

# Ryan M. Decker, M.F.A.

ryan.decker@loras.edu // (563) 590.9562 // RyanDecker.net

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

**Assistant Professor & Director of Theatre**  
Loras College, Division of Communication & Fine Arts

## EDUCATION

**Master of Fine Arts.** Film & Theatre: Directing/Acting. University of New Orleans. 2018  
Creative Thesis: Directing Marco Ramirez's The Royale  
Written Thesis: Story & Style: Pursuing Excellence on the Academic Stage  
Major Professor: David W. Hoover. Committee: Henry Griffin, Debra Daniel. GPA: 4.0  
**Bachelor of Arts.** Theatre (Performance). Music minor. University of Northern Iowa. 2012  
Senior Project: Preproduction/planning for direction of A Midsummer Night's Dream  
Emphasis Professors: R. Glockner, G. Schwinke, S. Schuld, J. Edelnant, T. Stilwill  
Degree Emphasis GPA: 3.66

## TEACHING

### COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY

**Assistant Professor & Director of Theatre.** Loras College, Dubuque, IA. 2018-present

LIB 110 Public Speaking  
COM 110 Oral Communication as Critical Inquiry  
COM 115 Oral Communication as Performance (approved, not taught)  
COM 121 Acting for Stage & Screen  
COM 221 Directing for Stage & Screen (approved, not taught)  
COM 250 History & Literature of Western Theatre  
COM 250 Classical Theatre (approved, not taught)  
COM 251 Modern Theatre (approved, not taught)  
COM 300 Theatre Performance Workshop

*Directed 3+ shows annually; advised Guild of St. Genesius and Duprov improv.*

**Guest Instructor in Fine & Performing Arts.** University of Dubuque, IA. Fall 2019

THEA 213 Comedy Improvisation Ensemble (temporary; not IOR)

**Teaching Associate of Film & Theatre.** University of New Orleans, LA. 2016-2018

FTA 1300 Acting I  
FTA 2320 Acting II (co-instructor)  
FTA 2380 Directing

*Directed at least one production per year; managed theatre marketing/box office.*

**Guest Director in Fine & Performing Arts.** University of Dubuque, IA. Fall 2012

UDTH 210 Production Techniques (not IOR)  
UDTH 358 Theatre Capstone (not IOR)  
FPA 385 Internship in Fine & Performing Arts

*Directed fall musical, which served as context for UDTH courses.*

**Student-Instructor of Music.** University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA. Spring 2012

MUS 1495 Non-Major Applied Music (in completion of Vocal Pedagogy)

### ADULT PROGRAMS

**Instructor of Theatre Arts.** Dubuque Area Arts Collective, Dubuque, IA. Spring 2013

Acting–Foundations, Acting–Improvisation

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

**Drama Teacher.** Great Midwestern Educational Theatre Co., Dubuque, IA. Summer 2012

Drama 3-5, Drama 6-8, Drama 9-12 (Frogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry)

