

Thomas Schoffler

39 College Ave, #2, Buckhannon, WV 26201

718-501-2020 | tommyschoffler@gmail.com

CURRENT POSITION

West Virginia Wesleyan College

Associate Professor of Theatre Arts

Director, Musical Theatre Program

Chair, Theatre & Dance Department

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

2004 **Master of Fine Arts**

Theatre Performance – Acting

The University of Texas at Austin

Thesis: “Me & Breece Pancake: A Solo Performance”

Voice Studies Certification

Rodenburg/Berry focus | voice and speech coaching; vocal health; dialects and text work

1997 **Bachelor of Arts**

Summa Cum Laude

Major: English – Creative Writing

Minors: Spanish & Music (Voice)

West Virginia Wesleyan College

Semester abroad (Fall 1995)

Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay

2014 **Certified Teacher of the Alexander Technique** - Alexander Technique International

Chesapeake Bay Alexander Studies -- Alexander Technique Teacher Training Program

TEACHING EXPERIENCE - WV Wesleyan

2007-present *West Virginia Wesleyan College - Associate Professor of Theatre Arts*

Performance Courses

Acting I, II, III & IV

Musical Theatre Performance

Introduction to Acting for Non-Majors

Drama for Youth

Senior Seminar/Showcase

Improvisation - Honors Seminar

Senior Seminar / Projects

Movement/Voice Practicum - *topics include:*

Alexander Technique Principles for Performance

Viewpoints

Gabrielle Roth's Rhythms

Contact Improvisation

Period & Historical Movement (17th & 18th Centuries)

Shakespeare & "heightened" texts

Basic Stage Combat

Basic Clowning: Lecoq, Commedia

Dramatic Literature & Analysis Courses

Dramaturgical Methods

Musical Theatre History & Research

History of Theatre II

Contemporary Topics in Theatre Arts

Introduction to Theatre Arts

Introduction to Playwriting

Interdisciplinary Courses

Introduction to the Humanities - Gender & Society (traditional and online)

Masculinities and Performance

Guest Lectures/Workshops/Readings for WV Wesleyan

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing - Low-Residency Program

2012 "Connecting Breath & Writing"

2013 "Practical Tips: Embodied Public Speaking"

2011- **Combined Undergraduate Nursing Programs**

A reading and discussion of *W;t* by Margaret Edson

2011- **Brown-bag Lunch Discussion & Demonstration for the Music Department**

"Alexander Principles for Performance"

2008- **Shakespeare - ENGL 350**

"The Rumble in the Jungle: Textual Cues to Staging *A Midsummer Night's Dream*"

2009- **Exercise Testing & Prescriptions - EXSC 338**

"Alexander Technique as Alternate Therapy Modality"

2008- **Combined sections of Introduction to the Humanities - INDS 120**

"Shakespeare: From the Page to the Stage"

2008- **Wesleyan Winter Dance Festival**

"Acting for Dancers"

TEACHING EXPERIENCE - other institutions

- 2017 & 2012 **Davis & Elkins College**, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Theatre
- 2017 *Voice and Diction for the Actor*
- 2012 *Movement for Theatre*
Acting Lab
- 2003-2004 **The University of Texas at Austin**, Assistant Instructor (instructor of record)
Training the Speaking Voice
Fundamentals of Acting
- 2002-2003 **The University of Texas at Austin**, Teaching Assistant & Guest Lecturer
Guest Lecture - "Contemporary Musical Theatre"
Introduction to Theatre Arts for Non-Majors

