

# CHANTRELL M. LEWIS, MFA

AUTHOR RESEARCHER PROFESSOR

[www.Chantrellewis.com](http://www.Chantrellewis.com)

Orange County, California | [Contact@Chantrellewis.com](mailto:Contact@Chantrellewis.com)

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## EDUCATION

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

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

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

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching Artist - Disney Musicals in Schools  
Seegerstrom Center for the Arts  
Costa Mesa, California  
August 2021 - Present

DMIS is a 17-week professional residency bringing the world of stage to Title 1 schools. Teaching Artists take on tasks of directing, music directing, and choreographing Disney Musicals provided through Disney Theatrical Group.

Course Instructor  
University of California, Irvine  
Irvine, California  
August 2019 - June 2022

At the University of California, Irvine instructors are tasked with coaching and training undergraduate students in UCI's drama department. Leading a classroom at the collegiate level requires patience, knowledge, research, and planning. Instructors teach the 30 series; the introduction to acting courses.

Courses taught: Intro to Acting, Intermediate Acting, Scenes, Monologue Workshop Course.

Group Instructor (SUMMER)  
Galileo Learning  
Irvine, California  
June 2021 - August 2021

Galileo camps are educational innovator camps designed for youth with a passion for discovery. Camp instructors are seasoned educators with a love of leadership and encouraging growth in youth.

Lead Teaching Artist - Cleveland Act Now!  
Cleveland Public Theatre  
Cleveland, Ohio  
June 2018 - 2021

CAN Academy is a free performing arts program at Cleveland Public Theatre for young teens and youth from Cleveland and surrounding neighborhoods. Young artists engage in rigorous (and fun!) theatre training, learning acting fundamentals, script analysis, storytelling techniques, and play creation. CAN multidisciplinary performing arts activities improve academic skills, instill empathy and responsibility, build character, and enhance creative thinking.

Lead Teaching Artist - Cleveland Brick City Theatre  
Cleveland Public Theatre  
Cleveland, Ohio  
June 2019 - 2021

“Brick City Theatre engages youth ages 5-14 and family members who reside in public housing in a year-round afterschool and intensive summer arts program that improves academic skills, instills empathy and responsibility, builds character, and enhances creative thinking. Under the dedicated guidance of CPT Teaching Artists, children learn how to create and perform their own plays, choreography, poetry, music compositions, and visual art. These works are then crafted into original performances that are presented annually at CMHA community centers and arts festivals throughout Cleveland.”

Virtual Assistant - Winn Publications LLC. (FALL)

Winn Publications LLC  
Orange County, California  
August - September 2021

Winn Publications is a book publication company located in Orange County, California. Serving national clientele. As the Assistant to W.P. duties included social media marketing, creation of promotional material, organizing paperwork and community outreach to local Authors for promotion.

Executive Assistant - Dance Arts Academy

Dance Arts Academy - Global Girl Inc.  
Orange County, California  
March - Current

An executive assistant helps the executive for whom they work with tasks such as scheduling; reviewing, prioritizing and responding to emails; answering and returning phone calls; organizing documents; maintaining records; taking notes at meetings and any other administrative tasks that help the executive perform their job. Skills: Graphic, excel, google sheets, phone calls, emails, eventbrite, calendar scheduling

Teaching Artist - Dance Arts Academy

Orange County, California  
March - Current

Music and private voice lesson teacher serving TK-5th grade students through residencies with Dance Arts Academy Arts Afterschool residencies across various schools in Orange County.

Adjunct Professor - AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts

American Musical and Dramatic Academy  
Los Angeles, California  
June - Current

Adjunct acting professor duties include conducting fundamental and advanced acting classes for AMDA undergraduate students. Assigning and grading assignments.

Enrichment Teacher and Tutor - BookNook

Maryland, Texas, California (Remote)  
Current

BookNook is a synchronous online learning platform designed to enhance K-8 literacy skills through small-group guided reading instruction and high impact tutoring

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Accel Therapies

Forty hours of Applied Behavior Analysis Training

Anaheim, California June 2022

Disney on Broadway Disney Musicals in School

Teaching Artist Training

Seattle, Washington September 2022

## VOLUNTEER WORK

Howard County Public School System

- Visiting Author Series - African American Literature Class
- Teacher: Rhoyal Davis
- May 2021

Pretend City Children's Museum

- Literacy month guest Author
- 2021-current

Andrews Osborne Academy

- Host audition skills master class for middle - highschool aged students
- Teacher: Darryl Lewis

38588 Mentor Ave, Willoughby, OH 44094

Altercare of Mayfield Village & Altercare of Mentor (Nursing & Rehabilitation Center)

- Provide entertainment to residents ; music and reading
- Organize resident game days and field trips to the zoo.

