

# HOLLY THUMA

## Curriculum Vitae

Penn State University School of Theatre  
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## EDUCATION

Associate Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework, Certification 2012

MFA in Performance Pedagogy, University of Pittsburgh, 2002  
MFA Teaching Award 2002  
Chair: Buck Favorini, Ph.D.

BFA in Acting, New York University School of the Arts, 1979  
Chair: Omar Shapli  
Acting: Olympia Dukakis, Peter Kass  
Speech: Nora Dunfee  
Linklater Voice: Rowena Balos, Bobby Troka

New York University School of the Arts Dance Program, 1974 - 76  
Ballet: Rachel Lampert, Nanette Charisse  
Choreography: Stuart Hodes

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2014-Present Assistant Professor, Voice and Speech  
*Penn State School of Theatre*
- 2013-14 Full time Adjunct Professor, Voice, Speech and Dialects  
*Carnegie Mellon School of Drama*
- 2012-13 Visiting Assistant Professor, Voice/Verse  
*Department of Drama, Syracuse University*
- 2012 Adjunct Professor, Dialects  
*Carnegie Mellon School of Drama*
- 2009-2013 Director, MFA Pedagogy Program  
*Department of Theatre Arts, University of Pittsburgh*
- 2009 Guest Teacher, *Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama*  
*Sophomore Shakespeare Unit*

- 2008            Head of Undergraduate Performance Area  
                 *Department of Theatre Arts, University of Pittsburgh*
- 2007            Guest Teacher, *Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama*  
                 *Voice I: Building a Sound Future (Linklater Voice)*
- 2006 - 2009    Richard E. Rauh Teaching Artist in Residence  
                 *Department of Theatre Arts, University of Pittsburgh*  
                 *Voice & Movement I and II*  
                 *Acting the Classics: Greeks to Shakespeare*  
                 *Basic Acting (Focus on Stanislavski)*  
                 *Acting the Twentieth Century: Ibsen to Pinter*  
                 *Goethe's Faust: Philosophy on Stage*  
                 (cross-listed and co-taught with Dr. Clark Muenzer,  
                 Department of German)
- 2004-2005    Guest Teacher, *Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama*  
                 *Voice and Speech IV: Upper Level Dialects*  
                 *Voice & Speech II: Shakespeare*
- 2003-2006    Adjunct Faculty, *Point Park University Conservatory of Performing Arts*  
                 *Voice and Speech Level I (Linklater/Skinner/IPA)*  
                 *Acting Level II (scene study/introduction to classical plays)*
- 2000            Adjunct Faculty, *Department of Theatre Arts, University of Pittsburgh*  
                 *Acting I (basic skills, scene study)*
- 1997            Visiting Lecturer  
                 *Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama*  
                 Peter Frisch, Head  
                 Anthony McKay, Head of Acting  
                 *Freshman Acting* (focus on in-depth character development,  
                 contemporary scene study)  
                 *Sophomore Acting* (focus on language and classical plays)
- 1997-2013    Instructor  
                 *Carnegie Mellon Pre-College Program*  
                 *Acting* (introductory technique and basic scene study)  
                 *Audition* (Michael Shurtleff used as text; students prepare, develop and  
                 polish contemporary and classical audition monologues)  
                 *Voice and Speech* (Linklater/Skinner)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTING CREDITS

Penn State Centre Stage

*O Beautiful* (2014) directed by Dan Carter

Steel Town Entertainment

*Franksgiving* (2014) directed by Stephen Knezovich

Playhouse Repertory “The Rep”

*MIA* (2012) directed by John Amplas

University of Pittsburgh Repertory

*Count Dracula* (2009) directed by Stephen Coleman

Perry Mansfield New Play Festival

*Wild Blessings* (2008) directed by Marc Masterson

Playwright’s Theatre

*Mad Honey* (2008) by Amy Hartman

International Poetry Forum Fortieth Anniversary Season

*Sexes: Marriage Dialogues* (2007 and 2008) written and directed by Samuel Hazo

Playhouse Repertory Company

Mrs. Peglar in *Hard Times* (2004) directed by John Amplas

Jewish Theater of Pittsburgh

Pfenny in *Sisters Rosensweig* (2004) directed by Marci Woodruff

Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, Hollywood Bowl Tour, Los Angeles, CA