MASTERCLASSES, WORKSHOPS AND RESPONDENT WORK

- (2019) **Actors Theatre of Louisville**, Louisville, KY
Workshop - Professional Training Company - "Body-Mapping & Alexander for Actors"
- 2018 **University of Florida**, Gainesville, FL
Graduate Actors' Masterclass - "Contact Improvisation for Actors"
- 2017 **University of Iowa**, Des Moines, IA
Graduate & Undergraduate Workshops - "Body-Mapping & Alexander Principles for Actors"
- 2017 **Hollins University**, Roanoke, VA
Respondent - Hollins Summer Playwrights' Festival
Workshop - "Alexander Technique Principles for Playwrights"
- 2016 **University of Findlay**, Findlay, OH
Workshop - "Body-Mapping for Actors"
- 2015 **University of Alaska - Southeast**, Juneau, AK
Guest Lecture - "Body-Mapping and Alexander Principles" - Undergraduate Actors
Guest Lecture - "Alexander Principles for Injury Prevention" - Undergrad Nursing Students
- 2015 **Seton Hill University**, Greensburg, PA
Guest Lecture/Masterclass - "Body-Mapping and Alexander Principles for Performers"
Undergraduate Actors, Dancers / Musicians
- 2014 **Greensboro Light Opera and Song, University of North Carolina-Greensboro, NC**
Alexander Technique Instructor - undergraduate, graduate and professional opera singers
- 2014 **Alderson Broaddus University**, Philippi, WV
Workshop - "Alexander Principles for Brass Musicians"
- 2013 & 2012 **West Virginia University**, Morgantown, WV
Masterclasses - Joint Voice Studios - Drs. Nick Perna & Mandy Spivak
"Alexander Principles Applied to Singing"
- 2013 **Marshall University**, Huntington, WV
Respondent - *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, directed by Nicole Perrone
- 2008 **Marshall University**, Huntington, WV
Respondent - *The Glass Menagerie*, directed by Jack Cirillo
- 2004 **Texas State University**, San Marcos, TX
Guest Lecture - "Embodied Movement"
Acting I for Majors
Voice and Speech 1 for Majors

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 **Southeastern Theatre Conference**, Mobile, AL
Presenter: "Wanna Armwrestle? Alexander and Armwrestling Principles for Scene Study"
- 2017 **Association for Theatre in Higher Education**, Las Vegas, NV
Co-presenter: "Spectacular Non-Doing: Enhancing Actor Training through Alexander Technique and Unexpected, Non-Theatrical Systems"
- 2016 & 2017 **Southeastern Theatre Conference**, Lexington, KY & Greensboro, NC
Presenter: "Alexander Technique Principles for Performers"
- 2015 **Southeastern Theatre Conference**, Chattanooga, TN
Co-presenter: "Ease-up: Alexander Technique for Performers"
- 2014 **Southeastern Theatre Conference**, Mobile, AL
Presenter - "Body Mapping and Alexander Principles for Performers"
Co-presenter - "Alexander Technique for Performing Artists"
- 2013 **Southeastern Theatre Conference**, Louisville, KY
Co-presenter - "Mapping the Imaginary Body: Alexander and Michael Chekhov Techniques"
Co-presenter - "Alexander Technique for Performing Artists"
- 2013 **Sevenoaks Alexander Workshop**, Charlottesville, VA
Presenter - "Pedagogies for Introducing Gabrielle Roth's Rhythms Work"
- 2010-present **WV State Thespian Conference**, Charleston, WV & other locations
Presenter - "Viewpoints for High School Theatre Teachers"

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2011-present Alexander Technique International (ATI)
- 2011- present SAG/AFTRA eligible (non-member)
- 2008-present Theatre Communications Group (TCG)
- 2008-present Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC)
- 2004-present Actors' Equity Association (AEA)
- past member Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
- past member Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA)
- past member Association of Theatre Movement Educators (ATME)