**Instructor of Acting & Movement.** Sturgis Youth Theatre, Cedar Falls, IA. Spring 2012

Acting II, Movement for Actors, Physical Comedy & Stage Combat

## DIRECTING

## THEATRE

<u><i>The War of the Worlds</i></u> , Loras College/Loras Players. (COVID-19 Radio Play)		2020
<u><i>She Kills Monsters</i></u> , Loras College/Loras Players. (COVID-19 Cancellation)		
<u><i>Rock of Ages</i></u> , The Grand Opera House.	M	
<u><i>Oedipus Rex</i></u> , Loras College/Loras Players.		2019
<u><i>Silent Sky</i></u> , Loras College/Loras Players.		
* Kennedy Center ACTF 2020 <b>Regional Excellence in Directing</b>		
<u><i>Ring and Run</i></u> , (One Act). Dubuque Fine Arts Players. (Postponed)	O	
<u><i>Loras College: The Musical</i></u> , (Faculty/Staff Play). Loras College.	OM	
<u><i>The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i></u> , Loras College/Loras Players.	M	
<u><i>Hedda Gabler</i></u> , Loras College/Loras Players.		
<u><i>No Mud, No Lotus</i></u> , Loras College/Theatre Performance Workshop.	O	
<u><i>Around the World in 80 Days</i></u> , Loras College/Loras Players.		2018
<u><i>Constellations</i></u> , Trainwreck Productions.		
<u><i>Bleed</i></u> , (One Act). University of New Orleans/Graduate One-Acts.		
<u><i>The Royale</i></u> , University of New Orleans/Theatre UNO.		2017
* Big Easy Entertainment Awards <b>Best University Production Nomination</b>		
* Kennedy Center ACTF 2018 <b>Regional Excellence in Directing</b>		
* Kennedy Center ACTF 2018 <b>Regional Invited Production</b>		
<u><i>Undergraduate Showcase</i></u> , University of New Orleans/Theatre UNO.		
<u><i>Avenue Q</i></u> , Trainwreck Productions.	M	2015
<u><i>The Drowsy Chaperone</i></u> , The Grand Opera House.	M	
<u><i>Miracle of 34th Street</i></u> , The Grand Opera House.		2014
<u><i>Shackles 'n' Milk</i></u> , (One Act, First Place). Dubuque Fine Arts Players.	O	
<u><i>Reefer Madness: The 'Hit' Musical</i></u> , Trainwreck Productions.	M	
<u><i>Doctor Faustus: A Devilish New Musical</i></u> , (Concert, also writer). Trainwreck Prod.	OM	
<u><i>South Pacific in Concert</i></u> , (Concert). The Grand Opera House.	M	
<u><i>The Amazing Hi-Lows</i></u> , Division of Behavioral Sciences, Loras College.	OM	2013
<u><i>Taming of the Shrew</i></u> , Trainwreck Productions.		
<u><i>The Last Five Years</i></u> , Fine & Performing Arts Department, University of Dubuque.	M	2012
<u><i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i></u> , Trainwreck Productions.		
<u><i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i></u> , Bard-in-the-Yard/UNI Student Theatre Association.		
<u><i>Drugs are Bad</i></u> , project for UNI Dept. of Theatre Directing Class.		2010
<u><i>Alice in the Underground</i></u> , (Devised), Co-Director: Design. UNI Student Theatre Assoc.	O	
<u><i>Close to the Flame</i></u> , Ten-Minute Play Festival V/UNI Student Theatre Association.	O	
<u><i>Godless</i></u> , Ten-Minute Play Festival IV/UNI Student Theatre Association.	O	2009

ASSISTANT  
DIRECTING

## THEATRE

<u><i>Airline Highway</i></u> , (Regional Premiere). Southern Rep Theatre Company.		2016
<i>Rehearsed U/S, bits, and large ensemble; gave notes throughout previews and run.</i>		
* Big Easy Entertainment Awards Nomination for Best Ensemble		
<u><i>George &amp; Gracie, Now &amp; Then</i></u> , The Grand Opera House.	OM	2014
<i>Blocked show, designed set, gave notes on performance.</i>		

## FILM

<u><i>The Arbor Ate 'Em</i></u> , 2nd Assistant Director. Great River Films.		2009
<i>Rehearsed and coordinated Featured and Extras in press conference scene.</i>		
<i>"Striking Out". Assistant Director &amp; Youth Acting Coach. Great River Films.</i>		
<i>"Doo-Doo Unto Others". Assistant Director. Creative Maxims, LLC.</i>		

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"O" indicates an original theatre production or world premiere (i.e. original director/actor);

"M" indicates a musical theatre production.

