

# JOHN GARDINER

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## EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts, The University of Alabama / Alabama Shakespeare Festival, 2002  
Professional Actor Training Program  
Major: Acting (Classical Theatre)

Bachelor of Arts, Northern Kentucky University, 1998  
Major: Theatre Performance

Undergraduate Consortium Study, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM), 1997-1998  
Concentration: Music and Voice

Certificate, Recognized Actor Combatant, Society of American Fight Directors, 2001  
Certified Skills: Rapier & Dagger, Quarterstaff, Unarmed Combat

## PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

### BROADWAY

Jersey Boys*	Tommy DeVito	August Wilson Theatre	Des McAnuff* Sergio Trujillo*
A Bronx Tale	Carmine	Longacre Theatre	Robert DeNiro** Jerry Zaks*

### TOURS

The Lion King*	Timon	International Tour	Julie Taymor*
Jersey Boys*	Tommy DeVito	1st National Tour	Des McAnuff*
A Bronx Tale	Rudy the Voice	1st National Tour	Robert DeNiro** Jerry Zaks*
Summer	Neil Bogart	1st National Tour	Des McAnuff* Sergio Trujillo*

## NEW YORK / OFF-BROADWAY

A Bronx Tale	Carmine	New York Workshop	Robert DeNiro** Jerry Zaks* Alan Menken*** Chazz Palminterri**
Jersey Boys	Gyp DeCarlo	New World Stages	Des McAnuff* Sergio Trujillo*
Five Course Love	Dean	New York Workshop	Gregg Coffin
Gold Rush	Michael	Promenade Theatre	David Armstrong
Box Car Children	Henry	Town Hall Theatre	Rob Barron
Taking Names	Mark	All Out Arts Festival	Tracey Leigh
Motel Rasdell	John Applegate^	Midtown Theatre Festival	Donnie Kehr

\* Tony Award Winner

\*\* Academy Award Winner

\*\*\* EGOT Winner

^ Best Lead Actor in a Musical Nomination

## REGIONAL THEATRE

Million Dollar Quartet	Sam Phillips	Orlando Shakes	Jason Parrish
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Philosophy of the World	Kyle	Geva Theatre	John Langs
A Christmas Carol	Young Scrooge	Geva Theatre	Mark Booher
She Stoops to Conquer	Tony Lumpkin	St. Michael's Playhouse	Sarah Carleton
Big River	Huck Finn	St. Michael's Playhouse	Keith Andrews
Greater Tuna	Arles, Didi, Vera	St. Michael's Playhouse	Sarah Carleton
Spitfire Grill	Sheriff Joe	St. Michael's Playhouse	Catherine Dorehty
The Boys Next Door	Barry	St. Michael's Playhouse	Peter Harrigan
Arms & The Man	Bluntschli	Alabama Shakespeare	Brendon Fox
The Tempest	Ferdinand	Alabama Shakespeare	Tim Ocel

The Merry Wives of Windsor	Fenton	Alabama Shakespeare	Ed Williams
White Devil	Gasparo	Alabama Shakespeare	Drew Fracher
King John	King Henry	Alabama Shakespeare	Howard Jensen
Smoke on the Mountain	Dennis	American Heartland	Paul Hough
Forever Plaid	Frankie	Grand Biloxi Theatre	Allen McMullen
Sound of Music	Rolf	Flat Rock Playhouse	Robin Farquhar
Jesus Christ Superstar	Jesus	Lakes Region Theatre	Joe Conger

## TV / FILM

Shadowboxing	Doc	Breadth Films	Josh Durham
Secret Lives of Stepford Wives	Jim Grund	IDHD	Chris Gidez
All My Children	Supporting	ABC	Michael V. Pomarico
Pardon The Interruption	Self	ESPN	Erik Rydholm
White House Christmas Tree	Self	CBS	T.J. Asprea

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL**

Assistant Professor in Theatre Acting, (2022 - present)

### Graduate

**Acting Studio II:** An exploration of theatre of the absurd and anti-realistic playwrights from early 20th century to present day. Students present group research projects creating comprehensive audio-visual presentations on the topics of: symbolism, expressionism, and epic theatre. In-depth written script analysis is paired with the acting methodologies of Konstantin Stanislavski and Uta Hagen.

### Undergraduate

**Acting II:** Fundamental acting techniques with a focus on text analysis and the foundations of scene study. Emphasis is on the creation of tactics, intentions, and objectives, exploring improvisation, and the methodologies of Stanislavski and Hagen.

