

ROY LIGHTNER

Education

Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts – Goddard College, 2017

Concentration in Performance Creation

Thesis “The Ethics of Presence: Classroom, Rehearsal, and Performance”

Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre – Oklahoma City University, 2007

Employment History

Academic Positions

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Tenured Associate Professor

August 2017 – Present

Ithaca College

Artist in Residence/Instructor

August 2012 – 2016

Astoria School of Fine Arts

Head of Dance – pre-professional/professional division

August 2010 – July 2013

Professional Performing Arts School – New York City

Instructor of Dance (substitute)

August 2011 – May 2012

Professional Positions

Red Mountain Theatre – Birmingham, AL

Artistic Director

2022 – Present

Associate Artistic Director

2021 – 2022

Artistic Consultant

2021

Freelance Director/Choreographer – Stage Directors and Choreographers Society
2005 – present

Professional Actor – Actor’s Equity Association
2007 – 2019

MTWichita Festival Producer – Wichita, KS
2018

Transcendence Theatre Company – Sonoma, CA
Associate Artistic Director
2016 – 2017

Dancer’s Inc. – Ocean Grove, NJ
National Director/Masterclass Teacher
2011 – 2017

Astoria School of Fine Arts – Astoria, NY
Curriculum Development/Instructor
2010 – 2013

Teaching

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Associate Professor, Tenured Position (2017 – present)

Courses Taught

- THR 205: *Beginning Performance Practicum*
- THR 206: *Jazz II*
- THR 261: *Musical Theatre Showcase I*
- THR 306: *Jazz III*
- THR 401: *NYC Showcase*
- THR 405: *Advanced Performance Practicum*
- THR 411: *Musical Theatre Dance Styles I*
- THR 412: *Musical Theatre Dance Styles II*
- THR 493: *Musical Theatre Capstone*

Performance Practicum

A New Brain – Director / Choreographer

Hairspray – Director/Choreographer

25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee – Director/Choreographer

Savage (World Premiere) – Choreographer
Hair – Director/Choreographer
Disconnect – Virtual Theatre Project – Co-Director/Creator
Working – Musical Staging

Guest Lectures (topics related to musical theatre)

- Kimberly Schnormeier – *BA Capstone* – “Headshots & Resumes”
- Kelly Allison – *Freshman Cornerstone* – “Faculty Spotlight”
- Valerie Accetta – *Musical Theatre Performance II* – Rock/Pop Performance Unit
- Karen Musgrove – *Honors College* – “Passion into Action”

Ithaca College

Instructor (2013 – 2016)
Artist in Residence (2012)

Courses Taught

- DNCE 13100: *Jazz Dance I*
- DNCE 13200: *Jazz Dance II*
- DNCE 14100: *Tap Dance I*
- DNCE 14200: *Tap Dance II*
- DNCE 22100: *Modern Dance III*
- DNCE 23100: *Jazz Dance III*
- DNCE 32100: *Modern Dance IV*
- DNCE 33100: *Jazz Dance IV*
- DNCE 36200: *Dance for the Musical Stage II*
- THEA 43400: *Musical Theatre Workshop: Audition and Advanced*
- THEA 13900: *Rehearsal & Performance*
 - Legally Blonde* – Choreographer
 - Gone Missing* – Choreographer
 - How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* – Choreographer
 - Flight of the Heart: “Under the Covers”* – Creator/Choreographer
 - A Chorus Line* – Associate Director/Co-Choreographer
 - Dogfight* – Choreographer

Cornell University

Guest Lecturer (2015-2016)
Workshop on “Creating Musical Theatre,” the integration of story, script, rehearsal and creative process.

Oklahoma City University

Summer Musical Theatre Program Master Class Teacher (2011-2012)

Classes Taught

- Audition Techniques – interpretation/presentation of vocal auditions
- Contemporary Jazz Dance

North East School of the Arts – San Antonio, TX

Guest Master Class Teacher/Choreographer (2011 – present)

Annual guest choreographer to create/set original work on dance majors

Classes Taught

- Audition Techniques – Interpretation/presentation of college vocal auditions
- Contemporary Jazz Dance

Dancers Inc.

