ALIZA SARIAN

Arts Education Specialist www.alizasarian.com

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Educational Consultant

Select Employers: TYTHEdesign (present), Calgary Catholic School Board (present), Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (2016-2019), NYC Department of Education: Office of Arts and Special Projects (2010-2011, 2015)

- Responsible for planning, facilitating, and creating educational materials for civic and community engagement initiatives
- Coached and collaborated with K-8 teachers on arts integration practices including assessment, literacy, growth mindset, and student engagement
- Liaised between Lincoln Center and Hunter College to support pre-service and alternative certification arts teachers
- Developed workshop and curriculum materials for community-based organizations for the implementation of a civic engagement framework
- Led evaluators, teachers, and teaching artists through development of common language for theatre education
- Developed city-wide middle school theatre arts curricula and assessment materials
- Applied areas of expertise to the development of rubrics assessing various performance tasks
- Reviewed and revised curriculum for the American Voices project (aligning theatre arts and social studies curricula for in-school, teacher-led cross-curricular residencies)

Theatre Arts Specialist

Select Employers: Theatre Calgary (present), Western Canada High School (present), North Point School for Boys (2021-2022), Calgary JCC (2022), Manhattan Youth (2015-2021), NYC Department of Education (2006-2020)

- Designed and implemented scaffolded theatre curricula aligned with city, state, & national arts standards
- Fostered a supportive community in the classroom through ensemble-building
- Collaborated with teaching partner(s) to design and execute curriculum
- Designed original remote lessons for an international online market
- Developed comprehensive curriculum guides to accompany a theatre season
- Collaborated remotely to build community, devise virtual activities, and create original theatrical productions
- Facilitated student-run theatre company rehearsals culminating in fully-staged, original student plays
- Developed multi-week courses and stand-alone workshops employing various creative drama techniques and literary springboards
- Introduced theatre skills through the lens of Creative Youth Development
- Built relationships with NYC theatre community (Disney Theatricals, Lincoln Center, Park Avenue Armory)
- Supplemented classroom writing instruction with unconventional prompts and online co-writing exercises

Professional Development Facilitator

Select Employers: StoryBook Theatre (present), Calgary Board of Education (present), The Salk School of Science (2009-2020), Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Hunter College (2016-2019), NYC Dept. of Ed.: Office of Arts & Special Projects (2015-2019)

- Hosted, mentored, and collaborated with student teachers from NYU, CCNY, and Hunter College
- Planned and facilitated professional development for Bronx and Brooklyn arts teachers using the Danielson Framework for Teaching and Learning
- Mentored alternative certification teachers in navigating the NYCDOE, the interview process, and
- program design
- Assigned fieldwork placements in theatre classrooms around New York City
- Planned and facilitated tri-school arts professional development series
- Fostered online connections among NYCDOE theatre teachers via StarTchr social media platform

Full-Time Educator

The Salk School of Science (grades 6-8), Dept. of Education, New York, NY, 2006-2020

- Consulted with teachers across subjects to develop common learning goals through the arts
- Chaired department of arts, technology, and physical education teachers
- Participated in Equity Lead Training, turn-keying anti-racist best practices in staff meetings
- Developed lessons using Universal Design for Learning strategies to provide multiple entry points for students with IEPs and diverse learning needs
- Created a safe, artistic environment where diverse students could share, reflect, and offer/receive feedback
- Introduced age/grade-level appropriate content and activities that challenged student boundaries
- Managed physical classroom space within school community
- Collaborated with dance, music, art, and computer faculty to create school-wide performances
- Managed communication with parents and families
- Developed baseline, formative, and summative assessments to guide student learning and outcomes
- Navigated relationships, protocols, and initiatives set forth by the New York City Department of Education

Adjunct Professor

"Teaching Literacy Through Drama," "Advanced Playwriting," New York University, 2018-present "Methods in Teaching Theatre," "Theatre Education Practicum," Hunter College Dept. of Theatre, 2017-2019 "Makeup for the Stage," Manhattanville College, 2009-2011

- Collaborated with university staff on development of syllabi, curriculum, assessments, and lessons
- Developed curriculum for pre-service educators in a wide variety of educational settings
- Demonstrated & documented best practices for teaching drama in a classroom setting
- Guided drama educators through aligning art-viewing with text analysis and Common Core
- Applied self-assessment methodology to evaluate students' process

