

BRIANNE TAYLOR

CURRICULUM VITAE

August 2020

Morgantown, WV

316.323.4202

brianne.s.taylor@gmail.com

briannetaylorvoiceworks.com

Current Appointment: Assistant Professor of Voice & Speech
West Virginia University, School of Theatre & Dance

EDUCATION

M.F.A., West Virginia University, 2015

Emphasis: Acting

Thesis: "Imagination, Cultivation, Creation: An exploration of a customized acting process and personalization of Theresa Rebeck's *Seminar*"

Specific Training: Acting — Stanislavski, Meisner, Period Styles
Voice — Linklater, Rodenburg, Fitzmaurice, IPA
Movement — Laban Effort-Shaping, Stage Combat
Western Theatre History — Classical

Instructors: **Jerry McGonigle, Lee Blair, Laura Hitt, Jessica Morgan, Roger Smart**

B.F.A., Emporia State University, 2011

Emphasis: Theatre Arts

Magna Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS

- *Certified Assistant Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework®*, **Catherine Fitzmaurice, Saul Kotzubei, Cynthia Bassham, Joey Bates, Micha Espinoza, Ilse Phipper**, various Master & Associate Teachers, Barcelona Institute for the Arts, 2017.
- Voice and Speech Trainers Association, member, 2017-present.
- Equity Membership Candidate

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Voice & Speech (2018-Present)

West Virginia University, School of Theatre and Dance, Morgantown, WV

Taught voice and speech curriculum for Studio Acting program, establishing foundations of healthy vocal production, sustaining vocal qualities for production of active text, and polishing speech to aid in character specificity. Foundations of vocal production rooted in Fitzmaurice Voicework®, Patsy Rodenburg, and Kristin Linklater techniques. Speech and accent acquisition taught from Knight-Thompson Speechwork approach.

Courses Taught: Voice & Speech: Fundamental, Intermediate, Advanced, Graduate
Studio Scene Study (BFA & MFA Acting)

Graduate Teaching Assistant (2012-2015)

West Virginia University, School of Theatre and Dance, Morgantown, WV
 Taught fundamental acting techniques, history, and theory classes. Developed curriculum for Fundamentals of Voice based off of Fitzmaurice, Rodenburg, and Linklater techniques.

Courses Taught: Acting for Non-Majors
 Introduction to Theatre
 Fundamentals of Voice

ADMINISTRATION

Graduate Admissions & Recruitment, Marymount University, DC, 2018-2019.

Responsibilities include: organization and thorough understanding of admissions process for all degrees/programs, documentation authentication, appointments with prospective students, event planning, database (Slate, Colleague) upkeep, editing of promotion materials

Recruitment Specialist, West Virginia University, 2016.

Responsibilities include: traveling, auditioning and recruiting prospective students, coordinating presentations for showcase at unified auditions

VOCAL COACHING

Hedda Gabler, Vocal Coach

West Virginia University, March 2020
 Director: Robynn Rodriguez

Phantom Tollbooth, Vocal Coach

West Virginia University, October 2019
 Director: Lee Blair

Mud, Vocal Coach

West Virginia University, September 2019
 Director: Dr. Radhica Ganapathy

Comedy of Tenors, Dialect Coach

Olney Theatre Center, DC, April 2019
 Director: Jason King Jones
 Starring: John Treacy Egan

New Anatomies, Dialect Coach

West Virginia University Falbo Series, April 2019
 Director: Irene Alby

You Can't Take It With You, Vocal Coach

West Virginia University, April 2019
 Director: Dr. Jay Malarcher

Cloud 9, Dialect Coach

West Virginia University, November 2018
 Director: Dr. Radhica Ganapathy

Vocal Coaching cont'd.