## ACTING

## THEATRE

<i>Admiral Boom</i> , <i>Northbrook</i> . <i>Mary Poppins</i> , The Grand Opera House, Alex Acevedo.	M	2019
<i>Lawrence</i> . <i>Calendar Girls</i> , The Grand Opera House, Carole Sullivan.		
<i>Tesman</i> . <i>Hedda Gabler</i> , Theatre UNO, Amy Boyce Holtcamp.		2018
<i>Dr. Rank</i> . <i>A Doll's House</i> , Theatre UNO, Kristin Shoffner.		
* Big Easy Entertainment Awards <b>Best University Production Nomination</b>		
<i>Mr. McQueen</i> . <i>Urinetown, the Musical</i> , The NOLA Project, A.J. Allegra.	M	2017
<i>Oscar</i> . <i>Oscar and the Countless Costume Changes</i> , The NOLA Project, Kristin Shoffner.		
<i>Sir Toby Belch</i> . <i>Twelfth Night</i> , Theatre UNO, David W. Hoover.		
<i>Actor/Singer</i> . <i>Broadway Nights 2</i> , Theatre UNO, Patrick Hunter.	M	
<i>Evan</i> . <i>The Aliens</i> , Theatre UNO, Kristin Shoffner.		2017/16
* Big Easy Entertainment Awards <b>Best University Production Nomination</b>		
* Kennedy Center ACTF 2017 <b>National Outstanding (Best) Ensemble Acting</b>		
* Kennedy Center ACTF 2017 <b>National Outstanding (Best) Production</b>		
* Kennedy Center ACTF 2017 <b>Region VI Festival Invited Performance</b>		
* <b>Irene Ryan Acting Nomination</b>		
<i>Friar Lawrence</i> . <i>Romeo &amp; Juliet</i> , Delgado Theatre Club, Michael Aaron Santos.		2016
<i>Doug</i> . <i>Gruesome Playground Injuries</i> , Trainwreck Productions, Decker/Gwen Beatty.		2015
<i>Petruchio</i> , <i>Ford</i> , <i>Malcom</i> . <i>125th Anniversary Revue</i> , Grand Opera House, F. McClain.	M	
<i>Young Arthur</i> . <i>Love in a Minor Key</i> , Dubuque Fine Arts Players, Danny Fairchild.	O	
<i>Nicky</i> . <i>Avenue Q</i> , Trainwreck Productions, Decker.	M	
<i>Paul Bearer</i> . <i>Macabaret</i> (Cabaret), Trainwreck Productions, Decker.	M	2014
<i>Ken</i> . <i>Red</i> , Trainwreck Productions & Voices Productions, Michelle Blanchard.		
<i>Jimmy</i> . <i>Reefer Madness</i> , Trainwreck Productions, Decker.	M	
<i>Young Scrooge, etc.</i> <i>A Christmas Carol</i> , The Grand Opera House, Alison Ott.		2013
<i>Robbie</i> . <i>The Amazing Hi-Lows</i> , Loras College, Div. of Behav. Sci., Decker/McCarthy.	OM	
<i>Avram</i> . <i>Fiddler on the Roof</i> , The Heartland Festival, Ann Dillon Farrelly.	M	
<i>Hunter</i> . [title of show], Trainwreck Productions, Paige Triervieler.	M	
<i>Solomon</i> (non-traditional casting). <i>45 Seconds from B'way</i> , Fly-by-Night, Erin Horst.		2012
<i>Seth</i> . <i>Divorce First Class</i> , Dubuque Fine Arts Players, William Hoerstman.	O	
<i>Peachy Weil</i> . <i>The Last Night of Ballyhoo</i> , Fly-by-Night Productions, Sunil Malapati.		
<i>Ron</i> . <i>Bat Boy: The Musical</i> , Strayer-Wood Theatre/UNI, Patrick Elkins-Zeglarski.	M	
<i>Ralph</i> . <i>Die, Claudius!</i> , UNI Student Theatre Assoc. (UNISTA)/Thespians, R. Russell.		2011
<i>Old Man, Bull</i> . <i>Guernica</i> , Strayer-Wood Theatre/UNI, Steve Taft.		
<i>Death</i> . <i>The Game</i> , Trainwreck Productions, Alex McCarthy.		
<i>Tony</i> . <i>Goose Neck</i> , UNISTA, Liz Cook.	O	
<i>Grover, Yeti, Troll, Gus</i> . <i>On the Verge</i> , Strayer-Wood Theatre/UNI, Cynthia Goatley.		
<i>Clovis P. Eudy</i> . <i>Mother Hicks</i> , Strayer-Wood Theatre/UNI, Gretta Berghammer.		2010
<i>Mad Hatter</i> . <i>Alice in the Underground</i> , UNISTA, Rachel Russell/Decker.	O	
<i>Jerry</i> . <i>The Zoo Story</i> , Trainwreck Productions, Jadrien Schmidt.		
<i>Ms. Mary Sunshine</i> . <i>Chicago: The Musical</i> , The Grand Opera House, Jeff Tebbe.	M	
* Iowa Theatre Nomination for <b>Best Ensemble Cast</b>		
<i>Jake</i> . <i>The Mistakes Madeline Made</i> , Strayer-Wood Theatre/UNI, Jay Edelnant.		
<i>Ralph Wiley</i> . <i>Reefer Madness</i> , The Interpreters Theatre, Rachele Saunders.		
<i>Steve, Phil</i> . <i>Almost, Maine</i> , UNISTA, Liz Cook.		2009
<i>Inmate/Musician</i> . <i>Marat/Sade</i> , Strayer-Wood Theatre/UNI, Jay Edelnant/G. Schwinke.	M	
<i>Billy/Dr. Horrible</i> . <i>Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog</i> , Trainwreck Prod., Sarah Szeibel.	M	
<i>Mike</i> . <i>Maggie's Reconstruction</i> , Dubuque Fine Arts Players, Sunil Malapati.	O	
<i>Man-in-White</i> . <i>The House of Blue Leaves</i> , Strayer-Wood Theatre/UNI, Steve Taft.		2008
<i>Smee</i> . <i>Peter Pan</i> , The Grand Opera House, Megan Schumacher.	M	

