

# JENNIFER RICHARDSON

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

TEACHER ♦ ACTOR ♦ DIRECTOR ♦ CELLIST ♦ SINGER ♦ UTA HAGEN ♦ MUSICAL THEATRE ♦ LGBTQ ADVOCATE

## Education, Training & Professional Development

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### Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts - Acting, California State University Long Beach

Acting with focus on Performance Pedagogy (4.0 GPA) (May 25, 2018)

*Master's Thesis Title:* "THE UGLY DUCKLING: A Truthful Journey of Self Discovery Under Musical Circumstances - Produced, Directed and Designed by Jennifer Richardson"

*Committee:* Hugh O’Gorman, Ezra LeBank, Chris Anthony

### Juris Doctor, The University of Texas at Austin School of Law

Licensed to practice law in Texas (December 23, 1994) – Currently on “Inactive” status

### Bachelor of Arts, The University of Texas at Austin

English with High Honors (3.9 GPA in major) (December 22, 1990)

### Hagen Teacher’s Lab, HB Studios, NYC

Teacher Training Program (January 3-8, 2017 and Jan 2-7, 2019)

Participate in weekly post-COVID-19 meetings with HB Studio teachers on best practices

### Musical Artists Workshop, Los Angeles

Musical theatre acting training from Gary Imhoff (2000-2016)

## Teaching

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### Acting Instructor

#### Theatre Arts Department, California State University, Long Beach

##### **MUSICAL THEATRE ACTING – THEA 490 (SPRING 2020)**

Taught a musical theatre scene study class focused on playing action in songs using Stanislavski’s method of Active Analysis and incorporating the concept of “singing truthfully under imaginary musical circumstances.” Students performed solos, duets and group numbers in scenes from musicals from the Golden Age of musicals to Contemporary.

##### **INTERMEDIATE ACTING – THEA 214 (FALL 2019)**

Taught intermediate acting class for theatre majors. This scene study class introduced intermediate level students to the concepts of “playing action” and character in action utilizing the concepts of Stanislavski’s Active Analysis and guided by the writings of Larry Moss.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF ACTING – THEA 114A (FALL 2018, SPRING 2019, FALL 2019, SPRING 2020)**

Teach a class for theatre majors in the development and preparation of the actor's voice, body, and imagination using Uta Hagen exercises from her book *A Challenge for the Actor*. Apply exercises to text-based scene work.

**INTRODUCTION TO ACTING – THEA 113 (FALL 2016-PRESENT)**

Teach basic acting exercises in voice, diction, movement, and personality projection to non-theatre majors. First half of semester focuses on psychophysical exploration of self; second half focuses on character work.

**California State University Summer Arts**

**ACTING IRISH THEATER IN IRELAND (SUMMER 2017)**

Conducted vocal and movement-based warm-ups and coached acting for final presentations as a Guest Artist for the CSU Summer Arts Immersive Program 2017. Also supervised 34 California State University undergraduates from various campuses on their international experience in Dublin, Ireland.

**Teaching Assistant**

**Theatre Arts Department, California State University, Long Beach**

**THEATRE PROTEST AND SOCIAL CHANGE (WINTER 2018, WINTER 2019)**

Assisted professor Andrea Caban in online course; responding to student discussions and grading final papers.

**PREPARING FOR THE ACTING PROFESSION (SPRING 2018)**

Assisted instructor Kathleen Wilhoite in class designed to help graduating seniors practically prepare to pursue careers in professional acting.

**Software Trainer**

**Freelance (2002-2016)**

Created online video tutorials for software company's suite of programs. Conducted software training for health and human services clients including Goodwill Industries, non-profit organizations serving the homeless, Ventura County, Kern County, Harris County and more. Developed training curriculum and materials and wrote online help documentation. Work also involved analyzing and writing scope documents, requirements documents and proposals in response to requests for proposals (RFPs) for several software companies.

**Website Design and Maintenance and Marketing Specialist & Trainer**

**Freelance (2000-2016)**

Designed, maintained and edited websites and wrote and edited web content. Trained clients to maintain their own websites using various software programs. Designed, wrote and edited email marketing literature (newsletters). Trained clients to use online email marketing programs such as Constant Contact and Internet Mail Manager. Designed, wrote and edited marketing materials for print, including brochures, flyers, business cards and CD covers.

**Multi-Subject Teacher**

**Los Angeles Unified School District (1997-1999)**

Taught reading, writing, math, social studies and science for third grade at Hillside Elementary to low-income, multi-cultural, ESL students representing a range of academic development. Work involved daily, monthly and yearly scheduling, student progress reports and evaluations, and participation in school development

committees and programs. Also worked as a substitute teacher for LAUSD elementary and middle schools, teaching a wide variety of subjects to kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

## Computer Lab Assistant

### Undergraduate Library, University of Texas at Austin (1989 - 1991)

Assisted students and faculty in using computers and software in computer lab at the University of Texas at Austin. Work included assisting Research Librarian with statistical research using EXCEL.