SELECTED ACTING CREDITS

Frog	<i>A Year with Frog and Toad</i>	WV Wesleyan College - AEA Faculty Waiver
Smee	<i>Peter and the Starcatcher</i>	WV Public Theatre, Morgantown, WV
Pirelli	<i>Sweeney Todd</i>	Perseverance Theatre, Juneau & Anchorage, AK
Man in the Chair	<i>The Drowsy Chaperone</i>	Bridgeport HS, WV - AEA Guest Teaching Artist
David	<i>The SantaLand Diaries</i>	Sycamore Rouge, VA & Greenbrier Valley Th, WV
Joe	<i>Becky's New Car</i>	Greenbrier Valley Theatre, WV
Multiple Roles	<i>Stories of Mountain Railroads</i>	WV Legislature Day of the Arts, GVT
Austin	<i>Completely Hollywood</i>	Greenbrier Valley Theatre, WV
Tom	<i>(Abridged) A Broadway Christmas Carol</i>	Greenbrier Valley Theatre, WV
Scot	<i>Route 66</i>	Greenbrier Valley Theatre & The State Fair of WV
Pierrepont Finch	<i>How to Succeed in Business... Trying</i>	Depot Theatre, NY
Oscar Wilde	<i>Memory Train</i>	New Voices Festival, SPARC, Richmond, VA
Father	<i>Tabla Rasa</i>	NeuroFest, Mint Theater, NYC
Narcissus; ensemble	<i>The Gods are Listening</i>	TSI Playtime, Off-off B'way, NYC
Jinx	<i>Forever Plaid</i>	Oregon Cabaret Theatre, OR
Scarecrow	<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Theatre West Virginia
Pirelli (u/s); ensemble	<i>Sweeney Todd</i>	PCPA Theatrefest, CA
Riff (u/s); Snowboy	<i>West Side Story</i>	Mac-Haydn Theatre, NY
Tommy Dillas	<i>The Music Man</i>	Mac-Haydn Theatre, Chatham, NY
Touchstone	<i>As You Like It</i>	The Theatre at Monmouth, ME
Cripple Billy	<i>The Cripple of Inishmaan</i>	The Warehouse Theatre, SC
Yepihodov	<i>The Cherry Orchard</i>	The Warehouse Theatre, SC
Bert Cates	<i>Inherit the Wind</i>	The Warehouse Theatre, SC
Snout/Egeus	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	The Warehouse Theatre, SC
Peter	<i>Peter and the Wolf</i>	Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre, NY
Adam	<i>The Diary of Adam and Eve</i>	Theatre West Virginia Youth Tour
Narrator	<i>Passionella</i>	Theatre West Virginia Youth Tour
Man #2	Herb Snyder campaign TV spot	Orion Strategies, WV
Bureaucrat	Mike Romano campaign TV spot	Orion Strategies, WV
Dad	"WV Lottery for Education" TV spot	Fahlgren's / Image Associates

SELECTED DIRECTING CREDITS

2018	<i>Cabaret</i>	WV Wesleyan College
2016	<i>Into the Woods</i>	WV Wesleyan College
2014	<i>Urinetown: The Musical</i>	WV Wesleyan College
2013	<i>The Glass Menagerie</i>	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2013	<i>Pirates of Penzance</i>	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2012	<i>Antigone</i>	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2012	<i>The 25th Annual Putnam County...Bee</i> Fiorentino Awards - Best Mainstage Production and Outstanding Ensemble	Davis & Elkins College, WV
2011	[title of show]	Perseverance Theatre, AK
2011	<i>Wiley and the Hairy Man</i>	WVWC Tour for Young Audiences, WV
2011	<i>Anything Goes</i>	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2009	<i>Bad Panda</i> first staged production, Megan Gogerty, playwright in residence	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2009	<i>Like Mother</i> Best Play - Asheville Critics' Circle	North Carolina Stage Company, NC
2009	<i>Gypsy</i> inaugural production in the Virginia Thomas Law Center for the Performing Arts	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2008	<i>To Kill A Mockingbird</i> experimental outdoor community production	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2008	<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> Nominated - Best Actress - Richmond Theatre Critics' Circle	Sycamore Rouge, VA
2008	<i>The Apple Tree</i>	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2007	<i>King Lear</i>	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2007	<i>A Thousand Yard Stare</i>	Soho Think Tank Reading Series, NYC
2007	<i>Something Blue</i> , a one-woman show	Connelly Theatre (Off-B'way) NYC
2006	<i>Bridal Blues</i> , a one-woman show	Depot Theatre, NY
2005	<i>The Emperor's New Makeover</i>	The Theatre at Monmouth, ME