**Acting III:** Students in this advanced acting course develop a working knowledge of character development, script analysis, and a process for theatrical rehearsal. A deeper understanding of objective, obstacle, and action are reached using exercises drawn from Uta Hagen and Konstanin Stanislavski. Students are also required to lead a group discussion on assigned core principles of acting.

**Musical Theatre Auditioning:** This upper-level course requires musical theatre majors to prepare and perform appropriate material for a wide array of mock auditions. Core topics are covered ranging from acting through song to resume and repertoire preparation to agent meetings using professional, real world scenarios.

**Theatre Survey for Majors:** Chosen to create this online course to give a base-line knowledge of both the UCF Theatre Department and the theatre industry as a whole. This Gordon Rule Writing course requires written critiques of live theatrical performances and rehearsals, with special focus on terminology, theatrical elements, and departmental standards and practices.

**Acting for Non-Majors:** A beginning-level course in which students become acquainted with the fundamentals of acting. Emphasis is on self-confidence, freedom of movement, and collaborating with fellow actors.

**Intermediate Acting:** Building on Acting for Non-Majors, this integrates Uta Hagen's methodologies with an emphasis on scene study and the implementation of tactics, intentions, and objectives. Primary concepts include listening, relationship, and backstory.

**Theatre Careers:** Online, upper-level course for Entertainment Management or B.A. Theatre majors focuses on the different roles within the theatrical entertainment fields. Special attention is paid to resume analysis, interview skills, freelance work, and personal financial planning.

**Honors Theatre Survey:** An overview of both the fundamentals of theatre history and the composition of a theatrical work. This Gordon Rule Writing course assesses live and recorded theatrical productions with required peer-reviews of fellow student's work. Topics are explored in written, audio-visual, and experiential applications.

**Theatre Survey:** This asynchronous, Gordon Rule Writing course provides an introduction to theatre history and the elements that comprise a theatrical production. Special attention is paid to design elements, acting and directing observations, and the evaluation of recorded live theatrical performances.

#### Independent Study

**Practice in Uta Hagen:** In-depth exploration of self-observation with Uta Hagen's ten exercises. Implementing the methodology of "Scoring the Role" as both a writing assignment and as it applies to scene work and character development.

**Northern Kentucky University, Newport, KY**  
Adjunct Faculty (2021)

**Musical Theatre Auditioning:** Advanced acting course for juniors and seniors with a focus on applied acting techniques through scene work, improvisational character movement, and acting through song.

**Acting Intensive** (2014 - 2016): Instructing NKU students over the years through guest speaking, a business of theatre forum, and a week long intensive covering dramatic scene work, acting through song, audition preparation, and ending with mock auditions complete with a call back experience.

**Acting / Audition Coach, New York, NY** (2010 - 2022)

For over a decade, I have coached a wide variety of actors and helped them successfully book leading roles in plays and musicals on Broadway and at various regional theatres; as well as successfully coaching for Commercials, Television, and Film.

**Virtual Broadway / Born to Perform, Los Angeles, CA (2020)**

Acting Instructor (2020)

Taught students within a virtual classroom, coached acting technique with a focus on intension and given circumstances; vocal production with diaphragmatic breathing, diction, and singing placement; as well as audition preparation and material selection.

**Kansas City Starlight, Kansas City, MO (2019)**

Acting intensive

Conducted a musical theatre preparation and technique class, held mock auditions, and gave constructive feedback. Applied the Uta Hagen ideas of substitution and transference to the students pieces to help them stay grounded in the work.

**Fayetteville H.S. Performing Arts, Fayetteville, AR (2018)**

Masterclass

Dialect coached with a concentration on General American speech and eliminating a regional dialect. Scene work while discovering breath support and speaking the idea.

**Clarke University, Dubuque, IA (2016 - 2019)**

Virtual Masterclass

Every year for the past four years, Clark College has had me speak through video chat to their upperclassmen and graduating seniors about the business of theatre. Subjects have ranged from casting directors, to contract negotiations, to which city suits each student best, and always with the over arching theme of running your own business when you are the business.

**Broadway Workshop, New York, NY (2014 - 2017)**

Stage Combat Instructor

Teaching young artists the basic tenets of stage combat and safety, instructing advanced classes, and choreographing fights for students to perform within a scene.

**Google, Silicon Valley, CA (2013)**

Guest Lecturer

Google Talks on campus discussing the business side of theatre, performing for an invited Google audience, and taking questions about life as a Broadway actor.

**Marshall University, Huntington, WV (2012)**

Virtual Masterclass

Coached Marshall students via internet video-chat on subjects ranging from character development, to film vs stage acting, to audition technique.

**Shakespeare Camp at Northern Stage, White River, VT (2009)**

Acting Instructor

Dissected Shakespearean language and verse with students, taught Shakespearean acting class, adapted scenes and directed a condensed production Romeo & Juliet.

