

ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS

Director of Drama Education | *Honolulu Theatre for Youth*

Co-manage the organization with artistic and managing directors and manage all aspects of the education department.

Visiting Faculty (*Fulbright fellowship*) | *National School of Drama, (T.I.E. wing) Tripura, 2019/2022*

Fulbright Specialist roster | U.S. Dept. of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and World Learning, 2020-2025

National Teaching Artist in Theatre | *John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, 2009-present*

Theatre Director/Trainer | *Jodrikdrik nan Jodrikdrik ilo Ejmour, Marshall Islands, 1991-2019*

Director of Theatre Training | *Crossroads Theatre for Youth, American Samoa, 2004-2020*

President | *American Alliance for Theatre and Education, 2011-2013*

Affiliated Artist | *Aazhi Children's Theatre Group, Pondicherry, India; Rangapeeth, Shantipur, West Bengal, India*

Consultant

Ensemble Theatre, Bhopal, India

Intersections, Inc. American Samoa

Sharma Center for Heritage Education, India

Isha Home School Drama Dept., Coimbatore, India

World Rainbow School, Japan

Youth for Change, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

FELLOWSHIPS

The Creative & the Critical: Transforming Learning through Artistic Practice

Tripura | National School of Drama | Fulbright-Nehru 2019

As guest faculty, I taught classes and workshops in Applied Theatre, Applied Drama, Arts Integration and Theatre production and offered workshops in several additional states in partnership with arts and education organizations.

Animating Mythological History: Investigating a drama-based pedagogy

Chennai | Local Schools | Fulbright-Nehru 2010

I conducted residencies with elementary-aged public-school students to demonstrate the efficacy of drama integration pedagogy. Students dramatized mythological history as portrayed in archeological sites to deepen understanding of their contemporary cultural identities.

Teaching Artist in Residence program

Saratoga, CA | Montalvo Arts Center

Through the resident program, I worked with a local high school to design various drama and

theatre-based programs with the faculty and students.

Aurand Harris Playwright Fellow

Children's Theatre Foundation of America

The fellowship allowed me to engage a number of elementary classrooms in the development of a new play.

Teaching Artist Fellowship

State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

Awarded in recognition of work with Pacific-based immigrant populations.

AWARDS & HONORS

2024 Puffin Foundation grant, short film in development

2023 Hawai'i Council for the Humanities grant

2023 The LearningTimes Foundation emerging film-maker grant

2021 Pacific Islanders in Communication Short Film Fund grant

2021 'Ohina Film-maker's Lab Fellow

2021-25 Fulbright Specialist, On the roster of specialist to conduct relevant training globally

2019-21 Partners for the Americas and US State Dept., Citizen Diplomacy grant for 'Ana Lulu: Voicing the Islands' project

2019 Teaching Artist fellow, Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

2019 Theatre Communications Group, Global Connections 'In the Lab' grant, continued playwriting partnership with poet/activist Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner and Jo Jikum

2019 Fulbright-Nehru Professional Teaching Award, Tripura, India, National School of Drama "The Creative and the Critical: Transforming Learning through Artistic Practice."

2015 Theatre Communications Group, Global Connections 'On The Road' grant, partnership with poet/activist Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner

2015 Distinguished Book Award, American Alliance for Theatre and Education, *The Reflexive Teaching Artist*

2009 Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Scholar in Education, Chennai, India, "Animating Mythological History: Investigating a Drama-Based Pedagogy."

2008 Montalvo Arts Center Teaching Artist Fellowship, Four month residency at the Montalvo Arts Center, San Francisco

2006-08 National Endowment for the Arts, Arts Learning grant, "In Our Own Words: Drama with ESL students"

2006 ASSITEJ/USA Ann Shaw Fellowship, "career development opportunities for theatre artists and administrators committed to Theatre for Young Audiences"

2004 Award of Excellence for Arts Education (Honolulu Theatre for Youth), University of Hawaii College of Education

2002 Lin Wright Special Recognition Award (for University Teacher Training Program), American Alliance for Theatre and Education

GRANTS

Hawai'i Council for the Humanities

Hawai'i Kāhuli: Tiny Epics of Survival

Creation of a website that traces the science and history of the endemic snails of Hawaii..