National Director and Master Teacher (2010 – present)

Regional and National Events: responsibilities included director of show both stage and front of house, master class teacher.

Classes Taught

- Contemporary Jazz Dance
- Musical Theatre Dance
- Jazz Dance

Astoria School of Fine Arts

Curriculum Development/Teacher (2010–2013)

Created the Contemporary Dance and Jazz Dance curriculum for the Professional, Pre-Professional, and Youth Development Programs

Classes Taught

- Contemporary Jazz
- Jazz Dance
- Musical Theatre Dance

Professional Performing Arts School – New York City

Instructor of Dance (2011–2012)

Introductory and Intermediate instruction of Jazz Dance technique to Musical Theatre Majors

Classes Taught

- Jazz Dance
- Musical Theatre Dance

Platinum Dance Experience

Master Teacher and Adjudicator (2009–2010)

National Tour: Convention/Competition Adjudicator

Classes Taught

- Musical Theatre Dance
- Jazz Dance

Theatre Companies/Performing Arts Schools (2012 – Present)

Spotlight Acting Academy	Edmond, OK	Guest Teacher
Way Off Broadway	Fairfield, IA	Guest Teacher
Dance Unlimited	Edmond, OK	Guest Teacher
Miller-Marley School of Dance and Voice	Overland Park, KS	Master Class Teacher
Wisconsin Rapids Theatre	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	Master Class Teacher
Music Theatre for Young People	Wichita, KS	Master Class Teacher
Music Theatre for Young People	Kansas City, KS	Master Class Teacher

Private Studios/Conventions (2012 – Present)

Master Teacher for over 50 private dance studios, conventions, intensives in: Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas

Creator/Director/Choreographer – Academic

University of Alabama at Birmingham

<i>A New Brain</i>	2022	Director / Choreographer
<i>Godspell</i>	2021	Director / Choreographer
<i>Broadway Bros Tour</i>	2022	Creator / Director / Choreographer
<i>Disconnect</i>	2020	Co-Director/Facilitator
<i>Secret Garden</i>	2020	Mentor to Student Choreographer
<i>Hair</i>	2019	Director/Choreographer
<i>Leading Ladies of Broadway Tour</i>	2019	Creator/Director/Choreographer
<i>Savage</i>	2019	Choreographer
<i>25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	2018	Director/Choreographer
<i>Broadway Today Tour</i>	2018	Creator/Director/Choreographer
<i>Hairspray</i>	2018	Co - Director/Choreographer
<i>Working</i>	2017	Choreographer
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	2017	Mentor to Student Choreographer

Arizona State University – Lyric Opera Theatre

Legally Blonde 2018 Director/Choreographer

Ithaca College

A Chorus Line 2015 Associate Director/ Choreographer

Dogfight 2015 Choreographer

Under the Covers 2014 Creator/Director/Choreographer

How to Succeed ... 2014 Choreographer

Gone Missing 2013 Choreographer

Legally Blonde 2013 Choreographer

CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Director/Choreographer/Creator – SDC

Red Mountain Theatre

Artistic Director (Sept. 2022 – present)

- Deliver RMT's artistic mission through the development and execution of onstage programming, education initiatives, new work development, and community engagement efforts in keeping with the organization's core values while effectively managing organizational financial risk.
- Research and present annual season programming with an eye toward content balance, fiscal responsibility, artistic creativity, diversity and inclusion, audience and revenue growth, and the, lead key staff members in collaborative selection process.
- In conjunction with the Executive Director and Managing Director, develop and assume direct responsibility for determining annual artistic and programmatic functional expenses and controlling those expenditures.
- Direct Reports: Director of Production, Supervisor of Music & Sound, Company Manager, Director of Youth Performance, Academy Manager, Community Engagement Manager, Education Coordinator

Associate Artistic Director (Aug. 2021 – Aug. 2022)

- Collaboration and coordination in the commissioning of new works.
- Collaborate in the planning and development of artistic programming to open theatre and launch into the upcoming season.

