

CURRICULUM VITAE

Mark Valdez

PROFESSIONAL THEATRE (Selective) *Denotes World Premiere

Mark-n-Sparks

The Most Beautiful Home...Maybe by Mark Valdez & ashley sparks* 2021

New Jersey Performing Arts Center/Childsplay Theater

Chato's Kitchen by Gary Soto, devised production by Mark Valdez* 2019

Trinity Rep (Providence, RI)

A Christmas Carol by Dickens 2018

Like Sheep to Water by Curt Columbus from Lope de Vega's *Fuente Ovejuna** 2017

Mixed Blood Theater (Minneapolis, MN)

Roe by Lisa Loomer 2019

Vietgone by Qui Nguyen 2017

DJ Latinidad's Latino Dance Party, multiple writers, created by Mark Valdez* 2016

Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World by Yussef El-Guini 2015

Cloudlands, Adam Gwon (Composer), Octavio Solis (Libretto) 2014

Elemenoe Pea by Molly Smith Metzler 2013

Learn to be Latina by Enrique Urieta 2012

The Pajama Game adapted and translated by Raul Ramos and Mark Valdez* 2007

Alliance Theater (Atlanta, CA)

Sit-In by Pearl Cleage* 2020

A Road to a Dream by Mark Valdez, from Elmer Rice's *Street Scene** 2017

Topia: U or Dis by Mark Valdez* 2015

Around Atlanta on \$80 by Mark Valdez, from Jules Verne* 2010

MACLA (San Jose, CA)

DJ Latinidad's Latino Dance Party, multiple writers, created by Mark Valdez 2017

Teatro del Pueblo (Minneapolis, MN)

Curiosidad by Jose Cruz Gonzalez* 2017

Cornerstone Theater Company (Los Angeles, CA)

Highland Park is Here by Mark Valdez, directed by Michael John Garces 2020

Flor by Will MacAdams* 2012

Making Paradise by Jacobson, LaPuma and Kurup* 2011

Blood Wedding by Garcia Lorca, adapted by Peter Howard* 2005

*You Can't Take it with You: An American-Muslim Remix** 2004

by Kaufman and Hart, adapted by Peter Howard 2004

Order My Steps by Tracey Scott Wilson* 2004

Mary Shelley's Santa Claus by Erik Ehn* 2002

Always Running adapted by Jose Cruz Gonzalez* 2002

La Pena Cultural Center (Berkeley, CA)/The Village (Los Angeles, CA)

Talking Taboo by Adelina Anthony and D'Lo* 2012

Native Voices

Weksuya by Vincent Whipple* 2008

Native Skin by Bret Jones (Dramaturg)* 2008

Teatro Vision (San Jose, CA)

Bodas de Sangre by Federico Garcia Lorca 2007

Electricidad by Luis Alfaro 2006

San Francisco Hip-Hop Festival/East West Players

Down & Out by Melinda Corazon Foley 2005

Center Theater Group/Ricardo Montalban Theater*East LA Days/Fellini Nights* by Maricela Norte and Josh Kun

2005

ARTS LEADERSHIP/ARTS ADMINISTRATION**Network of Ensemble Theaters (NET)**

2007-2015

Executive Director

NET is a national community of artists and organizations committed to co-creation. Oversaw the overall sustainability and visioning for the network, and organized local and national constituents and partners. During my tenure:

- Membership grew from 50 to 400
- Operating budget grew from \$60,000 to \$900,000
- Staff grew from one to four
- Launched grant program (NET/TEN) supported by Mellon Foundation
- Implemented national performance festival (MicroFest USA) supported by Kresge Foundation; work included city selection, artist curating (national and international), discursive/dialogue design, and community organizing.

Mixed Blood Theater

2011 & 2015

Acting Artistic Director/Producer

Served as Acting Artistic Director while Artist Director Jack Reuler was away for outside projects. Managed and worked with staff and regular operations and oversaw production.

Cornerstone Theater Company*Acting Artistic Director*

2004

Served as Acting Artistic Director for a season during Artistic Director Bill Rauch's eight-month sabbatical. Implemented new four-week Institute program for on-site collaborations in rural communities.