ACTING (continued)	<i>FILM</i>		
		<i>Featured (Bartender William)</i> . <u>Repatriation</u> , RBG Films, LLC, Doug Mueller.	2013
		<i>Lead (Alan)</i> . “The People V. Alan ‘Freakin’ Abercrombie”, Frame of Mind Prod., S. Thompson.	2012
		<i>Featured (Zombie in Hats)</i> . <u>The Cutting Room Floor</u> , PKP Media, David Tucker.	2011
		<i>Lead (Zombie Boy)</i> . “Twilight Zombie Style”, Tori Rezek.	2010
	<i>Extra (Boyfriend)</i> . “The Arbor Ate ‘Em”, Great River Films, Charles Cunliffe.	2009	
	<i>SERIAL</i>		
	<i>Regular (Joey)</i> . <u>Limelight</u> , Ted Rosean Productions, Ted Rosean.	2012	
	* Official Selection of Julien International Film Festival, 2013.		
	<i>Lead (Kevin)</i> . <u>Seceding Within</u> , Shedonic Media Motions, Brandon Poll.	2013	
	<i>Guest (“Love Making”)</i> . <u>Panther Pride</u> , UNI-TV, Hattie Dunham.	2010	
	<i>COMMERCIAL</i>		
	<i>Lead (Man)</i> . Dubuque Intl. Film Festival, Dreamcatcher Productions, Tim Connery.	2015	
	* EMMY® AWARD WINNER, 33A Commercial – Single Spot, Upper Midwest Region.		
	* ADDY AWARD WINNER, Gold/Best in Show for Television Regional/National Spot.		
	<i>Featured (Back Seat Passenger)</i> . Sexual Harassment (PSA), PKP Media, Steve Thompson.	2012	
	<i>Featured (Filmmaker 3)</i> . GRIFINFEST (infomercial), Great River Films, Steve Thompson.	2011	
	<i>Lead (Tommy Carroll)</i> . Grout Museums: History Alive, KWWL.	2010	
	<i>Lead (Jack Frost)</i> . Waterloo Implement, OnMedia, Tyler Tollefson.		
	<i>Lead (Nerd Crew Employee)</i> . Computer Reboot Stores, OnMedia, Tyler Tollefson.	2009	
	<i>STAGED READINGS &amp; WORKSHOPS</i>		
	<i>Faustus</i> . <u>Doctor Faustus: A Devilish New Musical</u> (Concert/Reading), Trainwreck Prod.	OM	2014
	<i>Todd (replacement)</i> . <u>Zeitoun</u> (Reading), UNI Cornerstone, Richard Glockner.		2011
	<i>Actor</i> . <u>Awake. In The Dark</u> . (Reading), Gallagher-Bluedorn PAC, Jay Edelnant.	O	
	<i>Sir Yorrick</i> . <u>Two Gentlemen for Cressida</u> (Workshop), UNISTA, Sarah Williams.	O	2010
PLAYWRITING, SCREENWRITING, & DEVISING	<i>Doctor Faustus: A Devilish New Musical</i> (book, music and lyrics).		2009-ongoing
	<i>Happy Hour at the End of the World: “Pilot Episode”</i> (screenwriter), Angry Monkey Studios.		2014
	<i>Awake. In the Dark</i> . (playwright), commissioned for “Remembrance 9/11: Ten Years Later.”		2011
	<i>Alice in the Underground</i> (concept creator and lead devisor), UNISTA.		2010
PRODUCTION COACHING & ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP	<i>Voice Captain</i> , <u>The Aliens</u> , Theatre UNO, Kristin Shoffner.		2016
	<i>Rehearsal Notes</i> , <u>The Mistakes Madeline Made</u> , Trainwreck Productions, Ben Johnson.		
	<i>Voice Captain</i> , <u>Romeo &amp; Juliet</u> , Delgado Theatre Club, Michael Aaron Santos.		
	<i>Choreographer, Puppetry Supervision</i> , <u>Avenue Q</u> , Trainwreck Productions, Decker.		2015
	<i>Music Director</i> , <u>Macabaret</u> , Trainwreck Productions, Decker.		2014
	<i>Music Director</i> , <u>Doctor Faustus</u> , Trainwreck Productions, Decker.		
	<i>Music Director</i> , <u>Miracle on 34th Street</u> Carolers, Grand Opera House, Decker.		
	<i>Choreographer, Musical Arrangements</i> , <u>Reefer Madness</u> , Trainwreck Productions, Decker.		
	<i>Fight Director</i> , <u>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</u> , Bard-in-Yard/UNISTA, Decker.		2012
	<i>Voice &amp; Movement Captain</i> , <u>Goose Neck</u> , UNI Student Theatre Association, Liz Cook.		2011
	<i>Youth Acting Coach &amp; Asst. Director</i> , “Striking Out,” Great River Films, C. Cunliffe.		2009
	* “Best Acting,” Madison, WI 48-Hour Film Project Festival, 2009.		