290 N Commons Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44143

DML/Euclid School of Music

- Provide Summer camp opportunities for low income students within Cuyahoga county
- Watch over camp goers; assist in daily activities
- Organize programs that will utilize drama , music and dance as community outreach

291 E 222nd St, Euclid, OH 44123

216-406-1699

St. Augustine Church and Hunger Center

- Meal delivery to homes in Cleveland, Ohio during Christmas and Thanksgiving

1400 Howard Ave, Cleveland, OH 44113

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.

6660 Garfield Rd, Ravenna, OH 44266

Phone: (330) 296-9957

Duration: 1 year

Youth Christian Outreach Program - 4 week program

- Volunteer based organization that provided outreach to women offering etiquette classes , acting classes and fashion; this program emphasizes women empowerment within the African American community .

## INNOLVEMENT AND AWARDS

### **National Honor Society Member**

*NHS serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.*

### **Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society**

*Service based theatre fraternity inducting students demonstrating a high standard of accomplishment in theatre and participation in a variety of production tasks and extensive community service.*

### **2015-2018 Pan- African Theatre Ensemble Member**

*Pan-African Theatre Ensemble is a nonprofit, repertory theatre developed for ongoing research in Pan-African theatre and performance in the Department of Pan-African Studies at Kent State. The primary mission of the Pan-African Theatre Ensemble is to promote black theatre in the United States and around the world.*

### **2016 -2019 Black Theatre Association President**

*The Black Theatre Association (BTA) serves academic scholars committed to advancing the black theatre aesthetic. Our unified interest in the critical study of Black theatre from a global perspective informs our collective desire to inform and promote the experiences of Black people as expressed in various forms of drama and performance.*

### **Equity Membership Candidate - Actor's Equity Association**

*The U.S. labor union that represents more than 50,000 Actors and Stage Managers*

### **2018- Golden Flash Award Recipient**

*The Alumni Association's Alumni Awards are the university's most prestigious honors given to several alumni and **one student** each year. Alumni and one student will be honored for their exceptional contributions in their chosen field, in their communities and at Kent State University.*

### **2019 - BroadwayWorld Award Recipient -**

#### **Best Actress in a Comedy or Drama - *Esther in Intimate Apparel* by Lynn Nottage**

*"Reminiscent of Viola Davis and Octavia Spencer in "The Help." Lewis truly gives a performance with incredible nuance that actually moved many audience members to laughter, anger and tears, myself included." Ashlynn, The Burr Magazine*

### **2021- Elftmann Scholarship Recipient (University of California, Irvine Claire Trevor School of the Arts)**

*Scholarship awarded to a drama student who exemplifies scholarship and leadership in the performing arts.*

*2022 - D.C. Black Film Festival -*

### **Best Student Film - *MOOSETRACKS Die*. By Ayanna McKnight**

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Wading Documentary:**

<https://youtu.be/UCVnqTEgYcl>

### **Publications and Features:**

- **UHURU Magazine 2019**
- **Burr Magazine 2019**
- **Voyage Ohio Magazine 2021**
- **Kent State Magazine 2018-2019 Fall Winter**

- "Addressing Bisexuality, Gender Non-Conformance and Performativity through *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker (adapted for stage by Marsha Norman)"

Excellence in the Performing Arts Research Journal

(Published 2019)

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

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

PROQUEST Publication - (Oct. 2022)

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

By Chantrell M. Lewis

(Published 2020) Kindle Direct Publishing

<https://www.amazon.com/House-Sage-Sun-Short-Poems/dp/B08BF2TZN8>

- "There Was a Movement Yesterday"

By Chantrell M. Lewis Illustrations by Tyron Hoisten

[www.ChantrelleLewis.com](http://www.ChantrelleLewis.com)

- "Black Girl's Guide to Ladyhood"

By Chantrell M. Lewis

(Published 2021)

[www.ChantrelleLewis.com](http://www.ChantrelleLewis.com)

- "Dessert Dreams"

By Chantrell M. Lewis Illustrations by Nick I. Exum

(Published 2021) Lulu Publishing

[www.ChantrelleLewis.com](http://www.ChantrelleLewis.com)

## REFERENCES:

*Cynthia Bassham*

Professor of Teaching  
University of California, Irvine  
[Cbassham@uci.edu](mailto:Cbassham@uci.edu)

Cynthia Bassham has been a professor over my instructor position at The University of California, Irvine from 2019 - 2022.

*Eli Simon*

Professor  
University of California, Irvine  
[Esimon@uci.edu](mailto:Esimon@uci.edu)

Eli Simon has served as my professor at The University of California, Irvine from 2019-2022.

*Darryl Lewis*

Artistic Director. DEI Coordinator  
Andrews Osborne Academy  
[Dlewis@andrewsosborne.org](mailto:Dlewis@andrewsosborne.org)

Darryl Lewis has served as a professional mentor since the beginning of Lewis' teaching experience in 2015.

*Sakina Ibrahim*

Director/Direct Supervisor  
Dance Arts Academy  
[Contact@Sakinaibrahim.com](mailto:Contact@Sakinaibrahim.com)

Sakina Ibrahim has been my direct supervisor since early 2022.