PLAYWRITING AND DEVISING

2016	<i>The Coffee Shop on Main</i> facilitated senior musical theatre showcase with original scenes	WV Wesleyan College
2011	R+J directed/devised movement distillation of Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2009	<i>The Sneetches</i> directed/devised adaptation touring elementary schools in three WV counties	WVWC Tour for Young Audiences, WV
2007-2008	<i>My Many Colored Days</i> devised movement piece adapted in collaboration with students and faculty	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2005	<i>The Emperor's New Makeover</i> commission - original play for young audiences	The Theatre at Monmouth, ME

MOVEMENT / VOICE AND SPEECH COACHING

(2019)	DC Somatic Practice Group Presenting Alexander Principles for somatic-based executive and corporate coaches	Washington, DC
2018	<i>Richard III</i> , director Celi Oliveto Coached actor playing Richard, finding ease in “disfigurement” <i>Comedy of Errors</i> , director Jason Young Designed “commedia-inspired” movement for full company	Vintage Theatre Company Vintage Theatre Company
2016	<i>Auld Lang Syne</i> , independent feature Staged comedic violence; on-set Alexander coach	Scrappy Cat Productions
2012	<i>The Stonewater Rapture</i> Unarmed fight choreography - undergraduate directing blackbox	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2011	<i>The Imaginary Invalid</i> , director April Daras Designed and coached period/historical movement	Davis & Elkins College, WV
2011 & 2017	<i>Extremities</i> Unarmed fight choreography - undergraduate directing blackbox	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2010	<i>Tartuffe</i> , guest director kb saine Designed and coached period/historical movement	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2009	<i>You Can't Take it With You</i> Unarmed fight choreography - undergraduate directing mainstage	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2007	<i>Reefer Madness</i> Unarmed fight choreography and voice & speech coaching undergrad director	WV Wesleyan College, WV
2003-2004	<i>Actual Lives</i> Community-based performing arts group for persons with disabilities Acting, movement and voice coaching community actors with varied physical and mental disabilities	Austin, TX
2004	<i>Sueño</i> , undergraduate/graduate mainstage Voice & speech coaching undergraduate actors, graduate-directed mainstage	The University of Texas at Austin
2003	<i>The Stonewater Rapture</i> Voice & speech coaching - undergraduate actors, graduate-directed blackbox	The University of Texas at Austin
2001	<i>Peter Pan</i> (non-musical version) Acting and movement coaching - undergraduate actors, faculty-directed mainstage	The University of Texas at Austin, director Stacy Wolf