- The Moors*, Vocal Coach
 West Virginia University, September 2018
 Director: Lee Blair
- National Players 70th Tour*, Voice & Dialect Coach
 Olney Theatre Center, DC, Summer 2018
 Directors: Jason King Jones, Jared Mezzocchi
- Ciao Bambino*, original script, Dialect Consultant
 13th Street Rep, NYC, October 2018
 Director: Vincent Pelligrino
- Boeing, Boeing*, Dialect Coach
 SUNY Oswego, November 2017
 Director: Megan Hickey
- Pride & Prejudice*, Dialect Coach
 SUNY Oswego, April 2017
 Director: Mya Brown
- A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Voice & Text Coach
 West Virginia University, April 2015
 Director: Jerry McGonigle
- Pliant Girls*, Vocal Coach
 Lab Theatre, WV, April 2015
 Director: Jason Lee
- R.N.D.E.*, Vocal Coach
 Lab Theatre, WV, March 2015
 Director: Ben Stansbery

PERFORMANCE

Professional Stage Credits (Representative)

- Keeper of the Plains*, Solo Performance
 Institute of the Arts, Barcelona, July 2017
 Self Written Solo Performance
 In Fulfillment of *Fitzmaurice Voicework®* Certification
- Everything You Touch*, Jess u/s
 Contemporary American Theatre Festival, WV, July-August 2015
 Director: May Adrales
- We Are Pussy Riot*, (world premier, season commission) Ensemble
 Contemporary American Theatre Festival, WV, July-August 2015
 Director: Tea Alagic
 Playwright: Barbara Hammond

Professional Stage Credits (Representative) cont'd.

- The Laramie Project*, Ensemble
 Kensington Arts Theatre, DC, January 2016
 Director: John Nunemaker **2011-12 Tour Season, Actor & Production Manger**
 Wichita Children's Theatre, KS 2011-12
- Monster Under the Bed*, Mom/Teacher
 Emporia Summer Theatre, KS, June-July 2011
 Director: Jim Bartruff
- A Taffeta Christmas*, Peggy
 Emporia Public Theatre, KS, December 2010
 Director: Jeremy Devine
- Almost, Maine*, Glory/Hope
 Emporia Summer Theatre, KS, June-July 2010
 Director: Theresa Mitchell
- Leading Ladies*, Audrey
 Kechi Playhouse, KS, May 2006
 Director: Misty Maynard

Academic Stage Credits:

- Arsenic and Old Lace*, Aunt Martha
 West Virginia University, April 2015
 Director: Dr. Jay Malarcher
- A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Hippolyta
 West Virginia University, December 2015
 Director: Jerry McGonigle
- Seminar*, Kate
 West Virginia University, September 2015
 Director: Lee Blair
 Thesis Performance
- Henry IV, parts 1 and 2*, Mistress Quickly
 West Virginia University, April 2014
 Director: Roger Smart
- Cabaret*, Frau Schneider
 West Virginia University, October 2013
 Director: Lee Blair
- The Cherry Orchard*, Varya
 West Virginia University, April, 2013
 Director: Jerry McGonigle
- Blood Wedding*, Mother
 West Virginia University, November 2012
 Director: Roger Smart

Academic Stage Credits cont'd.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Tatiana
 Emporia State University, KS, April 2011
 Director: Jim Bartruff

Hedda Gabbler, Aunt Julia
 Emporia State University, KS, 2010
 Director: Dr. Jim Ryan

Laundry & Bourbon, Elizabeth
 Emporia State University, KS, 2009
 Director: Nancy Pontius

The Glass Menagerie, Amanda
 Emporia State University, KS, 2009
 Director: Jim Bartruff

Inheritance, Eleanor
 Southwestern College, KS, 2008
 Director: Roger Moon
 Original production

Finnegan's Farewell, Maggie Malone
 Southwestern College, KS, 2008
 Director: Allyson Moon

PRODUCTION

Stage Management:

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Stage Manager
 Anacostia Playhouse, DC, December 2017
 Director: Krista Vingelis

Happy Days, Assistant Stage Manager
 West Virginia Public Theatre, July-August 2013
 Stage Manger: Ingrid Olson

Wichita Childrens Theatre Touring Company, Tour Manager
 KS, August 2011- May 12

We Love to Tell the Story, Stage Manager
 Emporia State University, KS, June-July 2011
 Director: Jim Bartruff

Are We There Yet?, Stage Manager
 Emporia State University, KS, June-July 2010
 Director: Jim Bartruff

Into the Woods, Stage Manager
 Southwestern College, KS, 2008

Director: Roger Moon
Guest Artist Scenographer: Murell Horton

Various Production Assignments:

