

To the University of Dayton and ArtStreet,

I am a successful arts leader, manager and professional producer with a proven, consistent track record of professional and civic arts direction, academic engagement and advisement with confirmed fiscal and strategic growth; a demonstrated turnaround of both university art programs and not-for-profit performing arts organizations, including the University of Chicago and Bailiwick Chicago Theatre. I would like to bring my strong arts academic and professional background of success to University of Dayton's one-of-a-kind ArtStreet in the role of Director, specifically contributing to the following:

- A finely honed sense of creative strategy that makes me a value-added and innovative solution-provider, combined with the proven ability to direct and implement a myriad of different art focused programs, university collaborations and educational leadership;
- Experienced university leader at the Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film, the University of Chicago and the Logan Arts Center, UChicago;
- A strong commitment to both the educational and professional performing arts for the last 10+ years interacting with various levels and functions of the multi-dimensional art scene including successfully and profitably managing operations of leading theatre organizations, academic institutions and transcended cultural barriers through a focused passion towards international work;
- Interacting with various levels and functions of academic institutions including student advisement, faculty collaboration and administrative leadership;
- A solid arts administration background and the savvy to comprehend, implement, and troubleshoot creative operations while achieving campus growth, increased initiative involvement, and artistic collaboration;
- The open-mindedness, adaptability, business acumen, and entrepreneurial spirit that enables both ArtStreet and the University of Dayton to maintain profitable relationships on the local and national level

My experience is extensive and diverse – from establishing my own successful Chicago performing arts company to flourishing creative development in collaboration with arts companies to multiple relationships with various university arts programs. I am a proficient all-around creative management practitioner with a highly applicable background and exceptional leadership, communication, presentation, and team-building skills. I offer years of solid, hands-on strategic and inspired administrative experience in the academic area of the performing and fine arts as well as music and multimedia, which would successfully support the already passionate and triumphant arts program established by Ms. Byrnes at ArtStreet. My familiarity with stabilizing and fueling new energies into academic programs and institutions can be exemplified through both the University of Chicago and Nebraska-Lincoln's current identities. My multiple experiences as Executive, Artistic and Managing Directors and fluency in the academic and professional art markets of Chicago and nationwide should further bolster my qualifications.

As a theatre educator I work with the direct intent to inspire my students through the immediacy of all art forms. The aim is to inspire and empower each student's own creative energies while providing positive, valuable progress to a targeted goal. I am a proponent of active learning and use a variety of methods to encourage discussion and interaction. The arts, like life, are a collaborative effort and in order for students to understand they must be able to establish their own voice and then define their voice when amongst their peers. As a strong and experienced educator and arts leader I help navigate faculty, staff and students towards a solid future as a creative artists who can approach the arts from a variety of different skills both in and outside of the 'arts' world. In order to present a fresh approach and perspective annually I

continue to seek out opportunities in my professional work that can benefit all programs. In recent years, my development of international work with a number of different consulates including Canada, Mexico, and France and cultural institutions in Chicago have affected my academic pedagogy. I continue to design alternative forms of expression through festivals and new work development. My goals are to expand and root my theatrical focus in an academic and institutional leadership positions that will both fuel the entire campus body to continually expand their definition of all art forms while broadening the supporting programs desire to propel their mission and vision into the ever changing art landscape.

My MFA in both film and theatre will be an amazing asset to the development of both student and faculty ideas and projects, as will my vast connections with current international artists, multifaceted theatre and dance companies, musicians and minority programs including LGBT initiatives nationwide. These are artistic avenues that will be present at all times for me and I would be honored to collaborate with my entire network of artists and all who use and engage the awesome program of ArtStreet. I know my background and experience will be a dynamic element and I want nothing more to be able to engage and lead at a university that has a respect and desire to develop the practice of every form of art imaginable.

It is with great pleasure to submit my letter of application for the Director of ArtStreet at the University of Dayton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian LaDuca', written in a cursive style.

