

Curriculum Vitae
Laura Copenhaver

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General Information

University address: Technical Production
 School of Theatre
 College of Fine Arts
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Professional Preparation

2022 MFA, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. Major: Technical Design and Production. Supervisor: Eric C. Lin.

Copenhaver, L. E. (2022). *Ooooo....FANCY: An Instructive Guide to Arduino-Based Solutions for the High School Stage*. Unpublished master's thesis, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

2007 BA, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida. Major: Theatre & English Literature. Magna Cum Laude.

Professional Experience

2022–2024 Assistant Professor of the Practice of Technical Direction, School of Performing Arts, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Responsible for teaching graduate and undergraduate courses, served as the faculty technical director for all SOPA productions, served as the Scene Shop Supervisor, mentored graduate and undergraduate student Technical Directors on several productions.

2007–2018 Theatre Teacher, Performing Arts, Orange County Public Schools. Worked at

Colonial High School and Lake Nona High School. Responsible for teaching a full schedule of high school-level courses in a wide assortment of theatrical topics, including performance, improvisation, design, and technical production. Serve as scenic designer, lighting designer, and technical director for 3-4 fully realized productions per year, or supervise students filling those roles. Develop technical theater curriculum and common final exams for Orange County Public Schools. Serve as Secretary of the Board for Florida District 5 Thespians (a district of the International Thespian Society), plan the district festival for ~1500 students annually, manage student workers at both the district festival and state festival.

Teaching

Courses Taught

Selected Topics in Advanced Technical Theatre (TPA5089)
Software for Technical Theatre (TPA 5347)
Structural Design for the Stage I (TPA5310)
Production Lab: Scene Shop (TA 3014)
Topics: Structural Design for the Stage 1 (TA 3144)
Stage and Lighting Technology (TA 2014)
Topics: Drafting in AutoCAD (TA 3144)
Topics: Technical Direction (TA 3144)

Master's Committee Member

Solomon Holland, D., graduate. (2023).
Soh, D., student.

Research and Original Creative Work

Presentations

Nonrefereed Presentations at Conferences

Copenhaver, L., Wren, T., & Douglass, R. (presented 2023, March). *Fostering Better Communication Between Scenic Designers, Lighting Designers and Technical Directors*. Presentation at the Annual Conference, United States Institute for Theatre Technology, St. Louis, Missouri. (National)

Nonrefereed Workshops

Copenhaver, L., Tarnow-Bulatowicz, L., & Alguire, E. (2024, March). *Problem-Solving Lab*.
Workshop delivered at The USITT Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington. (National)

Service

Florida State University

FSU Department Service

Member, Working Title Committee (2024–present).

Service to Other Universities

Graduate Steering Committee Member, *Virginia Tech School of Performing Arts* (2022–2024).

Outside reviewer for Master's Thesis for Andrew Riedemann, *David Geffen School of Drama at Yale University* (2023).