

Aileen Wen McGroddy

Theatre Director

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Directing (selected)

* denotes a reading or workshop
production

I work from a robust background in physical theater and consent-based practice. I identify as mixed Chinese- and Irish-American and I use she/her/hers pronouns. I have experience developing new plays and musicals, re-imagining classics, site-specific work, theatre for young audiences, teaching directing and devising, and producing live events—all of which sits on a bedrock of leadership through collaborative creation.

Co-Artistic Director of TUTA Theatre Chicago
Roundabout Directors Group Cohort 5
SDC Member

NEW PLAYS & MUSICALS

*Regretfully, So The Birds Are** by Julia Izumi, Clubbed Thumb
*Jar of Fat** by Seayoung Yim, Northern Stage and Yale Drama Award
*untitled table play** by Jesús I. Valles, The Bushwick Starr
*Straight Wedding** by Kaia Lyons, Clubbed Thumb
*Hecuba** by Amanda Andrei, NY Classical Theatre
*Throwback Island** by Ronica Reddick, The Bushwick Starr and Writing is Live Festival
*The Frogs** by Thaddeus McCants, NYTW
*Sisters** by Matthew Libby, Northern Stage
Wake: A Folk Opera by Jessica Wright Buha and Jenn Romero, The Whiskey Rebellion
*On The Y-Axis** by Lucas Baisch, Writing is Live Festival
*Akira Kurosawa Explains...** by Julia Izumi, Writing is Live Festival
Montauciel Takes Flight book by James Grote, music and lyrics by Russel Coutinho, Lifeline Theatre

ORIGINAL ADAPTATIONS

A Christmas Carol adapted from Charles Dickens, Trinity Rep
*July 4, 1912** adapted from *The Music Man*, NYTW
The Tempest adapted from William Shakespeare, Brown-Trinity Rep Tour
Ulysses adapted from James Joyce, The Plagiarists

EXTANT PLAYS & MUSICALS

The Chinese Lady by Lloyd Suh, Kitchen Theatre and Geva Theatre Center
Sense and Sensibility adapted by Kate Hamill, Northern Stage
Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play by Anne Washburn, Adelphi University
Airness by Chelsea Marcantel, Breckenridge Backstage Theatre
The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams, Winnepesaukee Playhouse
Attempts on Her Life (upcoming) by Martin Crimp, TUTA
The Late Wedding by Christopher Chen, Brown-Trinity Rep
Or, by Liz Duffy-Adams, Winnepesaukee Playhouse and Portland Stage
Dani Girl book and lyrics by Christopher Diamond, music by Michael Koonan, Winnepesaukee Playhouse
Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Musical by Mo Willems, Emerald City Theatre

Teaching

Adelphi University / Adjunct Professor

SEPTEMBER 2023 - PRESENT, GARDEN CITY, NY

- Re-imagined and rebuilt the “Rudiments of Directing” course for third-year BFA students
- Directed *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play* as Theatre Department Guest Artist

Brown University / Teaching Assistant & Assistant Professor

JANUARY 2020 - JUNE 2021, PROVIDENCE, RI

- Assisted unprecedented move of class to digital platform as TA for Kym Moore, “Acting Outside the Box” Spring 2020
- Lead a section of seminal course as TA for Barbara Tannenbaum, “Persuasive Communication” Fall 2020
- Created and taught new undergraduate course “Devised Theatre” Spring 2021

Clark University / Visiting Artist

SEPTEMBER 2022 - DECEMBER 2022, WORCESTER, MA

Collaborated with theatre and game design faculty to create new course, “Interactive Theatre.” Coached student performers in character creation and audience interaction culminating in an immersive game experience.

Various / Freelance Teaching Artist

Created and lead workshops, classes, and performances at international institutions for all age and experience levels:

- Adults and Theatre Professionals: TUTA Theatre Chicago, The Wilbury Group, Forks & Hope Ensemble, Strawdog Theatre, National Criminal Defense College
- College Students: The University of Chicago, North Park University Opera Program, The Lir (Dublin, Ireland)
- Youth: YASI at Trinity Rep, NIRMAN School (Varanasi, India), Little Black Pearl Arts Center, Redmoon Theatre, Emerald City Theatre, Mudlark Theatre, Des Plaines History Center

Producing & Arts Administration

TUTA Theatre Chicago / Co-Artistic Director

2022 - PRESENT, CHICAGO, IL

DirectorsLab Chicago / Steering Committee Member

2016 - 2018, CHICAGO, IL

Whiskey Rebellion Theatre / Co-Artistic Director

2010 - 2018, CHICAGO, IL

Forks & Hope Ensemble / Artistic Director

2016 - 2018, CHICAGO, IL

Physical Festival Chicago / Producing Team

2017 - 2018, CHICAGO, IL

Emerald City Theatre Company / Marketing Coordinator

2011 - 2015, CHICAGO, IL

Education

Brown University and Trinity Rep / MFA Directing

SEPTEMBER 2018 - JUNE 2022, PROVIDENCE, RI

- Directing: Brian Mertes, Melissa Kievman, Curt Columbus, Raelle Myrick Hodges, Will Davis, Michael Krass, Taibi Magar
- Acting: Brian McEleny, Rachel Christopher, Stephen Berenson, Annie Scurria
- Movement: Shura Baryshnikov, Kali Quinn, Mycah Hogan, Angie Jepson, Jackie Davis, Michelle Bach-Coulibaly
- Voice: Thom Jones, Josh F. S. Moser, Chantal Jean-Pierre
- Musical Theatre: Rachael Warren
- Theatre of the Oppressed: Julian Boal
- Intimacy Direction/Choreography: Claire Warden
- ArtEquity Training: Carmen Morgan, Leslie Ishii, Michael Robertson

The University of Chicago / BA ISHUM

SEPTEMBER 2006 - JUNE 2010, CHICAGO, IL

- BA with Academic Honors in Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities (Theatre, Linguistics, Creative Writing),
- Francis X. Kinahan Award for Contributions to University Theater
- Metcalf Fellowship to teach theatre at NIRMAN School in Varanasi, India
- Heidi Coleman, Sean Graney, David Bevington, Ann Boyd, Frank Maugeri, Mickle Maher, Greg Allen, Coya Paz, Tom Burch

Trinity College Dublin / Visiting Junior Sophister

SEPTEMBER 2008 - JUNE 2009, DUBLIN, IRELAND

- Player's Award, Best Director for *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* by Edward Albee
- Irish Student Drama Awards Nominated, Best Director for *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* by Edward Albee
- David Horan, Christine Poulter, Steven Wilmer

Professional Affiliations & Fellowships

Roundabout Theatre Company / RDG Cohort 5

2023 - PRESENT, NEW YORK, NY

New York Theatre Workshop / 2050 Fellowship

2022- 2023, NEW YORK, NY

Stage Directors and Choreographers Society / Member

2022 - PRESENT

BOLD /Resident Director, Northern Stage

2022-PRESENT, WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT

Directors Lab North / Member

2017, TORONTO, ON

DirectorsLab Chicago / Member

2016, CHICAGO, IL