Arsenic and Old Lace, Fight Captain & Assistant Choreographer
West Virginia University, April 2015
Director: Dr. Jay Malarcher
Fight Choreographer: Jessica Morgan

Eagerheart (stage reading), Director
WVU Theatre Student Organization, December 2014

Marry Poppins, Scenic Painter
West Virginia Public Theatre, December 2014

Vaudeville Night, Co-Producer
West Virginia University, December 2014
Co-Producers: Vincent Pelligrino, Mya Brown, Stephanie Freeman

West Virginia Public Theatre Season, Scenic Charge Artist
WV, Summer 2012
Productions: *9 to 5*, *All Shook Up*, *Anything Goes*, *Godspell*, *Ring of Fire*

Barefoot in the Park, Scenic Designer
Emporia State University, KS, June-July 2011
Director: Theresa Mitchell

Daddy's Dyin', Assistant to the Scenic Designer
Emporia State University, KS, June-July 2011
Scenic Designer: Rick Rassmussen

Marcus is Walking, Director
Southwestern College, KS, 2008

Comedy of Errors, Costume, Mask, Make-up Design
Southwestern College, KS, 2008
Director: Allyson Moon

The Complete History of America (Abridged), Charge Artist & Props
Emporia State University, KS, 2008
Director: Theresa Mitchell
Designer: Eric Luchen

Continuous Production Assignments:

IATSE local, Intermittent work: set, costumes, sound
Morgantown, WV 2013-15
Business Agent: Ryan Delbridge

Costume Shop Employee
Emporia State University, 2009-2011

Costume Shop Manager & Rentals Coordinator
Southwestern College, KS, 2006-2008

COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Theatre (1 semester)

A lecture designed to explore elements of theatrical production, history of the Theatre from 5th century BCE Greece through American Postmodernism, similarities and differences within theatre through this selected history, and the importance of art and theatre to the human experience. Lectures include visual presentation, analytical discussion, and review of university productions.

Acting 1 (1 semester)

A basic introduction to acting with a focus on imagination, action, ensemble building, concentration of attention, and objectives. Students develop a vocabulary to explain their process and collaborate with others in pursuit of a clearly defined artistic vision. Projects include structured improvisations and exercises based primarily in Stanislavski technique, leading to monologue and scene study work.

Fundamental Vocal Technique (1 semester)

Students new to vocal technique explore fundamentals of vocal production as gesture and action of dramatic communication. Through the use of text and physical exercises, there is a development of breath awareness, sound placement, resonance, focus, intention, un/healthy habits, spatial awareness, and basic anatomy as needed in supporting production of healthy, clear, resonant and expressive voices.

Intermediate Vocal Technique (2 semesters)

Once fundamentals have been instated, exploration continues in development of body awareness, inspiration, respiratory mechanics, heightened facility of vocal dynamics and posture, and integration of those skills to create grounded artistic expression. Relaxation found through physical exercises (Fitzmaurice Voicework®, Linklater, Rodenburg, Laban) focusing on the foundation of voice - the breath - works to open a powerful range of expression, rooted in personal truth of the actor. Students obtain and demonstrate an understanding of the anatomical and physiological components of speech production, refining intelligibility and dialect acquisition. There is focus on vocal dynamics, personalization, text analysis, and image connection. With Knight-Thompson Speechwork, students are introduced to the fundamentals of the International Phonetic Alphabet and its role in accent acquisition.

Advanced Vocal Technique (2 semesters)

This course provides deeper foundational work of the voice, speech, text as demanded by the structure of Shakespeare and accent/dialect acquisition. We will work to assist the mental engagement as an actor with heightened text into deepening the freedom of an imaginative and kinesthetic instrument, providing a sound that matches the image and action needs of the text. *Inspiration* is defined, explored, and finessed. After body integration of text work, detail is drawn to the speech producing apparatus as students learn the skill of dialect acquisition with Received Pronunciation and two other accents/dialects catered to students' needs. Principles of voiceover are introduced.