**Kaimuki Performing Arts H.S., Honolulu, HI (2007)**

Guest Instructor

Spoke to hundreds of young artists, gave constructive feedback on a variety of performances, and took part in a panel discussion on breaking into the theatre business.

**St. Michael's College, Burlington, VT (2002 - 2005)**

Masterclass

Coached graduating seniors in preparation for moving to New York City. Monologue work and discovery of character through improvisation, acting through song and the inside/out, outside/in method, as well as lectures about running your own business.

**Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Montgomery, AL (2000 - 2002)**

Acting Instructor

Educational outreach programs including ASF Academy - Third and Fourth grade introduction to acting, confidence building, and anti-bullying campaign.

## DIRECTING AND PRODUCING

*SUMMER: THE DONNA SUMMER MUSICAL* — Norwegian Cruise Line,  
Tampa, FL (2024)  
Associate Director

*THE PROM* — University of Central Florida, Main Stage,  
Orlando, FL (2023)  
Director

*SUMMERTIME (AN INTERLUDE)* — University of Central Florida,  
Pegasus Play Lab, Orlando, FL (2023)  
Director

*SUMMER: THE DONNA SUMMER MUSICAL* — Norwegian Cruise Line,  
Tampa, FL (2022 - 2023)  
Associate Fight Choreographer

*THE BIRTH OF ROCK N ROLL* — The P.I.T., Striker Main Stage, (NY, NY) - 2018  
Writer, Director, Producer

*THE MARQUEE MEN* — Touring group, (NY, NY) - 2005-2019  
Director and Producer

*THE HOLIDAY SEASONS* — Corporate events, (NY, NY) - 2016-2019  
Director, Producer

*ROMEO & JULIET* — Shakespeare camp at Northern Stage, (White River Junction, VT) -  
2009  
Director

*TEENAGE LOVE* — New Brunswick Performing Arts Center, (New Brunswick, NJ) - 2004  
Director



*ROUTE 66* — Seven Angels Theatre, (Waterbury, CT) - 2003

Assistant Director

*Charlie Chaplin's, THE GOLD RUSH* - Northern Kentucky University, Studio Theatre - 1998

Director

*PRIVATE LIVES* - Northern Kentucky University, Studio Theatre - 1998

Director

*THE SENIOR EXTRAVAGANZA* - Northern Kentucky University, Main Stage - 1998

Director, Producer

## **SPECIFIC TRAINING**

KELLY KIMBALL (Kimball Studio, NYC) 2015-2017

- Acting on Camera: Intention, style, camera technique, playing to and against your type / acting super powers, and understanding television genres.
- Improvisation: Longform, dramatic, narrative-based improvised scenes; non-comedic given circumstances, environmentals, character development, and monologue work.

MARGIE HABER (Margie Haber Studio, LA) 2014

- Audition Technique: Cold reading, discovery in the moment, exploration through improvisation and paraphrasing, and “living the moment”.

BOB KRAKOWER (NYC Studio, now with The Juilliard School) 2013-2014

- Acting on Camera: Understanding the writer’s intention, action driven scene work, and in depth character discovery.

CRAIG CARNELIA (NYC Studio, now with Missouri State University)  
2005-2013

- Acting through Song: Renown musical theatre instructor, personalizing the connection to lyrics and story, improvising given circumstances, external obstacles, and audition technique.

STEPHEN GABIS (Preeminent dialect coach in New York, NY) 2008-2011

- Dialect Coaching: New York and New Jersey dialects.

COLLEEN KELLY (Director MFA Professional Actor Training Program  
University of Alabama / Alabama Shakespeare Festival) 2000-2002

- Mask Work: Lecoq-based character and neutral mask work as an exploration of physical possibilities and character transformation.
- Movement: Laban-based physical work directly connected with time, space, flow, and effort.
- Community Project: Assisted in creating a project which integrated mask work, visual art, written text and audience participation into a performance addressing third graders and other elementary students in the Montgomery, Alabama area.

JAN GIST (Alabama Shakespeare Festival's voice and speech specialist, trained with Edith Skinner and Jerry Blunt, now with The Old Globe in San Diego)  
2000-2002

- Voice Production: Resonant tone quality, breath support, body alignment, relaxation for natural vocal power, theatre strength, and vocal anatomy.
- Speech: Phonetics, International Phonetic Alphabet, Edith Skinner text, scansion of verse, oral interpretation, vocal variety, regional accent reduction, General American Clarity, Standard American Stage Speech.
- Stage Dialects: Dialect idiosyncrasies of key phonetic sound changes, tempo and melody patterns. Dialects covered: Standard English, Cockney, Irish, Scots, Australian, French, German, and Italian.