- Generation of new ideas for art delivery amid the pandemic as well as beyond it.
- Brainstorming assistance with the Director of Education of current to long-range planning for RMT's education programs.

Artistic Consultant (Feb – Aug 2021)

GOOGLE (2019)

Created, Directed, and Choreographed an immersive theatrical event at San Francisco City Hall for 3,000 Google employees.

MTWichita Festival Producer (2018)

Artistically coordinated and created the internal infrastructure of MTWichita's newly created Festival Producer position. This position produced 8 events in conjunction with MTWichita's mainstage season focusing on community and social engagement.

Transcendence Theatre Company

Associate Artistic Director (2016 – 2017)

- Oversaw all creative programming for both year-round and summer season. (8 productions yearly)
- Handled all hiring of creative teams, production teams and actors for entire season.
- Direct Reports included: Director of Education, Artistic Associates, Production Manager; and Company Management.
- Handled all production and event budgets with the CFO.
- Directed and/or Choreographed productions.
- Worked alongside the marketing department and external designers to provide artistic vision for all marketing materials including final approval of all material before release.
- Created internal and external events for the company including fundraisers, corporate events, immersive experiences, and community outreach programs.
- Co-Authored grants for community engagement and educational programming.
- Created and implemented a paid and grant funded 17-person Apprentice and Internship program, ranging from high school to graduate students, to provide both professional advancement and portfolio development.

Professional Theatrical Productions

<i>Shrek</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Director	2023
<i>Bright Star</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Director / Choreographer	2023

<i>ONCE</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Director / Choreographer	2022
<i>Holiday Spectacular</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Co-Creator/Director/Choreographer	2022
<i>The Roaring 20s</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Creator/Director/Choreographer	2021
<i>Grand Opening</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Creator/Director/Choreographer	2021
<i>Holiday Spectacular</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Co-Creator/Director/Choreographer	2021
<i>Those Dancin' Feet</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Creator/Director/Choreographer	2019
<i>Pippin</i>	Music Theatre of Kansas City	Director/Choreographer	2019
<i>Holiday Spectacular 2019</i>	Red Mountain Theatre	Choreographer	2019
<i>Singin' in the Rain</i>	Red Mountain Theatre (JTF)	Choreographer	2019
<i>Defying Gravity: The Songs of Stephen Schwartz</i>	MTWicihta	Creator/Director/Choreographer Artistic Director: Wayne Bryan	2018
<i>Newsies</i>	New London Barn	Choreographer* Artistic Director: Keith Coughlin <small>*New Hampshire Theatre Award Nom.</small>	2018
<i>Fantastical Family Night</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Director/Creator	2017
<i>SOUNDSTAGE: The Hollywood Musical Project</i>	Music Theatre of Kansas City	Creator/Director/Choreographer	2017
<i>Best of Broadway Under the Stars</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Director/Creator	2017
<i>Sonoma Strong</i>	Green Room 42 NYC	Creator	2017
<i>This Magic Moment</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Director/Creator	2016
<i>Wine Country Speakeasy</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Director/Creator Artistic Director: Amy Miller	2016
<i>Gala Celebration</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Director/Creator	2016
<i>Music of The Night</i>	Music Theatre of KC	Director/Creator	2016
<i>Joy to the World</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Associate Director/Co-Choreographer	2016

