PAULS MACS

THEATRE AND FILM DIRECTOR

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360-259-3999

Areas of Expertise:

Theatre and Film Direction

Musical Theatre

New Work Development

Shakespeare

Producing

Dramaturgy

SUMMARY

Theatre and film director with more than 15 years of professional experience specializing in musical theatre, Shakespeare, and new work development.

Committed to creating work that offers healing to both audiences and the artists who make it.

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts, Directing - Theatre and Film
The New School
Year of Graduation: 2020

Attended the Graduate Directing Program at The New School in New York City. Collaborated with a cohort of two other directors, three playwrights, and fifteen actors through an intensive course of study.

- Directed world premieres: 5 plays, 2 musicals, and 2 operas
- Directed the works of Shakespeare, including a production of *Richard III* that was converted from a stage production into a Zoom film during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as a self-designed 5-person adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- Directed short films including *PLEASE HOLD*, a sci-fi dystopian piece that had to be converted into a remote filming process during the COVID-19 pandemic

Bachelor of Arts - Double Major, Drama and Comparative Literature
The University of Washington Honors Program
Year of Graduation: 2011

- Recipient of Glenn Hughes Memorial Drama Scholarship
- Recipient of School of Drama Scholarship
- Magna cum laude

EXPERIENCE

Artistic Director, Gaisma Theatre Group
Seattle, WA 2024 - Present

Gaisma Theatre Group is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit theatre company dedicated to supporting the musical theatre writers of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest.

- Founded and developed Gaisma Theatre Group from initial idea into an established Seattle-based nonprofit theatre company
- Conceived, curated, produced, and hosted new works concert showcases featuring 13 Seattle-area musical theatre writing teams
- Fostered partnerships with Seattle-area theatre companies leading to world-premiere productions of new musicals, including *Chicken Tinders*, which received 2026 Gregory Award nominations for Best Production of a Musical and Best Ensemble of a Musical
- Co-created the Village Theatre/Gaisma Theatre Group Puget Sound Writing Fellowship, providing a musical theatre writer from the Pacific Northwest with round-trip travel and accommodations to participate in the NAMT Festival of New Musicals in New York City

Guest Director, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*
Grand Valley State University - Grand Rapids, MI - Winter 2023

- Directed a production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* that reflected the Grand Valley State University community, updating, adapting, and cutting material to preserve the show's humor and joy for a 2023 audience
- Cast an inclusive production featuring BIPOC artists in roles traditionally underrepresented in productions of this musical
- Developed alternate rehearsal and performance schedules after a COVID-19 outbreak affected half the cast and all swings and understudies, resulting in the cancellation of opening weekend

Guest Director, *Newsies*
Village Theatre Kidstage, Everett WA, Summer 2022

- Directed Village Theatre Kidstage's production of *Disney's Newsies*. Also served as a Teaching Artist in Village Theatre Kidstage's year-long Institute program
- Curated a diverse and inclusive production team for *Newsies* including a Village Theatre first, an Accessibility Artist who collaborated with the production team to make the process accessible for disabled and neurodivergent students
- Directed a diverse student body of over 40 students, encouraging them to build community with their peers

EXPERIENCE (CONT.)

Artistic Associate, New York Theatre Barn
New York, New York, 2020-Present

New York Theatre Barn is an inclusive nonprofit theatre company that serves as a home for original culture-shifting musicals during incubation.

- Collaborate closely with the Artistic Director on the organization's artistic vision, including season selection, casting, and marketing design
- Lead producer and co-host of *Backstage Pass*, a podcast featuring writers and artists shaping contemporary musical theatre, with more than 15,000 downloads and guests including Michael R. Jackson, Jeff Calhoun, and Greg Kotis
- Directed a developmental reading of *Van Beethoven: Compose Yourself,* a new musical about the life of Ludwig van Beethoven
- Evaluate and discuss script submissions of more than 100 new musicals with other members of the New York Theatre Barn team

Freelance Director and Educator
2010-2026

- Directed The Concert for America at The 5th Avenue Theatre, and acted as Assistant Director on three 5th Avenue Theatre mainstage productions
- Taught Musical Theatre History at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music in Riga, Latvia
- Directed creative projects including short films, interviews, and video tutorials for Dendro Technologies, promoting their personal wellness device: CalmiGo

CONFERENCES

National Alliance for Musical Theatre Conference and Festival
New York, New York 2020-2025

ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Stage Directors and Choreographers Society
Associate Member, 2020-Present