

**Karen J. Gilmer**  
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## **EDUCATION**

2000 Boston University, Boston MA  
Master of Fine Arts in Theatre (Costume Design)  
M.F.A Thesis: Showgirl Costuming: *Follies*

1992 West Chester University, West Chester PA  
Bachelor of Arts (French)

## **THEATRE EXPERIENCE**

### **DIRECTOR**

St. Michael's Playhouse, Colchester, VT

<u>Production Title</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>The Mountaintop</i>	2022

Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>The Tragedy of Hamlet</i>	2021

University of Pittsburgh Stages, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Spark</i>	2021
<i>Black and Blue</i>	2020
<i>Hair Waiting</i>	2020
<i>Flyin' West</i>	2019
<i>Intimate Apparel</i>	2016

### **THEATRICAL INTIMACY DIRECTOR**

St. Michael's Playhouse, Colchester, VT

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>The Mountaintop</i>	KJ Gilmer	2022

Orlando Shakes, Orlando, FL

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Intimate Apparel</i>	Shonn McCloud	2021

University of Pittsburgh Stages, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Emilia</i>	Bria Walker	2022
<i>Drag Seed</i>	Rebecca Hobart	2021
<i>Carrie and Francine</i>	Rebecca Hobart	2021
<i>Oblivion</i>	Sean Cook	2020
<i>Merrily We Roll Along</i>	Kelly Hadfield	2019

## THEATRICAL INTIMACY WORKSHOPS

2022 Intimacy Directors and Coordinators, New York City, NY

- Theatrical Intimacy Direction, Consent Forward Artist Certification

2020-2021 Theatrical Intimacy Educators, Pittsburgh, PA

- \*"Race and Intimacy"
- \*"Intimacy Choreograph
- \*"Race and Choreography for BIPOC
- "Theatrical Intimacy Best Practices"

*\*Theatrical Intimacy Education's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Intimacy Initiative (EDIII) was developed to address inequities in theatrical training spaces.*

2020 Intimacy Directors and Coordinators, Pittsburgh, PA

- "Consent in Academia"
- "Let's talk about Intimacy: Approaching Communication"
- "What is an Intimacy Coordinator?"
- "Talking about the body; Using Language to Affirm and Empower"
- "Intimacy and COVID-19"
- "Acting Intimacy Essentials"

2020 Intimacy Directors International, Cleveland Playhouse, Cleveland, OH

- "Intimacy Informed Advocacy"
- "Applied Intimacy"

2019 Theatrical Intimacy Educators Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

- "Introduction to Intimacy Education"

2019 Intimacy Directors International, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

- "Introduction to Intimacy"

## PROFESSIONAL COSTUME DESIGN

Michael's Playhouse, Colchester, VT.

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>The Mountaintop</i>	KJ Gilmer	2022
<i>The 39 Steps</i>	Catherine Doherty	2019
<i>I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change</i>	Keith Andrews	2019
<i>Laughter on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor</i>	Catherine Doherty	2019
<i>The Mouse Trap</i>	Sarah Carelton	2018
<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	Timothy Fink	1998
<i>The Foreigner</i>	Robert Brewer	1998
<i>The Fantasticks</i>	Peter Harrigan	1997
<i>Charley's Aunt</i>	Robert Brewer	1997

Quantum Theatre, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Current War</i>	Tome' Cousin	2021

Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Rose Elf</i>	Kaley Smith	2022
<i>Yardbird</i>	Tome' Cousin	2021

Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Coram Boy</i>	Tome' Cousin	2018
<i>Scottsboro Boys</i>	Tome' Cousin	2017
<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>	Tome' Cousin & Jason Jacobs	2017
<i>Ananse and the Glue Man</i>	Bill Nunn	2008
<i>Alice in Wonderland</i>	Zeva Barzell	2007

City Theatre Company, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>The Royale</i>	Stuart Carden	2017
<i>Café Puttanesca</i>	Terrence J. Nolen	2003

Resonance Works, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Falstaff</i>	Stephanie Havey	2017

Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Gospel at Colonus</i>	Jonathan Eaton	2011
<i>Porgy and Bess</i>	Jonathan Eaton	2010
<i>Lost in the Stars</i> (Conducted by Julius Rudel)	Jonathan Eaton	2007
<i>Carmen Jones</i>	Jonathan Eaton	2006

Seton Hill University, Greensburg, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>The Way of the World</i>	Dr. Terry Brino-Dean	2010

Pittsburgh Playwright's Theatre, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>**Seven Guitars</i>	Mark C. Southers	2009

## **ACADEMIC COSTUME DESIGNS**

University of Pittsburgh Theatre Arts Department, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>A New Brain</i>	Tru Verrett-Fleming	2022
<i>Somewhere</i>	Ricardo Vila-Roger	2021
<i>Spark</i>	KJ Gilmer	2021
<i>Black and Blue</i>	KJ Gilmer	2020
<i>Hair Waiting</i>	KJ Gilmer	2020
<i>Miss You Like Hell</i>	Bria Walker	2020
<i>She Kills Monsters; Virtual Realms</i>	Ricardo Vila-Roger & Kelly Trumbull	2020
<i>Appropriate</i>	Ricardo Vila-Roger	2020
<i>The Wolves</i>	Kelly Trumbull	2019
<i>Flyin' West</i>	KJ Gilmer	2019