<i>Superheroes In Love</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Director	2015
<i>Oh, What A Night!</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Creator/Director* <i>*Broadway World SF Best Director</i>	2015
<i>Miss Saigon</i>	Way Off Broadway	Director/Choreographer Artistic Director: Randal West	2014
<i>Bring It On</i>	Music Theatre Kansas City	Director/Choreographer	2014
<i>Hairspray</i>	Music Theatre Kansas City	Director*/Choreographer <i>*Broadway World KC Best Director</i>	2014
<i>Music of the Night</i>	Transcendence Theatre Company	Choreographer	2014
<i>Acting Out</i>	Hangar Theatre	Choreographer Artistic Director: Jen Waldman	2014
<i>Dance The Night Away</i>	Kitchen Theatre	Choreographer Artistic Director: Rachel Lampert	2014
<i>Lucky To Be Me</i>	New York City Opera	Asst. Choreographer Ted Sperling /Peggy Hickey	2013
<i>Hound of the Baskervilles</i>	Cape Playhouse New Jersey Rep. Theatre Penguin Rep Depot Theatre	Tango Choreographer Dir. Mark Shanahan	2013
<i>Thoroughly Modern Millie</i>	Music Theatre of Kansas City	Director/Choreographer	2013
<i>Hairspray</i>	Way Off Broadway	Director/Choreographer	2012
<i>Music Man</i>	Geva Theatre	Asst. Choreographer Dir. Mark Cuddy/Peggy Hickey	2012
<i>No Way to Treat a Lady</i>	Cape Playhouse	Asst. Director Dir. Mark Shanahan	2012
<i>Magical Mystery Tour</i>	NYC Floating Theatre	Choreographer	2011
<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Music Theatre of Kansas City	Director/Choreographer	2011
<i>Dirty Rotten Scoundrels</i>	Music Theatre of Kansas City	Director/Choreographer	2010
<i>To Hell And Back</i>	Ars Nova	Choreographer	2010

Commercials/Industrials/Concerts

<i>Chicago TV Commercial</i>	Transcendence Theatre Co.	Director/Choreographer	2020
<i>IN YOUR EYES</i> original ballet	Miller-Marley Kansas City	Creator/Choreographer	2015
<i>A Prom Piece</i>	NY Jazz Enterprise	Selected Choreographer	2013
<i>Marry You</i>	B.C. Beat NYC	Selected Choreographer	2012
<i>Good News</i> , a pop show	Oklahoma State Fair	Choreographer	2010
<i>Stamp It Up</i>	Oklahoma Centennial	Director/Choreographer	2010

Acting Experience – AEA (selected credits)

Theatrical

<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Seymour	Red Mountain Theatre Company Dir. Keith Cromwell
<i>You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	Charlie Brown	Red Mountain Theatre Company Dir. Bradford Forehand
<i>Babes In Toyland</i>	Football Player	Avery Fisher, Lincoln Center Choreo. Peggy Hickey
<i>Lucky To Be Me</i>	Vocal Standby	New York City Opera Dir. Ted Sperling/Peggy Hickey
<i>A Man of No Importance</i>	Alfie Byrne	Music Theatre Kansas City
<i>The Polar Express</i>	Principal Vocal Soloist	Kansas City Symphony
<i>Peanuts</i>	Principal Vocal Soloist	Kansas City Symphony
<i>7 Brides for 7 Brothers</i>	Gideon	Music Theatre of Wichita Wayne Bryan/Peggy Hickey
<i>You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	Charlie Brown	STAGES St. Louis Dir. Ben Nordstrom
<i>John & Jen</i>	John	OKC Musical Theatre
<i>CATS</i>	Mungojerrie	Music Theatre of Wichita
<i>You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	Charlie Brown	Oklahoma City Rep. Dir. Jonathan Beck Reed
<i>Hairspray</i>	IQ	Music Theatre of Wichita Dir. Greg Graham
<i>Damn Yankees</i>	Vernon	Music Theatre of Wichita
<i>Seussical</i>	Wickersham u/s Horton	Music Theatre of Wichita

