

SHANARA GABRIELLE

Cultural Producer • Director • Artistic Collaborator
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Shanara Gabrielle is a theatre artist with a focus on inventive, gutsy, and engaging experiences for all audiences. As a director, producer, and leader, Shanara is inspired to shape the future of arts institutions and artistic practice as essentials of civic life. Driven by stories of justice and tales of imagination, she is interested in creating new work and reimagining traditional texts with artists of courage and depth. With the skills to lead and curiosity to grow, Shanara is looking forward to the next step as an institutional leader, and has the charisma, drive, and vision to make things happen.

Arena Stage

About: As the voice of American theater resident in our nations capital, Arena Stage's vision is to galvanize the transformative power of theater to understand who we are as Americans.

Areas of responsibility: artistic development including: commercial partnerships, season planning, new work development, & artist relations; collaborating with leadership on strategic thinking, AD support; producing and curating new work commissions "Arena Riffs" digital companion season.

Artistic Associate

Working In DC

About Working In DC: A reimagined model for producing theatre that centers civic engagement and offers radical hospitality. A celebratory event performed on Black Lives Matter plaza including performances of *Working: a musical*, curated conversations, community arts instigations, & activism.

Areas of responsibility: leading a core leadership collaborative of 6 and full team of 35, contracting with AEA, USA829, IATSE, AFM, partnerships with AFL-CIO, labor justice activists, and over 20 additional partners, created and managed full project budget, ideation and producing from A to Z. Highlights include: 1st "Allied w/Broadway for Racial Justice" in DMV, \$170k+ fundraised in 6 months.

Artistic Producer

Professional Director, SDC

About: With 10 years of experience and having worked with some of the countries greatest artists, directed world premiere new works, forged community partnerships, and directed sell-out shows.

Highlights include: Numerous awards including Critic's Circle, People's Choice, "Best of", and more. Close professional relationships with many renowned artistic leaders, actors, and designers.

Freelance Director & Producer

Statera Arts DC

About Statera Arts: Uplift, Amplify, Advance. Statera Arts is dedicated to creating pathways that bring women and non-binary people into full and equal participation in the arts.

Areas of responsibility: development, marketing, artistic leadership, grassroots community organizing, publicity, mentor recruitment, institutional relationship building, national reporting.

Mid-Atlantic Regional Director

Actor, AEA & SAG-AFTRA

About: Extensive professional experience performing at the greatest theaters across the country and working in all on-camera mediums. Full resume available upon request.

Theatre Credits Include: Signature Theatre, Arena Stage, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Guthrie Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Co., St. Louis Rep, The Black Rep, and Great Lakes Theatre.

TV & Film Credits Include: House of Cards, Chicago Fire, Conviction, The Enemy Within, The Conan Show, Whisper, and also the face of Mytonomy Health, Toyota, Canon, and many more.

Professional Actor

Center of Creative Arts

About COCA Theatre Company: A performance company of Center of Creative Arts, whose mission is to enrich lives and build community through the arts, CTC produces professional theatre for families.

Areas of responsibility: artistic programing for performance company, directing shows, developing curriculum for pre-professional training, hiring of artistic personnel, artist relationship building.

COCA Theatre Company Director

Sharpfield Films

Creative/Line Producer

About Sharpfield Films: A film production company that believes in telling creative, compelling stories from concept to final delivery and helps to bring company's and individual's stories to life.

Areas of responsibility: creating and managing budgets, design and concept organization, scheduling, personnel management, artistic hiring, payroll and contracting.

A.A.T. Ferguson

Founder and Executive Director

About Artists-as-Tutors: With creativity and compassion, AAT connects artists and students through mentorship and arts engagement. Founded in Ferguson in the wake of Michael Brown's murder, AAT is an organization with a social justice focus on the impact of the arts in the lives of young people.

Areas of responsibility: ideation, budgeting, grant writing, development, artistic programming, marketing, personnel management, community outreach, parent and teacher relationship building.

* Featured in Rolling Stone Magazine and supported by Talib Kweli's Action Committee

Great River Shakespeare Festival

Education Director & Events Manager

About GRSE: GRSE creates dynamic, clearly spoken productions of Shakespeare's plays, which enrich people's lives through artistic excellence, education, and community engagement.

Areas of responsibility: community engagement, fundraising ideation and leadership, producing events, creating all-ages programming, managing teaching artists, apprentices, and education staff.

