

Steven J. Satta

(he/she/they in no preferred order)

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Personal Profile

Seasoned theatre artist and educator with over 20 years experience in higher education as a teacher and administrator engaged in curriculum development, community outreach, and program direction. Over 30 years experience as a performer and teaching artist. Professional experience as actor, director, dialect/vocal coach, and artistic director. Research and creative interests include interdisciplinary work, devising, and the intersection of arts and activism with significant focus on LGBTQ+ theatre and history. Passionate advocate for theatre for social change, arts-in-education, holistic teaching, and community engagement. Excellent organizational and written and verbal communication skills. Trained in leadership, group facilitation, and anti-racist practices.

Work Experience

Towson University, Department of Theatre Arts

2020-Present Program Director, MFA in Theatre Arts

Towson's University's MFA in Theatre Arts cultivates the self-generative artist through an interdisciplinary, process-oriented, and collaborative approach to the creation of new works

Responsibilities include:

- Recruitment
- Scheduling and faculty teaching assignments
- Regularly coordinating inter-disciplinary experiences through collaboration with faculty across the college
- Budgeting and finances
- Curation and selection of guest artists for workshops and residencies
- Advising
- Supervision of Final Projects/Thesis
- Courses taught
 - Integrated Voice and Movement
 - Performance and Society
 - Synthesis I: Formal Elements
 - Graduate Project Laboratory
 - Independent Study: Making Inclusive Theatre/Making Theatre Inclusive

2004-2011

Coordinator, BFA in Acting, Towson University Department of Theatre Arts

- Responsible for recruitment and retention, curricular development, and maintaining accreditation status with National Association of Schools of Theater

2008 - Present

Creator and Director, Towson Theatre Infusion, Towson University Department of Theatre Arts

Responsible for all aspects of educational outreach program to area high schools

- Seeking out and maintaining educational partnerships
- Overseeing scheduling
- Grant writing and budgeting (recipient of Pepsi Grant for 8 years; currently funded by Baltimore Towson University (BTU) through the Division of Community Outreach
- Training of Teaching Artists

2000 – Present

Professor of Voice/Acting

BFA Acting, Towson University, Towson, MD

Tenured: 2006

Promoted to Full Professor: 2012

- Courses taught include:
 - Voice 1 - foundation course in Linklater technique and text analysis
 - Voice 2 – advanced course in voice work (Linklater, Rodenberg, Coloian, Roy Hart)
 - Verse Technique for Shakespeare
 - Speech and Dialect
 - Acting 1 – foundations of Stanislavski
 - Intermediate Scene Study – contemporary realism, Chekhov, and Pinter
 - Advanced Scene Study - period styles and techniques of high comedy
 - Direct mainstage productions
 - Provide voice, verse, and dialect coaching for productions directed by other faculty members or guest artists
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Significant Achievements at Towson University

- *Creator and Co-director of Towson Theatre Infusion*, a high school outreach program which trains students as Teaching Artists and places them in high schools in Baltimore and the surrounding counties; recipient of numerous grants from the Pepsi Foundation
- *Led curriculum design and implementation of a BFA in Acting*; managed the approval process through the college, university, and the University System of Maryland
- *Co-Chair, Towson Committee on LGBT Issues* – with my co-chair advocated for and oversaw the creation of a Director of LGBT Student Development, a permanent position within the Center for Student Diversity

Lead Teacher, Arts Education

Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Artistry in Teaching Institute

2008

Site Coordinator

Maryland Summer Center for Gifted and Talented Students at Towson University

2000

Associate Faculty

Canadian National Voice Intensive, Vancouver, BC

1998 – 2000

Teaching Assistant

York University, Department of Theatre

1997-1998

Program Director, ENACT, Inc.

New York, NY

Managing Director - ENACT Summer Institute for Teachers and Teaching Artists (1998)

- artistic development and administrative operations
- design and facilitation of key instructional workshops; creation and implementation of marketing;

Program Director (9/97 – 7/98)

- Responsible for a 150% increase in earned income
- Design and facilitation of professional development workshops for NYC teachers
- Administration of in-school residencies and support of teaching artists in the field.
- Creation of marketing materials and cultivation of new educational partners

1997 - 2005

Faculty Member

National High School Institute for Theatre Arts (Cherub Program)

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

1996 – 1998

Teaching Artist

ENACT, Inc.

New York, NY

Group Facilitator/Teaching Artist

- Communication and Social/Emotional Skills through Drama and Drama Therapy techniques

1996-1997

Teaching Artist

Theatre for a New Audience

New York, NY

- Exploring Shakespeare to enhance literacy;
- Interim Education Associate (4 months)

1995-1996

Irondale Ensemble Project

New York, NY

Full Acting Company Member

On-going training in Irondale's unique theatrical style through company workshops in improvisation (Spolin, Johnstone), political theatre (Brecht, Boal) and collaborative creation. Performed in fully-mounted mainstage productions as well as touring improvisational issue-oriented pieces.