Associate Artistic Director

2000-2005

Worked with Artistic Director to oversee artistic programming, including season selection. Produced company projects, hired artists, selected venues, planned season, worked with consensus-run ensemble, supervised Manager of Community Partnerships, assisted with grant writing and reporting. Developed a two-day Intensive Workshop on Cornerstone's renowned methodology.

Theater Communications Group (TCG)*Board Member*

2010-2016

Member of the Board of Trustees for the national service organization for the American Theater.

Performing Arts Alliance (PAA)*Board Member*

2014-2016

Member of the Board of Trustees. The PAA is a coalition of performing arts advocates. The Board is comprised of representatives of the national performing arts service organizations, including Opera America, Dance USA, and League of American Orchestras.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING/CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (selective)*Opera America*

Engagement Consultant for Opera America providing professional development opportunities for the OA members through regional workshops, national presentations, case study and research development, and general advisor on OA engagement programs and support services.

Woodruff Arts Center Fellow

Work with the Alliance Theater to deepen ties and expand collaboration opportunities with select Atlanta neighborhoods, while also building organizational infrastructure and capacity to sustain and expand community engagement initiatives.

Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Building Demand for the Arts

Artist is residence with Mixed Blood to create and implement engagement strategies in the neighborhood of Cedar-Riverside, which is 80% African (Somali) and Muslim, to create relationships and participation paths for community arts.

Center for Performance and Civic Practice

Contributing consultant to CPCP, working with clients across the country, such as the Cuyahoga County Arts Council, LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation), and EMCArts, to build engagement strategies and provide professional development for local artists in civic practice.

NET/MicroFest USA

Community-based, hyper-local events, part festival/part think-tank that explored how the arts impact community, using the host community as a live case study. Over an 18-month period, enlisted local residents, artists, and partners to participate and contribute to the events, co-create discursive events, and program performance festival which reached about 5,000 audience members.

Cornerstone Theater Company

Community organizing for this theater company that creates plays with/for/by communities in Los Angeles and across the country. I was the first person entering the community to establish partnerships and uncover local stories. Also helped create systems to thoughtfully exit the community at the conclusion of a project.

INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS**CEC ArtsLink**

2015

Delegation to Russia (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Nizhny Novgorod) to deliver speech and offer workshops to Museum professionals on social and civic engaged artmaking.

Growtowski Year

2009

Celebration of Growtowski's Centennial. Offered workshop to U.S. delegation and participated in and attended corresponding international theater festival.

Santiago A Mil

2008

Sponsored by the Mellon Foundation/Arts Presenters, delegation of U.S. producers and presenters invited to build relationships between US and Latin-American presenters.

WORKSHOP LEADER (selective)**Los Angeles Music Center**

Community building/engagement strategy session for Music Center employees.

New York University, Tisch School of the Arts/Wagner School of Public Policy

Workshop for students of both colleges on the intersection of Arts and Public Policy

Lincoln Center Theater

Workshop leader on methods for community-based artmaking.

PANEL ACTIVITY (selective)

Radar LA Festival

Opening plenary session: Manifestos on the Future of Theater

Theater Communications Group

Plenary session presentation: Creating Theater in a Polarized World

National Performance Network

Panelist discussing "aesthetics and community values"

NYU Wagner School of Public Policy and Tisch School of Arts

Panelist exploring the intersection of Art and Public Policy

Theater Communications Group

Panelist discussing audience development strategies for New Generations Program.

Southwest Arts Conference

Panelist discussing "Arts and Community Value"

REDCAT Theater at Walt Disney Concert Hall, CalArts

President's Ideas and Dialogue Series. Inaugural event. "Theater of generosity"

Ford Foundation's Animating Democracy Initiative

Panelist discussing the dynamics of Art Based Civic Dialogue.

Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School in New York City

Panelist discussing issues regarding collaboration in the arts.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (selective)

LA Arts Recovery Fund

Grant review panelist to distribute \$38.5M to LA arts and culture organizations. 2021

National Arts Policy Roundtable

Artists, Policymakers, Foundations, and Scientists convene to address climate change. 2019

New England Foundation for the Arts

Advisor for the National Theater Project grant program. 2015-2019

Bush Foundation

Facilitate grantee meeting to develop new funding programs. 2017

Woodruff Arts Center Educators Conference

Keynote speaker and workshop leader. 2017

Opera America

Professional development for opera companies around community engagement. 2016

American for the Arts/The Nathan Cummings Foundation

Learning Lab: The aesthetics of social justice art. 2015.