ADJUDICATING & CLINICIANING	<i>Civil Trial (Attorneys &amp; Witnesses)</i> , Midlands Mock Trial @ Loras College (Virtual).	2020
	<i>Ensemble Acting</i> , WaMaC Conference @ West Delaware High School.	2019
	<i>Duet Musical Theatre</i> , Iowa State Thespian Festival @ Univ. of Northern Iowa.	2014
	<i>Solo Musical Theatre</i> , WaMaC Conference @ Beckman High School.	
* <i>Superior-Rated, Experienced-Level Adjudicator, Iowa High School Speech Assoc. (IHSSA), 2013.</i>	<i>Ensemble Acting</i> , Iowa High School Speech Assoc. (IHSSA) @ Waterloo West High School.	
	<i>Ensemble Musical Theatre &amp; Radio News</i> , IHSSA @ Cascade High School.	
	<i>Duet Musical Theatre</i> , Iowa State Thespian Festival @ University of Northern Iowa.	2013
	<i>Solo Musical Theatre</i> , IHSSA @ Starmont High School.	
	<i>Ensemble Acting</i> , IHSSA @ Dubuque Senior High School.	
	<i>Ensemble Musical Theatre &amp; Short Film</i> , IHSSA @ Cascade High School.	
	<i>Monologue &amp; Mime</i> , Iowa State Thespian Festival @ University of Northern Iowa.	2012
	<i>Solo Musical Theatre</i> , IHSSA @ Waldorf College.	
	<i>Solo Acting</i> , IHSSA @ Maquoketa Valley High School.	
	<i>Ensemble Acting</i> , IHSSA @ Dubuque Senior High School.	
	<i>Readers' Theatre</i> , Group Mime, & Solo Mime, IHSSA @ Cascade High School.	
	<i>Solo Musical Theatre</i> , IHSSA @ Starmont High School.	2011
	<i>Ensemble Acting</i> , IHSSA @ Decorah High School.	
	<i>Solo Musical Theatre</i> , IHSSA @ Starmont High School.	2010
	<i>Ensemble Acting</i> , IHSSA @ Decorah High School.	
	<i>Acting &amp; Directing</i> , Get Reel Dubuque Film Competition.	2009
		<i>Solo Acting</i> , IHSSA @ Starmont High School.
	<i>Readers' Theatre</i> , IHSSA @ Decorah High School.	
WORKSHOP PRESENTER & GUEST ARTIST	<i>"Speaking Shakespeare."</i> St. John's Episcopal, Dubuque, IA.	Nov. 2019
	<i>"What's Your Action?" (Practical Aesthetics)</i> . Iowa State Thespian Festival.	Nov. 2019
	<i>"What's Your Action?" (Practical Aesthetics)</i> . Iowa State Thespian Festival.	Nov. 2018
	<i>"Exploring Viewpoints."</i> Iowa State Thespian Festival.	Nov. 2014
	<i>"Masks, Mischief &amp; Mayhem" (Commedia dell'Arte)</i> . Iowa State Thespian Festival.	Nov. 2013
	<i>"Exploring Viewpoints."</i> Iowa State Thespian Festival.	Nov. 2012
	<i>"Exploring Viewpoints."</i> Iowa State Thespian Festival.	Nov. 2011
	<i>Acting for the Camera</i> . DREAM Program/Great River Film Initiative.	Oct. 2011
	<i>"Acting Out!" (Laban Effort Actions &amp; Readers' Theatre)</i> . EI/WI Scouts of America.	Nov. 2009
PRESENTER & PANELIST	<i>Presenter</i> , "Performance and Positive Psychology," Legacy Symposium, Loras College.	May 2019
	<i>Presenter</i> , "Intentional Happiness," Vol. 14, PechaKucha Dubuque.	Jan. 2019
	<i>Theatre Panelist</i> , Art/Work Symposium, Dubuque Area Arts Collective.	Nov. 2014
FESTIVAL PLAY READER	<i>DBQ One Acts Festival</i> (Final Round).	2019
	<i>Tennessee Williams Festival</i> (Semi-final Rounds).	2016-18
	<i>DBQ One Acts Festival</i> (Final Round).	2014
	<i>Ten-Minute Play Festival VI &amp; VII</i> (All Rounds).	2011-12

