

Robert W. Schneider, MFA

Society of Directors & Choreographers

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EDUCATION

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

State College, Pennsylvania

~ **MFA** Direction for the Musical Theatre Stage 2009

CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Thousand Oaks, California

~ **BA** Political Science 2005

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor,
Artistic Director of Penn State Nu Musicals Program
Faculty at Large, NYC
Vice President, Penn State Alumni Program Group
Penn State University
State College, PA
Department of Theatre, School of Arts & Architecture

August 2009-Present

- ❖ *Introduction to Theatre*
- ❖ *Directing for the Musical Theatre*
- ❖ *Beginning Script Analysis*
- ❖ *Advanced Script Analysis*
- ❖ *History of Musical Theatre*
- ❖ *Freshman Musical Theatre Seminar*
- ❖ *Sophomore Musical Theatre Studio (Scene Into Song)*
- ❖ *Junior Musical Theatre Studio (New Works)*
- ❖ *Senior Cabaret Performance*
- ❖ *The Business of the Business*
- ❖ *Acting for Music Majors*
- ❖ *Queer Theatre Performance*
- ❖ *History of American Comedy*
- ❖ Directed 10 plays, 8 musicals, 9 cabarets, and 12 workshops for Penn State University
- ❖ Served seven years as Associate Artistic Director of Penn State's Nu Musicals festival that produced thirty five workshops of new musicals, including the Roundabout Theatre Company's transfer of Adam Gwon's *Ordinary Days*.

- ❖ Served three years as Artistic Director of Broadway on Allen, a summertime cabaret series for Pennsylvania residents.
- ❖ Critical in development of BFA Musical Theatre recruitment plan that lead to increased application of top tier students
- ❖ Created Junior Musical Theatre studio, a course designed to introduce students to the work shopping and development of new musicals.
- ❖ Created The Business of the Business, a course designed to introduce students to the legal and professional statues of the industry.
- ❖ Supervised graduate acting students that were interested in musical theatre
- ❖ Advised MFA Directing for the Musical Theatre Stage Graduate students into successful internship opportunities with Tony Award winners Bartlett Sher, Casey Nicholaw, Scott Ellis, Eric Shaffer, Matthew Warchus, and Warren Carlyle.
- ❖ Served as directorial advisor to MFA Directing for the Musical Theatre Stage Graduate Student projects.
- ❖ Successfully advised students in both the BFA and BA student body.
- ❖ Developed theatre classes for an online environment, making Penn State the first academic institution to create web based arts courses. Received a grant of \$20,000 to produce three courses. Courses have been in seen in Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Europe, and the United States.
- ❖ Created internship opportunities at CBS Television, Center Theatre Group, Walnut Street Theatre, Paul Ruddy Casting, Arden Theatre, Roundabout Theatre Company, Manhattan Theatre Company, Signature Theatre, MUNY, Stephanie Klapper Casting, Avalon Artists and Chicago Shakespeare Theatre for Penn State Students.

Lecturer

January 2014- Present

New York Film Academy

New York City, NY

Musical Theatre Department

- ❖ *Audition Technique (Beginning and Advanced)*
- ❖ *Musical Theatre Scene Study*
- ❖ *The Business of The Business*
- ❖ *Song Interpretation*
- ❖ *Shakespeare Performance*
- ❖ Director, Senior actor showcase for industry professionals
- ❖ Director, *Opening Doors* musical film with NYFA Senior students.
- ❖ Director, *Boys vs. Girls*, a workshop of a new musical by Drew Overcash
- ❖ Director, *Miss Humanity*, a workshop of a new musical by Daniel Lincoln
- ❖ Critical in development of new degree plan
- ❖ Increased number of applicants to the department and quality of students due to focused recruitment strategies
- ❖ Developed a relationship between NYFA and BC/EFA
- ❖ Created internship opportunities at Avalon Artists, BC/EFA, and Stephanie Klapper Casting for NYFA Students.