Brian LaDuca

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# Brian LaDuca

## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

- 2009 – present            **University of Chicago, Chicago, IL**  
*Lecturer; Resident Artist; Managing Director of Theatre and Performance Studies/University Theatre (no faculty/tenure system)*
- 2005 – 2008            **University of Nebraska, Lincoln, IL**  
*Lecturer at Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film (graduate)*

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Acting I, Introduction to Directing, Textual Analysis (Aristotle, Stanislavski, and Ball), Theater Management: So You Want To Start Your Own Theater Company?, Practicum in Theatre Arts (Marketing/Branding/Social Media), Introduction to Theatre History, Senior B.A. Thesis advisor (Producing & Directing)

## PUBLICATIONS

LaDuca, Brian “Directing Six Degrees of Separation: Multi-Media in Contemporary Theatre” Lambert Academic Publishing, 2012

## EDUCATION

**Master of Fine Arts, Directing for the Stage and Screen**  
**The Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln- 2008**  
*Thesis - Directing SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION: Multi-Media in Contemporary Theatre*

**Bachelor of Fine Arts, with honors in Performance Studies**  
**The Department of Theatre at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana- 2000**

## SERVICE

Committees – University Theatre Student Artistic Advisory Board, TAPS Faculty council, Logan Center Branding and Marketing, University of Chicago Arts Communicators, Career Advising and Planning Services at University of Chicago, Student Fine Arts Fund (chair), Careers in Arts Placement

Organizations – SDC (Society of Directors and Choreographers), ArtSpeaks (producing body), ATHE (Association of Theatre in Higher Education), TCG (Theatre Communication Group), Joseph Jefferson Awards Artistic/Technical Team (Show Coordinator), Member of Central Lakeview Merchants (Bailiwick Chicago), Tau Epsilon Phi social fraternity (President and Vice-President), League of Chicago Theatres, DirectorsLab Chicago, Nebraska School Activities Association (Performance Adjudicator)

## TEACHING ARTIST

2008 - 2009            **American Theater Company - Chicago, IL**  
*Primary Teaching Artist and Educator for American Mosaic outreach program*  
Responsible for educating two separate classrooms of varied students of different skill levels at Amundsen High School on the creation/directing of TRUE WEST

2008 **MPAACT Theatre in association with CAPE, Chicago, IL**  
*Assistant Teaching Artist for ten week after school theatre in the schools program*  
Responsible for one classroom of varied students of different skill levels with ages ranging from 1st Grade through 4th Grade at Kinzie Grammar School

2008 **Arts Are Basic, Lincoln, Nebraska**  
*Teaching Artist and Artistic Director for Theatrix's creative partnership*  
Educate 8th Graders about the creative process of writing, directing and acting in a new children's play presented to the entire state of Nebraska

2000 - 2001 **Healthworks Theatre, Chicago, IL**  
*Violence Prevention Educator, Coordinator and Director within six different grammar and high school in Chicago and the Chicagoland area*  
Educated and inspired students of various ages and backgrounds to create original theatre scripts for 6-week original violence prevention based theatre curriculum

### **LEADERSHIP**

2010 - Current **Executive Director – Bailiwick Chicago, Chicago, IL**  
*Work directly with Board of Directors to oversee the day-to-day operations while initiating a new development and strategic plan for the continued growth of the company including infrastructural and artistic support.*

Responsible for redesigning a new organizational structure and budget plan to support the ongoing seasonal development of a \$100,000+ a year not-for-profit theatre company while collaborating and developing a production season that supports the mission to partner with various arts and educational organizations in the city of Chicago. Leads a seven person Management team that includes a Managing Directors, Grant Manager, Corporate Sponsorship, Group Sales and Business Development and Intern Manager.

#### **Producing Director (2010-2011)**

*Work directly with Executive Director and General Manager in all seasonal planning and budgeting demands for an annual producing season of five professional productions*

Collaborate and develop production season by supporting the mission to partner with various arts and educational organizations while maintaining all budgeted and programmatic needs of the company and specific shows. Interview and recruit all design team needs including post-mortem reviews for all artists.

