

JENNIFER N. CASTELLO

Omaha, NE

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EDUCATION

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY	June 2010
BFA in Playwriting and English with a Literature Concentration	
Sigma Tau Delta (President)	
Phi Kappa Phi	
GPA: 3.95	
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OMAHA	May 2011
Teaching Certification (Secondary Education English)	
TAP Program	
NSEA Member	
GPA: 4.0	
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OMAHA	May 2013
MS in Secondary Education with a Focus in English	
Summa Cum Laude	
GPA: 4.0	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

DRAMA TEACHER 2011-Present

Omaha North High School

- In charge of program as sole drama teacher in English department.
- Directed and taught program that incorporated over 100 students grades 9-12
- Responsible for drama club, fundraising, community involvement, outreach, International Thespian Society
- Scheduled, directed, designed, and taught full theatre season of four plays and musicals.
- Curriculum and teaching of Drama I-II, Advanced Drama, Stagecraft, and Advanced Stagecraft. Curriculum included playwriting, acting, dramaturgy, directing, musical theatre, film, marketing, design, construction, and theatre history.
- Responsible for classroom management, program management, unit plans, assessment, parent communication, and team development.

ENGLISH/DRAMA INSTRUCTOR 2010-2011

Millard West High School Student Teaching/Paraprofessional through TAP Program

- Taught grades 9 and 10 English. Was responsible for classroom management, unit plans, assessment, parent communication, and staff development.
- Worked as assistant in drama department under Brooke Phillips. Was responsible for teaching grades 9 through 12 Drama I and Drama II, assisted on stage plays, chaperoned district one-acts and Thespian Festivals, and led workshops on playwriting.
- Involved in ADL's No Place for Hate outreach.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (cont.)

CONTRACT TEACHING ARTIST May 2005-Present

Omaha Theatre Company for Young People

- Taught children 6-18 the fundamentals of theatre
- Taught and planned in Residency/Community Outreach with Omaha Public Schools and Non-Profit Organizations
- Prepared lesson plans and schedules and led classes in playwriting, teamwork, and improvisation
- Provided support for children with special needs

ENGLISH TUTOR October, 2009

Von Steuben High School, Chicago, IL

- Tutored students on their college application essays through their writing center.

CREATIVE WRITING TEACHER July 2009

Creative Writing Summer Camp, Bellevue Public Schools, Bellevue, NE

- Taught students ages 12-24 fundamentals of fiction and dramatic literature
- Prepared syllabus, lesson plans, classroom activities revolving around five elements of fiction

CREATIVE WRITING TEACHER June 2009

Fine Lines Summer Writing Camp, Omaha, NE

- Taught high school students ages 13-18 fundamentals of creative writing
- Prepared lesson plans, workshops, and homework concerning creative non-fiction, fiction, poetry, and dramatic literature.

SUBURBAN CAMPUS WRITING TEACHER 2008-2010

DePaul University, Chicago, IL

- Led a Saturday morning writing class for adult and special needs university students
- Prepared lesson plans involving rhetoric and composition
- Assisted students in brainstorming, writing, and revising individual assignments

WRITING TUTOR 2008-2010

DePaul Center for Writing-Based Learning, Chicago, IL

- Tutored college students and university faculty in one-on-one sessions.
- Assisted tutees in brainstorming, writing, and revising individual assignments.
- Led the Creative Writing Initiative to provide creative writing tutors to the center, including planning and leading in-services and workshops.
- Trained in working with students with English as a second language and learning disabilities.

PLAYWRITING/ EDUCATION INTERNSHIP Summer 2007

Omaha Theatre Company for Young People, Omaha, NE

- Taught children 6-18 the fundamentals of theatre
- Prepared lesson plans and schedules and led classes in playwriting, teamwork, and improvisation
- Provided support for children with special needs

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (cont.)

CAMP COUNSELOR Summer 2007

Josh Brockington Theatre Camp, Platte River State Park, NE

- Oversaw cabin of girls and taught children ages 8-18 fundamentals of theatre, primarily playwriting and improvisation, along with various athletic activities.
- Provided a safe environment for children
- CPR Training

VOLUNTEER LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER'S ASSISTANT Fall 2006

San Miguel Middle School, Chicago, IL

- Worked at an inner-city school with children ages 11-14.
- Assisted in grading papers, preparing and overseeing class activities revolving around grammar, reading comprehension, and researching scholarships and choices for high school.

EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP 2005-2006

Omaha Theatre Company for Young People, Omaha, NE

- Wrote commissioned TYA script
- Assisted Fortune 500 Company in creating a script to raise awareness about healthy eating.
- Taught children 9-18 the fundamentals of playwriting

DRAMA TEACHER'S ASSISTANT 2005-2006

Omaha Central High School, Omaha, NE

- Worked with children ages 15-18 in a beginning drama class
- Assisted in grading papers, preparing and overseeing class activities
- Led classes involving playwriting, improvisation, and theatre games

CENTRAL CRANES OUTREACH PROJECT FOUNDER Summer 2005

Omaha Theatre Company for Young People, Omaha Public Schools

- Allowed public school students to view "A Thousand Cranes" for free.
- Public Schools participated in contributing folded cranes to production
- Spread awareness through classroom presentations about Sadako Sasaki

CREATIVE WRITING/ENGLISH EXPERIENCE

EDITOR/PUBLISHER'S ASSISTANT 2009

WriteLife, LLC under Cindy Grady

- Guest editor for small publishing company.
- Work with manuscripts and their writers to discuss revision.
- Primary Fantasy/Science Fiction Editor
- Creator and Manager of Writer's Workshop at the Shoppe, a community outreach writing workshop program

 CREATIVE WRITING/ENGLISH EXPERIENCE (cont.)

 CREATIVE WRITING/EDUCATION INTERNSHIP Summer 2009

Fine Lines Writing Journal

- Teach children ages 12-24 creative writing
- Assist in selection of manuscripts for publication in journal

 INTERNSHIP AT CREATIVE WRITING CONFERENCE July 2009

DePaul Summer Writer's Conference, Chicago, IL

- Assist in Fiction Writing Workshops
- Aid to Guest Speakers
- Judge for Scholarship Competition
- Worked Marketing Campaign and Ticket Sales

 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF 2008-2009

Threshold Literary Magazine, DePaul University, Chicago, IL

- Oversee the production of a university literary magazine.
- Create and collaborate with a staff of editors.
- Edit manuscripts and work with authors.
- Publication of magazine.

 CREATOR OF CREATIVE WRITING INITIATIVE Fall 2008

Student Run Initiative, DePaul Center for Writing-Based Learning, Chicago, IL

- Bring creative writing community together through workshops, networking, and creative support
- Free writing workshop for students
- Head and plan Creative Writing In-service for Writing Center tutors
- Assist in finding publishing opportunities

 FOUNDER OF "THE WRITER'S GUILD" 2008-2010

The Writer's Guild at DePaul University, Chicago, IL

- Created and headed the on-campus writing club.
- Organized events including outings to hear Philip Pullman and Lois Lowry speak.
- Raised awareness for Creative Writing across campus alongside the Creative Writing Initiative.

 PUBLICATION/PRODUCTION (selected)

<i>Dr. Bill Shakes' Omnibus</i>	Anthology	Doctor Fantastique	May 2012
<i>The Messiah of Howard Street</i>	Novel	WriteLife, LLC	November 2009
<i>To Arms</i>	One-Act	Circus Theatricals	May-June 2009 Los Angeles, CA
<i>Tiny Dancer</i>	One-Act	Say Yes! Productions	June 2009 Chicago, IL
<i>You, Me, and Bobby</i>	One-Act	American Theatre Co.	May 2009 Chicago, IL
<i>Shiloh, Shake the World</i>	Full-Length	Wrights of Spring	May 2009 Chicago, IL

PUBLICATION/PRODUCTION (selected cont.)

<i>Shiloh</i>	One-Act	Chicago Dramatists	April 2009 Chicago, IL
<i>The King's Daughters</i>	Full-Length	St. Benedictine	January, 2008 Ft. Lauderdale, FL
<i>A Speech for Thomas Hawkins</i>	Full-Length	Wrights of Spring	May, 2008 Chicago, IL
"The Historian's Daughter"	Short Story	Fine Lines Magazine	Fall, 2008

REFERENCES

Available upon request