INVITED LECTURES AND MASTER CLASSES

Yale University

Musical Theatre Performance

Kent State University

Musical Theatre Performance, The Business of The Business, and Auditioning for Musical Theatre

Penn State University

Auditioning for the Stage with Stephanie Klapper, Auditioning for Film with Rich Mento, Auditioning for TV with Mark Saks, Directing for Musical Theatre with Susan H. Schulman, and The Agent Relationship with Craig Holzberg.

Broadway Dreams Foundation

Social Media and the Artist

Broadway Theatre Lab

Audition Technique

Mercury Musicals

The Musical Theatre Libretto

University of Southern California

Script Analysis for the Musical Theatre Director

California Lutheran University

Auditioning for the Theatre with Mark Simon

Pepperdine University

Musical Theatre Performance, Musical Theatre Direction

Hillcrest Center for the Arts

Auditioning for the Stage with Mark Simon, Auditioning for Film & TV with Paul Ruddy, Auditioning for Commercials with Robert B. Martin Jr., Get the Callback with Kelly Ward, College Audition Coaching.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Host/Producer: **Behind The Curtain: Broadway's Living Legends**

International Podcast

- ❖ Producer of a bi-weekly podcast that is featured in iTunes.
- ❖ Created an online repository of interviews with acclaimed artists within the Broadway community.
- ❖ Implemented a social media marketing campaign.
- ❖ Produced and edited each episode.
- ❖ Guests have included: Randy Graff, Loni Ackerman, Walter Bobbie, Spence Ford, Judy Kaye, William Ivey Long, George S Irving, Jack Viertel, Lee Roy Reams, Jim Brochu, Joanna Merlin, Ted Chapin, Don Pippin, Frank Verlizzo, Andre DeShields, Howard McGillin, Bryan Hobgood, Joan Copeland, Len Cariou, George Lee Andrews, Peter Marshall, Stephen Cole, Nancy Dussault, Larry Moore, Jennifer Ashley Tepper, Lawrence Merritt, Peter Filichia, Bruce Yeko, Karen Morrow, and Carol Lawrence.

Original Programming Producer: **Feinstein's/54 Below**

New York City, NY

- ❖ Responsible for originating cabarets and concerts on a monthly basis.
- ❖ Created and implemented a budget for each concert.
- ❖ Devised a media campaign for each concert produced.
- ❖ Cast and staffed each project
- ❖ Each concert was at 90-100% capacity
- ❖ Artists have included: Hunter Foster, Jen Cody, Patrick Page, Paige Davis, Beth Leavel, Barbara Walsh, Chip Zien, Eddie Korbich, Robert Cuccioli, Tom Jones, Rita Gardner, Anita Gillette, Amanda Green, Joe Iconis, Robert Morse, Nick Wyman, Josh Grisetti, Jo Sullivan Loesser, Martin Charnin, Christianne Noll, Pam Myers, Lonny Price, Annie Golden, Bobby Lopez, Austin Pendelton, Tovah Feldshuh, Christopher Durang, Don Scardino, and Paul Shaffer.

Artistic Director/Founder: **Robert W. Schneider Audition Coaching Services**

Los Angeles, CA/New York City NY

- ❖ Coach one on one students for theatre, film, tv, and college auditions
- ❖ Students who have received college audition coaching have been accepted into the undergraduate/graduate programs at the following institutions: Yale School of Drama, Harvard, NYU/Tisch, University of Michigan, Western Michigan University, Shenandoah, San Diego State, UCLA, USC, UCSB, Elon University, North Carolina School of the Arts, Penn State University, Emerson College, AMDA, Boston Conservatory, Elon University, Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, Cal Arts, California Lutheran University, Syracuse University, Ithaca College, Carnegie Mellon University, Indian College, PCPA, University of California Irvine, University of California Fullerton,

University of Oklahoma, University of the Arts, Point Park University, and Oregon State University.

