through exploration of improvisation, monologue work, and duet scenes
- Sections of approximately 16 students

THEA 1206: Theatre Appreciation

- Introductory theatre course for non-theatre majors
- Course designed to examine the role of theatre in society, focusing on aspects of history, production, and audience reception
- Sections of approximately 80 students

MUS 4221: Acting for Singers II (6 Week guest instructor)

- Secondary acting course for musicians (vocalists)
- Course designed to build improvisation skill and comprehension of fundamental acting skills
- Section of approximately 5 students

**Baylor University, Waco, TX**  
**Instructor of Record, 2016-2018**

THEA 1314: Acting for Non-Majors

- Description noted above

THEA 1206: Theatre Appreciation

- Description noted above

**Baylor University, Waco, TX**  
**Teaching Assistant, 2015-2016**

THEA 1206: Theatre Appreciation

- Description noted above

**Glenda Dawson High School, Pearland, TX**  
**Theatre Arts Instructor, 2009-2015**

- Taught introductory theatre courses as well as an advanced production class
- Helped organize, grow, and maintain a theatre department of over 200 students

**Directing**

	<b><u>Professional Productions</u></b>	
<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i>	A.D. Players	2024
<i>Midnight Society (New Musical Workshop)</i>	A.D. Players	2024
<i>Fairview</i>	4 <sup>TH</sup> Wall Theatre	2023
<i>Houston for the Holidays with DeQuina Moore</i>	Stages Theatre	2022

<i>Southern Seeds (Staged Reading)</i>	The Ensemble Theatre	2022
<i>Ain't Misbehavin'</i>	Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS)	2022
Assistant Director		
Dir. Monique Midgette		
<i>Beast and Cakes (Staged Reading)</i>	A.D. Players	2022
<i>You're Cordially Invited to Sit-In</i>	Stages Theatre	2022
(World Premiere)		
<i>Dear Jack, Dear Louise</i>	A.D. Players	2021
Assistant Director		
Dir. Kevin Dean		
<i>Golden Boy</i>	Water Tower Theatre	2020^
<i>The Sound of Music</i>	A.D. Players	2020^
Assistant Director		
Dir. Emily Tello Speck		
<i>Godspell</i>	Water Tower Theatre	
<i>Bread</i> by Regina Taylor	Water Tower Theatre	2018
(World Premiere)		
Assistant Director		
Dir. Leah Garnier		
<i>Hairspray</i>	Waco Civic Theatre	2017

### **University Productions**

<i>Shakespeare in Love</i>	University of Houston	2023
<i>Airness</i>	Sam Houston State University	2022
<i>Detroit '67</i>	Sam Houston State University	2022
<i>Once on this Island</i>	Sam Houston State Univ.	2021
<i>Violet</i>	Sam Houston State Univ.	2020
<i>iGrad</i>	Baylor University	2018
<i>Crazy for You</i>	Baylor University	2017
<i>Noises Off</i>	Baylor University	2017
Assistant Director		
Dir. Dr. Stan Denman		
<i>Black Magic: A Shakespeare Experience</i>	Baylor University	2017
<i>Hamoncé: A Devised Piece</i>	Baylor University	2016
<i>Pavilion</i>	Baylor University	2016
<i>The Most Curious, Unlikely,</i>	Sagemont Church	2009
<i>Extraordinarily...Story Ever Told</i>		
<i>Most Happy Fella</i>	Oklahoma City University	2009
Assistant Director		
Dir. Dr. David Herendeen		
<i>Quantum Mechanics &amp; Witness</i>	OPERATIONS (OCU)	2009
Assistant Director		
<i>Big Red Sun</i>	OCUStripped	2009
New Musical Festival		
<i>Godspell</i>	OCUStripped	2008
<i>A Dog's Life</i>	OCUStripped	2008

### **University Workshop Scenes**

<i>The Hypochondriac</i>	Baylor University Workshop	2017
<i>A Number</i>	Baylor University Workshop	2016
<i>Spring Awakening</i>	Baylor University Workshop	2016
<i>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</i>	Baylor University Workshop	2016
<i>Come Back Little Sheba</i>	Baylor University Workshop	2015

### **Observerships**

*Astoria Pt. 2*, Portland Center Stage, directed by Chris Coleman, December 2017-January 2018.  
*Mary Stuart*, Baylor University, directed by Dr. David Jortner, November 2015-February 2016.