<i>Phantom</i>	Ensemble	Music Theatre of Wichita
<i>The Music Man</i>	Ensemble/Dance Capt.	GEVA Theatre Dir. Mark Cuddy
<i>Peter Pan</i>	Ensemble	Alabama Shakespeare Festival
<i>Stand Alone</i>	Man 1	NYU Tisch School of the Arts
<i>B List of Broadway</i>	Principle Soloist	Kansas City Fringe Festival
<i>Joseph ... Dreamcoat</i>	Benjamin	Music Theatre of Wichita
<i>West Side Story</i>	Baby John	Music Theatre of Wichita
<i>Beauty and the Beast</i>	Whisk/Ensemble	Music Theatre of Wichita
<i>Phantom</i>	Ensemble	Music Theatre of Wichita
<i>Aida</i>	Ensemble	Music Theatre of Wichita

Conference Presentations/Workshops

Red Mountain Theatre Company (2020)

- “College Audition/Pre-Screen tips and tricks”

Miller-Marley School of Dance & Voice (2020)

- “Navigating College Auditions and Pre-Screens during COVID 19”

Southeastern Theatre Conference (2019)

- “All About Attack” – Commercial dance workshop

ArtPlay (2019)

- “Conquering the Dance Audition”

Music Theatre of Kansas City (2019)

- “Preparing for College Musical Theatre Auditions”

Music Theatre of Wichita (2018)

- “Preparing for College Audition Workshop”

Alabama Conference of Theatre (2018)

- Keynote Moderator – “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Theatre”

Southeastern Theatre Conference (2018)

- “Finding Your Fierce” – Commercial dance workshop
- “Professional Audition Roundtable: Thoughts from Behind the Table” – Panelist

Press Coverage

Broadway World (8/31/2021)	"Birmingham's Red Mountain Theatre Announces Significant Staffing Additions"
UAB eReporter (8/27/2021)	"UAB's Lightner Honored by Alabama Conference of Theatre"
UAB eReporter (5/5/2201)	"National Honors Award to Theatre UAB's Original Production 'Disconnect' by KCACTF"
Fox 6 News (11/19/2020)	"UAB Students Present Original Play 'Disconnect'" – Good Day Alabama
Iron City INK (11/19/2020)	"UAB Briefs: COVID-19 testing and 'Disconnect' Online"
Backstage (11/2020)	EPA/ECC Singers Casting Call "Chicago"
BWW Review (10/18/2020)	"Peace, Love, and the Sun Shines in Theatre UAB's HAIR: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical at Alys Stephens Center"
Sonoma Index-Tribune (08/8/2020)	"Unique New Transcendence Dance Show Debuts" – Aria Schuler
Pacific Sun (08/22/2019)	Song & Dance "Transcendence Theatre Company busts out some serious moves for their latest production"
Sonoma Index-Tribune (08/19/2019)	"Big Step Forward for Transcendence" – Bill Lynch
An Aisle Seat Review (08/17/2019)	"'Those Dancin' Feet' Kicks It Up A Notch" – Cari Lynn Pace
Sonoma Valley Sun (08/16/2019)	"Broadway pros show their 'Dancin' Feet'"
Napa Valley Register (07/31/2019)	"Transcendence Theatre Set to Open 'Those Dancin' Feet'"
Arts KC Go	"MTKC Pro presents the 2013 Broadway Revival Version of 'Pippin'"
B'ham Now (05/22/2019)	"You'll ROFL at Little Shop of Horrors"
BWW Review (05/17/2019)	"A Monster, Motown, and More in the 'Little Shop of Horrors' at Red Mountain Theatre Company"
Eagle Times (08/9/2018)	"Playhouse presents N.H. premiere of Disney's 'Newsies'"
Fox 6 News (04/10/2018)	"Hairspray at UAB" – Good Day Alabama
Talkin' Broadway Regional Review: Phoenix	"Legally Blonde The Musical" – Gil Benbrook