Pacific Islanders in Communication

Short Film grant | *After the Endling*

Support for a short shadow puppet film about Hawaiian Tree Snails that I wrote and directed.

The LearningTimes & Puffin Foundation

Short Film grant | *In the Stillness of the Night*

Support for writing/directing a short puppet film about Hawaiian 'ōpe'ape'a (endemic bats).

Playwright development collaborative

Global Connections | *Theatre Communications Group*

Collaborating with poet/activist Kathy Jetnilt-Kijiner, we engaged local young artists and other Marshall Islanders in a series of conversations, writing sessions and workshops about the very real effects and threats of climate change to that island nation.

Ana Lulu: Voicing the Islands

Citizen Diplomacy | *Partnerships for the Americas & the US State Dept.*

Voicing the Islands was designed to give voice to people and populations that are the backbone of contemporary life in Hawaii to stimulate dialogue about ongoing challenges facing our shared communal space.

“...and the people spoke music”

Marshall Islands Collaborative | *Rockefeller Foundation*

Under two Rockefeller Foundation grants, I visited Namdrik atoll in the Marshall Islands to work with two storytellers, Jia Hisaiah and Iban Edwin, who shared stories, dances and songs. A resulting play “...and the people spoke music” toured both Hawaii and the Marshall Islands.

FILM

SHORT FILMS

After the Endling

- Hawaii International Film Festival, Nov 2022
- Creative Asian American Media Film Festival, DATE?
- Reel Puppetry Film Festival, July 2023
- SCINEMA International Film Festival, Aug, 2023 (<https://tinyurl.com/4f66hx3u>)
- PBS, Pacific Heartbeats, Season 12, Episode: Hawaii's Precious Resources, 43 states, 650 showings, 2023-34, plus PBS.org
- KIDSFirst Film Festival, 2023-24 – service making the film available
- 'Ohina Short Film Showcase, Sept 20, 2023
- Patagonia Conservation fundraiser, Sept 16, 2023

- Bishop Museum Kahuli Festival, Sept 23, 2023

°C Rise: Life can Change in the Smallest Degrees (Object theatre)

- New Delhi Film Festival selection | March 2021
- The Living Archive.com | January 2021

PUPPET FILMS

Polar (K)nights

- Mississauga Puppet Slam | 2023

It Came from Below

- Beaucoup Askew TV.com | 2023

She Near the Sea

- Murder Mystery | Nite at the Puppet Asylum | Oct 2022

Toxic Tuvalu (Object Puppetry)

- Cafe Concret41! Online Again?!?! | March 2022

Oh, Boy: Life is Short (Object Puppetry)

- Dr. Bunk's Unconventional Sleep Clinic | Winnipeg Puppet Slam | Nov. 2021

Seven Fellows that Look Like Six

- Cafe Concret43! - En Ligne | Dec 2022

Oh, Poo! (Object Puppetry)

- Good and Plenty | Ladies of Mischief | NYC | Nov. 2021
- Winnipeg Puppet Slam | Nov 2022

Fatu: the stone maiden (Stop motion)

- Puppet Puppet Slam Slam | Carroll College | Montana | Sept. 2020
- Central Florida Puppet Guild Virtual Puppet Slam | Nov 2020

Two Naughty Girls (Puppet)

- Puckin' Fuppet Show | Atlanta | Oct 2020

Sakier (Animated)

- Sprouts! | Ladies of Mischief | NYC | April 2021
- Mind Over Matter | Nite at the Puppet Asylum | Los Angeles | August 2021

Masque Couture

- World Puppetry Day | Union Internationale De La Marionnette | March 2021

When Life Gives You...