### **Choreography Experience**

<i>Hairspray</i>	Waco Civic Theatre	2017
<i>Hamoncé: A Devised Piece</i>	Baylor University Workshop	2016
<i>Spring Awakening</i>	Baylor University Workshop	2016
<i>Spring Show</i>	Center Stage Productions	2015
<i>POP Show</i>	Ovation Theatre	2010-15
<i>Disney Cabaret</i>	Encore Choir	2015
<i>Alice in Wonderland</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
<i>Spring Show</i>	Center Stage Productions	2014
<i>Encore Cabaret</i>	Ovation Theatre	2010-14
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
<i>Footloose</i>	Ovation Theatre	2011
<i>All You Need is Love: A Romeo &amp; Juliet Story</i>	Ovation Theatre	2010
<i>Oliver</i>	Kids Back Porch Productions	2009

### **Secondary Educational Directing**

<i>Cinderella, Jr.</i>	OCU Musical Theatre Camp	2016
<i>Legally Blonde, Jr.</i>	OCU Musical Theatre Camp	2015
<i>POP Show</i>	Ovation Theatre	2015
<i>The White Snake</i>	Ovation Theatre	2015
<i>Beauty and the Beast</i>	Ovation Theatre	2015
<i>Alice in Wonderland</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
<i>Hairspray, Jr.</i>	OCU Musical Theatre Camp	2014
<i>POP Show</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
<i>The Caucasian Chalk Circle</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
<i>Les Miserables</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Ovation Theatre	2013
<i>Bye Bye Birdie</i>	Ovation Theatre	2013
<i>Godspell, Jr.</i>	OCU Musical Theatre Camp	2013
<i>POP Show</i>	Ovation Theatre	2013
<i>Rosencrantz &amp; Guildenstern are Dead</i>	Ovation Theatre	2013
<i>Barnum</i>	Ovation Theatre	2013

<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Ovation Theatre	2012
<i>25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County</i>	Ovation Theatre	2012
<i>Spelling Bee</i>		
<i>POP Show</i>	Ovation Theatre	2012
<i>The 39 Steps</i>	Ovation Theatre	2012
<i>The Wiz</i>	Ovation Theatre	2012
<i>Peter Pan</i>	Ovation Theatre	2011
<i>Footloose</i>	Ovation Theatre	2011
<i>Once on this Island, Jr.</i>	OCU Music Theatre Camp	2011
<i>POP Show</i>	Ovation Theatre	2011
<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>	Ovation Theatre	2011
<i>Hairspray</i>	Ovation Theatre	2011
<i>All You Need is Love: A Romeo</i>	Ovation Theatre	2010
<i>✶ Juliet Story</i>		
<i>Godspell</i>	Ovation Theatre	2010
<i>Government Inspector</i>	Ovation Theatre	2010

## **Trainings and Workshops**

*Theatrical Intimacy Education: Foundations of Race, Intimacy, & Consent for BIPOC and Race & Choreography* (Kaja Dunn)  
November 2, 2022

Two workshops led by TIE Faculty Member Kaja Dunn on the impact race has on physical storytelling and considerations necessary for choreographing culturally competent intimacy.

*Theatrical Intimacy Education: Educator Advocate Program*  
June 27-July 1, 2022

TIE Educator-Advocate Program is to make TIE's already accessible training more accessible for educational and professional organizations with educational programming. Participants spend 5 days with TIE educators and other arts leaders to be better equipped to support consent-based learning environments in their schools. They go deeper into choreographing intimacy, learn the process of intimacy coordination, DEI training, trauma-informed practices training, Cognitive Equity in Design, basic modesty garment training, consent-based casting policies, writing policy, and bystander intervention training.

*artEquity's Everyday Justice: Antiracism as Daily Practice* (Carmen Morgan & Michael Robertson)  
June 10 & 13, 2022

A two-day training to deepen your analysis and clarify antiracist values in your daily life. Everyday we must work to align our antiracist values with our thoughts and actions. The only cure for racism is doing the work of everyday justice. It is no longer a question of if we should engage in this work. The question is how. This conversation provided frameworks and a baseline analysis for antiracism strategies and action.

*Antiracist Theatre Training-Level Up* (Nicole Brewer- Level II Course)  
April 2022

This one day, three-hour, course is about leveraging your anti-racist theatre ethos in shaping and sustaining an equitable container. Participants examine the three degrees of racism: interpersonal/individual, institutional, cultural and how the practice of "static equity"

combine to hinder our ability to impactfully disrupt racist and oppressive conditions in our collaborations. Level Up also explores how your anti-racist theatre ethos helps you better discern the anti-racist and anti-oppressive practices to support the container that's right for your goal.

