

# LAUREN SMITH BEARDEN

Costume Designer & Technician

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## EDUCATION:

### MASTER OF FINE ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

- GPA: 3.87
- Grinter Fellowship recipient
- Member: USITT -Received award Participant in Design Tech Expo at USITT 2018
- 2017 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Nomination for *Pity for the Wild* costume design.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant for 2016-2019
- Served on graduate student council Fall 2016- Spring 2019
- Costume Design: *Pity for The Wild* (Spring 2017)
- Costume Design: *The Magnificent Revengers* (Summer 2017) in partnership with Tilted Windmills Productions
- Costume Design: *SWAMP DANCE 2018*
- Costume Design: *The Beaux Stratagem* (Spring 2018)
- Costume Design: 2018/19 co-production with Hippodrome Theatre: *The Wolves*
- Costume Design: *Red Velvet* for SoTD 2018/19 Season (Thesis)

### BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MISSOURI

- GPA: 3.49
- Member: Theta Alpha Phi- Honorary Theatre Fraternity
- Theatre Ambassador Scholar

### ASSOCIATE OF ARTS, STATE FAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## WORK EXPERIENCE:

### 2021-Present

#### ASSOCIATE DESIGNER/WARDROBE MANAGER, UNION AVENUE OPERA

- Drape and build costumes as assigned by costume designer.
- Manage and train wardrobe team
- Associate Costume Designer for *A Little Night Music*
- Assist designer as needed with purchasing, rental coordination, and alterations.
- Act as draper and/or firsthand during fittings as needed.

### March 2020-April 2022

#### COSTUME DIRECTOR, WINTER OPERA SAINT LOUIS

- Designer in residence for Winter Opera's mainstage season
- Manage the costume shop to execute all costume designs
- Recruit over hire as needed.

- Manage the alterations business associated with WOSTL costume shop.
- Rentals coordination and management of costume stock
- Costume design and coordination for fundraising events as needed.

### **AUGUST 2019- 2021**

#### **ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR & GUEST ARTIST, EAST CENTRAL COLLEGE**

- Teach Theatre Appreciation course
- Director for TYA Christmas show
- Guest costume designer for Fall 2021 show

### **AUGUST 2019-May 2022**

#### **COSTUME DIRECTOR, Jewish Community Center Youth Theatre**

- Design and plan the execution of costumes for JCC Youth Theatre
- Manage budgets and keep track of changing measurements for the 60 enrolled children every semester.
- Coordinate with volunteer parents as needed.

### **2015 -PRESENT**

#### **SELECTED FREELANCE**

- Guest designer: *Into the Woods, Peter and the Star Catcher, Mary Poppins*. Missouri Baptist University (2020-Present)
- Pattern engineer: CINMAR LLC (ongoing pat. pending)
- Costume Design: *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* for the Q-Collective (2019)
- Costume Design: *The Wolves*. Hippodrome Theatre (2018)
- Costume Design: *King Lear: A Post-Colonial Tragedy*. Ozark Actors Theatre (2019)
- Costume Design: *Guys and Dolls*. Stray Dog Theatre (2019)
- Costume Construction: *Cinderella* ensemble coats for the MUNY (2019)
- Costume Design of *Gnadiges Fraulien*, THUD Productions at Kansas City Fringe Festival (2018)
- Custom garment construction: Bridal cape for Erin Stubblefield photography (2018)

### **NOVEMBER 2015 – AUGUST 2016**

#### **APPRENTICE, PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY**

Work in all aspects of production for the Purple Rose Theatre's season while learning about their process for producing original works. Highlights include:

- Assisting Sound Designer (Brad Phillips) and Costume Designer (Suzanne Young) for *Morning's at Seven*.
- Front of House and Box office work: thorough knowledge of Vendini ticketing system, filling equity reports at the end of a performance day, taking ticket orders over the phone.
- Backstage support for annual *Jeff Daniels: Onstage and Unplugged* concert.
- Extensive work in scene shop: making doors, building and finishing custom floors, building stud wall, hanging drywall, scenic painting.
- Attendance of Acting, Directing, and Playwriting workshops, and the development of the *Dark Night*, apprentice showcase.

## SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2015

### COSTUME DESIGNER, MAPLES REPERTORY THEATRE

- Design and Construct costumes for two mainstage shows and one children’s show.
- Coordinate fittings and maintain AEA standards throughout the shows’ runs.
- Manage budget for shop supplies and materials needed to produce designs.
- Work with and manage local volunteers aiding in the builds of the shows.
- Perform in TYA shows as needed

## JUNE-AUGUST 2015

### WARDROBE SUPERVISOR/STITCHER, NEW HARMONY THEATRE

- Supervise and mentor New Harmony interns in wardrobe duties for 2015 Season
- Complete paperwork and tracking for all shows
- Transport of wardrobe and supplies to offsite venues in company vehicles.
- Adherence to all AEA rules and standards throughout runs of shows

## SUMMER 2013 & 2014

### SUMMER THEATRE WORKER, EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

- Performance: Patsy in *Bingo! The Winning Musical*
- Costume shop stitcher: *Maybe Baby Its You, Drinking Habbits, Still Life with Iris*
- Design Assistant: *Still Life with Iris*
- Carpentry: *Nunsense*
- Hair & makeup design: *Too Many Cooks, Blithe Spirit*

## AUGUST 2014-MAY 2015

### COSTUME SHOP ASSISTANT, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MISSOURI

- Construct costumes for UCM Theatre and Dance shows.
- Maintain organization of costume shop stock.

## CERTIFICATIONS & SKILLS

### MISSOURI SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATE-2019

### CPR/FIRSTAID CERTIFIED -2015, 2018 (to be renewed 2022)

## SKILLS

- Draping
- Flat patterning
- Photoshop/ Adobe
- Public Speaking
- Creative problem solving
- Microsoft Office suite
- Millinery
- Embroidery
- Project management

## SPECIAL INTERESTS

### GREEN THEATRE:

-taking time in classes to give “fix it workshops” in order to show students how to repair or alter their current clothing and cut down on textile waste.

-Focus on repurposed garments and materials throughout the design process.

## **THEATRE AS LIFE SKILL**

-Teaching the practical applications of theatre related skills to people who work in other industries. - Teaching theatre students where what they learn in the classroom applies in their everyday task management.

## **ACTIVISM/ADVOCACY**

-Volunteer for Family Promise of Gainesville, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping homeless families in the community get back on their feet.

-Member of Costume Professionals for Wage Equity

## **REFERENCES:**

**Kate Slovinski** Production Manager, Union Avenue Opera  
[kate@unionavenueopera.org](mailto:kate@unionavenueopera.org)

**Taylor Hudson** Founder: THUD Productions  
[thudprod@gmail.com](mailto:thudprod@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Dasher** Associate Professor of Costume Design, University of FL  
[jdasher@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:jdasher@arts.ufl.edu)

**Felia Davenport** UMSL Professor, costume and fashion designer  
[davenportf@umsl.edu](mailto:davenportf@umsl.edu)