- ❖ Students who have received theatrical audition coaching have booked jobs on the following Broadway/National Tour productions: *A Chorus Line*, *The Addams Family*, *American Idiot*, *Anything Goes*, *Beautiful*, *Big Fish*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Bullets Over Broadway*, *Chicago*, *Cinderella*, *The Color Purple*, *The Fantasticks*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *Ghost*, *Hair*, *Hairspray*, *Hamilton*, *Honeymoon in Vegas*, *How to Succeed...*, *In the Heights*, *Jerry Springer: The Opera*, *Kinky Boots*, *Legally Blonde*, *The Lion King*, *Mary Poppins*, *Matilda*, *Nice Work if You Can Get It*, *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever*, *Once*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Promises, Promises*, *Rock of Ages*, *The Scottsboro Boys*, *Soul Doctor*, *West Side Story*, and *Wicked*.
- ❖ Create and edit actor's song books, and monologue repertoire
- ❖ Advise clients on their marketing package for agents and casting directors
- ❖ Successfully arranged meetings between clients and industry professionals.

Artistic Director: **The Young Artists Ensemble**

Thousand Oaks, CA

- ❖ Developed a professional preparatory program for emerging artists between the ages of ten and twenty.
- ❖ Served as Line Producer on fifty seven projects
- ❖ Created "Conejo Theatre for Everyone", a program that integrates developmentally delayed adults into musical theatre productions.
- ❖ Through grant writing, increased the amount of scholarship and financial aide available to the participants.
- ❖ Wrote and directed various fundraisers for the company as well as for victims of September 11th, Hurricane Katrina and Tsunami victims.
- ❖ Produced industry showcases for students with theatrical agents/casting directors
- ❖ Coached students on theatre, film, and television auditions.
- ❖ Helped to pare down a sizeable deficit as well as the operating budget
- ❖ Beat Box Office goals by 45%
- ❖ Upgraded lighting and sound equipment for the theatre
- ❖ Upgraded Box Office technology
- ❖ Received largest single private donation (+\$10,000) for the company.

Literary Associate: **The New York Musical Theatre Festival**

New York City, NY

- ❖ Annually read over fifty submissions of new musicals
- ❖ Created thoughtful, helpful responses to the works submitted
- ❖ Helped select projects to be produced in New York City.

Adjudicator: August Wilson Monologue Competition

Center Theatre Group, CA/New York City, NY

- ❖ Adjudicated over 2,000 applicants for the August Wilson Monologue Competition. Panel: Phylicia Rashad, Kenny Leon, Steven McKinley Henderson

Casting Director: Go Code Productions

Los Angeles, CA

- ❖ Created and organized database entry for projects
- ❖ Served as a reader for theatrical and television projects
- ❖ Facilitated negotiations for producers and agents
- ❖ Edited audition submissions
- ❖ Projects: *Archie's Class Project* (Tony Hale, Nora Dunn, Joe Mantegna)

Casting Intern: Paul Ruddy Casting

Los Angeles, CA

- ❖ Created and organized database entry for projects
- ❖ Served as a reader for theatrical and television projects
- ❖ Facilitated negotiations for producers and agents
- ❖ Edited audition submissions

