

BJ WILKINSON

LIGHTING DESIGN & EDUCATION

 www.bjwlighting.com

Current Employment

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
Head of Lighting
Assistant Professor
Aug 2018 - Current

QUILL THEATRE
Resident Lighting Designer
Feb 2012 - Current

Education

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
COLLEGE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC
MFA Lighting Design
Cincinnati, OH

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO
BA Theatre Design & Technology
Greeley, CO

Academic Appointments

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY	Head of Lighting Design & Assistant Professor Fall 2021-Current
	Head of Lighting Design Fall 2020
	Adjunct Assistant Professor Fall 2018
BRIGHTPOINT COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Adjunct Assistant Professor 2013 & 2020
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI- CCM	Adjunct Assistant Professor 2009 & 2011

Teaching Experience

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY	Electricity for Stage THEA 225
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A study of the properties and basic principles of electricity as they relate to the utilization of light on the stage.• Participation in departmental productions
	Introduction to Lighting Design THEA 229
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A study of issues concerning the properties of light and electricity as they relate to theatre including design, composition and color
	Advanced Lighting Design I THEA 237
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An in-depth exploration into development and execution of a lighting design and the lighting potentials of a wide variety of facilities, production styles and lighting equipment. Includes work on development of communication skills with directors via value sketches and lighting plots. Work will include studies and design research, concepts, collaboration, professional procedures and systems, paperwork, and organization. Varies scales of theoretical and practical projects in the light lab.

Advanced Lighting Design II | THEA 337

- Advanced study of lighting design, incorporating increasingly difficult texts, rep plots, facilities and production styles. Further exploration of the process of lighting design for theatre and other related events. Projects focus intensely on communication and the collaborative process

Advanced Lighting Design III | THEA 437

- Course incorporates increasingly difficult texts, facilities and production styles and alternative venue and production styles, such as landscape lighting and concert. Use of industry standard technology and 3-D rendering is a focus in the class

Practicum in Stage Lighting | THEA 324

- Practical application in the methodologies of stage lighting

Technical Production | THEA 100

- A crew assignment for a Mainstage production fulfilling all required work and hours of production calls.

Art Foundation Project: Theatre Lighting Design | ARTF 138

- A seminar on a selected issue, topic, or skill in the fields of fine and design.

JOHN TYLER COMMUNITY COLLEGE**Basic Lighting | CST-245**

- Studies basic techniques and methods of lighting design for the stage

Stage Lighting and Sound | CST-251

- Provides students with a basic understanding of the principles of stage lighting and sound. Instructs students in the fundamentals of stage lighting such as: functions of lighting, qualities of light, design, basic electricity, lighting instruments and equipment, board operation, and safety. Instruct students in the functions of sound, equipment, design, and sound operation

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI- CCM**Digital Portfolio | THPR-533**

- Creating a professional website to display digital portfolios, focusing on graphical layout and user interface

Stage Lighting I | THPR-209

- Teaching graphical standards for theatrical drafting, and creating a theoretical Lighting Design for a production

Advanced Vectorworks | THPR-709

- Course exploring advanced Vectorworks including lighting and the use of 3D design

Service**USITT- UNITED STATES INSTITUTE FOR THEATRE TECHNOLOGY****Lighting Design Recommended Practice Committee**

- Reviewed and collaborated with committee members to update recommended practices for our industry. Provided drafting services in creating example drawings.

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**Chair; Costume Faculty Search Committee**

- Chair for the Costume Faculty Search Committee for Spring 2025

Costume Shop Manager Search Committee

- Reviewed potential candidates, met with the committee, and participated in interviews.

Lighting and Sound Technician Search Committee

- Reviewed potential candidates, met with the committee, and participated in interviews.

Curriculum Committee

- Participated in discussions and planning for upcoming changes to the Theatre Department's curriculum.