Courses Taught, cont'd.**Graduate Vocal Technique** (2 semesters)

Participants are engaged in rigorous and methodical physical exercises (Fitzmaurice Voicework®, Linklater, and Rodenburg practices) to cultivate focus on the origin of voice: the breath. Through this physical awareness, a vocabulary for voice and speech is established, as well as undoing any habits that may impede vocal production. The work will progress into exploration of imaginative and instrumental range. To facilitate the approach to holistic acting and unification of physical and psychological voice, selected text and self-written text are used. Vocal health in conjuncture with anatomy and physiology of speech are taught in this foundations class. With Knight-Thompson Speechwork, students are introduced to the fundamentals of the International Phonetic Alphabet and its role in accent acquisition. Vocal dynamics are explored, analyzed, and implemented in performance.

Advanced Graduate Vocal Technique (2 semesters)

Deeper connection of voice, speech, and text work as required by the heightened demands of Shakespeare's writing is employed. Vocal Extremes techniques are taught and applied to monologues and scenes in a variety of venues. This exploration of Shakespeare will launch into detailed precision of speechwork through accent acquisition by looking into So-Called General American, Received Pronunciation, Multicultural London English, 2 accents/dialects based from the needs of the students, student created breakdowns of an additional chosen accent/dialect, and student research and presentation of an idiolect.

MENTORSHIP

- Graduate student serving as a Teaching Assistant to the Fundamentals of Vocal Techniques class developing pedagogy, process, and presence with students in the studio, West Virginia University, Spring & Fall semester of 2020.
- Audition preparation for Baltimore Shakespeare Company with undergraduate student, West Virginia University, November 2019.
- Graduate student attendance at the annual Voice & Speech Trainers Association conference to research personal interested in Intimacy Directors International organization and diversity within vocal production in Orlando, West Virginia University, August 2019.
- Monologue preparation for graduate school audition with undergraduate student, now a MFA candidate at the University of Houston, West Virginia University, January 2019.
- Monologue preparation with undergraduate student for professional audition requiring Received Pronunciation accent, West Virginia University, January 2019.
- Monologue and audition preparation for Audrey Burgoon, Kansas Thespian Theatre Educator scholarship recipient, International Thespian Society Festival - Kansas, January 2019.
- Monologue preparation for professional audition with undergraduate student, now employed at Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, West Virginia University, December 2018.
- Audition dialect preparation for professional production of *Once* with graduate student, West Virginia University, October 2018.
- Consulting student on branding and promotion of personal product including script development, image projection, and resources, West Virginia University, September 2018.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

- *Fitzmaurice Voicework*®:
 - *Assistant Teacher Certification*, Barcleona, 2016-2017.
 - *2 Day Intensive*, Seydwey Studios, LA, 2016.
 - *5 Day Intensive*, Chelsea Studios, NYC, 2015.
 - Instructors: **Catherine Fitzmaurice** (founder)
 Master Teachers: **Saul Kotzubei, Cynthia Bassham, Joseph Bates, Micha Espinosa, Ilse Pfeifer**
 Associate Teachers: **Elizabeth Alman, Michaela Bartoskova, Alida Bevk, Andrea Caban, Cynthia DeCure, Anna Estrada, Marta Fiol, Jane Guyer Fujita, Laura Hitt, Rikke Liljenberg, Catalina Medina, Christine Mottram, Hilde Naedts, Esther Pallejá, Paula Ramierz, Cathryn Robson, Marta Rosell, Roger Smart, Leo Van Cleynenbreugel, Helena Walsh**
- *Knight-Thompson Speechwork*:
 - *Experiencing Speech workshop*, **Julie Foh** and **Eliza Simpson**, NYC, 2017.
 - *Phonetics Intensive workshop*, **Julie Foh** and **Tyler Seiple**, 2018.
 - *Experiencing Accents workshop*, **Phil Thompson** and **Julie Foh**, NYC, 2019.
- *A Window Into Speech: Production Coaching*, **Beth McGuire** and **Jane Guyer Fujita**, NYC, 2018.
- *Auditioning for the Camera*, **Bob Krakower**, West Virginia University, 2014.
- *Film Auditioning & Self Promotion*, **Jen Wiley & Maria Hubbard**, West Virginia University, 2014.
- *Alexander Technique*, **Brian Edelman**, West Virginia University, 2014.
- *SAFD Firearms Safety Certificate*, **Darrell Rushton**, 2014.
- *Musical Theatre*, **Stephan Schmidt**, West Virginia University, 2014.
- *Cabaret/Musical Theatre Workshop*, **Sandy Bainum**, West Virginia University, 2013.
- *Branding/Self Promotion*, **Kim Parrish**, West Virginia University, 2013.
- *Auditioning for the Camera with Jen Wiley & Sterling K. Brown*, 2012.

WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES

- *International Thespian Society Regional Conference*, **Workshop Presenter: Bloody Brilliant Accents**, WV, 2019.
- *International Thespian Society Regional Conference*, **National Guest Artist Workshop Presenter: Bloody Brilliant Accents; Will.I.Amb: Shakespeare, the O.G. of Hip Hop; Breath. Speak. Be Heard.**, KS, 2019.
- *Voice and Speech Trainers Association Annual Conference*, **Attendee**, Seattle, 2018.
- *Women in Theatre Conference: Balance and Connection*, **Attendee**, MD, 2017.
- *International Thespian Society Regional Conference*, **Workshop facilitator**, WV, 2014.

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- *Intro to Vocal Prowess with Fitzmaurice Voicework®*, **Course instructor** (6 weeks), The Actor's Center, DC, 2018.
- *Developing Presence with Fitzmaurice Voicework®*, **Course instructor**, Fishtank Theatre, Kansas City, 2018.
- *Introduction to Fitzmaurice Voicework®*, **Course instructor**, Emporia State University, KS, 2018.
- *Developing Presence: Voice identity and production*, **Course instructor** (6 weeks), DC, 2018.
- *Introduction to Fitzmaurice Voicework®*, **Course instructor**, SUNY Oswego Department of Theatre, NY, 2017.
- **Private Clientele:**
 - Accent Acquisition for audition (British), Pittsburgh, 2019.
 - Voice identity, ownership, and modulation for more effeminate voice with transitioning male-to-female individual, WV, 2018-2019.
 - Development of vocal identity and presence, interest in Fitzmaurice Voicework®, DC, 2018.
 - Accent Acquisition for audition (Irish), DC, 2018.
 - Voice and speech development for acting craft, DC, 2017-2018.
 - Vocal power and groundedness for self-assertion as a female among male colleagues, DC, 2017.
 - Clarity of speech and development of presence, lawyer, DC, 2017.
 - Curiosity of Fitzmaurice Voicework® in relationship to yoga practice, DC, 2017.

SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS

- Internal Research Grant funding Knight-Thompson Speechwork workshop, WVU, 2019.
- West Virginia University, School of Theatre & Dance, Graduate Teaching Assistantship, 2012-2015.
- Irene Ryan Nomination, KCACTF Region 5, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011.
- Emporia State University Academic Scholarship Recipient, 2009-2011.
- Emporia State University Talent Scholarship Recipient, 2009-2011.
- Commendation for Achievement in Stage Management, KCACTF Region 5, 2009.
- Frances Stefano Memorial Award for Outstanding Company Member, KS, 2008.
- Southwestern College Academic Scholarship Recipient, 2006-2009.
- Southwestern College Talent Scholarship Recipient, 2006-2009.

SERVICE

School Service:

- Performance Faculty Committee, West Virginia University, 2018-Present.
- MFA Performance Review and Design Committee, West Virginia University, 2018-Present.
- BFA Audition & Scholarship Award Committee, West Virginia University, 2018-Present.
- Theatre Student Organization: West Virginia University, social events and fundraising, 2013-2015.
- Southwestern College Campus Players, 2006-2008.

Community Service:

- Grants & Award Committee, Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA), 2019-2020.
- Teaching & Learning Committee, VASTA, 2019-2020.
- Intensive English Program Host Family, Morgantown, WV, 2019.
- West Virginia Thespian Society Festival, Workshop Presenter, 2019.
- Actor's Equity Association DC/Baltimore Liaison Auditions, 2018.
- Electrics Crew: Morgantown Community Theatre, October 2014.
- Cantor at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, 2015-2018.
- Cantor at St. John's Catholic Church, 2012-2015.
- Cantor of Diddie Catholic Campus Center, 2009-2012.