

# Briana Rae Bower

## Teaching Resume

### EDUCATION

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#### University of Texas at Austin: Austin TX

- MFA Candidate in Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities

#### Northwestern University: Evanston, IL

- BA, Communication, focus in Theatre Education: Suma Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.91 and Departmental Honor:
- Completed Honors Thesis “Our Haven: An exploration of and guide to site-specific devising with youth”

### CERTIFICATION AREAS and OTHER EXAMS:

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Theatre EC-12

January 2016

Other: PPR

January 2016

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

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#### CROCKETT HIGH SCHOOL, Austin, TX

Spring 2016

##### Student Teacher

- Designed and implemented a New Play Development unit with the Theatre 2 class, during which students had the opportunity to collaborate with an Austin playwright on the creation of a new play
- Designed and implemented Mask-making and Stage Makeup units, in which students designed and created dynamic “creature” masks and stage makeup designs
- Assistant directed the UIL One Act Play Competition production of *Blue Stockings* by Jessica Swale

#### GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL, Austin, TX

Spring 2016

##### Student Teacher

- Directed the “Only One Gorzycki Night” theatre performance for incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Co-directed the Middle School UIL Festival production of *The Yellow Boat* by David Saar
- Designed and implemented a digital storytelling unit during which students wrote and storyboarded personal stories, and then created digital versions of those stories in iMovie
- Assistant directed *The Little Mermaid Jr.* lyrics by Ashman and Slater, music by Menken, book by Wright

### THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

#### Instructor, Fundamentals of Acting

Fall 2105

- Facilitated students’ exploration of the tools of the actor – voice, body, imagination, play, and critical and text analysis –and worked with students to help them understand what it means to be a member of an ensemble, to create a character, and to create an original short play
- Led students in a wide range of theater games, improvisational activities, collaborative performance-making, writing exercises, and in-depth storytelling and scene work

#### Instructor, Arts Integration

Fall 2015

- Facilitated students’ exploration of theatre and how theatre can be integrated into other fields
- Worked with students to develop arts integrated facilitation plans
- Co-facilitated lessons that explored how to integrate different art forms into a variety of professional settings

#### Teaching Assistant: Directing the Young Performer, Supervised Teaching, Languages of the Stage

2013 - 2105

- Mentored students and created/facilitated lectures and in class activities
- Provided students feedback and support throughout their directing, design, and writing processes
- Assisted with class duties: leading activities, facilitating discussion, grading, and taking notes

## RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

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### DRAMA FOR SCHOOLS/THE CREATIVE LEARNING INITIATIVE

#### Drama Specialist and Instructor

2013 – Present

- Planned and facilitated professional development workshops and trainings designed to help teachers integrate Drama-Based Instruction (DBI) into their classroom curriculum
- Co-planned and co-facilitated the Drama for Schools Summer Institute and additional intensives for pre-service and in-service teachers created to immerse participants in an interactive exploration of the pedagogy and practice of DBI
- Co-created and co-taught DBI lessons with Austin area teachers based on specific Texas Education Standards

### UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

#### One Act Super Conference Coordinator

2014

#### University Interscholastic League

- Organized and coordinated over 50 workshops and performances to help 900 Texas high school students and teachers acquire invaluable theatre skills that help them prepare for the UIL One Act Play Competition
- Led a team of four graduate and undergraduate students to organize and run the conference, and worked closely with Luis Muñoz and the UIL State Office to make sure everything ran smoothly

### CHILD'S PLAY TOURING THEATRE

#### Teaching Artist

2011 – 2013

- Developed and facilitated the *New Voices* summer camp to help students grades K – 9 write and perform original shows
- Co-facilitated *Writing is Child's Play* interactive assemblies designed to help students understand the process of creating a story and how that story might be realized through performance
- Taught dynamic in-class writing workshops designed to help students K – 5 develop creative original stories

#### Ensemble Member/Tour Manager

- Adapted stories written by students into stage productions, showcasing their creativity and writing skills
- Directed fellow ensemble members and students in the performance of original stories
- Performed stories written by students at schools and theatres all over the country
- Designed and created specialty props and costumes
- Coordinated rehearsal schedules and worked with school administrations to determine the logistics of each performance/program

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

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Briana Bower and Jenny Arffmann. "Performative Installations." The American Alliance for Theatre and Education National Conference: Tapping the Power of Creative minds. Milwaukee, Wisconsin. August 2015

Lara Dossett, **Briana Bower**, Rebecca Drew Ramsey, Lauren Smith. "Drama for Schools: Practical Strategies for Reflective Practice." The American Alliance for Theatre and Education National Conference: Tapping the Power of Creative minds. Milwaukee, Wisconsin. August 2015

Briana Bower. "The Journey of the Artifact: Drama Based Object Exploration." The American Alliance for Theatre and Education National Conference: Traversing the Rockies – Local to Global Theatre and Education. Denver, Colorado. August 2014.

Betsy Quinn, **Briana Bower**, Robyn Char, Jeff Glass, Elise Hauskin, Jacob Watson, Seventh and Eighth Grade Students from Haven Middle School. "Our Haven: Site Specific Devising in a Public Middle School." The American Alliance for Theatre and Education National Conference: Lakeside Reflections. Chicago, Illinois. July 2011.