ADDITIONAL TRAINING / CONTINUING EDUCATION

- 2018- **Jim Hancock residencies**, Pagosa Springs, CO; Lincoln City, OR; Santa Fe, NM
week-long sessions (five total) both revisiting and learning new movement concepts and pedagogies
- 2018 **Active Analysis Scene Study Class with Cotter Smith**, Pittsburgh, PA
day-long workshop on late-Stanislawski acting technique
- 2018 **Ballet 1**, Donald Laney, instructor - 2 credit dance technique course WV Wesleyan College
- 2017 **Breitenbush Contact Improvisation Jam**, Oregon
masterclasses on movement and pedagogies, warm-up sessions, performances
- 2017 **“Moment Work” Masterclass**, Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Las Vegas, NV
Tectonic Theatre Company Member Barbara Pitts-McAdams
- 2016-17 **Daniel Bell residencies**. Buckhannon, WV; Eaton, OH
weekend-long sessions developing pedagogies around Alexander Technique and armwrestling
- 2015 **“Story Hour” at University of Idaho Department of Music**, Moscow ID
collaboration with Dr. Shawn Copeland for his faculty clarinet recital *Fairy Tales and Muses*
piece for solo clarinet and narrator based on sonnets in the voice of twisted fairy tale characters
- 2015- **Armwrestling technique training**, Buckhannon, WV
working with a team of amateur armwrestlers, led by WV State Champion Armwrestler Logan Lindsey
applying Alexander principles and leading to development of scene study pedagogy
- 2016 **Introduction to Thai Massage**, Clarksburg, WV Valarie Dunlevy - 24 CE credits for massage therapists
- 2011- **Carolyn Johnston Alexander Technique Teacher Roundtable**, Pittsburgh PA
ongoing monthly meeting and informal sharing for regional AT teachers, led by master-teacher
- 2011-14 **Chesapeake Bay Alexander Technique Teacher Training Program**, Greensboro, NC
low-residency program, one weekend per month with rotating faculty of master teachers
including summer projects, independent reading, attendance at multiple workshops
and additional college coursework in anatomy/physiology, exercise science, etc.
- 2012-13 **Sevenoaks Alexander Technique Workshop**, Charlottesville, VA
- 2011-13 **Annual Alexander Technique Residential Workshop**, Columbus, OH
- 2012 **Myrtle Beach Alexander Technique & Energy Workshop**, Myrtle Beach, SC
- 2012 **Appalachian College Association Teaching and Learning Institute**, Brevard College, NC
week-long residential institute on assessment, technology, service learning, pedagogy, critical thinking
- 2010 **We’re More than Books: Exploring the Full Potential of the Library**, WV Wesleyan
faculty development training - electronic resources, course reserves, college special archives
- 2009 **21st Century Workshops**, WV Wesleyan
faculty development training - assessment and 21st Century technology integration
- 2006 **Level 1 - Reiki Certification**, City University of New York
- 2005 **Prime-time Television Audition Workshop**, Marci Phillips, Head, ABC Casting, NYC
- 2004 **SAFD, Recognized Actor-Combatant**, single rapier, David Wooley; Brian Byrnes, adjudicator, UT Austin
- 2004 **Liz Lerman Creative Response Model Workshop**, UT Austin
- 2004 **Commedia del Arte Clowning Workshop**, Orlando Pabotoy, UT Austin
- 2003 **Advanced Contact Improvisation Workshops**, Ray Chung, Karen Nelson, Austin, TX
- 2000-01 **Journeyman Program, The Warehouse Theatre**, Greenville, SC
Jack Young, acting and movement | Bob Hobbs, audition technique | Jennifer Hubbard, Viewpoints

COMMUNITY AND YOUTH TEACHING

- 2017 **Buckhannon Community Theatre Playwrights' Festival**, Buckhannon, WV
Advised committee and adjudicated first annual playwrights' competition and reading
- 2014-2017 **WV Governor's School for the Arts**, Buckhannon, WV
Acting and movement faculty for high school actors and interdisciplinary arts students
- 2015 **Perseverance Theatre Community Drama Workshops**, Juneau, AK
Taught "Alexander Technique for Everybody" series for community members
- 2015 **Adolescent Montessori Borealis**, Juneau, AK
Instructor - Viola Spolin-based creative drama and improv series for 5th graders
- 2013 **Buckhannon-Upshur High School Drama**, Buckhannon, WV
Workshop - stage movement and ensemble-building for high school drama students
- 2012 **Clarksburg First United Methodist Church**, Clarksburg, WV
Workshop - speech and text coaching for ministers and lay leaders
- 2012 **Buckhannon Community Theatre Children's Camp**,
Buckhannon, WV Workshop - movement for elementary through
high school theatre students
- 2012 **Bridgeport High School Thespian Troupe**, Bridgeport, WV
Workshop - Viewpoints & ensemble-building for high school Thespian Troupe
- 2010-present **WV Thespian Conference**, Charleston, WV
Adjudicator - solo and duet musical theatre performances - high school Thespians
- 2011 **Juneau Community Charter School**, Juneau, AK
Workshop - stage combat, voice & Shakespearean text for middle school students
- 2011 **WV Governor's School for the Arts**, Davis & Elkins College
Guest teacher - Viewpoints and movement for high school actors
- 2008 **Parkersburg Catholic High School**, Parkersburg, WV
Workshop - voice & dialect for high school students
- 2007 **Parkersburg Catholic High School**, Parkersburg, WV
Workshop - movement and stage combat for high school students
- 2007-present **WV Theatre Conference**, multiple locations
Workshops - Viewpoints for Actors, Alexander principles for Actors
- 2007 **Asian American Writers' Workshop**, New York, NY
Workshop - embodied public speaking skills for high school and college writers
- 2004 **John Robert Powers School**, New York, NY
Substitute Instructor - acting for the camera and commercial techniques
- 2003 **University Interscholastic League SuperConference**, Austin, TX
Workshops - Viewpoints & contact improvisation for high school students
- 2001 **Upstate South Carolina Fine Arts Summer Camp**, Greenville, SC
Teacher - acting and movement for elementary students