ADMINISTRATIVE  
POSITIONS &  
OFFICES HELD

- Commissioner of Arts & Cultural Affairs – City of Dubuque, Iowa.** 2019–  
Plan, promote, and encourage programs to further public awareness of, accessibility to, participation in, and support for the artistic and cultural development of the City.  
 ▶ **Work Group Member – Public Art:** Establish official policy, procedures, and locales.  
 ▶ **Subcommittee Member – Art on the River:** Plan/execute exhibits and receptions.  
 ▶ **Jurist – Bee Branch Storm Drain Mural Project:** Vet and select mural proposals.
- Marketing & PR Director – NOLA Project Theatre Company, New Orleans, Louisiana.** 2017-18  
Oversaw all social media marketing, blog content and people that lead those initiatives. Manage PR database. Wrote/distributed press releases. Managed email lists and e-communications. Coordinated press coverage and media preview nights. Worked with FOH on lobby experience and operations for productions. Consulted with education team for education program marketing. Consulted with the board for promotion of annual gala event. Proofread all materials. Consulted on brand and website design. Provide art direction for photo shoots. Planned and execute special events that promoted productions. Worked with third parties to promote productions, when appropriate.
- Marketing & Box Office Manager – Theatre UNO, New Orleans, Louisiana.** 2016-18  
Managed Brown Paper Tickets online ticketing system and (504) 280.SHOW phone systems for UNO Department of Film & Theatre event sales. Created new Theatre UNO logo and season visual branding schemes. Assisted development and execution of individual show posters, postcards, and video trailers. Wrote and distributed press releases. Updated and managed Theatre.UNO.edu website and social media platforms.
- Managing Director – Trainwreck Productions, Dubuque, Iowa.** 2015–  
Assisted co-artistic directors with responsibilities/transition, as former/founding A.D. Proposed season mainstage and studio performances, educational and outreach programs. Secured scripts, performance rights, and specialty contracts. Produced all branding, marketing materials, production artwork, PR, and social media presence. Provided company’s annual letter of appeal and provided grant writing services. Kept detailed financial records of income and expenses. Set annual production and operation budgets, and approved expenditures.
- Managing Editor, Feature Writer – Julien’s Journal, G.A. Publishing, Dubuque, Iowa.** 2012-18  
Copyedited monthly events calendar. Assisted generation and assignment of feature articles. Wrote features by assignment, including 32 arts/culture features and four letters from the editor. Composed “Premier Events” department column. Edited all department columns and feature articles. Assisted layout of publication. Edited special publications: Season of the Arts, performing and visual arts event guide (annual, also writer); Choices, senior living magazine (quarterly); and Trends, home guide (biannual).
- Founding Artistic Director – Trainwreck Productions, Dubuque, Iowa.** 2008-15  
Select/design season and programming. Staffing. Secure dates, venues, and performance rights. Assist directors and stage managers with audition and production needs. Produced all branding, marketing, and PR. Report to the Dubuque Co. Fine Arts Society.  
 ★ Awarded first place Art Gumbo grant for “Project: Obsession.”
- Board Member, Public & Media Relations Coordinator – Nash Gallery, Dubuque, Iowa.** 2013-15  
Assisted in curating art and coordinating exhibits, special events, and programing. Responsible for copy writing and PR distribution
- Local Coordinator – Film Festival Flix (MouseTrap Films LLC), Dubuque, Iowa.** 2012  
Coordinated PR, Radio, print interviews, and coverage of events and films. Coordinated social media, cross promotion, and direct marketing with MouseTrap corporate. Posting the event on community calendars, events, etc. Identifying local short films for screening. Assisted securing volunteer staff to prepare for the event and run it on the day of the event. Coordinated and assisted transportation for Talent to PR, press, special appearances, and local entertainment. Stored local elements (e.g. step and repeat) at the venue or elsewhere for future events.