## Writing Tutor

### University of Texas (1988 – 1990)

Tutored football players for the University of Texas at Austin

# California State University Service

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- COTA Faculty Leader for helping faculty switch to online during COVID-19 pandemic shut-down
- I assisted in auditions for each of the last 2 years of main stage productions at CSULB, helping guide outside directors in understanding students' skills and abilities.
- I consulted on auditions for Performance BA students for the last two years and for both the pre-BFA auditions for Fall 2019 and incoming class BFA auditions for Fall 2020.
- I personally coached many students for auditions throughout the last two years. For example, one of my Fundamentals of Acting students, Elijah Cineas, who was a black student from the Bob Cole School of Music in Opera landed a call back and asked for an emergency coaching session. He booked the gig. He was awarded a Young Artist in the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival.
- I had the honor of serving on Master's Thesis Committees for Design grad, Ulyana Chava, and Performance grad, Emily Coleman.
- I enjoyed serving as Grad student mentor for the 2018-2020 Performance MFA cohort at CSULB, specifically Stephanie Lopez, but also Emily Coleman and Lauren Roth.
- I served on the Season Selection Committee for the 2019-2020 season.
- I served on the Outstanding Graduate Nominee Committee in Spring 2020 that helped our student, Ayla Decaire win Outstanding Graduate for the College of the Arts class of 2020.
- I regularly participate in Departmental Faculty Meetings at CSULB
- I taught Chinese delegation of performance professors from Zhejiang Vocational Academy of Art a workshop on teaching and history of The American Musical for CSULB's Office of International Education and Global Engagement in October 2019.
- I am a certified Safe Zone Ally for LGBTQ+ students, and I am also an LGBTQ+ human
- I helped Department Chair, Jeff Janisheski, pitch for funding for musicals to student group at CSULB – Spring 2019.

# Directing, Producing & Performing

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## Westchester Playhouse, Los Angeles, CA

Nov/Dec 2019 – Directed *Little Women: The Broadway Musical* for Kentwood Players' 70th Season.

## Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX

Summer 2019 – Guest Artist Director for Theatre of the Big Bend – *Our Lady of the Tortilla*

## California State University Long Beach

Spring 2019 –Assistant directed *Cabaret* with Director Kari Hayter at CSULB

Spring 2018 – Directed a musical version of *The Ugly Duckling* by Helen Slater in Spring 2018 for CSULB's Affinity Series for my Master's Thesis Project. My *Ugly Duckling* was a contemporary story of a journey of discovery of LGBTQ identity through the lens of a traditional fairy tale.

## Representative Performances from over Fifty Productions

FUN HOME	Helen Bechdel	Chance Theatre
CABARET	Fraulein Schneider, Cellist	CSULB, CalRep
END DAYS	Sylvia Stein	CSULB, CalRep
GOOD BOYS & TRUE	Maddy Emerson	CSULB, CalRep
MY FAIR LADY	Eliza Doolittle	Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center
THE SOUND OF MUSIC	Maria	Camarillo Theater
BOTH: A BEATLES' NATIVITY (6 YEARS)	Shepherd, Gospel Choir	Open Fist Theatre
THE GOOD WOMAN OF SETZUAN	The Niece, Chinese Violin, Cellist	Open Fist Theatre
JAMES JOYCE'S THE DEAD	The Cellist	Open Fist Theatre
BLOOD BROTHERS	Linda	Knightsbridge Theatre
CABARET	Rosie, Kit Kat Band Cellist	Knightsbridge Theatre
FINDING VENUS: A HAUNTING MUSICAL THRILLER	Cellist, Multiple Characters	Caroline Waters
SCREAM QUEENS 2: THE MUSEQUAL	Bianca	Scott Martin, Whitefire Theater
SCREAM QUEENS: THE MUSICAL	Bianca	Westchester Playhouse
ANNIE	Grace Farrell, Cellist	Westchester Playhouse
OLIVER	Bet	Westchester Playhouse
WEST SIDE STORY	Velma, Cellist	Westchester Playhouse
BARNUM	Cirque Player, Cellist	NoHo Arts Center
A BOY CALLED LIZARD	Miss Cooley/ Rhonda u/s	NoHo Arts Center
YO HO HO: A PIRATES' CHRISTMAS	Ruby Red	NoHo Arts Center

## University of Texas School of Law, Assault & Flattery

Directed two annual musical theatrical productions for the University of Texas School of Law. Work included supervising staff of 20 and directing a cast and crew of 75; leading direction of organization; developing creative concept; managing budget and contracts; scheduling facility use; and overseeing fundraising and advertising. *Letters from Professor David Simon Sokolow and Attorney Ken Carroll available.*

## Capitol City Playhouse, Austin, Texas

Assistant directed *The Boys in Cellblock Q*. The run was extended several months.

