

LINDSAY A. JENKINS (L.J.)

A dramaturg and creative professional specializing in Black Performance Heritage, connecting past performances to contemporary experiences. Founder of Maroon Arts and Culture, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering the global majority through art and performance.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Theatre Arts

California State University, Northridge, Spring 2020

Emphasis on theatre history, literature and criticism.

Thesis: Contextualizing the Self: Meanings and Possibilities for Afrocentric Dramaturgy

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre Arts

University of Texas at Arlington, Summer 2009

Minor: Business Administration

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019- 2020

Teaching Artist, August Wilson In-School Residency Program, Working in Theatre Program

Center Theatre Group

Visited classes at 3 Los Angeles County schools, teaching the work of August Wilson. Created content, including interviews and curriculum, to give young artists practical information on working in the arts.

2018- 2019

Teaching Associate- Actors and Acting

California State University, Northridge (CA)

This Theatre 111 course was a mix of theatre majors and non-majors. It was introductory and met an arts requirement for several majors. There were also students in other artistic majors (music, film, etc.), who took the course in order to improve their area of expertise.

2015- 2017

Content Teacher Lead and Middle School IB Theatre Teacher, Theatre 1- 3

North Hills Preparatory, Uplift Education, Irving, TX

Taught grades 6-8 International Baccalaureate Theatre curriculum. Appointed Content Teach Lead, developed curriculum and trained teachers across the district on the curriculum. Managed budgets, produced in-class and after school productions, sponsored extra

curricular activities such as public speaking and oral interpretation. Awarded Enrichment Committee Grant to take 70 8th graders and chaperones to see the musical *Wicked*. We took the train and for many students it was their first time seeing a professional production.

2014- 2015

High School Theatre Teacher, Theatre 1-4, Technical Theatre

Adamson High School, Dallas Independent School District (TX)
Taught 5 classes to Freshmen through Seniors. Prepared and submitted lesson plans and daily objectives for each course weekly. Produced in class and out of class performances, sponsored extracurricular activities including fundraisers and One Act Play Competition. Awarded the Project Discovery Grant which included season tickets for 25 students to Dallas Theatre Center and professional development for myself.

2012- 2014

Middle School Theatre Teacher, Creative Drama and Theatre 1-2

Lang Middle School, Dallas Independent School District (TX)
Taught grades 6-8 at a Title 1 school. First time a theatre course was offered at the school. Created curriculum, started a drama club, produced performances including the first annual talent show.

RESEARCH

Fall 2019

Research Associate, Department of Performance Studies (CSUN)

Supervisor: Dr. Jade C. Huell

Assisted Dr. Jade with accumulating research for various projects including performances and projects for publication. Traveled to the Petit Jean Performance Festival as a Graduate assistant.

Spring 2018

Research Associate, Department of Africana Studies (CSUN)

Supervisor: Dr. Theresa White, Chair

Assisted Dr. White with accumulating research for a book on the history of Black film. Edited several articles for publication and researched grant opportunities for the department.

DRAMATURGY, RESEARCH AND SCRIPT ANALYSIS

- **Dramaturg**, *Fannie and Aberdeen and Netarine*, two plays by Sydney Rushing, 2021 Playwright-in-Residence for August Wilson House
- **Dramaturg**, *Nick and the Prize Fighter* by Kamilah Bush and *A Skeptic and a Bruja* by Rosa Fernandez, Urbanite Theatre 2021 Modern Works Festival
- **Dramaturg**, *Karen*, one-woman show devised by Naked Empire Bouffon Company, 2020- 2021
- **Dramaturg**, *Tilikum* by Kristiana Rae Colón, University of Central Missouri, 2020

- **Dramaturg**, *Mingus* by Tyler English-Beckwith, Bay Area Playwrights Festival (The Playwrights Foundation), 2020
- **Script Coverage/ Reading Panels**, Various organizations (info available upon request), 2019- present
- **Research (Wardrobe)/Production Assistant**, *Judas and the Black Messiah*, prod. by Ryan Coogler, Warner Brothers, 2019
- **Dramaturg/ Producing Associate**, *Jordan Downs Illumination*, Cornerstone Theater Company, 2019
- **Artistic Research Assistantship**, *Mariology* by Nancy Keystone, Critical Mass Performance Group and Center Theatre Group, 2019
- **Dramaturg**, *Gem of the Ocean* by August Wilson, California State University, Northridge, 2019

PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

- **Executive Producer and Founder**, Maroon Arts & Culture, an arts organization, 2019- present
- **Creator and Producer**, *Mysteries in Black Histories*, a historically based fiction podcast pilot created in partnership with Spotify for the Sound Up program.
- **Writer and Producer**, *Doing Time*, original one-woman audio play that explores the relationship between Black women and law enforcement, connecting it to the historical practice of lynching
- **Community Producer**, Artist Magnet, engage the community through discussions and panels, in addition to administrative duties, 2021
- **Multimedia Producer**, *After Iphigenia* theatre presentation devised by Critical Mass Performance Group for Getty Villa Theatre Lab, 2021
- **Line Producer/ Dramaturg**, *Appropriation of Cultures* by Percival Everett, single episode podcast prod. by Z Space for Word for Word
- **Line Producer**, *Intimate Apparel* by Lynn Nottage, audio play prod. by Z Space for the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre
- **Production Assistant/ Dramaturg**, *Books and Roses* by Helen Oyeyemi, single episode podcast prod. By Z Space for Word for Word
- **Executive Producer/Program Design**, *Working-in-Theatre* online panel series, co-production with Center Theatre Group, 2020

CONFERENCE, FESTIVAL AND GUEST ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

- **Guest Artist**, “Afrocentricity X Dramaturgy”, Carnegie Mellon University (lecture, symposium), Fall 2021
- **Moderator**, “Love and Desire”, Bay Area Playwrights Festival (panelist and host), Summer 2020
- **Author/ Presenter**, “Contextualization of the Self: Afrocentricity X Dramaturgy”, *Performing Black Futures-* ATHE Post Conference (workshop on embodied dramaturgy), Summer 2020
- **Author/ Performer**, “Doing Time: Exploring the Relationship Between Black Women and Law Enforcement”, California State University, Northridge (autoethnographic performance), Fall 2019

- **Guest Speaker**, “Poetry for Public Performance,” California State University, Northridge, (student workshop) Fall 2019
- **Author**, “Tilling Our Mothers’ Gardens: Honoring Black Female Playwrights Through Womanist Dramaturgy,” National Council for Black Studies Conference (conference panel), Spring 2019
- **Author**, “How Marvel Got It Right: Understanding Black Ritual Theatre Through the Lens of Black Panther,” CSUNposium, California State University, Northridge (conference panel), Spring 2019

PUBLICATION

Huell, Jade C, and Lindsay A Jenkins. “The I/Eye of History: Performing Public Memory, Utopia, and Critical Nostalgia in Hamilton.” *Rhetoric, Politics, and Hamilton: An American Musical*, Peter Lang, 2021, pp. 13–30.

GRANTS

- **Network of Ensemble Theatres Virtual Connection Grant**- Awarded for a development workshop of an original piece devised using Afrocentric Dramaturgy
- **The Black Seed**- Awarded in support of Maroon Arts & Culture
- **Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas 2020 Field Grant**- Awarded for exploration in methods of Afrocentric Dramaturgy.
- **Spotify’s Sound Up Program for Women+ Podcasters of Color**- Training, equipment and budget to produce an original fiction pilot
- **California State University Travel Grant**- Awarded to attend and present at the National Council for Black Studies Conference

AWARDS

- **Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival National Awards** for *Tilikum* by Kristiana Rae Colon, produced by University of Central Missouri: Colleges and Universities at the Vanguard, Kennedy Center Citizen Artist Award, Special Achievement: Overall Production and more.
- **Dean’s Recognition Scholarship Award for Outstanding Graduate Student**
- **Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 8** Dramaturgy Finalist, *Gem of the Ocean* by August Wilson
- **Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 8 Meritorious Achievement for Dramaturgy**, *Gem of the Ocean* by August Wilson