

TAMARA X GEISLER

TamaraGeisler.com



718 664 8492



tamgeisler@gmail.com



Brooklyn, NY

EDUCATION

❖ **NYU Steinhardt**
2023
Master of Arts
Educational Theatre
(Kappa Delta Pi Honor's
Society Member)

❖ **Barnard College,**
Columbia University,
2010
Bachelor of Arts
*Major: English &
Theatre*

❖ **Teaching Artist**
Institute, 2011
*Concentration: Theatre
Education*

❖ **British American**
Dramatic Academy,
2009
Concentration: Theatre

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

In-School Teacher Professional Development Instructor **May 2015 - Present**

- Designed, developed and led PDs for academic and drama teachers in grades K-12. Sessions included arts integration practices, resources to enhance cognitive skills, and tools to develop student's capacities to take risks. Teacher's left PDs with useful theatre games and activities that could be incorporated into their classes, as well as an arts integration lesson.
- Schools include: Success Academy New York Charter School (NYC), PS R020 (NYC), PS K516 (NYC) and Sierra Nevada Sunland Performing Arts High School (Mexico City)

Convent of the Sacred Heart **September 2022 - Present**

- Created poetry, gesture and vocal variance unit for 2nd grade students. Students performed excerpts of a Maya Angelou poem and created their own poetry on the theme of "courageous hope". Culminated in a live video shared with the CSH community.
- Led rehearsals, and coached 2-4 grade students in vocal skills, movement, blocking, physicality and flocking to prepare them for school wide Christmas performance.

Gotham Professional Arts Academy **February 2022 - May 2022**

- Created and led two curriculums on tactics, vocal skills (projection, articulation, enunciation and operative words), role analysis, identifying scene structure, main event and crisis as part of a semester long scene study unit for grades 9 and 10.
- Coached students one-on-one and in small groups in order to prepare them for scene performance presentations. Assisted mentor teacher in all warm up activities, theater exercises, classwork as well as assessment and grading of student work.

Sundog Theatre **April 2011 - Present**

- Developed and implemented arts integration curriculums in over a dozen public schools in grades K-5. Theatre integration classes designed for literacy, history and Ellis Island immigration.
- Implemented interactive theatre curriculum to enhance literacy through physicalization, pantomime, improvisation and script writing in 2nd-5th grade.
- All Programs culminated in live performances for parents and peers. *Schools include: R053, R035, R019, R020, R044, R016, R026, R054, R031, R036, R010, R068, R022, R065.*
- Developed and led virtual *Google Meet* and *Zoom* lessons. Created theatre and arts based videos for virtual learning on immigration and social justice themes.

Center For Arts Education/Partnership with Children **September 2012 - Present**

- Led theatre/literacy based curriculum in Title 1 public schools to enhance English proficiency for ELL students ages 6-17. *Schools include: Q005, K228, K259, Q137, K230, M111, K516, X342.*
- Partnered with the DOE National Geographic Curriculum for English Language Learners grades 9-11. Developed five-week curriculum that focused on clean water, animal defense mechanisms, natural disasters and endangered animals. *Schools include: K130, K216.*
- Developed curriculum for *Parents As Arts Partners* Program (PAAP). Curriculum highlighted pantomime, improvisation, puppet and playwriting workshops with parents and students ages 2-10 for families in Title 1 schools. *Schools include: R044, Q076, K031, K016, M124, K308.*
- Developed and led virtual curriculum for *Cultural After School Adventures* (CASA) focusing on theatre education for students grades K-6. Curriculum included, pantomime, improvisation, puppet creation, monologue and scene work. *Schools included: K110, Q217, K557.*

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

LANGUAGES

- ❖ Fluent Spanish
- ❖ Elementary French

AWARDS & GRANTS

- ❖ Awarded NYU NYC Community Impact Scholarship
- ❖ Awarded NYU Nancy and Lowell Swortzell Permanent Fund
- ❖ Awarded Performing Arts Saturdays Salon Residency: Snug Harbor Cultural Center 2018 Smithsonian Affiliate
- ❖ Nominated for Gabriella Mistral, Julia De Burgos, Frida Kahlo 2018 Award
- ❖ Awarded 2012 JP Morgan Chase Arts in Our Communities Grant (*Día de los Muertos* Workshops)

Maritime Noble Museum

January 2020 - Present

- Created bilingual (*Spanish-English*) language videos for virtual learning. Led bilingual residency on navigational maritime themes for dual language classes at R019.
- Developed and implemented theatre enrichment lessons on historical maritime themes as well as printmaking classes for grades K-5. Schools included: R019, R020, R059.

Goodhue Community Center

July 2020 – July 2021

- Developed and implemented virtual theatre enrichment lessons for grades K-8. Culminated in live virtual improvisation performances by 5th grade students and middle school students for parent, peers and staff.

Alice Austen House Museum

January 2019 - May 2021

- Developed and led 12-week poetry/theatre residency on spoken-word and performance styles for students in grades 6-8 at IS R049, *Title 1 school*. Focus on poets: Audre Lorde, Maya Angelou and Poet Gold. Culminated with a student-written, live performance for peers and parents.

Día de Muertos Staten Island

November 2006 – December 2019

- Assisted in co-founding and developing yearly workshops on *Día de Muertos* for a community event that included minimum 500 participants each year. Led hands-on traditional arts and crafts workshops for adults and children in both English and Spanish.
- Taught throughout NYC and tri-state area at venues, including: Wellesley College (keynote speaker) *American Folk Art Museum, Newark Museum, Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island Children's Museum, Building Block Montessori School, Hungerford School, Cromwell Recreational Community Center, St. George Library, St. Mary's Church Community Hall.*

Building Blocks Montessori School

September 2011 - June 2017

- Developed and led Spanish Language curriculum to teach Spanish through Theatre for students ages 2-10 in Montessori-based setting. Wrote Spanish songs, scenes and created bilingual activities.

Perry School

September 2016 - January 2017

- Developed and implemented Spanish language program for pre-school students ages 2-4.
- Led singing classes in Spanish for babies' ages 6-24 months old.

Brooklyn Acting Lab

September 2015 – December 2015

- Developed curriculum to teach 2nd, 5th graders team building, acting technique, vocal and physical expression and scene study (action, objective, and character backstory). Culminated in live performance.

Curious Jane Summer Camp

June 2013 - August 2014

- Head Instructor at all-girls summer camp. Developed curriculum ages 5-7 about magic, theatre performance, nature, Harry Potter and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Children's Theatre Company

November 2011 - April 2012

- Assistant-directed underserved, at-risk students ages 4-18 in three musical theatre productions, which culminated in 12 performances and an appearance at the *United Nations*.