DIRECTING CREDITS

DON SCARDINO LIVE	54 Below	November 2016
BROADWAY AT THE MOVIES	54 Below	August 2016
ROCK OF AGES	Millbrook Playhouse	July 2016
NEIL SIMON CONCERT	54 Below	June 2016
HOW TO SUCCEED	54 Below	June 2016
COLONIAL THEATRE CONCERT	54 Below	March 2016
I DO! I DO!	54 Below	February 2016
*SINATRA	Lincoln Center	December 2015
BOYS VS. GIRLS	Union Square Theatre	August 2015
LEADING LADIES	Millbrook Playhouse	June 2015
MISS HUMANITY	Union Square Theatre	January 2015
MEMPHIS	Cabrillo Music Theatre	November 2014
HOW TO SUCCEED.....	College Light Opera Co.	August 2014
TWISTED	54 Below	March 2014
*SWEENEY TODD	Lincoln Center	March 2014
NINE	Fordham University	February 2014
BLEEDING LOVE	PSU Nu. Musicals	July 2013
ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE	PSU Nu. Musicals	July 2013
NU MUSICALS REVUE	PSU Nu. Musicals	July 2013
GOOD PEOPLE	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	June 2013
HARPER REGAN	Next Stage Theatre	March 2013
THE LAST FIVE YEARS	Next Stage Theatre	February 2013
INEXPERIENCED LOVE	PSU Nu. Musicals	December 2012

TEN UNKNOWNNS	Next Stage Theatre	November 2012
COLD TURKEY	PSU Nu. Musicals	October 2012
FROM UP HERE	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	September 2012
BROADWAY BOUND	Young Artists Ensemble	August 2012
TROUBLE IN TAHITI	Penn State School of Music	April 2012
PREGNANCY PACT	Penn State Nu Musicals	December 2011
STANDARDIZED TESTING	Walnut Street Theatre	December 2011
ORSON'S SHADOW	Next Stage Theatre	December 2011
ALL MY SONS	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	October 2011
THE GOOD DOCTOR	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	July 2011
HOW CAN YOU RUN.....	Penn State Nu Musicals	July 2011
ROCKET SCIENCE	Walnut Street Theatre	May 2011
THE BOYS NEXT DOOR	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	April 2011
DIALING FOR DONNA	Planet Connections	June 2010
THE RANDOM BLACK GIRL...	Laurie Beechman Theatre	June 2010
DANI GIRL	Penn State Nu Musicals	December 2009
A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	October 2009
*VANITIES: THE MUSICAL	Second Stage Theatre	July 2009
*THE APPLE TREE	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	June 2009
ALL FALL DOWN	York Theatre	May 2009
JUDGE NITTANY	Broadway on Allen	June 2008
UNSUNG	York Theatre	May 2008
BABES IN ARMS	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	April 2008
21	Penn State Nu Musicals	March 2008
COMPANY	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	December 2007
THE BEST OF THE WORST	Young Artists Ensemble	August 2007
NITTANY NEWS	Broadway on Allen	June 2007
MY FIRST TIME	Broadway on Allen	June 2007
*BOOKENDS	York Theatre	May 2007
TIMELESS	Penn State Nu Musicals	May 2007
SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	March 2007
DELIVERY	Cultural Conversations	March 2007
*TWELFTH NIGHT	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	February 2007
*URINETOWN	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	November 2006
PEACE IN OUR TIME	Pennsylvania Centre Stage	October 2006
SNAPSHOTS	USC	August 2006
CITY OF ANGELS	Young Artists Ensemble	July 2006
I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT....	Lyric Theatre	March 2006
THE LAST TEN YEARS	Young Artists Ensemble	January 2006
THE SOUND OF MUSIC	Young Artists Ensemble	November 2005
GUYS AND DOLLS	Young Artists Ensemble	July 2005
APPLAUSE	Young Artists Ensemble	June 2005
CINDERELLA	Young Artists Ensemble	February 2005
THE DINING ROOM	California Lutheran University	May 2005
THE ACTOR'S NIGHTMARE	California Lutheran University	November 2004
WASP	California Lutheran University	November 2004

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE	Young Artists Ensemble	July 2004
SNOW WHITE....	Young Artists Ensemble	February 2004
LES MISERABLES	Young Artists Ensemble	June 2003
WILLY WONKA.....	Young Artists Ensemble	January 2003
*JEKYLL & HYDE	Young Artists Ensemble	July 2002
*BIG RIVER	Young Artists Ensemble	April 2002
THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER	Thousand Oaks High School	March 2002
BROADWAY UNDER THE STARS	Young Artists Ensemble	July 2001
A CHORUS LINE	Young Artists Ensemble	July 2001
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS	Young Artists Ensemble	February 2001
THE GOOD DOCTOR	Thousand Oaks High School	February 2001
*THE WIZARD OF OZ	Young Artists Ensemble	April 2000
PLAZA SUITE	Thousand Oaks High School	February 2000

