

EDUCATION

Kent State University
May 11, 2019 Bachelor of Fine Arts
Musical Theatre

Kent, Ohio

University of California, Irvine
June 11, 2022 Master of Fine Arts
Acting

Irvine, California

University of California, Riverside
Social-Emotional Learning Certification
October 2021

Riverside, California

Career Technical Education (CTE)
Clear Designated Subjects Credential - Performing Arts
K - 12 & Adult

California Commission on Teaching Credentialing

WORK EXPERIENCE/FELLOWSHIPS

CA Creative Corps Artist and Culture Bearer Fellow

Community Partners, Los Angeles, CA
(July 2023 – July 2024)

- Selected for fellowship supporting artists working in communities identified in the lowest quartile of the California Healthy Places Index.
- Developed projects focused on equity and social justice in Orange County.
- Collaborated with community members to address key social issues increase community engagement through the performing arts.

Conservatory Teacher - Orange County School of the Arts

Musical Theatre Conservatory Classes Taught - MT Acting Fundamentals, MT Intro to Music Theory
(August 2023 - May 2024)

- Plan, prepare, and deliver lessons tailored to the educational needs, abilities, and achievement levels of all students.
- Motivate students to develop competencies, knowledge, and skills in the specified art discipline.
- Develop syllabi, lesson plans, and materials aligned with the conservatory curriculum.
- Identify and acquire necessary instructional materials.
- Implement accommodations and modifications for students with IEPs and 504 plans, as required by law.
- Assign and evaluate student work, including written assessments, presentations, and other submissions.

Teaching Artist - Segerstrom Center for the Arts

Disney Musicals in Schools and Arts Teach Program
(August 2021 - Present)

DMIS Teaching Artist (17-Week Professional Residency)

- Directed, music directed, and choreographed Disney Musicals in collaboration with Disney Theatrical Group.
- Trained school faculty to build sustainable musical theatre programs.

Arts Teach

- Design and lead standards-based arts residencies for elementary school students, fostering creativity and artistic expression.
- Deliver arts and cultural programs in an authentic and meaningful way, grounded in a deep understanding of their history, context, and cultural significance.
- Address the diverse learning needs of students, ensuring inclusive and engaging educational experiences for all

Undergraduate Course Instructor - University of California, Irvine

(August 2020- June 2022)

Coaching and training undergraduate students in UCI's drama department.

- Building curriculum and lesson plans.
- Grading and evaluating assignments, quizzes, in-class workshoping and final performances.
- Teaching 2 hour courses in Acting and Voice.

Courses taught: 30A Intro to Acting, 30B Intermediate Acting - Scenes, 30C Monologue Workshop Course

Music Director - Laguna Beach High School Spring Productions

(December 2022 – March 2024)

- Collaborated with the creative team to develop and execute the musical vision for the school's spring productions.
- Led auditions, cast performers, and provided vocal instruction and musical coaching.
- Ensured high-quality performances through rehearsals and individualized music teaching.

Assistant Programs Coordinator - Dance Arts Academy

(March 2022 - Present)

- Schedule and prioritize tasks.
- Review, prioritize, and respond to emails.
- Answer and return phone calls.
- Manage marketing efforts.
- Organize documents and maintain records.
- Take notes at meetings.

Skills: Graphic design, Excel & Google sheets, phone calls, emails, Eventbrite, calendar scheduling

Executive Director, Program Coordinator, and CEO - Jar of Sunshine Inc.

(August 2019 - Present)

Jar of Sunshine is a 501c3 providing and supporting programs that increase accessibility to the arts, wellness, and literacy.

- Create a curriculum that meets professional standards in schools and local communities.
- Implements programs with an emphasis on art, culture and heritage that includes: Cultural Funding Programs, Management and Technical Assistance, Community Arts, Arts Education, Public Art, Cultural Tourism, Public Events, Arts in Economic Development and special initiatives.
- Provides oversight of management and development of cultural programs, fundraising assistance, solicitations and grants administration, acquisition negotiations, contracts, media relations, marketing, facilities operations and department services to the general public.

Lead Teaching Artist - Cleveland Public Theatre Education

Brick City and Cleveland ACT NOW!