2009 – Current **Managing Director – Theatre and Performance Studies/University Theatre, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL**

*Responsible for supporting all management and creative programming for the theatre program producing over 30 productions a year, involving over 500 students from the University of Chicago campus*  
Oversee all artistic programming and budgets in collaboration with Director of Program. Key recruitment ambassador. Collaborator on all instructor hires with the Director of Department including recruitment of new instructors and professional residencies. Mentor and manager of six person student Management Staff with three year focus on Marketing, Front of House, Media and general Arts Management. Led the design and branding of program's producing wing that saw an increase of nearly 20% annually of campus attendance including social media presence with weekly activity rates well over 100%. Current University Theater Facebook page selected by Facebook for the use of multimedia to represent new University Facebook pages. Theatre representative for Careers in Arts Placement, Student Fine Arts Fund and the Logan Arts Center.

2007 – 2008 **Producing General Manager – Bailiwick Repertory, Chicago, IL**  
*Work in partnership with Artistic Director to manage all artistic, administration and facility needs of*

*company. Including all budget plans, creative hires and evaluations.*

Director and Production Manager duties on various shows as dictated by Artistic Director while organizing all paper and online publicity plans for in house theatre productions and rentals. Updated language of rental contracts while maintaining working relationships with prospective renters. Artistic manager on Chicago premieres of *Dennis DeYoung's Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Jerry Springer the Opera*.

2006 **Director of Audience Development - Nebraska Repertory, Lincoln, NE**

*Coordinate and oversee all aspects of theatre and audience relations including the development of community relations and new subscriber series' as dictated by new Executive Director*

Member of lead management team in updating and maintain group ticket sales strategy and initiated and maintained up-to-date advertising, community and corporate relations. Designed and developed community programs that included backstage tours, pre-show discussions with cast and restaurant offers in conjunction with ticket purchases. Sold at 66% of season versus under 40% in 2005 – led to 2011 91% of season sold.

2005 – 2008 **Artistic Director – Theatrix, Lincoln, Nebraska**

*Artistic lead for student run theatrical producing organization within Johnny Carson School of Theatre & Film which included a four production season involving over 100 University of Nebraska Students*

Work in partnership with Chair of Theatre Department to assure Theatre School's mission is artistically supported while directly responsible for seasonal play selection, annual budget, a creative balance between excellence and opportunity. Led the successful production of two Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival recommendations and one regional selection. Created the annual New Artists Festival to support young Midwestern playwrights and their process in developing new theatre work.

2001 – 2004 **Artistic Director - C'est La Vie Drama, Chicago, IL**

*Founder and producing artistic director of not-for-profit theatre company producing two shows a year in the nations most competitive storefront theatre scene.*

Directly responsible for seasonal play selection and hiring all actors and designers including recruitment and retainment of advisory board. Active participant in all League of Chicago Theatres events and monthly company meetings. Led the creation of all six original productions at various theatres including Chicago Center for the Performing Arts, Breadline Theatre, WNEP Theatre and the Heartland Studio Theatre. Director of all marketing campaigns including successful POP! Goes Theatre campaign. Innovative branding and mission in developing theatre for the commercial MTV generation supporting lower ticket prices and more broad based new work to develop new audiences.

2000 - 2001 **Producer and Violence Prevention Coordinator – Healthworks, Chicago, IL**

*6-week original violence prevention collaborations within diverse Chicago school community*

Educated and inspired students of various ages and backgrounds to create original theatre scripts while leading daily administrative and communicative duties between Healthworks and the school reps. All plays discussed in school violence, HIV/AIDS awareness while creating collaborative engagement between different students who otherwise would not engage in each other's interests and skills. Organized final presentations of hour long original play in front of entire respective school communities.

### **PRODUCER ACTIVITY**

2012 **An Evening with Ari Folman**

*ArtSpeaks at the Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago*

Lead producer of inaugural event during 'soft' opening of Logan Art Center featuring acclaimed filmmaker to discuss his work in animation and relations with Israeli heritage.