Production & Design Time Log

- Created and maintained a system for logging production and design time outside of the classroom. This will be used to determine the time students are committing to a production and a record of time spent

Technical Supervision | THEA 337

- Supervising student designer's during events & productions, and providing guidance in the art and craft of lighting technology and design

Technical Advisor | THEA 437

- Providing recommendations for the new Arts and Innovation Academic Building, including layout and usage of various spaces

VIRGINIA REPERTORY THEATRE**Annual Gala Fundraiser**

- Provided Lighting Design & support for live event, auction, and performance

Sensory Friendly and Audio Described Performances

- Coordinated with production staff to accommodate sensory friendly, and audio described performances

RTCC Awards

- Provided Lighting design and support for live award show, proceeds go to the Theatre Artists Fund of Greater Richmond

Intern Mentoring

- Mentored interns as part of a lighting crew, as well as in show run positions
- Supervised interns during design process for theatre camp productions

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Panelist

- Panelist for Entertainment Design & Technology in education

ELECTRONIC THEATRE CONTROLS

Augment3d Beta

- Participated in open Beta Testing for EOS 3.0 with Augment3d

ETC Select

- Participated in closed Beta testing for ETC Select quotations software

Related Experience

VIRGINIA REPERTORY THEATRE

Resident Designer & Lighting Supervisor | Jul 2014 - Jul 2021

- Maintained Lighting equipment and systems, oversaw lighting budget and internship applications, and supported production in 3 separate venues.
- Productions included musicals, drama, children's programming, theatrical productions, concerts, and special events

Assistant TD & Lighting Supervisor | Aug 2009 - Dec 2011

- Maintained Lighting equipment, & aided in the construction & run of various productions
- Productions included children's programming, theatrical productions, concerts, ballet and special events

Quotations and Estimations | May 2008 - Oct 2011

- Researched potential projects and installations
- Prepared quotations for bid submittal
- Aided project management for purchases & installation
- Beta tester for quotations software

FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER

CROSS LIGHT INC.

Tour TD and Lighting Supervisor | 2007 & 2008

- 1st National Tour of A Year with Frog and Toad
- Advanced the production with various tour locations
- Supervised load in, focus, show run, & strike

INTRAMUSIC THEATRIALS

NEBRASKA THEATRE CARAVAN

Tour Assistant Electrician | 2004

- Assisted head electrician with load in, show run, & strike
- Provided power for backstage lighting & atmospherics
- Operated 24' truck

CAROLINE COUNTY VISITOR CENTER

Eobalaenottra Skeleton

Caroline County, VA

Gary Wilson

Jan. 2023

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

A Chorus Line
Let the Right one in
RENT
The Importance of Being Earnest
Men on Boats

Richmond, VA

Nathaniel Shaw	Nov. 2025
Wes Seals	Oct. 2023
Desirée Dabney	April 2023
Sharon Ott	Oct. 2022
Sharon Ott	Oct. 2021

THE NEW THEATRE/FIREHOUSE THEATRE

^WitchDuck
Natasha, Pierre & the great comet of 1812
Peter and the Starcatcher
^Roman a Clef

Richmond, VA

Rebecca Wahls	May 2026
Nathaniel Shaw	Aug 2025
Nathaniel Shaw	Aug 2024
Sharon Ott	May 2024

VIRGINIA REPERTORY THEATRE

The Cottage
Murder on the Orient Express
***Misery*
*^ **After December*
It's a Wonderful Life - Live Radio Play
Ella and her fellas Frank
**The 39 Steps*
Rogers and Hammerstein's Cinderella
^Tuck Everlasting, TYA Edition
**A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder*
Forever Plaid
**Atlantis: The New Musical*
The Game's afoot: Holmes for the Holidays
Sister Act
Mr. Popper's Penguins
***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*
Knuffle Bunny
West Side Story
^River Ditty
Pinkalicious the Musical
Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End
Miracle on South Division Street
Mary Poppins
Shakespeare in Love
Akeelah and the Bee
**DA*
*^ **The End of War*
Dancing Lessons
^The Charitable Sisterhood Christmas Spectacular
Junie B. Jones
1776
**Summer and Smoke*
^Croaker: The Frog Prince Musical
I do, I do
The Velveteen Rabbit
Peter and the Starcatcher
+The Fabulous Lipitones
Last of the Red Hot Lovers
You're a Good Man Charlie Brown