- A Very Special Holiday Special | Concrete Cabaret | Toronto | Dec 2020

THEATRE

PLAYWRIGHT

☒ *other: a micro-story*

- World Premiere, Kumu Kahua Theatre 50th season, 2021
- Semi-finalist, Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, 2020

Shipwreck'd on the Body Beautiful • World Premiere, Kumu Kahua Theatre, 2019

Romance by the Surf • PlayFestival (readings), PlayBuilders of Hawaii, 2019

Soul Survivor

- PlayFestival (readings), PlayBuilders of Hawaii, 2018
- Finalist, NYU New Works for Young Audiences, 2017

Donnie Q, Knight of the 3rd Grade • Old Miner's Children's Play Competition, UVU, 2017

Slipping By and ***Them***

- Gi60 International One Minute Play Festival, 2016
- One Minute Play Festival, Honolulu, 2015

Musical (Mis)Adventures of Goopy and Bagha

- Isha School, Coimbatore, India, 2016
- East Valley Children's Theatre playwriting award, 2015

We are Not the Ones and ***Wild Hawaii*** • One Minute Play Festival, Honolulu, 2016

Sing a Porpoise Home

- Published in "25 Years of New Plays for Young Audiences," by NYU
- New Works for Young Audiences workshop, 2012
- New England Theatre Conference Aurand Harris Award, 2013

Mystery of Niihau • Santipur Rangapeeth, West Bengal, India, 2012

Keiko and Louie: Best Best Friends (Mostly) • Honolulu Theatre for Youth, 2006

Pacific Tales • Honolulu Theatre for Youth, 2004

Hawaii Tales • Honolulu Theatre for Youth, 2003

Island Spirits, Island Life • EPIC, 2002

Bentley and Egg • Conference on Literature, 2002

Secret Wow Kine Island • Children's Theatre Foundation of America, Aurand Harris Playwrights Fellowship, 1999

"Da Bugga Like Eat," *Runny Noses, Tiny Tails* • Honolulu Theatre for Youth, 2002

"Birdbrain and Featherhead," *Fools and Monkey Tales* • Honolulu Theatre for Youth, 2000

...And the people spoke music: stories of the Marshall Islands

- Honolulu Theatre for Youth
- Tour of the Marshall Islands

Everyone Knows what a Dragon Looks Like • Honolulu Theatre for Youth

DIRECTOR

National School of Drama, Agartala, Tripura, India

2022 – *Out of Step*, company-devised

2019 - *In Your Hands*, company-devised

Rangapeeth, Santipur, West Bengal, India

Mystery of Nihoa, company-devised

Crossroads Theatre for Youth, American Samoa

Fumbled Future, company-created

Dream, Interrupted, company-created

Just a Puff, company-created

Moiras Choice, company-created

O a'u ma lo'u uso, company-created

Honolulu Theatre for Youth, Honolulu, HI

Keiko & Louie: Best Best Friends (Mostly), Director/Playwright, 2009-10

Pacific Tales for Young People, Director/Adaptor, 2004-05

Hawaii Tales for Young People, Director/Adaptor, 2002-03

Island Spirits, Island Life, Commissioned by Pacific Outreach Initiatives, 2002

Mixed Plate Special, 2001

The Amazing Bone, 2000

'Twas the Night & other Holiday Delights, 1998

Chicken Skin, 1997

Tales of the Grotesque, HTY, 1994

He'e Nalu: riding the waves, HTY, 1992/3

Portraits in Shame, AATE Conference, Seattle, 1991

Jodrikdrik Nan Jodrikdrik Ilo Ejmour, Majuro, Marshall Islands

Social Issue Shorts, 1993-2009

Annual devised folklore plays that tour the islands, 1992-2003

Leli | Nuclear Waste | The Canoe/The Motorboat | Lejobkenira and her Children | Letao's Magic Trick | Pregnancy Man | The White Bird Calls Inedrel | Valedictorian | A Hotel Grows Up | Demon Girls

The Lady and the Demon, Guam tour, 1995

Kumu Kahua Theatre, Honolulu, HI

Moa a Mo'i, 2014

Cabaret Tiki, a playwrights' collaborative (founder/director), **Honolulu, HI**

Loose Screws/CT: The Brink! | Queer Cabaret | Nuuanu Nights, Salon5 | Postcards from the

Stage

Cabaret Tiki Talks Story | Cabaret Tiki Invades the Zoo | Cabaret Tiki Presents

Hawaii Literary Arts Council Bookcellar Reading

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

DAPON Theatre Group | Tangla, Assam, India

Conducted Arts Integration workshop for classroom teachers. Trained young artist on devising original productions.