Certificate in Effective Instruction from Association of College and University Educators (2022)  
Aug. 2021-April 2022

This certificate signifies my completion of a 25-module course in effective teaching practices requiring the implementation of evidence-based instructional approaches. The credential is co-issued by the American Council on Education and distinguishes faculty for their commitment to educational excellence and student success.

*Theatrical Intimacy Education: Best Practices*  
June 2021 / August 2021

This workshop covers TIE's Best Practices, including tools for developing a consent-based process, setting boundaries, desexualizing the process, choreographing intimacy, and documentation.

*Antiracist Theatre Training* (Nicole Brewer)  
July/August 2021

A.R.T. blends anti-racist theory, social justice, collectivism, healing justice and theatre exercises for an embodied understanding of racism and our agency to become anti-racist. In this two-part six hour course, participants gain the tools to craft their own unique anti-racist theatre ethos and delve into the three core principles of anti-racist theatre: harm reduction, harm prevention and relationship repair.

## **Publications**

"Here Comes the General: An Examination of the Depiction of the African American Man as the Father of America in *Hamilton*," *Hamilton: History, Hip-Hop and Politics: Essays on the Afterbirth of a Nation*, Anticipated 2023.

"Interview about *The Fertile River* with playwright Vincent Terrell Durham and producer Alton J. Patton III," *Texas Theatre Journal*, Volume 14, Issue 1.

"*Hallelujah and Amen: Revival of The Color Purple as African-American Church*," *Ecumenica*, Volume 11, Issue 1.

"The Holy Land Experience: "Step Right Up" and Experience the Violent Spectacle of the Crucifixion," *Ecumenica*, Volume 10, Issue 2.

## **Conference Presentations**

"TIE's Educator's Advocate Program," Musical Theatre Educators Alliance (MTEA), Co-Presentation with Jami Witt Miller, New York City, NY, 2023.

"Taking it to Church: *The Color Purple* Musical as an African-American Church Experience," Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), Las Vegas, NV, 2017.



“‘I Really Need This Job:’ Musical Theatre Training in Academic Directing Programs,” Comparative Drama Conference (CDC), Orlando, FL, 2017.

“Creating Problems: Artistic Analysis, Devised Production, and Graduate Pedagogy,” Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC), Houston, TX, 2017.

“Brown Bag Conversations: Discussions of Diversity with Dael Orlandersmith,” Moderator, Baylor University, 2017.

“The Holy Land Experience: Where You Too Can Experience the Crucifixion,” Comparative Drama Conference (CDC), Baltimore, MD, 2016.

“Shondaland: Where Black Women are Queen,” Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWP/ACA), Albuquerque, NM, 2016.

“The New Fosse: Comparing Fosse the Auteur and Marshall the Collaborator,” Texas Educators Theatre Association (TETA), Dallas, TX, 2106.

### **Guest Lectures/Workshops**

Approaches to Acting, Presenter at Fort Bend ISD Theatre Teacher Professional Development (July 2023)

- A workshop to provide middle school and high school educators a variety of approaches to deepen the connection and authenticity of their student performers.

*Burn Ban: A Horror Musical*, New Musical Reading, Post-Show Response Moderator, (July 2023)

- A new musical reading by Matthew Teague Miller and Joshua Hegg with a cast featuring Aaron Lazar and Kristy Cates. I served as the moderator for a post-show discussion for the librettist and composer.

De-Colonizing Your Classroom, Co-Lecturer with Dr. Vicky Lantz at KCACTF Region 6 (March 2022)

- A workshop to guide students and educators through the practical steps of building an anti-racist and inclusive classroom

Oklahoma City University: OCUCares Race & Ethnic Diversity Town Hall, Panelist (November 2020)

- Panelist about the need for EDI in collegiate theatre programs

Baylor University: THEA 2103, 3103, 4103: Traditional Voice (Musical Theatre), Guest Instructor November 2017

- Provided feedback and critique on selection, style, and performance for pop/rock musical auditions

Baylor University: THEA 2103, 3103, 4103: Traditional Voice (Musical Theatre), Guest Instructor January 2017

- Led a class on Laban technique for musical theatre performance

Baylor University: THEA 1314: Theatre Appreciation, Guest Instructor  
2016

- Acting Class for non-majors
- Co-led a class on improvisation techniques

Baylor University: THEA 1206: Theatre Appreciation, Guest Lecturer  
2016

- Lecture on Musical Theatre history

Baylor University: THEA 1206: Theatre Appreciation, Guest Lecturer  
2015

- Lecture discussing Ingrid Bergman's *Nora* and *Ibsen's A Doll's House*

### **Service/Membership Organizations**

Musical Theatre Educators Alliance (MTEA): Member of the organization and regional director elect for the upcoming year.

Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region 6 (KCACTF): Musical Theatre Imitative Coordinator (Fall 2022-current)

Parking Appeals Committee (SHSU): Regular member of the university wide committee, serving a two-year term.

CAM Diversity Council: Member of the College of Arts and Media's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee. (Fall 2021-present)

Anti-Racist Intersectional Advocacy Council (ARIEAC): Member of the department of theatre and musical theatre's diversity council. (Summer 2020-present)

University Diversity Committee: Served on the university diversity, equity, and inclusion committee. (2020-2022)

Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF): Irene Ryan Respondent (Spring 2021)

Texas Theatre Adjudicators and Officials (TTAO): U.I.L. One-Act Play Adjudicator/Clinician (2016-ongoing)

Greater Houston Chapter of National Association of Teachers of Singing: Guest Judge (November 2020)

Baylor University: Sing: Club Night Judge (February 2018)

### **Research**

Research Assistant

Dr. DeAnna Toten-Beard, Theatre Department, Baylor University, 2015-2016  
 Aided in research theatrical productions in America during World War I.

## **Awards**

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Graduate Student Travel Award	April 2017
Nominated for Outstanding Graduate Instructor	March 2017/March 2018
Graduate Student Travel Research Award	February 2017
Graduate Student Travel Award	February 2016
Graduate Student Travel Award	March 2016
Texas UIL 6A State Runner-Up <i>The White Snake</i>	May 2015
Texas UIL 4A State Champion <i>Caucasian Chalk Circle</i>	May 2014
Texas UIL 4A State Finalist <i>Rosencrantz &amp; Guildenstern Are Dead</i>	May 2013

## **Acting Experience**

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<i>The Campaign</i>	Matt	Fade to Black: Play Festival	2018
<i>Heathers: The Musical</i>	Adult Male	Waco Civic Theatre	2016
<i>Footloose</i>	Coach Dunbar	Oklahoma City University	2009
<i>The Miser</i>	Fletcher	Oklahoma City Rep. Theatre	2008
<i>Little Women</i>	Ensemble	Oklahoma City University	2007
<i>Grease</i>	Teen Jock	Masquerade Theatre	2007
<i>Christmas Carol</i>	Storyteller	Oklahoma City University	2006
<i>Cosi</i>	Justin	Oklahoma City University	2006
<i>City of Angels</i>	Angel City 4 (Bass)	OCU Stripped	2006

## **Production Experience**

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Literary Reader	<i>Detour: New Play Festival</i>	Water Tower Theatre	2018
House Management	Manager	Baylor University	2015
Projection Designer	<i>Alice in Wonderland</i>	Ovation Theatre	2014
	Encore Disney Cabaret		
Sound Design	<i>The White Snake,</i> <i>Rosencrantz &amp; Guildenstern, The 39 Steps,</i> <i>Streetcar Named Desire</i>	Ovation Theatre	2011-2015
Sound Board Operator	Musicals	Ovation Theatre	2009-2015

## **Memberships**

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Texas Educational Theatre Association  
 Texas Theatre Adjudicators and Officials  
 Southwest Popular/American Culture Association  
 Graduate Student Association-Baylor University

## **References**

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### **Monique Midgette**

Associate Artistic Director  
Theatre Under the Stars  
800 Bagby St.  
UNIT 200  
Houston, TX 77002  
[Moniquemidgette@gmail.com](mailto:Moniquemidgette@gmail.com)

### **Kevin Dean**

Artistic Director  
A.D. Players  
5420 Westheimer Rd  
Houston, TX 77056  
[kevin@adplayers.org](mailto:kevin@adplayers.org)

### **Kenn McLaughlin**

Artistic Director  
Stages Theatre  
800 Rosine St.  
Houston, TX 77019  
[kmclaughlin@stageshouston.com](mailto:kmclaughlin@stageshouston.com)

### **Dr. DeAnna Toten Beard**

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### **Dr. David Jortner**

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### **Dr. Stan Denman**

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