Richmond, VA

Irene Kuykendall	Mar. 2026
Rick Hammerly	Sep. 2025
Rick Hammerly	Sep 2024
Rick Hammerly	Mar 2023
Chelsea Burke	Dec 2021
Katrinah Lewis	June 2021
Nathaniel Shaw	Feb 2020
Laine Satterfield	Nov 2019
Matt Polson	Oct 2019
Kikau Alvaro	Sept 2019
Wes Seals	July 2019
Kristin Hangii	Apr 2019
Deb Clinton	Nov 2018
Robin Arthur	Nov 2018
Josh Chenard	Oct 2018
Nathaniel Shaw	Sept 2018
Susan Sanford	July 2018
Nathaniel Shaw	June 2018
Nathaniel Shaw	Apr 2018
Leslie Owens-Harrington	Apr 2018
John Moon	Feb 2017
Debra Clinton	Dec 2017
Chase Kniffen	Nov 2017
Jen Wineman	Oct 2017
Audra Honaker	Sept. 2017
Steve Perigard	July 2017
Nathaniel Shaw	Mar 2017
Jan Guarino	Feb 2017
Joe Pabst	Dec 2016
Chase Kniffen	Oct 2016
Debora Clinton	Sept 2016
Bruce Miller	Apr. 2016
Debra Clinton	Mar 2016
Bruce Miller	Feb 2016
K Strong	Dec 2015
Nathaniel Shaw	Oct 2015
John Markus	Sept 2015
Steve Perigard	July 2015
Susan Sanford	Feb 2015

****Whipping Man**
They're Playing our Song
Charlotte's Web
***Equivocation**
^The Charitable Sisterhood

Debra Clinton	Feb 2015
Jan Guarino	Nov 2014
Chase Kniffen	Oct 2014
Jan Powell	Sep 2014
Bruce Miller	July 2014

* RTCC Award Outstanding achievement in Lighting design nomination.

** RTCC Award Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design

^World Premier +Regional Premier

Lighting Design

QUILL THEATRE/RICHMOND SHAKESPEARE

Twelfth Night
The Bottom Show
The Tempest
As you Like it
Romeo and Juliet
MacBeth
Love's Labour's Lost
Merchant of Venice
Twelfth Night
King Lear
Hamlet (WCVE PBS Studios)
Hamlet
Much Adu about Nothing
^Sam and Carol
Richard III
A Midsummer Night's Dream
Wittenberg
Death and the Maiden
Othello
The Comedy of Errors
The Tempest
A Child's Christmas in Wales
King John
Merry Wives of Windsor
Cymbeline
MacBeth

^World Premier.

Richmond, VA

Jan Powell	May 2021
James Ricks	May 2021
James Ricks	May 2019
James Ricks	July 2018
James Ricks	May 2018
Jan Powell	July 2017
James Ricks	June 2017
Jan Powell	July 2016
Steve Perigard	Jun 2016
Jan Powell	Mar 2016
Jan Powell	Oct 2015
Jan Powell	July 2015
Foster Solomon	June 2015
Jan Powell	Feb 2015
James Alexander Bond	July 2014
Jan Powell	June 2014
Paul Nicholas	Mar 2014
Gary Hopper	Feb 2014
Jan Powell	July 2013
Steve Perigard	June 2013
James Alexander Bond	Mar 2013
Jan Powell	Dec 2012
Jan Powell	Sep 2012
Shirley Kagan	July 2012
Tlolac Rivas	June 2012
Jan Powell	Feb 2012

FREE JAMBALAYA

^Dr. Who and the Game of Death

^World Premier.

Richmond, VA

James Alexander Bond	Nov 2013
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UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

Bat Boy: The Musical

Pensacola, FL

Kristen Danford	Oct 2012
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FAIRFIELD FOOTLIGHTERS

Last Train to Nibroc
Plaza Suite
Parallel Lives
Moonlight and Magnolias
The Man who came to dinner
The Mouse Trap

Fairfield, OH

Patricia Davis	Nov 2011
Dana Bruce Berry	Sep 2011
Dana Bruce Berry	May 2011
April Osborne	Feb 2011
Dana Bruce Berry	Nov 2010
Patricia Davis	Oct 2010

The Grapes of Wrath
I hate Hamlet
Best Christmas Pageant Ever
Midlife the Crisis Musical

Coby Osborne May 2010
Heidi Schiller Feb 2010
John Vanderplough Nov 2009
Chris Beiser Oct 2009

MIAMI VALLEY BALLET THEATRE

The Nutcracker
Alice in Wonderland
Cinderella Ballet

Fairfield, OH

Michelle Davis '09, '10, '11
Michelle Davis Dec 2010
Michelle Davis Apr 2009

SOUTHERN OHIO LIGHT OPERA

Princess Ida
H.M.S. Pinafore
A Little Night Music
Madame Butterfly

Portsmouth, OH.