Univ of South Pacific | Majuro, Marshall Islands

Devised a series of short plays about climate issues facing Pacific Islands with college students from three different Pacific nations.

Ensemble Theatre | Bhopal, India

I trained actors from Nepal, Sri Lanka and India in Applied Theatre techniques and devised: ***How Far Will You Go? When forced to choose between your dream and the people you care about, how do you make the best choice?***

Intersections, Inc. | American Samoa

A not-for-profit whose mission is “empowering families and children to break the mindset of poverty in order to improve the physical, social, and spiritual aspects of family life.” I designed outreach performance workshops and trained young peer leaders to perform/conduct workshops in schools and the community.

Sharma Center for Heritage Education | Chennai, India

Develop, implement and model drama and theatre programs with children and teens. Train teachers of village schools in use of drama strategies.

Jodrikdrik nan Jodrikdrik ilo Ejmour (JNJIE) | Marshall Islands

A youth social service organization dedicated to addressing issues faced by youth. For nearly 30 years I have trained, directed, traveled and performed with JNJIE. We have devised and staged a large number of plays; each lasting anywhere from 8-40 minutes in length. We performed on many islands throughout the nation and conducted trainings on several of them.

Pohnpei Youth for Change | Pohnpei, FSM

I trained youth leaders to incorporate theatre performance into their social and health-based outreach program.

Unlearn Theatre Company & Umang Children’s Theatre | Delhi, India

I designed and conducted arts integration workshops for teachers and teaching artists.

Upu Tuugutu: Tala o le Pasefika mai Amerika Samoa | American Samoa

Through Pacific Resources for Education & Learning and the Am Samoa Council of the Arts and Humanities, I conducted writing workshops in preparation for the 2016 Pacific Arts Festival held in Guam, “to revive the traditional art of making stories or storytelling.”

Rangapeeth Theatre Company | Santipur, West Bengal, India

A training program for the actor/educator company in both arts integration techniques for their school-based work and in devising original plays.

Isha Home School | Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Over several years, I have conducted professional development workshops for most of the faculty, as well as residencies with a significant portion of the student population, helping to train their drama staff to sustain the work.

EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

Framework for Arts Integration: Quality Professional Develop for Classroom Teachers

Development of a framework that defines elements of quality, research-based professional development workshops for classroom teachers. The framework is targeted to teaching artists who conduct workshops in arts integration techniques for general education classroom teachers,

Teaching Artist Training Program, 2008-2016

A local initiative spear-headed by the Honolulu Theatre for Youth in collaboration with the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the Hawaii Arts Alliance to train teaching artists

'In Our Own Words:' Drama with English Language Learners

In cooperation with the English Language Learner program of the West Hawaii school district, this intensive project guided elementary aged ELLs to improvisationally develop original plays based on culture folklore from the cultures of the participants. The students devised the performance, keep reflective journals on their progress and participation and presented their work for their peers, family and at the annual West Hawaii ELL Speech Festival.

Island Spirit: Community Transformation through Culture

This partnership of HTY and the University of Hawaii Pacific Outreach Initiatives combined theatre and Micronesian performing arts with community outreach to bring together young people, families, cultural artists and leaders of several Micronesian cultures through the creation and presentation of a culturally specific production.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

"A Dramatic Approach to Appreciating Mythological History," McAvoy, M. & O'Connor, P. (eds.) The Routledge Companion to Drama in Education, forthcoming from Routledge

"The Journey Matters: Agency through Artistry," Underiner, T. & Woodson, S. (eds.) Theatre, Performance and Theories of Change. Palgrave. 2018

The Reflexive Teaching Artist: Collected Wisdom from the Drama/Theatre Field, Intellect, 2014

"Which 'A' will Be?: Acculturation, Assimilation, Americanization," Chappell, S. V. & Faltis, C. J. (Eds.). *The arts and emergent bilingual youth: Building critical, creative programs in school and community contexts*. New York: Taylor and Francis, 2013.