FILM CREDITS

ONE DOOR OPENS	New York Film Academy	March 2014
MY SO CALLED WIFE	Patrick B Mason, Prod.	November 2004

TELEVISION EXPERIENCE

*GYPSY	BBC Four	March 2016
*SINATRA	Live! From Lincoln Center	December 2015
*SWEENEY TODD	Live! From Lincoln Center	October 2014

**Denotes Assistant Director*

THEATRE PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE- Selected Credits

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS	Roma	Theatre on the Hill
....SPELLING BEE	Panch	Pennsylvania State University
THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND	Moon	Pennsylvania State University
THE DROWSY CHAPERONE	Man in Chair	Pennsylvania State University
MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG	Charlie	Pennsylvania State University
THE HISTORY BOYS	Hector	Pennsylvania Centre Stage
NICE PEOPLE DANCING...	Gus	Pennsylvania State University
SHE LOVES ME	Maraczek	Pennsylvania Centre Stage
ROSENCRANTZ....	Claudius	Theatre on the Hill
CANDIDE	Martin	California Lutheran University
METAMORPHOSIS	Midas	California Lutheran University
COMPANY	Harry	California Lutheran University
HAY FEVER	David	California Lutheran University

FILM PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE- Selected Credits

BUBBLE BOY	Supporting	42 nd Street Prod	Nathan Brewer
BETSY	Supporting	1 st Day on the Job Prod	Tommy Davis
MY SO CALLED WIFE	Lead	DOG Films	Patrick Mason
MY SUICIDE	Supporting	Go Code Productions	David Lee Miller

CRIME+PUNISHMENT Featured

Killer Films

Rob Schmidt

TELEVISION PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE- Selected Credits

THE X-FILES	Guest Star	X-F Productions	Cliff Bow
GILMORE GIRLS	Guest Star	Warner Bros.	Gail Mancuso
SILK HOPE	Guest Star	CBS TV	Kevin Dowling
ARTS SCENE	Host	HCFA Prod	Penny McDonald

PUBLICATIONS

Robert W. Schneider, Global Dialogues: Second Edition, Pearson Publishing, Boston, Massachusetts. August 2012.*

Robert W. Schneider, Global Dialogues: First Edition, Pearson Publishing, Boston, Massachusetts. August 2011.*

Robert W. Schneider, Theatre 100 Play Anthology, Cengage Publishing, Mason, Ohio. August 2010.*

**Personalized Course Materials.*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND HONORS

American Society for Theatre Research
Association for Theatre in Higher Education
Dramatists Guild of America
Musical Theatre Educators Alliance
Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers

StageScene LA Winner, Best Director, Memphis
Ovation Award Nominee, Best Director, Larger Musical, Memphis
Distinguished Alumnus, California Lutheran University
Crystal Bear International Film Festival, My Suicide
Regional Emmy Award Winner, PSU MT Spotlight
Ovation Recommended, Memphis
Irene Ryan Award for Acting, Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival
Best of PA Award, Good People
Best of PA Award, All My Sons
Best of PA Award, A Man of No Importance
Best Director, Planet Connections Theatre Festivity
Best Director, Snapshots (awarded by Gordon Davidson & Paul Mazursky)
Kwan Fong Awards for Best Director/Picture/Screenplay/Actor, My So Called Wife
Helen Manfull Award for Outstanding Graduate Studies, Penn State University
Robert Leonard Award for Outstanding Directorial Work, Penn State University

REFERENCES

Dan Carter
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Lonny Price
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Susan H. Schulman
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Mark B. Simon
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