2012 **Concert and Conversation with David Wax Museum**

*ArtSpeaks at Mandel Hall, University of Chicago*

Developed evening program of Mexican-Folks music that redesigned the shape of the historic Mandel Hall by lowering the stage to audience level to create a sense of intimacy David Wax Museum is known for. Woven conversation with visual artist, Theaster Gates, inside music concert for a sense of storytelling inspired by MTV's famous Unplugged series.

2011 **The North/South Plays**  
*Bailiwick Chicago and Teatro Luna, Chicago, IL*

Initiated the creation and leading the development of world premiere theatrical production exploring the issues of borders between Canada, USA and Mexico in collaboration with Crows Theater, Human Cargo Theater and Modern Times Stage of Canada as well Teatro de Bevadad of Mexico for October opening in Chicago

2010 **George Lewis In Concert**  
*ArtSpeaks at Mandel Hall, University of Chicago*

Developed evening program of improvisational jazz with George Lewis, German Composer Alexander von Schlippenbach and The Great Black Music Ensemble to explore the varied performance styles of improvisational music

2010 **Logan Arts Center Groundbreaking Ceremony**  
*Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, Chicago, IL*

Designed, Developed and Directed groundbreaking ceremony for multi-million dollar arts center on the campus of University of Chicago (400+ in attendance) <http://arts.uchicago.edu/logan/>

2009 - 2010 **International Voices Project**  
*Premiere Theatre in association with International Consulates of Chicago*

Designed 6 week staged reading series of international plays to be performed by 6 theatre companies at 6 international consulates in Chicago including companies from Canada, Spain, France, India and Japan. Developed programming collaborations with multiple Chicago based cultural centers and universities including the Alliance Francaise, Instituto Cervantes and Columbia College

2008- Current **The New Artists Festival**  
*Theatrix at the Johnny Carson School - University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

Established a new original theatre festival for aspiring university playwrights and directors to develop new theatrical work inspired by the voices of the Midwest. Festival is now annual spring event at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

2006 **The Destination Series**  
*Nebraska Repertory, Lincoln, NE*

Manage the day to day production needs of Nebraska Repertory Theatre's alternative performance series including the design and development of stage readings and musical performance designed to engage alternative audiences for the annual Rep season. Worked in conjunction with Executive and Artistic Director to assure projects upheld NRT's mission and vision.

#### **DIRECTOR ACTIVITY – Professional**

2012 **Dust** (US premiere – Reading)  
Light the 'Wick, Bailiwick Chicago, Chicago, IL

2011 **Romeo & Juliet**  
Babes With Blades at the Raven Theatre, Chicago, IL

2010 **Down To It** (US premiere, staged reading)  
Route 66 Theater Company, Chicago, IL  
**Hot Mikado** (asst. director to David H. Bell)  
Drury Lane, Oak Brook, IL

**Night** (US premiere - Reading)  
International Voices Project with Premiere Theatre and the Canadian Consulate

**Rent**  
NightBlue Theater at the Theatre Building, Chicago, IL

2009 **Twelfth Night** (asst. director to David H. Bell)  
Notre Dame Shakespeare, South Bend, IN

**Cat On a Hot Tin Roof**  
NightBlue Theater, Chicago, IL

2008 **Grey Gardens** (asst. director to B.J. Jones)  
Northlight Theatre, Skokie, IL

**The Boys From Syracuse** (asst. director to David H. Bell)  
Drury Lane, Oak Brook, IL

**The Bowery Boys** (asst. director to David H. Bell)  
AMTP at Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

2007 **Sharps, Flats and Other Alterations** (new musical)  
Bailiwick Repertory, Chicago, IL