RAY CHAMBERS (Resident actor, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, now with The Old Globe, San Diego, CA) 2000-2002

- Acting: Playing an action, contemporary works with focus on Mamet.

- Shakespeare: Text analysis using The Oxford English Dictionary, operative words, rhetoric.

D. MICHAEL HEATH (University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) 1996-1998

- Music and Voice: Vocal technique, musical analysis and interpretation, breath support, and research/ study of the Broadway catalog.

## MASTER CLASSES

RICHARD RAND (Purdue University, ATME President) 2000

- Utilizing Commedia mask work and exploration of archetypes.

STEVE SMITH (Former director of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus Clown College) 2000

- Slapstick comedy and clown routines exploring physical presence and clarity.

CHRISTINE MORRIS (Duke University) 2002

- Exploring principles of Roy Hart vocal work and ancient chants.

TYNE TURNER (Vocal coach from the Utah Shakespearean Festival) 2002

- Using Shakespearean sonnets to explore vocal presence and production of sound through relaxation exercises reducing physical tension.

DR. PAUL CASTAGNO (Associate Professor at the University of Alabama and author of *The Early Commedia dell'Arte*) 2001

- Lecture and workshop exploring the history and heritage of Commedia dell'Arte and rehearsing and performing *Lazy*

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Actors' Equity Association (AEA) - 1999-Present

Screen Actors Guild - American Federation of Television and Radio Artists  
(SAG/ AFTRA) - 2013–Present

Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD) - 2001-2004

American Federation of Musicians (AFM) - 2013-Present

American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) - 2008-Present

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SERVICE

**Alliance For Black Equality** - Founding member and creative director of technology -  
2020

**Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS** - Organized and performed fundraising concerts  
across the country, (San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver, Chicago, Philadelphia,  
Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Washington D.C.) - 2006-2019

**The Actors Fund** - Donated performances and deferred salary - 2006-2019

## SKILLS

Computer Hardware/Software- PC and MAC proficient, Microsoft Office, Pages, iMovie,  
Garage Band, Pro Tools, Dropbox, Google Docs and Google Sheets

Writing and producing original work

Teaching “How to properly shoot and edit a self tape”

Coaching artists on the skill of financial independence and sound investing for retirement

Proficient at teaching through several internet platforms- Skype, FaceTime, Google Chat, and Zoom

## ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS / HONORS

- Orlando Sentinel's Best of Theater 2023 List, "Director, Musical", *The Prom* - 2023
- Irene Ryan, *The Prom*, Faculty Nomination- Best Director  
Student Nominations- Performance, Assoc. and Asst. Direction, Asst. Choreography, Dramaturgy, and Stage Management
- Performed in New York's Bryant Park, "Summer Broadway Series" - 2019
- Performed in Chicago's Millennium Park, "Broadway in the Park" - 2018
- Key to the City of McCallen, Texas - for the role of Tommy DeVito in *Jersey Boys* - 2017
- Fight Captain on the Broadway tours of *Summer* and *Jersey Boys*, as well as several regional theatre productions.
- Nominated for Best Actor in a Musical, *Motel Rasdell*, New York Musical Theatre Festival - 2013
- Nominated for Best Actor in a Musical, *Million Dollar Quartet*, BroadwayWorld.com Regional Awards - 2021
- The "White Hat" honor by the mayor of Calgary, Alberta, for the 100 year anniversary of the Calgary Stampede presented to the cast of the 1st National Tour of *Jersey Boys* - 2012
- Sang the National Anthem at: Wrigley Field (Chicago), Fenway Park (Boston), Miller Park (Milwaukee), Minute Maid Park (Houston), Oracle Park "Candlestick" (San Francisco), Tropicana Field (Tampa), Globe Life Field (Dallas), Truist Park (Atlanta),

Levi's Stadium (San Francisco), Boston Garden, and "O Canada" at the Calgary Stampede. - 2007-2019

- Composed and recorded the music for Alabama Shakespeare Festival's production of *Driving Miss Daisy* - 2002
- Composed and recorded the music for Northern Kentucky University's production of *The Middle of Yesterday* - 1998
- This Side Up touring improv team - 1996-1998
- Performed with and managed several rock bands, recorded multiple albums, toured across the Midwest, won the 1993 Bogart's Battle of the Bands, negotiated contracts with venues, and coordinated P/R.
- Countless TV and Radio appearances, interviews, and performances across the U.S. and Canada, NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX, ESPN, WGN, SiriusXM Radio, iHeart Radio, Clear Channel Radio, etc.