Professional Affiliations

The Ferguson Moment, Founding Member

National activism organizer with Theatre Communications Group

District Dramatists - The Reach @ The Kennedy Center, Founding Member

Anti-Bias & Structure Team Lead

Kennedy Center ACTF & Solas Nua Literary Teams

Play development reporter and reader with a focus on new projects

TCG Individual Member, TYA-USA member

Conference Presenter, Artist-Activist Grant recipient

Freelancers Affinity Group, 2020 Conference Artist Host

Awards and Honors

- Princess Grace Foundation Award Recipient, Grace LeVine Theatre Award
- TCG -Theatre Communications Group, Audience Revolution Grantee
- Regional Arts Commission, Individual Artist Grant
- Visionary Artist Award - Working Female Artist, Nominee
- Grant Recipient: DC Arts & Humanities Commission, Equity League, SDC Foundation
- Write Now Conference Grantee and Participant
- Arts Maven of the Year - Alive Magazine
- Webster Alumni Association Leadership Award, Dean's Award for Service, Webster University

Collegiate Teaching Experience

Adjunct/Professional Track Faculty:

Acting, Musical Theatre, Movement, Business of Theatre, On Camera, Theatre Devising

Degree programs: MFA, MM, BM, BFA, BA

Catholic University of America

2018 - present

University of Maryland, College Park

2020 - present

University of Missouri St. Louis

2015 - 2016

St. Louis University

2014 - 2016

Guest Artist Faculty

2008 - present

George Washington University, Webster Conservatory, Washington University

Education and Training

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Magna Cum Laude Graduate; Webster Conservatory of Theatre Arts
Community Arts, Anti-Racism, & Anti-Oppression Training:

Nicole Brewer, A.R.T. personal coaching

TYA Anti-Racist leadership series

Allied with Broadway for Racial Justice training

Arts Business Training

Marketing for Artists: Social Media and Marketing Rockstar Graduate

Regional Arts Commission: Writing Successful Grants Certificate

Board Member and Volunteer Development Director for Grand Center Arts Academy Fund

Addition Artistic Training

Lovewell Institute, MoonFool, Vagabond School for the Arts, NYU, Int'l Aerial Arts Festival

Professional Directing Resume (selected)

<i>Playboy of the Western World*</i>	Solas Nua Theatre	*upcoming
<i>Octet*</i>	InSeries Opera	adapted by Adigun/Doyle Dave Malloy
<i>Man Covets Bird</i>	Spooky Action Theatre	Finegan Kruckemeyer
<i>Working, a musical</i>	WORKING IN DC/AFL-CIO	Schwartz/Miranda/Taylor
<i>ADA</i>	Signature Theatre (World Premiere Workshop)	Aeneas Saggar
<i>THIRST</i>	Solas Nua (World Premiere Reading)	Ronan Noone
<i>The Respectful Prostitute</i>	The Cell - NYC	Jean-Paul Sartre
<i>Enlightenment</i>	Arena Stage (Associate Director Workshop)	Theresa Rebeck
<i>Kept Under Glass</i>	Goethe Institut - Washington DC	various female composers
<i>Dear Jack, Dear Louise</i>	Arena Stage (Assistant Director)	Ken Ludwig
<i>The Heart of Robin Hood</i>	Door Shakespeare	David Farr
<i>River Like Sin</i>	Catholic University of America	Lindsay Adams
<i>Charlotte's Web</i>	Imagination Stage (Movement Director)	adapted from E.B. White
<i>Belfast Girls</i>	Solas Nua (Regional Premiere Workshop)	Jaki McCarrick
<i>Bread</i>	The Kennedy Center, Page-to-Stage	Jaclyn Enchin
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, Tour	William Shakespeare
<i>Elephant & Piggie</i>	Coterie Theatre	Willems/Wicks LaPuma
<i>Two Gentlemen of Verona</i>	Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, Tour	William Shakespeare
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Idaho Shakespeare (Movement Director)	William Shakespeare
<i>New Kid</i>	Metro Theatre Company	Dennis Foon
<i>Every 28 Hours Plays</i>	Calling Up & Oregon Shakespeare	various playwrights
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Great Lakes Theatre (Remount Director)	William Shakespeare
<i>Tomás and the Library Lady</i>	Coterie Theatre	Mora/Cruz González
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Shakespeare Festival St. Louis Shake38	William Shakespeare
<i>*in collaboration with visual artist Ben Kaplan & Project Runway fashion designer Michael Drummond</i>		
<i>Swallows and Amazons</i>	COCA Family Theater Series	Hannon/Edmundson
<i>Hansel and Gretel</i>	The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis	Kim Esop Wylie
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Door Shakespeare (Movement Director)	William Shakespeare
<i>The Little Prince</i>	COCA Family Theater Series	Scoullar/Cummins
<i>Suessical</i>	Villa Duchesne Academy	Ahrens & Flaherty
<i>The Tempest</i>	Webster Conservatory (Movement Director)	William Shakespeare
<i>The Hundred Dresses</i>	COCA Family Theater Series	Mary Hall Surface
<i>The Pajama Game</i>	Villa Duchesne Academy	Adler/Ross/Abbott/Bissell
<i>The Secret Garden</i>	COCA Family Theater Series	Sterling/Brunett