## Events and Production Staff

### AMERICANS FOR A SAFE FUTURE, AMAZON PRODUCTIONS, HOLLYWOOD WOMEN'S POLITICAL COMMITTEE, AND EVENTZ SPECIAL PRODUCTIONS (1996-1998)

- Dinner Concert with Graham Nash, Roseanne Cash, Marc Cohn at Maple Drive Restaurant – Producer
- Celebrity Poetry Reading at Chateau Marmont – Producer
- Crosby, Stills & Nash Benefit Concert – Production Staff
- Los Angeles Presidential Gala Concert with Barbra Streisand – Production Staff
- Democratic National Committee Fundraiser with Hillary Clinton – Production Staff

# Public Interest Law

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## Environmental Non-Profit Development Director

Developed education, research, media and fundraising campaigns and materials for a nonprofit environmental organization, Americans for a Safe Future in 1996-1997. Hollywood industry board of directors included Edward Zwick, Marshall Herskovitz, Lisa Henson, Laura Ziskin, Sally Field, Priscilla Presley, John Densmore and Don Henley, among others. Scheduled, planned and implemented quarterly board meetings; initiated correspondence regarding major donor solicitation; served as liaison among Executive Director, Board, other organizations and politicians; assisted with major policy decisions and political meetings; handled finances and scheduling. Planned and organized annual fundraising events, including development and monitoring of budget, concept, contracts, invitation, ticketing and parking, facility scheduling and set-up, food and beverage services, ad book, printed materials, and coordination of audio/visual services.

## Law Clerk and Associate Attorney

### **HENRY, LOWERRE, JOHNSON, HESS AND FREDERICK, ATTORNEYS AT LAW (SEPTEMBER 1993 – DECEMBER 1995)**

Helped senior attorney David Frederick with his caseload. Work included conducting legal and factual research, writing and preparing legal and factual materials for courts, developing client relations, case development, political strategy, witness examination, legislators and donors, grassroots organizing, and document management.

## Legal Research Assistant and Lobbyist

### **SIERRA CLUB, LONE STAR CHAPTER, AUSTIN, TEXAS (FEBRUARY – AUGUST 1993)**

Conducted research for proposed legislation to protect the mountain lion in Texas. Assisted lobby efforts in the 73rd Session of the Texas Legislature. Work included legal and factual research, client relations, standing proof, Texas-Mexico border issues, witness examination, preparation of educational materials for legislators and visiting elementary classrooms to educate children about wildlife preservation.

## Student Attorney, Mental Health Clinic and Children's Rights Clinic

### **MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CLINIC, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW (JAN – DEC 1994)**

Under supervision of licensed attorney, represented proposed patients to state mental hospital and represented abused and neglected children. Work included writing court motions, interacting closely with clients, parents, guardians and social workers, and advocating in court.

## Research Assistant

### **PROFESSOR THOMAS MCGARITY, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW (JANUARY – JULY 1993)**

Conducted research related to current environmental law issues. Work included extensive quality control and organizational support for Professor McGarity's report to Congress on the HUD scandal, which resulted in numerous indictments of James Watt, former U.S. Secretary of the Interior.

## Grants, Awards & Honors

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### Graduated with High Honors

from University of Texas at Austin, receiving Bachelor of Arts in English (3.9 GPA in Major).

### Norris Grant Recipient

to attend Hagen Teacher's Lab training at HB Studio in New York City, NY.

### Featured Member Los Angeles Women in Music

featured member of the month, April 2011.

### Wray Trust Scholarship

to conduct research for proposed legislation to protect the mountain lion in Texas.

### Texas Law Fellowship

to do legal work for public interest nonprofit organization, The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club.

### Sierra Club Award for Outstanding Achievement

for Extraordinary Mountain Lion Support.

## References

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**Hugh O'Gorman**, Professor and Head of Acting  
Department of Theatre Arts  
California State University, Long Beach  
(213) 840-6729, [Hugh.OGorman@csulb.edu](mailto:Hugh.OGorman@csulb.edu)

**Carol Rosenfeld**, Program Director  
The Uta Hagen Institute Teacher's Lab  
HB Studio, New York City  
(201) 736-0722, [crosenfeld@hbstudio.org](mailto:crosenfeld@hbstudio.org)

**Brian Mulligan**, Adjunct Faculty  
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**Kathleen Wilhoite**, TV & Film Actor and Instructor  
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**Ezra LeBank**, Professor and Head of Movement  
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**Andrea Caban**, Associate Professor and Head of Voice  
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**Alexandra Billings**, TV & Film Actor and Faculty  
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**Helen Slater**, TV & Film Actor and Writer  
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