

Aimee Bouchard

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Selected Relevant Experience

Director of Education
Single Thread Theatre Company
September 2018-Present

I am responsible for developing the long-term strategy and artistic vision for the education branch of the company, incorporating our practice of using non-traditional spaces in innovative ways to create immersive theatre experiences for children and young people. I continually develop school and community partnerships, as well as our roster of artist educators and performers. I work with schools to imagine bespoke artistic projects with relevant curriculum and character education connections, and lead teams of writers, designers, artist educators, and production teams to realize them.

Community Programs Manager
Young People's Theatre
September 2018-Present

In addition to some responsibilities below, I now also manage a team of artist educators to support the planning and delivery of all community programs for children, youth and families, including weekly drama residencies for community partners such as SickKids hospital, parent resource centres and Toronto shelters. I am also responsible for coordinating the many access and inclusion initiatives at the theatre with creative and production teams, including Relaxed and Audio Described Performances, as well as American Sign Language Shadow Interpreted Performances (including directing the process of blocking onstage interpreters into the performance and collaborating on adapting lighting designs as required).

Member Schools & Education Manager
Young People's Theatre
September 2016-September 2018

I developed drama workshops and longer-term educational programming for schools, working with students, teachers, and artist educators, as well as often the casts, creative and production teams to deliver and/or support these programs. I coordinated and facilitated education events including post-show Q&As, theatre tours, Artist Educator Trainings and Teacher & Community Previews. I continually delivered ongoing needs assessment and program evaluation.

Education & Outreach Coordinator
Theatre Direct and the WeeFestival
September 2015-September 2016

I coordinated all education initiatives including workshops, in-school residencies, school visits, and professional development days for educators (including supporting and coordinating all artist educators and volunteers associated with these programs). I developed and delivered outreach strategies, coordinated school and public bookings, and assisted with general marketing and communications. I also created educational resources to accompany the productions, such as study guides and social stories.

Festival Administrator
The Kick & Push Festival
March - September 2015

I oversaw the daily administration of this innovative immersive theatre festival in its inaugural year. Supporting the development and execution of the marketing plan, I also acted as the general contact to media and the public. I liaised with associate presenting companies, and supported the coordination of Festival productions. I also recruited, supervised and trained all student hires and volunteers, and promoted and hosted the educational masterclass series.

Performer
Salon Theatre Productions
June-September 2014

Performed in and contributed to the ongoing creative development of "In Sir John A's Footsteps", a musical historical walking tour of downtown Kingston about Canada's first Prime Minister, as well as "The Macdonald-Cartier Project" (Directed by Jim Garrard), an original immersive theatre production.

Drama School Faculty
Young People's Theatre
January 2015 – June 2015

Developed and delivered engaging and age appropriate lesson plans and facilitated weekly drama school classes with a focus on collaboration, ensemble-building and the creative process. I would differentiate my instruction for students of various abilities and multiple exceptionalities, with an emphasis on inclusivity for everyone.

Drama Instructor
Kingston Youth Arts Cooperative
September 2013-April 2014

Facilitated ensemble drama sessions for a program that provides free weekly arts experiences to young people in Kingston ages 4-12, and delivered weekly, in-school drama outreach programs to youth in underserved communities.

Drama 100 Teaching Assistant
Drama Department, Queen's University
September 2012-April 2013

Responsible for teaching a first year Drama lab. I ensured my students' smooth transition into first year, designing lab activities to meet desired learning outcomes and support student success throughout the year. Other duties involved marking papers, writing constructive comments, and tracking lab attendance and participation.

Performer and Head of Education
Barefoot Players, Queen's University
April-August 2012

As a performer for the Queen's University drama department's summer theatre for young audiences company, I toured to various school and community settings in the Kingston area performing as Ariel in an adaptation of *The Tempest* (Directed by Kim Renders). Concurrently, as the ensemble's Head of Education, I conducted outreach to schools, developed a curriculum-based study guide and planned and facilitated post-show workshops.

Co-Founding Artistic Director
Colliding Scopes Theatre
April 2011-August 2014

I co-founded a theatre company that creates immersive works of devised theatre for unconventional spaces, and directed the collective creation process for the company's first two productions. I collaborated with writers, designers and performers; auditioning, creating and rehearsing with them as well as noting performances. Administratively, I was also responsible for managing and ensuring the sustainability of the company's operations, programs, finances, and community support through leading strategic planning, development, and fundraising efforts. I also developed school and community partnerships, through which I facilitated various bespoke immersive theatre workshops.

Education

Bachelor of Education
Queen's University
April 2014

Ontario Certified Teacher (OCT),
Focus in Artist in Community Education,
Intermediate/Senior Division (Drama and History)

Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
Queen's University
April 2013

Major in Drama

Selected Professional Development

- Awakening Deaf Theatre in Canada, Seeing Voices Montreal (November 2017)
- Reconciliation through Indigenous Education, University of British Columbia (March 2017)
- Relaxed Performance Intensive, Include Arts and British Council Canada (October 2015)
- Dream: The Joy of Creating, Punchdrunk Enrichment and Rose Bruford College (January 2015)
- Audience Outreach and Engagement, Ryerson University (December 2015)

Personal & Professional Highlights

- National Champion for Canada, ASSITEJ International Inclusive Arts Network
- Dora Awards Juror for the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts, Theatre for Young Audiences Division (2016-2017)
- Active member of the Professional Arts Organizations Network for Education (2015-Present)
- Former member of the Paprika Festival advisory board (2014-16)
- Emergency First Aid + CPR C and High Five Healthy Child Development certified