Facilitated AIDS-education and improv workshops with other Ensemble members in educational, correctional, and community venues around NYC.

1995

Project Site Captain, Irondale Ensemble Project

New York, NY

Dept. of Health AIDS Project at Camelot – residential rehab facility for teens

Responsibilities included scheduling and coordination with Camelot administrators and staff, assessment and progress reports to funders, all curricula/workshops to train residents as actors and peer educators, and logistics of creating and touring theatre piece around AIDS-related issues

Education & Training

York University, Toronto, ON

- MFA in Acting
- Voice Teaching Diploma – Linklater, Skinner & IPA - taught by David Smukler

New York University – Tisch School for the Arts, New York, NY

- BFA in Acting
- Founder's Day Award for Academic Excellence
- Member, University Scholars Program

University of Massachusetts at Amherst

- Graduate Certificate in Leadership in Higher Education (expected completion summer

2022) Anti-Racist Theatre Training – Nicole Brewer

Intimacy Direction Training – Chelsea Pace

Dialogue @ TU (group facilitation training): Brian Jara and Shauna Payne-Gold

Charm City Yoga Center, Baltimore, MD

- 200 Hour Yoga Alliance Hatha Yoga Teacher Certification
- 500 Hour Yoga Alliance Hatha Yoga Teacher Certification

Towson University Leadership Institute for Junior Faculty - 2004

Towson University Leadership Institute for Full Professors - 2017

Association for Theatre in Higher Education Leadership Institute - 2018

Tectonic Theatre Company - Summer 2013

- Training in “Moment Work”, the company's devising process – Levels 1 & 2. Led by Moises Kaufmann and Greg Pierotti

Actors Center Teacher Development Workshop Summer 2009

- 2 weeks of training with Chris Bayes (clown), Ron Van Lieu (scene study), Slava Dolgachev (script analysis) and J. Michael Miller (pedagogy)

Professional, Creative & Scholarly Work

1995 -2009

Actor, Actors Equity Association

- Credits include Broadway, Off-Broadway, and Regional Theater
- 1995 – 1996: Irondale Ensemble Project, New York, NY, Acting Company Member

2009 - 2015

Artistic Director, Iron Crow Theatre Company, Baltimore, MD

Baltimore's only LGBTQ+/Queer Theater

- Best New Face on the Theatre Scene 2011 – Baltimore City Paper
- Ten Best Stage Productions of 2010 in Baltimore by Baltimore City Paper

2000 – Present

Independent Speech and Dialect Coach

- Credits include: Olney Theatre Company, Everyman Theatre Company, Baltimore Shakespeare Festival, and HBO's *The Wire*

2000 – Present

Independent Stage Director

- Credits include: Carver Center for the Arts, Single Carrot Theatre, Houses on the Moon, Iron Crow Theatre, Maryland Ensemble Theatre, Carroll Community College, Fells Point Corner Theater

2022 – Present

Playwright

- New Play Exchange: <https://newplayexchange.org/users/65278/steven-satta>
- Iron Crow Theatre: The Homo Poe Show – *Grieving and Sequins*
- Troy Foundry Theatre: Dark Day Mondays Reading Series: *Winter's Roost*
- Rapid Lemon Productions: Variations on Change: *Lily, Arthur*
- Theatre Workshop of Owensboro: Summer Shorts: *The Thousandth Crane*
- ART Factory Virginia: Rooftop Productions 10x10 Festival: *The Thousandth Crane*

2020

Panelist, Individual Artist Awards

Maryland State Council of the Arts

2020/2021/2022

Conference Planner

2023

Secretary

Association for Theatre in Higher Education, LGBTQ+ Focus Group

2019

Association for Theater in Higher Education

Panelist: *The Role of the Devising Artist in University Actor Training Programs*

2016

Guest Faculty – Voice and Speech

Virginia Governor's School in Wise Virginia

2012

Guest Performer

The Grandmother Project – VT Dance

2011

Presenter, American Alliance for Theatre Educators

Theatre Artist/Teaching Artist - A Model for Relevance in the 21st Century

2011

Presenter/Performer, Third Annual Geo-Aesthetics Conference

Homo Will Not Inherit

2010

Association for Theater in Higher Education, LGBTQ+ Focus Group

Invited Performance: *Homo Will Not Inherit*– Movement Theatre piece using Mark Doty's poem of the same name (by permission of the author); Interdisciplinary Collaboration with Vincent Thomas of Towson Dance Department

2007

Author

Out and Loud: The Queer Student in Undergraduate Actor Training Programs

Peer-reviewed article in Voice and Gender; The Voice and Speech Review, Mandy Rees, Ed., 2007

2005 – 2006

NYC Board of Education Summer Arts Institute (with Theater for a New Audience, NYC)

Voice Specialist – workshop in voice for NYC High and Middle School students

2004

Presenter, Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA)

Out and Loud – gay issues in actor training

NETC Newsletter (Fall 2004)

They're Here! They're Queer! Are you Ready? - editorial addressing gay issues in university actor-training programs.