In Words of Their Own: Drama with Young English Language Learners, New Plays for Children, 2009

"Playbuilding with Pacific Island Students," Interactive & Improvisational Drama: Varieties of Applied Theatre and Performance, Edited by Adam Blatner with Daniel Wiener*. Lincoln,

NE: IUniverse, 2007, pg. 230-243

"Marshall Islands Folklore," Encyclopedia of World Folklore, Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing, 2006

To Feel as Our Ancestors Did: Oral History in Performance with Young People, Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2005

Marshall Islands Legends and Stories, Honolulu: Bess Press, 2003

"Jodrikdrik nan Jodrikdrik ilo Ejmour," Performing Democracy, Univ. of Michigan Press, 2001

ARTICLES

"Just the One" <https://fulbright.org/2021/08/14/just-the-one-daniel-a-kelin-ii-india-2019/>, 8/21

"Cultivating Change by Integrating Drama: A Classroom Experience."

<https://artistsandclimatechange.com/2020/10/14/cultivating-change-by-integrating-drama-a-classroom-experience/>, 10/20

"Purposefully Poetic." *Arts Education Policy Review*, 118(4), p. 202-207

"Teaching Teachers to Teach." 2018. *Incite/Insight*

"The Arts Integration Framework." 2018. *Teaching Artist Guild Quarterly*, 12, p. 32- 39

"On the Offensive," HOWLround.com, 8/31/16

"A Brief Report on the Second International Teaching Artist Conference,"

<http://blog.westaf.org/2014/07/a-brief-report-on-second-international.html>, 7/20/14

"Growing Up, Devising," HOWLround.com, 11/23/13

"Dramatic Differences: Playbuilding and Young English Language Learners," Tapestry Journal, Volume 4, No. 2, Winter 2012, p. 19-31 journals.fcla.edu/tapestry/index.

"Taking on a Fulbright," Incite/Insight, 2010, vol. 1, no. 6, p. 13-15

"Wondering the World," Teaching Artist Journal, 2008, vol. 6, no. 2, p. 97-106

"The Drama of Folklore: Stories as Teachers," Indian Folklore Journal, 2007, vol. 4, no. 7, p. 64-76

"The Perspective From Within: Drama and Children's Literature," Early Childhood Education Journal, December, 2007, vol. 35, no. 3, p. 277-284

"Like it was Happening Now," Micronesian Educator, 2007, vol. 12, In production

"Minding the Moment," Teaching Artist Journal, Summer 2007, vol. 5, no. 2, p. 104-112

"Wading into the Imagination," Education & Theatre Journal, Issue 7, March 2007, p. 63-66

"Integrating Drama into the ESLL Classroom," Multicultural Review, Fall 2006

"Voyages of Discovery," Social Studies & the Young Learner, September, 2005, vol. 18, no. 1, p. 7-10

"Vitalizing Culture in Youth," Micronesian Humanities Journal, June, 2005, vol. 4, no. 1, p. 52-57

"A Shift in Perspective," Teaching Artists Journal, Fall 2004, vol. 2, no. 4

"To Feel the Fear of it," Talking Points, October/November, 2002

“Popcorn from the Sky,” Teaching Tolerance, (Fall 2001)

“Exploring Cultural Change,” Stage of the Art, vol. 9, no. 4 (1997)

“Searching for Stories on Tiny Islands” & “Inedrel and the White Bird,” Forkroads, no. 6 (1996), p. 25

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Hawaii at Manoa

College of Arts & Sciences, *Creative Drama | Advanced Creative Drama*

College of Education, *Developing Creative Curriculum for Classroom Teachers*

Library Studies, *Collecting/Preserving Folklore*

Pacific Studies, *Drama in the Geography classroom*

University of Hawaii at Manoa | American Samoa Outreach

Workshops, Guest Lectures

University of the South Pacific, Marshall Islands

College of Micronesia, Pohnpei

College of the Marshall Islands

University of Southern Mississippi

San Francisco State University, College of Education

University of Texas at Austin, Theatre Dept.

Northwestern University

India

XLRI Institute, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand

Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, Delhi, India

University of Tripura, Agartala, India

Bon Secours College, Thanjavur, India

Alpha Arts & Sciences Colleges and Schools, Chennai, India

American College, Madurai, India

Ghandigram Rural College, Dindigul, India

National Institute of Fashion Technology, Chennai, India