<i>She Kills Monsters</i>	Ricardo Vila-Roger & Kelly Trumbull	2018
<i>Marie Antoinette</i>	Le'Mil Eiland	2017
<i>Parade</i>	Rob Frankenberry	2016
<i>Peter and the Starcatcher</i>	Kathryn Markey	2016
<i>Intimate Apparel</i>	KJ Gilmer	2016
<i>Nine</i>	Dennis Schebetta	2016
<i>Good Kids</i>	Kim Parker Griffin and Lisa Jackson-Schebetta	2016
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Victoria Rhodes	2016
<i>Urinetown</i>	Brittany Coyne	2015
<i>Dog in the Manger</i>	Dennis Schebetta	2015
<i>Stop Kiss</i>	Brittany Coyne	2014

Susquehanna University Theatre Department, Selinsgrove, PA (Select Productions)

<u>Production title</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Dr. Douglas Powers-Black	2014
<i>The Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Dr. Douglas Powers-Black	2014
<i>Uncle Vanya</i>	Dr. Anna Andes	2013
<i>The Birds</i>	Dr. Anna Andes	2013
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Dr. Douglas Powers-Black	2012
<i>Amadeus</i>	Dr. Douglas Powers-Black	2012
<i>Diana of Dobson's</i>	Dr. Anna Andes	2012

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

2021 Mental Health Center of Denver (Online) , Denver, CO

- Youth Mental Health First Aid-National Council of Wellbeing
- Adult Mental Health First Aid-National Council of Wellbeing

2020 University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

- “Let’s Talk about It: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, what do These Words Really Mean?” Facilitator: RJD Creative Consulting, Rachel J DeSoto.
- “Shattering the Statistics: Collective Effort Towards Ending Sexual violence against trans and Non-Binary Community Members.”, Sexual Violence and Prevention Office, Panel Discussion.

2019 University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

- “Male Faculty and Administration of Color at PWI”, Facilitator: Joel Brady
- “The Experiences of Women of Color Teaching at the University of Pittsburgh”, Panel Discussion
- “Intersectionality: Marginalized Identities in the Classroom”, Facilitator: Tahirah J. Walker

2018 University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

- “Supporting Transgender Community”, Facilitator: PERSAD Center

- “Women of Color in Academia”, Panel discussion: Center for Teaching and Learning
- “Inclusive Recruiting and Campus Change”, Office of Inclusion and Diversity Retreat
- 2017 University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
  - “The Conversation Crisis: Managing Your Bias, Facilitating Conversations, & Finding Common Ground in the Classroom”, Panel discussion
  - “Teaching Race to College Students-2017 Update”, Facilitator: Ralph Bangs
- 2016 University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
  - “Teaching College Students Race in the Classroom”, Facilitator: Ralph Bangs
  - Structural Racism, Workshop: Center for Teaching and Learning

## **PREVIOUS TEACHING**

### **2017-2021 Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA**

#### **Part time lecturer**

##### *PROD 328-Costume Design II*

- Spring 2017 Center of the Performing Arts-Theatre, lecture “Historic Costume Design in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*”
- Spring 2019, Mentor, Zoe Baltimore, *History Boys*, directed by Sheila McKenna

### **2008-2014 Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA**

#### **Assistant Professor of Theatre-Costume Design and Production:**

##### *THEA 458-African American Theatre History (Diversity and Historical Perspectives)*

##### *THEA 341-Costume Design and History*

##### *THEA 342-Stage Makeup*

##### *THEA 200-Dramatic Literature (Diversity and writing intensive course)*

##### *THEA 152-Understanding Theatre*

##### *THEA 144-Costume Production*

##### *PRDV 104-Perspectives (First Year Student Seminar)*

##### *ENG 100-Writing and Thinking (First Year Student Writing Course)*

- Medical Humanities Initiative, lecture “Black Venus: The Black Female Body Onstage from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century”, February 2013
- Center for Diversity and Social Justice, lecture “Fabrics of Oppression-African-American Dress in Art 1700-1800’s”, February 2011
- Guest Lecturer *Black Feminism I*, Sociology and Honors Program, lecture “Black Female Body Image and Saartjie Baartman, Venus Hottentot”, September 16, 2009.
- Guest Lecturer *Black Feminism II*, Sociology and Honors Program, lecture “Nella Larsen and the Wrong Man” February 10, 2010.
- Advisor to the Theresa Palmer Society, a leadership agency for women of color and diverse backgrounds, 2009-2014

## **RELEVANT SKILLS**

Research Costume, Fashion and Dress History, Intimacy Directing, Script Analysis, Color Theory, Research African American Theatre History, Fabric Dyeing and Painting

**LANGUAGES**

French-proficient speaking, reading, and writing.

Spanish-beginner speaking, reading, and writing.