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2015 **Fall Semester Sabbatical** granted to:
pursue professional performance work at the Perseverance Theatre, Juneau, AK
collaborate with writer Larry Pontius, Los Angeles, CA
study with Dr. Jim Hancock, Santa Fe, NM
- 2013 **Appalachian College Association Faculty Travel Grant**
present teaching pedagogy at Sevenoaks Alexander Technique Workshop
- 2010 **Faculty Innovation Grant**, WV Wesleyan College
period/historical movement research with Dr. Jim Hancock, master movement teacher
- 2010 **Exemplary Service Award**, WV Wesleyan College
- 2009 **Community Engagement Grant**, WV Wesleyan
Upshur County Arts Alliance Grant, Buckhannon, WV
supporting the Drama for Youth touring production of rural elementary schools
- 2008 **Community Engagement Grant**, WV Wesleyan
supporting a guest artist for a collaborative college/community production of
To Kill a Mockingbird
- 2001 **B. Iden Payne Award Nomination - Best Actor in a Musical - Love, Jerry**, UT Austin
- 2002 **Graduate Theatre Department Research Grant**, UT Austin
supporting master thesis research at The University of Virginia
and West Virginia University
- 2001-2004 **Morton Brown Fellowship for Theatre & Dance**, UT Austin
- 1997 **National Finalist, Rhodes Scholar Competition**

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- 2017-present Chair, Professional Affairs Council, WV Wesleyan
- 2017 Co-leader, May Term travel study course to Ireland
- 2013-2017 Advisory Board Member, Buckhannon Community Theatre
- 2013-2015 Co-Chair, Stage Movement Committee, Southeastern Theatre Conference
- 2013-present Member, Certification Coordination Committee, Alexander Technique International
- 2013-present Free Alexander Technique lessons to members of Staff Council, WV Wesleyan
- 2011-present Coordinator, Department of Theatre & Dance, WV Wesleyan
- 2010-2014 Review Panelist, National Graduate Arts Scholarship, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
- 2008-2013 Advisor, Alpha Psi Omega, Dramatic Arts Honor Fraternity, WV Wesleyan
- 2007-present Advisor/consultant, Arts Alive! series, WV Wesleyan
- 2012 Member, Faculty Search Committee, Director of Choral Activities position, WV Wesleyan
- 2011-2012 Departmental Assessment Coordinator & Author, Report to Assessment Council, WV Wesleyan
- 2010 Interim Department Chair, Theatre & Dance, WV Wesleyan
- 2011-2012 Member, Curriculum Council, WV Wesleyan
- 2011 & 2013 Chair, Search Committee, FT faculty and staff hires, Technical Director/Designer, WV Wesleyan
- 2008-2011 Secretary, Professional Affairs Council, WV Wesleyan
- 2009 & 2010 Advisor, Lions' Club Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre, Clarksburg WV Chapter
- 2007-2010 Chair, Lions' Club International Travel Scholarship Selection Committee
- 2008 & 2013 Member, Humanities Program Review Task Force
- 2008 Founding Coordinator, Larry Reed Education Award,
endowed scholarship honoring retired colleague
- 2007 & 2008 Leader, student travel trip to Stratford Festival with multiple participating regional colleges

REFERENCES

Megan Gogerty

Playwright & Visiting Assistant Professor of Dramatic Literature

University of Iowa

megan-gogerty@uiowa.edu | 319-321-2486

Dr. Jim Hancock

Professor of Theatre & Movement (retired)

University of Texas at Austin

jimrobhancock@gmail.com | 512-636-0915

Dr. Eric Waggoner

Executive Director

WV Humanities Council

waggoner@wvhumanities.org | 304-439-4443