ADMINISTRATIVE  
POSITIONS &  
OFFICES HELD  
(continued)

<p><b>President</b> – UNI Student Theatre Association, Cedar Falls, Iowa.</p> <p>Voted on production applications. Monitored progress of productions. Presided over board meetings. Coordinated acquisition of rights, scripts, and production spaces. Signatory of bank account. Liaison between the association and the UNI Dept. of Theatre, Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG), and Student Involvement &amp; Activities Center (SIAC). Assisted financial record audit. Prepared annual budget. Checked member eligibility. Held keys to all facilities and storage locations. Ten-Minute Play Festival script reader. Spokesperson and chief representative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Produced the association's first Thespian Festival performance.</li> <li>* Directed/produced first "Bard-in-the-Yard" production.</li> <li>* Increased the number and quality of mainstage productions.</li> <li>* Started the staged reading series.</li> <li>* Re-negotiated storage/venue rental agreements with Strayer-Wood Theatre and Dept.</li> <li>* Increased the NISG-allocated budget from \$1,072 to \$5,178 for subsequent season.</li> </ul>	2011-12
<p><b>Treasurer</b> – Alpha Psi Omega - TAP (academic theatre honor society), Cedar Falls, Iowa.</p> <p>Collect all dues and assessments of members. Paid bills. Kept account of all receipts and expenditures. Reported on the financial status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Chair of "Rocky Horror" Event:</b> Secured film rights/venue, prepared prop bags, publicity/PR, and Master of Ceremonies for sold-out event.</li> <li>➤ <b>Chair of National Membership Registration:</b> Initiated all members of TAP chapter since 2009 with the APO national office.</li> </ul>	2011-12
<p><b>Student Representative</b> – Society of Theatrical Angels, Gallivants &amp; Enthusiasts, Inc. (S.T.A.G.E., Inc.), Cedar Falls, Iowa.</p> <p>Recorded monthly meeting minutes. Weighed-in on topics from a student perspective.</p>	2011-12
<p><b>Marketing Director</b> – UNI Student Theatre Association, Cedar Falls, Iowa.</p> <p>Became the association's first Marketing Director during my first semester at UNI. 15 productions and events to my credit. Graphic design and production artwork, new releases, PR distribution, program bills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Created association's first logo and branding scheme.</li> <li>* Created new, user-friendly website.</li> </ul>	2008-12
<p><b>Grant Coordinator</b> – UNI Student Theatre Association, Cedar Falls, Iowa.</p> <p>Responsible for writing and applying for grants to supplement budgets for productions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Allocated max. Weekend Stipend Grants: <u>The Yellow Boat</u>; <u>Midsummer Night's Dream</u>.</li> </ul>	2011-12
<p><b>Administrative Assistant</b> – UNI Dept. of Theatre &amp; Iowa Thespians Soc., Cedar Falls, Iowa.</p> <p>2010 – Tech support; Assisted site mgmt.; Guide; Signage; Assisted Shakespeare Wksp. 2011 – Head of the Festival's communication HQ &amp; vendor/college set-up/takedown.</p>	2010, 11
<p><b>Secretary</b> – UNI Student Theatre Association, Cedar Falls, Iowa, 2010-11.</p> <p>Voted on production applications. Monitored progress of productions. Recorded and posted weekly board meeting minutes. Archived current and past productions. Maintained website and callboard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Rewrote and purposed adopted mission statement.</li> <li>* Contributed to revised bylaws.</li> <li>* Redesigned all paperwork and applications.</li> </ul>	2010-11
<p><b>Asst. Director of Marketing, House Manager</b> – Strayer-Wood Theatre, Cedar Falls, IA.</p> <p>Projects and project management as assigned, including graphic design, copy/news release writing, proofing, distribution, social media and communication maintenance, etc. Designed 2010-11 branding and assisted in theme development for a two-year, 2011-2013, season. Trained house management and house managed for shows not cast in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Sold-out main house performance (first in 11 years), <u>Urinetown: The Musical</u>.</li> </ul>	2009-11

