

SAKILE CAMARA

AEA/SAG-AFTRA

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BIO

I am an actor, teacher, writer, director and producer originally from the Washington, DC area. Soon after graduating from Howard University with a BFA in Theatre Arts (Magna Cum Laude/Legacy Scholar), I performed multiple times at the Kennedy Center as well as other prominent theatres in DC. During that time, I also began teaching at The Children's Theatre Workshop and The Smithsonian. Having been a teacher of the arts for almost 15 years, I have realized that one of my most important philosophies as an educator, that is the backbone of how I teach, is creating a brave environment so my students are able to explore their fullness as human beings, first and foremost, and then as artists. I believe that starting with our humanity helps to lead to a sustainable career that can be preserved through the many ups and downs that actors can go through. Using my experience with the Meisner technique, Clown, the Linklater Technique and many others, I seek to teach my students how to befriend uncertainty, cultivate play and deepen vulnerability in their work.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Founder and Instructor at Sakile Actor's Studio

(November 2022-Present)

- Teaching group classes that alternate between acting and singing classes.
- Coaching students one-on-one for acting, singing and career goals.
- Running the day-to-day business of the studio.
- Providing diversity, equity and inclusion based scholarships to 80% of my students..

Instructor at NYU Tisch School of the Arts with the Lee Strasberg Studio

(August 2022-Present)

- Currently teaches three sections of the Singing Course for the Sophomore NYU Tisch School of the Arts students through the Lee Strasberg Studio. The class focuses on storytelling through song, vocal technique and audition technique for students who have varying experience.

Instructor at Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute

(April 2024-Present)

- Currently teaches Audition and Singing Techniques for conservatory students.
- In the Audition class we work on on-camera, theatre, commercial and voiceover auditions. The goal is for students to feel prepared and confident going into any audition scenario.
- In Singing Techniques, we work on vocal technique and acting through song to students from a range of musical backgrounds.
- Teaches short-term acting business intensives and substitute teaches for the self-tape and Film/TV classes.

Freelance Teacher at Terry Knickerbocker Studio

(June 2022-Present)

- Teaching “Acting through Song” for singers at different levels, using the Meisner Technique.
- Master Class teacher for their High School summer program, where we worked on activating their storytelling, confidence and vulnerability through song.

Lecturer at The National Student Leadership Conference Acting Intensive at Columbia University

(Summer 2023)

- Led a presentation and discussion about the differences between acting on Film/TV and acting on stage for about 50 students. Went through visual and experiential differences to compare along with the students. The presentation ended with me leading a Q&A session.
- Taught a musical theatre workshop for about 50 students. A selection of those students sang a cut of a musical theatre song and were given feedback. The non-participants were also able to share what differences they noticed.

Adjunct Professor at Pace University School of Performing Arts

(August 2021-Spring 2022)

- Taught the Freshman Seminar Course for the freshman BFA Musical Theater majors, teaching and enhancing their ability to act, approach and interpret a song. The class ended with a showcase for faculty, staff, students and family that I helped to direct and organize.
- Taught an Audition Techniques course to the senior BFA Musical Theater Majors which taught students how they could approach auditions, song interpretation, build their audition books and act through song.
- Long-term substitute teaching for the Acting Scene Study Class for Sophomore BFA Musical Theater majors for one month, working with blocking, scene partner work and crafting a monologue.

Premium Tutor at Applerouth

(April 2018-January 2023)

- Tutored the SAT, ACT, ISEE, SHSAT and SSAT to middle and high school students. Worked on the strategies for the test, as well as building confidence.
- Promoted to premium tutor after only one year of working for the company.
- Was the tutor representative for the DEI group. I was the only part-time employee a part of the group at the time.
- Moderated seminars for BIPOC and first-generation college students.

Acting Teacher at Meisner in Music

(June 2020-November 2022)

- Instructor for weekly classes that rotate between Meisner Technique and Singing Classes.
- Working with students on Meisner repetition, activities, emotional prep and more through song.
- Cultivate creativity, authenticity and safety within the artistic space while showing

- students how to be present and full in auditions and on stage.
- Helped create and implement the Diversity and Inclusion Program.

Assistant Drama Teacher at Roundhouse Summer Theatre Camp

(Summer 2018)

- Assisted the lead teacher with warm-ups and drama games for students from ages 5-11. Each week I would assist the teacher and students create a performance to share with their parents at the end of each session.

Teaching Artist at Smithsonian Tools of Discovery

(June 2015-August 2018)

- Taught children ages 3-5, using creative play and emotional literacy.
- Performed a play for the children that modeled our educational approach.
- Participated in Professional Development Workshops in DC Public Schools where we taught teachers how to incorporate creative play and emotional literacy into their classrooms.

Musical Theatre/Creative Drama Teacher at The Children's Theatre Workshop

(June 2011-August 2014)

- Taught creative drama and musical theatre to children ages 5-17.
- Wrote and co-wrote songs for the final summer production.
- Did administrative work, including taking payments, opening the studio and handling parent communication.

DIRECTORIAL/WRITING EXPERIENCE

- Directed and wrote an on-camera comedy sketch called "Green Bean Casserole"
- Directed, wrote and produced a dramatic short film called "The Conflict"

REFERENCES

- Justin Cimino (e-mail) Justin@terryknickerbockerstudio.com
- Midori Nakamura (e-mail) Midorin@gmail.com
- Taylor Sheehan (e-mail) Taylor@strasberg.edu

EDUCATION

Howard University Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with a concentration in Musical Theatre
(Legacy Scholar, Magna Cum Laude)

ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Matthew Corozine Studio: Ted Wold (Meisner Technique), Chris Russell (Film/TV)

Maggie Flanigan Studio: Summer Conservatory-Charlie Sandlan, Linklater Voice-Midori Nakamura

Heidi Marshall Studio: Heidi Marshall-Film/TV Class and Acting Coach

The New York Drama Center: Jim Calder-Scene Study

Pandemonium Studio: Chris Bayes-Clown & Commedia Dell'arte, Budi Miller-Mask

Lucid Body House: Fay Simpson-Lucid Body III, Shayna Freedman-Lucid Body I-II
Encompass Collective: Julian Elijah Martinez-Grotowski Movement and Acting Coach
Chrissellene Petropolous-Vocal (Singing) Teacher