Cleveland, Ohio

(June 2019 - 2021)

- Improved students' academic skills, empathy, responsibility, and character development through theatre education.
- Led students in creating original plays, choreography, poetry, music, and visual art.
- Guided the development of performances showcased at CMHA community centers and arts festivals in Cleveland.
- Encouraged creative thinking and collaboration in a supportive, artistic environment

ADDITIONAL TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

Applied Behavior Analysis Training Anaheim, California June 2022 - National Provider - 1336870047 (Behavioral Health & Social Service Provider)

Disney on Broadway Disney Musicals in Schools Teaching Artist Conference Seattle, Washington September 2022

Exploring Unconscious Bias with Verna Myers: Certified by The Verna Myers Company (TVMC) 2022

Arts Are Core - Utah State University 2023

VOLUNTEER WORK & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Howard County Public School System - Visiting Author Series - African American Literature Class (Teacher: Rhoyal Davis)
- Pretend City Children's Museum - *Literacy month guest Author*
- Altercare of Mayfield Village & Altercare of Mentor (Nursing & Rehabilitation Center) - *Provide entertainment to residents ; music and reading*
- DML/Euclid School of Music - *Provide Summer camp opportunities for low income students within Cuyahoga county*
- St. Augustine Church and Hunger Center - *Meal delivery to homes in Cleveland, Ohio during Christmas and Thanksgiving.*
- King Kennedy Community Center - *Provide opportunities for students to engage in self - expression , social change and self empowerment activities through theatre and dance. Students engage in programming which allows them to express themselves, attend local community and regional theatre performances.*
- Thomas House Shelter - *Garden Grove CA 2022 - present Organize and facilitate literacy and arts education programs for youth.*
- UC Irvine Black Alumni Chapter - *VP of Mentorship 2023 - present*
- Newhope Orange County Orchestra - *Founding Member and Coordinator*

INVOLVEMENT AND AWARDS

2018- Golden Flash Award Recipient

The Alumni Association's Alumni Awards are the university's highest honors, recognizing alumni and one student annually for outstanding contributions to their field, community, and Kent State University.

2019 - BroadwayWorld Award Recipient - Best Actress in a Comedy or Drama - *Esther in Intimate Apparel* by Lynn Nottage

2023 Community Engagement Grantee - Santa Ana, CA <https://www.communityengagement.org/artists-creatives-grants>

2023 Orange County Arts Awards Honoree - Emerging Artist & Arts Leader <https://artsoc.org/events-and-programs/orange-county-arts-awards/>

University of California, Irvine Black Alumni Chapter - Vice President, Mentorship

FORBESBLK - Member

National Guild for Community Arts Education - Member

Named a 2024 Kickass Woman of Orange County by Orange Coast Magazine

Individual Artist Fellow - California Arts Council 2024

2023 - 2024 - Fellow Community Partners and California Creative Corps

FEATURES & GUEST SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Burr Magazine 2019

Voyage Ohio Magazine 2021

Kent State Magazine 2018-2019 Fall Winter

Voyage LA

CANVAS REBEL

UCI CONNECT Magazine Fall 2023

Orange Coast Magazine March 2024 Issue

Women in Theatre Conference - Kent State University Guest Speaker 2021

UC Merced Africana Studies Conference - Guest Speaker 2023

Kennedy Center American Theater Festival Region 7 - Representation, Equity and Diversity Keynote Presenter 2024

PUBLICATIONS

Wading Documentary:

<https://youtu.be/UCVnqTEgYcI>

"Unbound: The Performing Arts and the Social - Emotional Development of Black Youth"

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7rg658fh>

"Addressing Bisexuality, Gender Non Conformance and Performativity through The Color Purple by Alice Walker"

<https://oaks.kent.edu/epar/vol6/iss1/addressing-bisexuality-gender-non-conformance-and-performativity-through-color>

This paper won the Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research, Honorable Mention, 2018-19.

"House of Sage and Sun: The Short Book of Short Poems"

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/house-of-sage-and-sun-chantrell-lewis/1142078216?ean=9798823110983>

"There Was a Movement Yesterday"

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/there-was-a-movement-yesterday-chantrell-lewis/1142168342>

"Black Girl's Guide to Ladyhood"

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/black-girls-guide-to-ladyhood-nick-adams/1139902267>

"Dessert Dreams"

<https://www.lulu.com/shop/chantrell-m-lewis-and-nick-exum/dessert-dreams/paperback/product-27gp4p.html?q=chantrell+lewis+dessert+dreams&page=1&pageSize=4>

"Love Yourself Black Child" by Chantrell M. Lewis (Published in Silent Spark Press - Great Poetry October 2022)

<https://silentsparkpress.com/products/great-poetry>

"If I Should Think of Comfort"

By Chantrell M. Lewis

New Swan Shakespeare Magazine April 2023 ISSUE