ArtPlace America

Panelist and site visitor for grant program. 2015

Creative Capital

Panelist for Performing Arts grants/awards. 2015

Irvine Foundation

Facilitator for New California Arts Funds cohort. 2014

LA Latino Arts Alliance

Keynote speaker at annual conference. 2014

Cornerstone Theater Company

Consultant. Mission and vision planning. 2014

Member, Board of Directors - President. 2017-present.

Los Angeles County Internship Program

Grant panelist. 2011 and 2014

Discussion leader and mentor and liaison for 10-12 interns each year. 2003-2004

City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department

Grant panelist for Individual Artist Grant program. 2004

National Endowment for the Arts

Panelist: Arts in Education ('03); Access to the Arts ('07, '09); Art Works ('09); Our Town ('14)

Ford Foundation

Consultant for Artography project, examining arts, culture and shifting demographics. 2005

Site visitor/evaluator for Ford Foundation funding program recipients. 2003

American Festival Project

Served on budget and finance committee. 2001-2002

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS/TEACHING (Selective)**Kent State – Visiting Guest Director**

2020

Directing: *Richard II*

University of Washington - Guest Artist

2018

Directing: *Perestroika*

CalArts/Center for New Performance - Adjunct Faculty

2015-2016

Producer/Producing Mentor on *Shelter* by Marissa Chibas

Cal Poly, Pomona - Guest Artist & Adjunct Faculty

2011-2014

Teaching: *Introduction to Theater*

University of California, Riverside - Artist-in-Residence

2000-2009

Teaching: *Perspectives in Latino/a Theater & Film, Theater for Social Change*

PUBLICATIONS

Borstel, John, Pam Korza, Mark Valdez, et al. *Aesthetic Perspectives: Attributes for Excellence in Arts for Change.* Washington, DC: Americans for the Arts. 2017

"We are not alone: A community of common values" in *Theater and Cultural Politics for a New World.* Ed. Chinua Thelwell. New York: Routledge, 2017.

Valdez, Mark. "Placemaking and Placemakers: Lessons from Detroit, Appalachia, New Orleans and Honolulu." *GIA Reader* Vol. 25, No. 4, Winter 2014. Print.

"Network of Ensemble Theaters" in *Encountering Ensemble.* Ed. John Britton. New York: Bloomsbury Methuen Drama, 2013.

Rev. of Gorilla Theatre: A Practical Guide to Performing the New Outdoor Theatre, Anytime, Anywhere, by Christopher Carter Anderson. Theatre Topics 15.2 (2005): 241-242.

Jeffries, Lynn, Bill Rauch and Mark Valdez. "Faith-Based Theater Cycle." Dialogue in Artistic Practice. Ed. Pam Korza and Barbara Schaffer Bacon. Washington, D.C.: Americans for the Arts, 2005.

HONORS, AWARDS & GRANTS

NEFA National Theater Project	2020
MAP Fund Grant	2020
Doris Duke Building Demand for the Arts	2020
National Theater Project Completion Grant	2019
Johnson Fellowship for Artists Transforming Communities	2019
US Artists Award Nominee	2018
Ivy Award (Minneapolis) Best Ensemble, <i>Vietgone</i>	2017
MAP Fund Grant	2016
MAP Fund Grant	2015
Alan Schneider Directing Award Finalist	2015
Doris Duke Building Demand for the Arts	2015
NALAC Artist Award	2013
Princess Grace Foundation Special Project Award	2006
NEA/TCG Career Development Grant Finalist	2003
Ford Foundation's Leadership for a Changing World	2002-2003
<i>Only artist participant in the first Cooperative Inquiry group examining leadership structure related to fostering new leaders.</i>	
MAP Fund Grant	2001
Lincoln Center Director's Lab	2000
Princess Grace Fellowship Award	2000
Altwater Fellowship from Cornerstone Theater Company	1998

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts	University of California, Irvine
Bachelor of the Arts	University of Dallas