AL.com	“Theatre UAB presents ‘Hairspray’ through April 15”
The Kenwood Press	“Fantastical Family Night”
Imagination Lane – San Francisco North Bay Theatre & Dance (04/4/2017)	“Transcendence Music and Dance Inspires”
Imagination Lane – San Francisco North Bay Theatre & Dance (12/06/2016)	“‘A Broadway Christmas’ in Santa Rosa”
The Kenwood Press (09/01/2016)	“Transcendence’s ‘Gala Celebration’ wraps up season”
The Kenwood Press (06/01/2016)	“Broadway Returns to Wine Country”
Ithaca Voice (11/12/2015)	“Ithaca College debuts ensemble piece ‘A Chorus Line’”
Ithaca Journal	“Ithaca College Theatre to soar with ‘Flight of the Heart’”

Awards – Honors – Nominations

The Dorothy Schwartz Outstanding Educator Award – Alabama Conference of Theatre, 2021

Special Achievement in Directing (Disconnect) – KCACTF National Honors, 2021

Special Achievement in Overall Production Design (Disconnect) – KCACTF National Honors, 2021

Kennedy Center Citizen Artist Award (Disconnect) – KCACTF National Honors, 2021

Excellence in Direction Award (Disconnect) – KCACTF Region IV, 2020

Faculty Development Grant – University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2019

Excellence in Choreography Award (Savage) – KCACTF Region IV, 2019

College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Humanities Grant – University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2018

New Hampshire Theatre Award Nominee for Best Choreography (Newsies), 2018

AriZoni Award Nominee of Excellence for Direction (Legally Blonde), 2018

AriZoni Award Nominee of Excellence for Choreography (Legally Blonde), 2018

Best Choreographer of a Musical (Legally Blonde) – National Youth Arts, 2018

Excellence in Choreography Award (Hairspray) – KCACTF Region IV, 2018

Best Director of a Musical (Oh, What A Night!) – Broadway World San Francisco, 2016

Best Director of a Musical (Hairspray) – Broadway World Kansas City Award, 2014

Service

Regional Service

2020 – 2021

- Alabama Conference of Theatre Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee
- Judge Scholarship Auditions at Trumbauer Festival
- Adjudication of Secondary Individual Event, Trumbauer Festival
- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Respondent

2019 – 2020

- Chair of College/University Division, Alabama Conference of Theatre
 - Hosted Pre-Screen Auditions for SETC at UAB
 - Author of Alabama Conference of Theatre Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement.

2018 – 2019

- Vice-Chair of College/University Division, Alabama Conference of Theatre
 - Hosted Pre-Screen Auditions for SETC at UAB

2017 – 2018

- Judge Scholarship Auditions at Trumbauer Festival

Service at The University of Alabama at Birmingham

University

- Mental Health and Wellness Faculty Advisory Board (2018 – present)

College of Arts and Sciences

- Faculty Affairs Committee (2018 – 2020)

Department of Theatre

- Search Committee for Voice & Movement Professor (2021)
- Advisor for BFA Musical Theatre Majors (2017 – present)

- Returning Student Auditions co-coordinator (2019 – present)
- Incoming Student Auditions co-coordinator (2019 – present)
- Recruitment for the Musical Theatre BFA Program including auditioning perspective students: on campus; Southeastern Theatre Conference; Florida Theatre Conference; Trumbauer Festival, Musical Theatre Kansas City Showcase; CAP Auditions; Greater San Antonio Area Auditions; Music Theatre of Kansas City; and Chicago Unified Auditions (2017 – present)
- Arranged Guest Artists: Adam Cates, Chip Abbott, Desi Oakley, Krystina Alabado, Billy Bustamente (2017 – present)
- Faculty Advisor for student individual studies (2017 – present)
- Prepare students for national, regional, and conference auditions such as Southeastern Theatre Conference, Unified Professional Theatre Auditions, Midwest Theatre Auditions, Strawhat, and A1.

Service at Ithaca College

Department of Theatre Arts

- Senior Class NYC Showcase – Selection, Preparation, Staging, and Coaching of material. (2014 – 2016)
- Incoming Freshman Class Auditions/Pre-Screen Application Review (2014 – 2016)