

Victoria N. LaFave

University of Pittsburgh
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Education

PhD, Theatre and Performance Studies, Department of Theatre Arts - University of Pittsburgh, Expected 2024

MA, English - Auburn University, May 2019

BA, English - University of Central Arkansas, May 2017
Summa Cum Laude; Concentration in Secondary Education; Arkansas Educator's License for Secondary Education.

Awards

Houghton Library Visiting Fellowship — Harvard University, 2023-24

Humanities Center Summer Research Fellowship — University of Pittsburgh, 2023

Andrew W. Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship, AY 2022-23

ATDS Graduate Student Travel/Research Award, 2022

Honorable Mention - Tamara Horowitz Graduate Student Paper Prize — Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, University of Pittsburgh, 2021

Humanities Engage Immersive Summer Fellowship — University of Pittsburgh, 2021

Department of Theatre Arts Graduate Teaching Award — University of Pittsburgh, 2021

Pitt Theatre Arts ATHE Scholarship, sponsored by Rachel DeSoto — University of Pittsburgh, 2020

Humanities Engage Curriculum Development Grant — University of Pittsburgh, 2020

Arts and Sciences Summer Research Fellowship — University of Pittsburgh, 2020, 2021, 2022

Outstanding Master of Arts ePortfolio at Auburn University — Auburn University, 2019

Invited Talks

“Encounters in the August Wilson Archive” with the August Wilson Society and University of Pittsburgh Library System — March 2023

“Imagining New Possibilities: Career Diversity and Doctoral Education in Theatre and Performance Studies” at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference — July 2022

“Humanists of Impact: Arts and Sciences” with Humanities Engage at the University of Pittsburgh — September 13, 2021

“Ballet as Global Dance” with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School — September 11, 2021

Collaborative Writing

“Encounters in the August Wilson Archives,” *Theater Magazine* — Winter 2024

“Imagining New Possibilities: Career Diversity and Doctoral Education in Theatre and Performance Studies,” *Theatre Topics* — November 2023

Conferences

Association for Theatre in Higher Education — August 2023

Participated in the “Queer Archival Practice” Roundtable, recorded with HowlRound. Also, facilitated

the Performance Studies Focus Group's Emerging Scholars Panel.

American Society for Theatre Research — November 2022

Presented "Writing Mythic New Orleans: Popular Press and Racial Imagining at the 1884 Cotton Centennial Catastrophe."

Association for Theatre in Higher Education — July 2022

Performance Studies Emerging Scholar Panel. Presented "*At Your Service: The Cap and Gown Club and the Zany Work of the Gender Binary.*"

American Society for Theatre Research — October 2021

Presented "Outside is Just the Tip of the Iceberg": Branson Titanic and Cultural Memory."

UCLA Theater and Performance Studies Graduate Conference — February 2021

Presented "Touched by History: Senti-Mental Embodiment in the Titanic Museum Attraction."

Theatre Symposium, Southeastern Theatre Conference, Inc — April 2019

Presented "Being On Display and In Display: The Tactical Negotiation of Agency and Citizenship by Performing 'Prisoner'."

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association — April 2019

Presented "'At any given Before moment': Post-Apocalyptic Trauma and the Collective Memory in Washburn's *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*" for the panel "Disasters, Apocalypses, and Catastrophes."

Northeast Modern Language Association — April 2018

Presented "'We Was Girls Together'": Unity and Sisterhood as an Avenue for Resistance in Morrison's *Sula*" for the panel "'Nevertheless they persisted': The Aesthetics of Resistance."

Teaching

Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Pittsburgh

World Theatre II: 1640-1890, Spring 2022

Assisted in lecture theatre history courses for majors and nonmajors.

Contemporary Global Stages, Fall 2021

Designed a course for upper-level undergraduate majors centered around punk performance, aesthetics, and protest. Course was approved through a competitive application process.

Disability and Performance, Spring 2021

Assisted in an upper-level undergraduate seminar.

Playwriting I, Fall 2020

Assisted in a workshop-style course for majors and nonmajors.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Pittsburgh

Enjoying Performances, Spring 2020

Assisted with instruction in a course that introduces students to performance studies scholarship and encourages their own investigation of both staged performances and critical theory.

Introduction to Performance, Fall 2019 and Fall 2020; Instructor

Facilitated three sections on the Stanislavski method for majors and non-majors. The primary focus was on empowering student confidence and facilitating collaboration among artists.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Auburn University

Introduction to Theatre, Fall 2018-Spring 2019

Assisted with large lecture theatre survey course centered on service learning, community volunteer work, and social activism at Auburn University.

Composition I and II, Fall 2018 - Spring 2019; Instructor

Engaged with students to foster their voice and understanding of effective communication and critical thinking, emphasizing performance and identity.

American Literature I and II, Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

Community Engagement, Education, and Outreach

Graduate Student Assistant, The August Wilson Archive, University of Pittsburgh, AY 2023-24.

Education and Outreach Intern, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Spring and Summer 2021.

Service

Professional Service

Graduate Student Representative, American Theatre and Drama Society, 2023-2025.

Graduate Student Representative, Performance Studies Focus Group, Association for Theatre in Higher Education, 2022-2023.

Department Service

Graduate Teaching Mentor, Department of Theatre Arts, University of Pittsburgh, 2021-2022.

Vice President of Communications, Eleonora Duse Society, 2021, 2022, 2023.

Graduate Student Representative, Call to Action Committee, 2021-2022.

President, Eleonora Duse Society, 2020.

Graduate Student Representative, Recruitment Committee, 2020-2021.

Graduate Student Representative, Curriculum and Development Committee, 2019-2020 and 2021-2022.

University Service

Humanities Engage Career Diversity Champion, 2022-2023.

Dietrich Graduate Council Representative, Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization, 2021-2022.

Auburn University

Master's Co-Chair, English Graduate Association. 2018-2019.

Organized: PhD Application Panel, Women in Academia Panel, and Alt-Ac Career talk.

Assistant to the Director of Graduate Studies, Spring 2018.

Conference Planning Committee, Southeastern Liberal Arts Research Conference, Auburn University English Graduate Association, 2018-2019.

Dramaturgy

Production Dramaturg, University of Pittsburgh Stages, August Wilson's *Seven Guitars*, Directed by Karen Gilmer, Spring 2023.

Production Dramaturg, University of Pittsburgh Stages, Carly Mensch's *Oblivion*, Directed by Sean Cook, Spring 2020.

Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre Dramaturgical/Outreach Intern, Summer 2016.

Professional Affiliations

American Theatre and Drama Society, 2022

Association for Theatre in Higher Education, 2020

American Society for Theatre Research, 2019

Southeastern Theatre Conference, 2019

Popular Culture Association, 2019

Northeast Modern Language Association, 2018