Dawn Harris July 2011
Stan Workman July 2009
Stan Workman July 2008
Stan Workman July 2007

BALLET TECH OHIO

La Sylphide

Cincinnati, OH.

Marvel Gentry Davis Sep 2006

LITTLE THEATRE OF THE ROCKIES

Tuesdays With Morrie
Over the Tavern
My Fair Lady

Greeley, CO.

David Grapes Jul 2006
Thomas McNally Aug 2006
John Leonard Aug 2005

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, CCM

**Une Education Manquee*
**Le Pauvre Matelot*
**The Elixir of Love*
The Lady's Not For Burning
Serenade
**Therese*
Ballade

Cincinnati, OH.

Nic Muni Feb 2007
Nic Muni Feb 2007
Sandra Bernhard Feb 2007
Richard Hess Oct 2006
Bart Cook May 2006
Sandra Bernhard Mar 2006
Michael Tevlin Dec 2005

*= Winner National Opera Association Award

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Bat Boy The Musical
Who Will Carry The Word?
The Laramie Project

Greeley, CO.

Vance Fulkerson Mar 2004
Charlotte Guyette Oct 2003
Luanne Nunes De Char Apr 2003

Assistant Lighting Design

CINCINNATI BALLET

Giselle

Cincinnati, OH.

Trad A. Burns Nov. 2006

UTAH SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL

Romeo and Juliet
Love's Labour's Lost
Dr. Faustus

Cedar City, UT.

Donna Ruzika Jun. 2005
Donna Ruzika Jun. 2005
Donna Ruzika Jun. 2005

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, CCM

Crazy for You

Cincinnati, OH.

Jim Gage Nov. 2005

Awards**RICHMOND THEATRE CRITICS CIRCLE**

Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design | *Misery*
Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design | *After December*
Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design | *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*
Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design | *The End of War*
Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design | *The Whipping Man*

**ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY THEATERS CINCINNATI / OHIO
COMMUNITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION**

Lighting Design Orchid Award | *I Hate Hamlet*
Lighting Design Orchid Award | *I Grapes of Wrath*

PEGGY EZEKIEL AWARD

Outstanding Achievement | *The Elixir of Love*

NATIONAL OPERA ASSOCIATION

Class II Video Competition | *The Elixir of Love*
Class V Video Competition | *Une Education Manquee*
Class V Video Competition | *La Pauvre Matelot*

GENE CHESLEY MEMORIAL DESIGN AWARD

Utah Shakespearean Festival | 2005 Season

ACTF

Lighting Design Achievement Commendation | *The Laramie Project*
Lighting Design Achievement Commendation | *Who Will Carry the Word?*
Lighting Design Meritorious Achievement | *Bat Boy the Musical*

Certifications**ELECTRONIC THEATRE CONTROLS**

EOS Family software | Level 3 Certification

EOS Family software | Level 2 Certification

EOS Family software | Level 1 Certification

ETCP

ETCP | System Maintenance Certification

OSHA

OSHA | OSHA 10 Construction Certification

STATE OF VIRGINIA

VA DMV | Driver's License

Pattern "Gobo" Design

ROSCO LABORATORIES

R78437 | "Hypnotic Fan"

R78234 | "Shattered Glass"

R78235 | "Sphere Breakup"

R78236 | "Thorn Breakup"

Related skills

Vectorworks 2026

ETC Eos V3.3

Lightwright

Augment3d

Google Suite

Canvas

Zoom

Microsoft Office Suite

2d & 3d Drafting

Photoshop

Mobirise

Audacity

Carpentry

Rigging

Soldering

Mosaic Designer 2

Tinkercad

Basic Arduino

References

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST