



# ASHLEE WASMUND

ARTISTIC LEADER | EDUCATOR | THEATRE MAKER

 317.340.6978

 ashlee@calliopestage.com

 www.ashleewasmund.com

## EDUCATION

MFA ACTING  
Western Illinois University  
2007 - 2010

BA THEATRE  
BA MARKETING & PR  
Franklin College of Indiana  
2003 - 2007

## HELPFUL SKILLS

Pre-Professional Artist, Faculty &  
Staff Mentorship & Support

Operations & Production  
Budgeting

Robust Professional Network

Curriculum Review & Design

Professional Directing,  
Choreography, Acting, and Arts  
Leadership experience

Podcasting

Strategic Visioning and  
Collaborative Ideation

RESIDENT ARTIST  
New Light Theater Project

REPRESENTATION  
Stavins Talent, Chicago

FOUNDING ARTISTIC LEAD  
Calliope Stage Company

SDC ASSOC. MEMBER

AEA MEMBER CANDIDATE

## WHO AND WHY?

I find purpose in facilitating and supporting collaborative professional arts and training spaces where those gathered feel inspired by individual and collective vulnerabilities and are empowered by their comfort with discomfort. It took five+ years, becoming a mother, leaving the city, moving to the mountains, and starting a company in rural North Carolina to find my artistic joy as a facilitator, mentor, and artistic leader. Today, I wish only to foster and engage in daring rooms that produce artistic conversations for elevating the collective mind, heart, and identity of its participants.

## EXPERIENCE SNAPSHOT

ARTISTIC | recent highlights & favorites

*My 80-Year-Old Boyfriend* | Movement Direction/Choreography and Assistant Director to Artistic Director, Sean Daniels, at Arizona Theatre Company and The Human Race Theatre Company (Dayton, OH; 2022). Scheduled for Off-Broadway run November 2022. An original musical by Christian Duhamel & Ed Bell. Conceived and performed by Charissa Bertels.

*Hitler's Tasters* | Choreographer and Movement Director of original production with New Light Theater Project at IRT Theatre in NYC. Written by Michelle Kholos Brooks and directed by Sarah Norris. Since 2018, the original IRT production has performed at 59E59, the 2019 and 2021 Edinburgh Festival Fringes, the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts (Chicago), the Electric Lodge (Los Angeles), the Guild Hall of East Hampton, and Pendragon Theatre (upcoming). Sold out run at the 2019 Fringe and awarded Best of the Fest. Off-Broadway run scheduled for April 2022.

*This Wrestling Place* | Assistant Director and Co-Choreographer. In development with New Light Theater Project and Emma Sandall. Produced by Ben Folds. Originally scheduled for NYC and Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2020 but placed on hold during Covid-19. Development to begin again November 2021.

*A Ghost of Christmas Past* | Writer/Co-Creator/Director. A femme-forward adaptation of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* focusing on Fan - Scrooge's oft-forgotten deceased sister - who guides him to find balance in his unbalanced world. Original live production cancelled due to Covid-19. Adapted to audio drama in 2020.

*A Christmas Carol* | Director, Calliope Stage Company 2021

*Into the Woods* | Assistant Director (dir. Hunter Foster), WCU 2021

*Murder for Two* | Associate Director (dir. JC Clementz), Merrimack Repertory 2018

*Unto These Hills* | Choreographer, Cherokee Historical Association 2019-2021

*Light Chasers* | Concept & Co-Choreo (original music by Cloud Cult), WCU 2021

*God Save Gertrude* | Director, WCU 2021

*Still Dance the Stars* | Choreographer, New Light Theater Project 2017

*The Doyle & Debbie Show* | Choreographer, Milwaukee Repertory 2014

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## INTERESTS

The Journey of Minimalism

Fiona Wasmund

Travel & Food

My Beagle "Thom"

Coffee Roasts

Firepits and Journaling

## REFERENCES

### SEAN DANIELS

Artistic Director

Arizona Theatre Co.

[sdaniels@arizonatheatre.org](mailto:sdaniels@arizonatheatre.org)

510 684 8071

### SARAH NORRIS

Artistic Director

New Light Theater Project

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256 508 7835

### JC CLEMENTZ

Artistic Producer + Casting

Steppenwolf

[clementz.jc@gmail.com](mailto:clementz.jc@gmail.com)

630 253 3744

### JAYME MCGHAN

Artistic Director, UNG Theatre

Dept. Head

[Jayme.McGhan@ung.edu](mailto:Jayme.McGhan@ung.edu)

708 837 8181

### HUNTER FOSTER

Director/ Actor

[hunterfoster@gmail.com](mailto:hunterfoster@gmail.com)

917 806 5991

## EXPERIENCE SNAPSHOT, CONT.

### ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP + ADMINISTRATION

**Calliope Stage Company** | Founding and Producing Artistic Lead. North Carolina 501c3 (2021). Created to [disrupt the norms of rural theatre](#). Dedicated to new work and developing regional stories and artists to become part of the national theatrical conversation. Responsibilities include:

- overall artistic direction and visioning since the company's inception
- production leadership, supervision, and management
- artistic personnel selection and casting
- community training and educational program development
- budgeting and fundraising & development, stewardship
- Board and community partner relations
- Co-host of company podcast/community-building exhibition, [The Nectar Series](#).

**Western Carolina University** | Program Director of Musical Theatre & Dance for BFA in Musical Theatre and Dance Minor programs in the School of Stage & Screen. Major responsibilities include:

- Program visioning, management and development; recruitment
- student & faculty mentorship, and guest artist programming
- budgeting and financial advocacy for the program within the Institute
- supervision of full-time and adjunct faculty and staff
- direction and choreography of mainstage musical productions

**Indiana Repertory Theatre** | Education + Company Management Intern  
**Shakespeare's Globe, UK** | Audience Services Intern

### PRODUCTION + ARTS INCUBATION EXPERIENCE

**Metropolis: an Afrofuturist Musical** | Line Producer for virtual workshop of with New Light Theater Project and Western Carolina University. By AriDy Nox and Brandon Webster. Direction by Zhailon Levingston. Selections from the virtual workshop played digitally during the Covid-19 pandemic at New Light Theater Project, New York Theatre Barn, and the Lincoln Center's *Broadway's Black Voices of the Future* concert.

**EBCI Cherokee TYA Development Project** | Artistic Producer for a new development project with the Native artists from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to create an original Theatre for Young Audience piece that will be performed entirely in the Cherokee language. Development to commence in 2022 with a planned regional tour in 2023.

**Ride an Old Paint** | Artistic Producer for Calliope Stage's development workshop of a new musical. Written by NYC-based playwright, Mike Aguirre, and featuring folk music artists and composers from around the country. This workshop featured the creation of music from the Southern Appalachia region.

**Calliope Shorts** | Producing Artistic Director for Calliope Stage's new works initiative, Calliope Shorts. Commissioned 23 WNC artists to develop and produce 10 new theatrical shorts with guidance of 6 national industry professionals.

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## Samples of Recent Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work [www.ashleewasmund.com](http://www.ashleewasmund.com)

### ARTISTIC

[Website Production Stills](#) | Sample of Creative Work on Stage

[Syrian Refugee Film Project](#) | Creative Concept, Direction & Choreography

[Hitler's Tasters Sizzle Reel](#) | Choreography & Movement Direction

[Light Chasers @ WCU](#) | Concept & Co-Choreographer

Sample Timestamps >> 09:30 >> 11:30 >> 17:50 >> 21:00 >> 28:30 >> 50:20

[Cabaret Archival](#) | Director & Choreographer

### INTERVIEWS & DIGITAL MEDIA

[Blue Ridge Public Radio Interview](#) | *Calliope Stage, Premiering In Sylva, Built To Disrupt Norm For Rural Theater*

[Hitler's Tasters Movement Spot](#) | Choreography & Movement Direction Interview (recorded 2018)

[The Nectar Series Podcast](#) | Producer & Co-Host

[A Ghost of Christmas Past Radio Drama](#) | Co-Creator & Director