After School Program Director

The Salk School of Science, Dept. of Education and Manhattan Youth, New York, NY, 2006-2020 Center for Arts Education Partnership, The Salk School of Science and NYU, New York, NY, 2006-2008

- Oversaw transition from three-year seed grant into sustainable drama program
- Managed administrative communication, delegation, scheduling, and hiring
- Documented student development and learning connections between drama and the core curriculum
- Oversaw casting, rehearsal schedule, curriculum design, and production
- Selected and edited production material
- Managed student recruitment/retention and parent communication
- Directed and designed two fully-staged productions each year
- Introduced students to technical and design elements of theatrical production
- Brought guest artists and field professionals to run supplementary workshops
- Guided students through original devising exercises in the development of a complete piece of theatre
- Guided team of university students through curriculum development, lesson planning, and execution

Education

Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, 2004 Bachelor of Science, Teaching Theatre Arts (K-12)

New York University, NY, NY, 2006 Master of Arts, Educational Theatre: Colleges and Communities Columbia University Teacher's College, NY, 2008 Reading & Writing Project, Reading Institute

Lincoln Center Institute, NY, NY
Introduction to Aesthetic Education, 2008
Arts, Inquiry, & Civic Imagination, 2022

Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, 2016 Drama in Education

Service

Jewish Family Services of Calgary

Board Member, Calgary, AB 2023-present

Canadian Education Theatre Association

Theatre Teacher's Conference, Professional Development Calgary Hub Conference Coordinator, Calgary, AB, 2023 Thespy Fest, Calgary Regional Coordinator, Calgary, AB, 2023

American Alliance for Theatre and Education

Theatre in our Schools Conference, Conference Co-Chair (2015 Dina Reese Award recipient), New York, NY, 2013 - 2016

Selected Conferences, Presentations, & Publications

Webinars

<u>"Introducing Civic Engagement in Youth After School Programs</u>," TYTHEdesign and the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development, 2023

"Community Engagement Almanac Series." TYTHEdesign and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of Harlem Neighborhood Health, 2022

Calgary Teachers' Convention

Speaker, "Where Does Creativity Fit? Finding space for arts in your classroom," 2023

Speaker, Arts Commons, "Putting on a Show," 2023

Speaker, Arts Commons, "Playwriting for Literacy and Creativity," 2023

Publications in Progress

Play Guides. Theatre Calgary, 2022-present

"Tug-of-War," The Bechdel Group's Overnight Play Festival: 10 Minute Plays for Young Audiences, 2021

"Danielson in the Theatre Classroom: Tools for Designing and Articulating a Rigorous Theatre Curriculum," 2019

Appalachian State University (Boone, NC)

Alumni Panelist: Theatre Education, 2019

Guest Lecturer: Teaching Drama in the Elementary School Classroom, 2018

Guest Lecturer: Teaching Theatre Seminar, 2015

Toronto Youth Theatre (Toronto, Canada)

Children, Youth, and Performance Conference Presenter: "From the Ground Up: Devising Theatre with Purpose," 2018

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (New York, NY)

Workshop Facilitator: "Imaginative Capacities in the Classroom," 2018 Intensive Facilitator: "Curriculum Design in the Arts Classroom," 2017

New York University (New York, NY)

Presenter: "New Play Development: Bridging the Gap Between Process & Product in the Classroom," 2016

Guest Lecturer: Dramatic Activities in the High School Classroom, 2015 & 2016

Guest Lecturer: Student Teaching Seminar, 2013

New York City Writing Project Teacher to Teacher Conference (Bronx, NY)

Presenter: "Literacy to Life: Playwriting and the Common Core," 2015

Americans for the Arts: ArtsBlog

"Blind Appraisal: Assessing Arts Teachers in New York City," 2013

American Alliance for Theatre and Education

Panelist: "Differentiation and Universal Design for Theatre Educators," 2013

Presenter: "Reimagining Arts Integration – Using CORE Curriculum to Inform YOUR Curriculum," 2012

References

Kristina Drury

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Holly Schile-Nielsen
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