2006 **Pretty Fire**  
Nebraska Repertory Theatre

**Consequences** (new work - Reading)  
Great Plains Theatre Festival, Omaha, NE

2004 **single.dating.married** (new work)  
C'est La Vie Drama, Chicago, IL

**Dictionary of Smells** (new work)  
Around the Coyote Fest, Chicago, IL

2003 **Screw L.A.** (new work)  
C'est La Vie Drama, Chicago, IL

2002 **The Bound Trilogy** (new work)  
C'est La Vie Drama, Chicago, IL

**GOO! A Theatrical Sitcom** (new work)  
C'est La Vie Drama, Chicago, IL

2001 **What a Fool Believes** (new work)  
C'est La Vie Drama, Chicago, IL

2000 **The Rocky Horror Show**  
The Station Theatre, Urbana, IL

#### DIRECTOR ACTIVITY – Academic

##### **Theater and Performance Studies/University Theater – University of Chicago**

2011 **I Am The Machine Gunner** (Chicago premiere – Reading)  
Soviet Arts Experience at TAPS/UT

2010 **But, The Giraffe** (world premiere – Reading)  
U of C with Court Theater and Tony Kushner

2009 **Saints** (new work - Reading)  
New Work Week at TAPS/UT

##### **The Johnny Carson School of Theater and Film – University of Nebraska, Lincoln**

2008 **The Wheeler** (new work)  
Theatrix at the Johnny Carson School

**Triptych**  
Director & Editor (HD Video)

2007 **Six Degrees of Separation**

Johnny Carson School of Theatre & Film

**Ernest Humble**

Director & Editor (HD Video)

2006

**Speed-the-Plow**

Theatrix at the Johnny Carson School

**Reckless**

Theatrix at the Johnny Carson School

**That's the Spirit**

Director & Editor (Video)

**Department of Theater – University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

2000

**Abandon** (new work)

Armory Free Theatre at University of Illinois

1999

**Fishing**

Armory Free Theatre at University of Illinois

**Observing the Opposite Sex** (new work)

Parkland College, Champaign, IL

**The Ballad of Brenda and Eddie** (new work)

Armory Free Theatre at University of Illinois

1998

**Maggie Magalita**

Armory Free Theatre at University of Illinois

**CONFERENCES & COLLOQUIA**

2009

Arts and Culture Day – Career Advising & Planning Services, University of Chicago Chicago, IL

*Moderator and Break Session Panel speaker*

2008

Kennedy Center for American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region V, Omaha, NE

*SSDC Directing Scene Competition- True West by Sam Shepard selected competitive piece.*

2007

Kennedy Center for American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region V, Ames, IA

*SSDC Directing Scene Competition- The Wibbly Wobbly Wiggly Dance That Cleopatterer Did by Terrence McNally selected competitive piece.*

*KCACTF Region V Show selection- Speed-the-Plow by David Mamet.*

2006

Great Plains Theatre Conference Omaha, NE

*Director – Play Lab Series*

**HONORS, AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

2011

Top Ten 2011 Chicago Plays Time Out Magazine

(PASSING STRANGE, #2)

Black Theatre Alliance Award - Best Musical

(PASSING STRANGE)

2010

Black Theatre Alliance Award - Best Musical

(AIDA)

2009

Joseph Jefferson Nomination - Best Musical

(THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE)

2008

Rex McGraw Award for Career Excellence with Theatrix,

JCSOTF at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

University Awards



Best Video Design, Best Lighting, Best Sound, Best Costumes, Best Actress,  
Best Supporting Actor (SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION)  
2007 Society of Stage Directors and Choreographer 10 Minute Scene Competition  
Region V runner-up  
(THE WIBBLY WOBBLY WIGGLY DANCE THAT CLEOPATTERER DID)  
Kennedy Center of American College Theatre Festival Region V Commendation for  
Achievement in Direction  
Kennedy Center of American College Theatre Festival Region V Show Selection  
(SPEED-THE-PLOW)  
2006 Kennedy Center of American College Theatre Festival Region V Recommendation &  
Scene Showcase Nomination  
(SPEED-THE-PLOW)  
2000 Octopus Award for Best Play in Central Illinois  
(ROCKY HORROR SHOW)