<i>Wisewrite</i>	Repertory Theatre of St. Louis	selected playwrights
<i>Her Kind: Anne Sexton</i>	New York & San Francisco Fringe	Hannah Wolfe
<i>ANON(ymous)</i>	COCA Theatre Ensemble	Naomi Iizuka
<i>Blues for Mister Charlie</i>	The Black Rep (Assistant Director)	James Baldwin
<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Gilmore Creek Theatre (Assistant Director)	Menken/Ashman

Virtual Theatre Directing and Curation

<i>Arena Riffs</i>	Arena Stage, 2021-2022 Season	Philippa Hughes
<i>The Greatest Poem</i>		Holly Bass
<i>Freedom Asked</i>		Step Afrika
<i>Roots of Drumfolk</i>		DC Déla
<i>Let Me Be Frank</i>		Ziad Foty
<i>Tripping on Peace</i>		Chandini Darby
<i>If Only I...</i>		Yordan Silvera
<i>When Women Speak Tyrants Tremble</i>		Charity Blackwell
<i>Blaze</i>		William Shakespeare
<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	ACA at Shakespeare Theatre Co.	Gonzalez/Ramirez/Finklestein
<i>Shear Pandemic</i>	BAADAss Women's Festival, NYC	Dana Leslie Goldstein
<i>Natural, a radio play adaptation</i>	The 4208 Group	Spotswood/Daughtery
<i>The Devil & June Gantry</i>	District Dramatists (Workshop)	Robert Bowen Smith
<i>History of Love</i>	Spooky Action Theatre	

Acting Resume (very selected sample)

Theatre

<i>Easy Women Smoking...</i>	Lee	Signature Theatre (Dir. Eric Schaeffer)
<i>JUNK</i>	Amy Merkin	Arena Stage (Dir. Jackie Maxwell)
<i>Romeo & Juliet</i>	Lady Montague	Shakespeare Theatre Co. (Dir. Alan Paul)
<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>	Adriana/Luciana (us)	Shakespeare Theatre Co. (Dir. Alan Paul)
<i>She Loves Me</i>	Ilona Ritter	Guthrie Theater (Dir. John Miller-Stephany)
<i>Blithe Spirit</i>	Elvira	Idaho Shakespeare/Great Lakes (Dir. Charles Fee)
<i>Charlotte's Web</i>	Charlotte	Imagination Stage (Dir. Kathryn Chase Bryer)
<i>Trojan Women</i>	Andromache	Taffety Punk (Dir. Kelsey Mesa)
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Christmas Past/Narrator	Actors Theatre of Louisville (Dir. Drew Fracher)
<i>A Winter's Tale</i>	Hermione	Notre Dame Shakespeare (Dir. Drew Fracher)
<i>Clybourne Park</i>	Betsy/Lindsey	Repertory Theatre of St. Louis (Dir. Timothy Near)
<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>	Courtesan	Repertory Theatre of St. Louis (Dir. Paul Barnes)
<i>Yentl</i>	Yentl	New Jewish Theatre (Dir. Edward Coffield/Jill Sobule)
<i>Black Pearl Sings!</i>	Susannah Mullally	The Black Rep (Dir. Andrea Frye)
<i>Othello</i>	Desdemona	Great River Shakespeare Festival (Dir. Alec Wild)
<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>	Rosaline	Great River Shakespeare Festival (Dir. Paul Barnes)
<i>The Wild Party</i>	Queenie	Columbia Stages (Dir. Saheem Ali)

Film & TV

<i>House of Cards, Chapter 72</i>	Co-Star	Netflix, Dir. Alik Sakharov
<i>The Enemy Within, pilot</i>	Co-Star	NBC pilot, Dir. Mark Pellington
<i>Conan</i>	Co-Star	TBS, Writer/Dir. Robert Smigel
<i>Chicago Fire "One More Shot"</i>	Guest Star	NBC Primetime, Dir. Jean de Segonzac
<i>Conviction "180.80/Hostage"</i>	Co-Star	NBC Primetime, Dir. Norberto Barba
<i>Guiding Light</i>	Co-Star	CBS Daytime
<i>Whisper</i>	Principal	Independent Short, Dir. Alec Wild
<i>Madeleine</i>	Principal	Independent Short, Dir. Peter Engelsmann
<i>Canon Cameras</i>	Supporting	ADM Productions, Dir. Gabriel Barre