Narrator for *Juliet & Her Romeo*

World premiere choreographed and conceived by Terrence Orr

Catrack Films

Mrs. Alter in *Daddy Cool* (2003 release) directed by Brady Lewis

Quantum Theatre

Katherine in Abi Morgan’s four-character play *Splendour* (2001) directed by

Artistic Director Karla Boos

International Poetry Forum

Benefit Concert *Her Infinite Variety* (2001) directed by Sam Hazo

Carnegie Mellon New Play Festival

Penny Golden in *Chasing the Tiger* by Gail Sheehy (2001) directed by Jeffery

Hitch

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

Miss Conduct in Pops concert (1998) directed by Peter Frisch

Mountain Playhouse

Bella in *Lost in Yonkers* (1996), and Miss Stacy in *Anne of Green Gables* (1996)

directed by Scott Baron; Sally Talley in *Talley’s Folly* (1997), and Kate in *The*

*Miracle Worker* (1998) directed by Guy Stroman

Pittsburgh Public Theater

Actor Playwriting Workshops

Society of Arts and Letters

Marjorie in *Angel’s Share* (1998) by Michael Saffron directed by Daniella Topol

and John Amplas

Braddock Films

Caroline in *No Pets* (1993) directed by Tony Buba, screenplay by Jim Daniels

Carnegie Mellon New Play Festival

Sylvia in *The Duck Sisters* (1990) directed by Michele McCau,  
Noreen in *Connemara Dreaming* (1990) directed by Bob Hoffmann  
Elizabeth Orion, Artistic Director

Dallas Theater Center

*A Christmas Carol* (1986) directed by Ken Bryant

Pittsburgh Public Theater

Clara in *A History of the American Film* (1983)  
Ensemble and understudy for the roles of Nora and Julie in *Nora/Julie* (1984)  
directed by Artistic Director, Larry Arrick

City Theatre

The Mill Worker in *Working* (1981), and Teskanjavilia in *Indians* (1981) directed  
by Marc Masterson; Emma in *Curse of the Starving Class* (1980), Lucy in *Mobile  
Hymn* (1982), directed by Jed Allen Harris; Eylie in *Ladyhouse Blues* (1982),  
Susan in *Loose Ends* (1981) directed by Larry John Meyers

Three Rivers Shakespeare Festival

Ann Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (1981) directed by Marc Masterson;  
Ariel in *The Tempest* (1981) directed by Jed Allen Harris; Hero in *Much Ado  
About Nothing* (1982) directed by Gillette Elvgrin

Iron Clad Agreement

*Sisters of Mercy* and *Andrew Carnegie* (1980), Artistic Director, Julia Swoyer

Saint Vincent Theater

Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1980), Annie in *Table Manners*  
(1981), Pauline in *The Prisoner of Second Avenue* (1981), Myrium in *Dreyfus in  
Rehearsal* (1982), Angelique in *The Imaginary Invalid* (1983) directed by Joe  
Riley; Gloria in *Three Men on a Horse* (1982) directed by Thomas Devereaux

Commercial, industrial, and voice-over credits available on request

## **DIRECTING**

*Good Kids* by Naomi Iizuka (2015)  
Penn State Centre Stage  
*Mom's Kitchen* by Robin Walsh (2012)  
SWAN DAY No Name Players at the New Hazlett Theatre  
*Slasher: A Horrifying Comedy* by Allison Moore (2010)  
University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre  
*Scapin* Adaptation by Bill Irwin (2010)  
University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre  
*Millennium Approaches* by Tony Kushner (2009)  
University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre  
*The Recruiting Officer* by George Farquhar (2007)  
University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre  
*Dancing at Lughnasa* by Brian Friel (2006)  
University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre  
*Macbeth Redux*, Direction and Adaptation (2008)  
Shakespeare in the Schools  
*Romeo & Juliet*, Direction and Adaptation (2006)  
Shakespeare in the Schools  
*Brundibar*, Tony Kushner/Maurice Sendak Adaptation (2005)  
Hope Academy of Music and the Arts  
*How I Learned To Drive* by Paula Vogel (2002)  
University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre  
*Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett (2001), Assistant Director  
University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre  
*Translations* by Brian Friel (1998)  
Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre

## **VOCAL/TEXT/DIALECT COACHING**

<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	Penn State Centre Stage, 2016
<i>Dogfight</i>	Penn State Centre Stage, 2015
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Penn State Centre Stage, 2015
<i>Cloud 9</i>	Seton Hill College, 2014
<i>The White Peacock</i>	Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2014
<i>The Ubiquitous Mass of Us</i>	Merrygogo New Hazlet Theatre, 2014
<i>Top Girls</i>	Syracuse University Department of Drama, 2013
<i>'Tis Pity She's a Whore</i>	Syracuse University Department of Drama, 2012
<i>Sweeney Todd</i>	University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre, 2011
<i>Learned Ladies</i>	University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre, 2006

## **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

Hewlett International Studies Grant, 2011

Funding for Voice & Movement Performance *One Hand One Voice*, 2011

ArtUp and The Mattress Factory Art Museum, 2011

Additional Funding for *One Hand One Voice – Voices from Tahrir Square*

Philanthropic Education Organization Continuing Education Grant, 2011

Funded study with Catherine Fitzmaurice

Discretionary Funding Undergraduate Dean, University of Pittsburgh, 2010

Funded student participation in Irene Ryan Competition

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Actor's Equity Association (AEA)

Screen Actor's Guild/American Federation of Film and Television Actors (SAG/AFTRA)

Voice and Speech Trainers Association, Inc. (VASTA)

## **SERVICE**

### **Professional**

SAG/AFTRA Scholarship Committee 2015

English Speaking Union US National Shakespeare Competition Judge, 2013 and 2015

Master of Ceremonies *Looks for Love* [www.looksforlove.org](http://www.looksforlove.org), 2014

SAG Awards Nominating Committee, 2014

AFTRA Board Member, 2009 to 2011

Chair, AFTRA Conservatory Committee, 2011

Representative to AFTRA National Convention, 2011

### **Academic**

Penn State

Appointed Member President's Commission for Women

Liaison to Faculty Senate Educational Equity Committee

Academic Integrity Committee, 2014/16

Academic Leadership Forum Dramatic Performances, 2015

CMU/UPitt

Acting Advisor to CMU production of *The Aliens*, 2014

Spearheaded process for new course approval, 2013

Season Selection Committee, 2012

Chair, Search Committee for Assistant Professor in Directing, 2011

Assessment Committee, 2009/10, 2010/11

Shakespeare in the Schools Committee, 2006/07 to 2008/09

Season Selection Committee Adjunct Member, Spring 2008

(planning *Angels in America*)

Curriculum/Assessment Committee, 2008/09

Student Lab Selection Committee, 2007/08 to 2009/10

URTA Coaching

Advisor to Student Lab Productions

Career and Professional Planning Seminars for Jr and Sr 2007/08 to 2008/09

Coordinator for Audition Workshops, Honors Workshops

## **OUTREACH AND THEATER IN THE COMMUNITY**

### **Education and Performance Director**

Hope Academy of Music and the Arts, 2004 to 2007

Hope Academy is a nonprofit whose mission is to provide quality arts education to underserved children in the community.

### **Director of Creative Dramatics**

Pittsburgh Public Theater Creative Dramatics Program, 1995 to 2004

Pioneer program providing ten-week theater course to 4th and 5th grade students from selected urban and suburban schools, culminating in a public performance at the O'Reilly Theater; curriculum, scheduling, teaching workshops, direction of performances.

Ted Pappas, Artistic Director

Rob Zellers, Director of Education & Outreach

### **Storyteller**

Healy Heartwood Story Bus, 1999 to 2005

*Hear a Story on the Way to School!* Program developed in conjunction with the Heartwood Institute, a national language arts curriculum using multicultural folk tales to teach ethics

Barbara Clark, Penny Levy, Founders

### **Writer, Director, Performer, Producer**

Magic Chair Theater, 1996 to 1997

Touring shows performed for elementary schools from Allegheny to Somerset Counties

### **Performer**

Pittsburgh Playback Theatre, 1993 to 1994

Improvisational and audience interactive theater on social and psychological issues

Roni Ostfield, Artistic Director and Drama Therapist

### **Actor**

City Theater Company, 1980 to 1982

Touring productions to over 250 elementary, middle and high schools, prisons, and various community centers

Marc Masterson, Artistic Director