University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Guest Fight Director - *Macbeth*

2003

Wilkes University, Guest Lecturer
Marlboro Men and Cover Girls: Images of Gender Diversity

Susquehanna University Diversity Conference
Workshop Presenter: *Marlboro Men and Cover Girls – Issues of Diversity around Gender and Sexuality*

Eighth Annual Towson University Multicultural Conference
Workshop Facilitator: *Exploring Diversity in American Gender*

Association for Theatre in Higher Education – LGBTQ+ Focus Group
Panelist – *Teaching Queer Theory*
Moderator for Guest Artist Lecturer Kate Bornstein

2002

Association for Theatre in Higher Education: LGBT Focus Group
Presenter, *Shakespeare for Queers – Re-Orienting the Classics*

2003-2010

Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), Region 2

- Director – *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare – invited production 2012
- National Award for Excellence in Classical Production for *Macbeth* 2012
- Faculty Roundtable Moderator: *Theatre in the Classroom and the Community* 2010
- Panel on Arts in Education/Community Outreach 2009
- *There's a Dramaturg in the Room!* – Panelist 2005
- *Gender in Performance* 2004
- Introduction to “*The Joy of Phonetics*” 2003
- Fight Director – *Shakespeare's R&J* – invited production 2003
- KCACTF National Award for Special Achievement in Fight Choreography 2003

Special Achievements

- KCACTF Region II Certificate of Merit for Excellence in Direction for *Angels in America: Perestroika*
- KCACTF National Teaching Artist Award (2008)
- KCACTF Region II Certificate of Merit for Excellence in Direction for *Romeo and Juliet*
- KCACTF National Award Distinguished Production of a Classic Play for *Macbeth* (2012)
- Pepsi Grant Awardee for Towson Theatre Infusion – 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
- Baltimore Towson University Community Partnership funding for Towson Theatre Infusion– 2017, 2018, 2019

SERVICE

University System of Maryland - William E Kirwin Center for Academic Innovation

Work Group for B.E.S.T. (Badging Essential Skills for Transition) Initiative and Pilot Program

Towson University, Towson, MD

- Member, Resource Planning and Advisory Committee (current)
- Member, Steering Committee of the Office of Academic Innovation (3 years)
- Member, Baltimore Towson University Council (current – focused on the creation and support of external partnerships for the university)
- Member, Department of Theatre Arts Scholarship Committee (6 years)
- Member, Advisory Committee for LGBT Studies Minor (current)
- Member, College of Fine Arts and Communications Diversity Committee (6 years)
- Member, Study Abroad Committee, 3 years
- Chair, Department of Theatre Arts Search Committee, for Lecturer in Performance (2017)
- University Search Committee, 2010, for Dean of College of Fine Arts and Communications
- University Search Committee, 2008 & 2009, for Director of LGBT Student Resources
- Towson Committee on Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Issues: Co-Chair Fall 2003 – Fall 2008
Instrumental in establishment of LGBT Cultural Center and the production of many various campus wide educational and social events, including performances by Tim Miller and Kate Bornstein
- Coordinator of the BFA in Acting (formerly “Acting Track”) Fall 2004 – Spring 2012
- Coordinator of Advising, Towson University Theater Department Fall 2003 – Fall 2013
- Theater Department Search Committees ’00; ’02; ’10; ’18
- Art Department Search Committee ’01;
- Student Affairs Search Committee for Assistant Vice President of Diversity ’04-’05
- Diversity Retreat Planning Committee – 3 years
- Committee for Undergraduate Research – 1 year
- Multicultural Conference Planning Committee – 2 years
- compiled/ wrote Towson University 2002-2003 Program Review Report for the Theater Arts Department

American College Theater Festival, Region II

- Respondent for Participating and Associate Productions (ongoing)
- Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship – Judge, Preliminary Round, 2005
- Head of the SSD&C Student Director Scholarship Program, 2005 -2009
- Co-Coordinate of the Fringe at Festival (Region II)
- Member, Leadership Task Force for Region II

Maryland Theatre Education Association

Member at Large

References available upon request