

## FREDERICK "FRITZ" BENNETT

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### ***Summary of Skills***

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Experience across diverse disciplines of the arts, including exhibits, special events, theatre, dance, opera; served in various production capacities including design, management, operations, and production.

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Experience managing full time, part time, and contract staff.
- Experience planning and tracking budgets; long-range strategic planning.
- Experience using various lighting control systems, automated and LED lighting technology, analog and digital sound consoles, video monitoring and playback systems; carpentry and fabrication skills.
- Experience purchasing, operating, and maintaining installed & portable lighting, audio, and video systems.

### ***Employment History***

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#### **Production Manager – Department of Theatre, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

July 2022 – December 2023

- Schedule facilities, develop annual production calendar, oversee production meetings, develop annual production budgets, and coordinate production needs with the instructional outcomes for each main stage production.
- Supervise, mentor, and train graduate assistants responsible for the sound and lighting systems.
- Supervise, mentor, and train undergraduate stage managers working on main stage, workshop, and dance productions.
- Teach Introduction to Theatre Organization and Management (Intro to Stage Management).
- Troubleshoot lighting, sound, and program monitoring systems in theatre facilities.
- Administer all space and equipment needs for workshop productions and outside events, and serve as primary contact for these projects and events.
- Assist department chair with the selection and hiring of guest artists.
- Serve as primary department safety officer.
- Developed preliminary \$1 million capital equipment facilities upgrade proposal

#### **Associate Production Manager – Department of Theatre, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

July 2017 – July 2022

- Supervise, mentor, and train graduate assistants responsible for the sound and lighting systems.
- Supervise, mentor, and train undergraduate stage managers working on main stage, workshop, and dance productions.
- Teach Introduction to Theatre Organization and Management (Intro to Stage Management).
- Troubleshoot lighting, sound, and program monitoring systems in theatre facilities.

- Administer all space and equipment needs for workshop productions and outside events, and serve as primary contact for these projects and events.
- Work with the Production Manager to schedule spaces, develop annual production calendar, oversee production meetings, develop annual budgets, and coordinate production needs with instructional outcomes for each main stage production.
- Assisted with internal budget audit which revealed additional funds available for immediate use.
- Facilitated safety inspections of personnel lifts, rigging system, and testing/retreating of flame retardancy of all curtains and soft goods in two theatres.
- Received professional development grant Spring 2019 to attend training at ETC headquarters.
- Colated and documented safe operating procedures for shop operations during COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Production Manager – Children's Theatre of Charlotte, Charlotte, NC**

**September 2014 – June 2017**

- Managed scheduling, staffing and budgeting of all aspects of 15+ productions a season including mainstage, touring, and visiting guest artists.
- Responsible for maintaining the artistic integrity of all productions.
- Created and managed \$1.5 million department budget.
- Contracted directors, designers, musicians and choreographers.
- Hired and supervised 12 full-time department staff in addition to part-time labor and crews.
- Developed and maintained master production calendar for CTC including multiple theatres, rehearsal and meeting rooms.
- Responsible for maintenance and upgrades for theatre related facilities and capital equipment purchases.
- Produced 9 commisioned world premieres including small cast touring productions and large scale musicals.

### **Production Manager/Technical Director - University of Indianapolis, Dept. of Theatre, Indianapolis, IN**

**September 1996 – August 2000 and January 2008 – August 2014**

- Responsible for the coordination, supervision, fabrication and operation of all physical production elements for theatre department productions in multiple facilities.
- Founded Greyhound Production Services as a co-curricular technical theatre training program to improve production skills through experiential learning and to increase recruiting opportunities for the department. Successfully secured \$16,000 in internal grant funds to purchase equipment and establish the program.
- Supervised all non-department events occurring in Ransburg Auditorium, coordinating with on and off campus organziations and clients.
- Coordinated the assignment, scheduling and training of students in the proper use of equipment, general practices and procedures within the industry, including safety guidelines and procedures.
- Taught sections of Stage Management, Introduction to Theatre Design, Stagecraft, Advanced Stagecraft.
- Coordinated equipment and facility maintenance, upgrades, and purchases.
- Prepared and managed budgets for production, facility maintenance and capital expenditures.

## **Lighting Designer – The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN**

July 2005 – April 2007

- Programmed and maintained lighting, sound, and show control equipment in all galleries, including the permanent multimedia exhibit *Dinosphere!* and the permanent exhibit *Health House*.
- Consulted with exhibit and project teams to recommend and design specialized lighting and sound solutions for all temporary and permanent exhibits.
- Researched and prototyped specialized lighting, sound and show control equipment for exhibit updates and new permanent installations.

## **Other Employment and Affiliations**

Indianapolis Stage Sales & Rentals – Design and Integration Consultant

Indiana Repertory Theatre – Associate Lighting Designer; Electrician

Dance Kaleidoscope – Technical Director; Master Electrician; Moving Light Programmer

## **Education & Professional Development**

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Bachelor of Arts - Professional Theatre, Music Minor - Butler University

OSHA 30 - General Industry Safety & Health

A Conversation on Diversity and Anti-Racism in Entertainment Design

ETC CUE 2013, 2019 (Conference and training at Electronic Theatre Controls headquarters)

Symposium on Education in Entertainment & Engineering 2019

USITT National Conference 2012, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2021, 2022

LDI National Conference 2010, 2018, 2021

## **References**

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Laura Glover  
Lighting Designer/Production Manager  
Dance Kaleidoscope  
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Adam Burke  
Artistic Director  
Children’s Theatre of Charlotte  
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James Leagre  
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