

Brandi Burgess

Annotated Nonprofit Resume

Major Gifts Officer

University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA, July 2017-January 2019

Identified, cultivated, solicited, and retained qualified prospects and donors. Managed a portfolio of 175 qualified relationships, and applied a creative approach to the portfolio, with a custom cultivation strategy for each donor. Established a strategic and systematic focus on closing multi-year commitments from individuals that are invested in the success of UArts. Met regularly with deans, faculty, and administrators to understand major priorities and goals and to support donor cultivation. Worked closely with alumni relations and communications to target, engage, and maintain alumni giving.

Education Programs Manager

Philadelphia Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA October 2016-May 2017

This position required me to manage all partnerships within the award-winning Education Dept. at PTC. I coordinated with teachers to uphold and improve standards of current theatre residencies. I pursued and maintained relationships with new partners, expanding our reach of programming and designing specific curriculum to fit unique needs. I collected data and worked closely with development to track and obtain grants. I managed all ticketing and a sliding scale box office for students, teachers, or patrons with critical needs. I managed our teaching artist hires, supervising their work as well as their hours and payroll. I also pioneered special projects, such as the first Philadelphia mainstage “relaxed performance”, targeted for theatre patrons with unique sensory needs. For our production of *Found*, I worked with behavior specialists, producers, the creative team, and every dept. at PTC to create an inclusive experience for patrons that are often ignored or overwhelmed at typical performance events. I also managed our existing access programming, giving tickets to visually impaired and hearing impaired patrons, and creating performance accommodations for them, such as audio description/sensory touch tours and open captioning. I also managed our budgets and assisted in grant writing/fundraising.

Special Programs Director

Wolf Performing Arts Center, Bryn Mawr, PA, June 2015-October 2016

I am the founder and director of QUILT: A Patchwork of Possibilities. QUILT is a program designed to heighten inclusive practices for unique learners. I have been training staff to implement these strategies across all programs, and designing specific supports for neurodiverse students. I am a resident teaching artist for special residencies (heightened needs, advanced training, low-income communities), creating theatre curriculum for diverse learners aged pre-school to adult. I was the co-facilitator of The Butterfly Project, a collaboration with Philadelphia Young Playwrights to write an original script about contemporary identity. We wrote *The Time We Give Each Other* with 15 student playwrights. It will be cast in Fall 2016, then will tour throughout the Greater Philadelphia area free of charge. Built within the mission of the Butterfly Project is an impetus to create citizen artists, who strive to generate art that's missing from the world, ask provocative questions, and make a stand for equality. I also direct for Wolf PAC, with an emphasis on student-devised work, interactive performances, and processes that encourage young performers to take on leadership.

Asst. Artistic Director

Prague Youth Theatre, Prague, Czech Republic Sept '14-July '15

A year-long residency to expand PYT's programming. I created and facilitated workshops for English-speaking students aged 4-17. I directed, adapted and collaborated on 9 full-scale productions. I ran the company's social media, and managed various administrative aspects. I also partnered with other organizations, like "Week Without Walls", where we devised a production around the theme "Home", or "Class in Action", an international theatre competition for which two of our groups created original work.

Resident Artist

Kankakee, Illinois, June '14-Aug '14

I was selected to reside in Kankakee, a rural city recovering from an economic downslide and re-branding itself to promote residential growth. I hosted a series of workshops and events to empower and connect the community, generate creative ideas, and promote the city's many underserved resources. Highlights of the summer series included a 48-hour film festival, an astronomy theatre event, and a play series that featured original plays inspired by Kankakee, written by locals.

Teaching Artist

The New Victory Theater, New York, NY Sept '13-Sept '14

Collaboratively created and facilitated lesson plans around productions at The New Victory Theater. Traveled to schools in all five boroughs to co-teach lesson plans to Pre-K – High School students.

Director

Wolf Performing Arts Center, Wynnewood, Pa July-August 2013

Directed Fiddler on the Roof, Jr. and Oklahoma, Jr. for "Summer of Theatre Magic" camp, grades 3-8. Also taught Set Design and Improvisation Electives.

Teaching Artist

Philadelphia Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA Sept '12-June '13

A year-long classroom residency. Did pre and post-performance sessions to engage students with each play in the season. The climax of the program was "Philly Reality". Using Katori Hall's *The Mountaintop* as inspiration, our students created a play about violence in Philadelphia. All the classes came together and presented their work on the PTC stage.

Teaching Artist

Philadelphia Young Playwrights, Philadelphia, PA Sept '12-May '13

The program consisted of 25 hours of classroom visits, and facilitation of an in school mini-festival. Worked closely with the teacher to tailor the program to meet the needs of the particular setting and the student population.

Teaching Artist

Theatre Horizon, Norristown, PA Sept '12-June '13

Various classroom residencies. I directed 3rd-4th graders in a production of *Wizard of Oz*, complete with 5 Dorothy's, a human yellow-brick road, and a Venn Diagram. I also directed a residency with 3rd-5th grade girls. We spent 6 weeks building improvisation skills with games and exercises.

Autism Drama Program Teaching Artist

Theatre Horizon, Norristown, PA Sept '12-June '13

Met on Saturdays with a group of children on the autism spectrum, engaging them in a series of theatre games focusing on emotional expression, imagination building, and ensemble participation. I also assisted on a Playwriting Course for Young Adults with autism.

Teaching Artist Ensemble

University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA Jan-May '12

We developed interactive lesson plans that we took into classrooms to prepare students (ages 10-18) for engaging with our production of *Little Women*. We performed for a diverse range of students (English as a Second Language, Performance majors, Learning Disabilities, cognitive challenges).

Teaching Artist

ArtPlay, Birmingham, AL June-July '11

I taught classes, led warm-ups, and assisted with direction for the 3 productions, one for each two-week session. Ages 7-18.

Director

AASCG, Birmingham, AL June '07-'09

Built curriculum and directed productions for the Autism Asperger Syndrome Consulting Group. Each day of camp would consist of alternating intervals of rehearsal, vocal and expression training, as well as theatre games and ensemble activities.

Education:

- Inclusion Training with Aliza Greenberg, Autism and Education Specialist
- TATI (Teaching Artist Training Institute), Marquis Studios, NY
- NYC Face to Face Conference (2014, 2016)
- University of the Arts, B.F.A, Acting Major, Philadelphia, PA
- British American Drama Academy, London, England
- Alabama School of Fine Arts, Theatre major

Awards:

- Dean's List (4 years), University of the Arts
- Featured Alumni, Alabama School of Fine Arts (2014)
- Presidential Scholarship (4 years), University of the Arts
- Highest GPA, Theatre Dept (2012), University of the Arts