<b>PUBLISHED ARTICLES</b> (selected)	<i>Ultimate Rock Hits</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , January 2015.	2015
	<i>The Thick of It</i> (letter from the editor), <i>Julien's Journal</i> , December 2014.	2014
	<i>Dubuque Food &amp; Wine on the River</i> , November 2014.	
	<i>Collective Arts</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , October 2014.	
	<i>Fall Further</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , October 2014.	
	<i>'Tarzan' Swings into Action</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , July 2014.	
	<i>Art of Cosmetology</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , May 2014.	
	<i>Have Erotica</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , February 2014.	
	<i>The Nutcracker</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , December 2013.	2013
	<i>Still Here</i> (letter from the editor), <i>Julien's Journal</i> , December 2013.	
	<i>Ohnward and Upward</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , November 2013.	
	<i>Theatre Tackles Mental Illness</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , October 2013.	
	<i>Karios: The Opportune Moment</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , September 2013.	
	<i>Urban Art: The New Nash Gallery</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , August 2013.	
	<i>Art. Music. Culture.</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , May 2013.	
	<i>I Have Had Singing</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , April 2013.	
	<i>Coop'd Up</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , April 2013.	
	<i>The Intimate Place</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , March 2013.	
	<i>The Finer Things</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , March 2013.	
	<i>His Own Reality</i> , <i>Twisted Zine</i> , February 2013.	
	<i>What You Eat</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , February 2013.	
	<i>Winning Relationships</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , January 2013.	
	<i>First Lady of Flexsteel</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , January 2013.	
	<i>Dubuque Works at John Deere</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , January 2013.	
	<i>The Magic of Madrigal</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , December 2013	
	<i>Hearts of Gold</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , November 2012,	2012
	<i>The Case for Creativity</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , October 2012.	
	<i>Another Mystery, Another Murder</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , October 2012.	
	<i>Students... in their Natural Habitat</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , September 2012.	
	<i>One Life at a Time</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , September 2012.	
	<i>Break the Paradigm</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , September 2012.	
<i>John Cino on Art (and other topics)</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , August 2012.		
<i>Spotlight on Summer Theatre</i> , <i>Julien's Journal</i> , July 2012.		



<b>DESIGN &amp; PRODUCTION</b> (select credits)	<i>Numerous scenery, costume, prop, electrics, etc. construction and run crews</i> , various theatre co's.	
	<b>Technical Director &amp; Scenic, Light, Sound Designer</b> , Loras College/Loras Players.	2018–
	Productions: <u>Around the World in 80 Days</u> , <u>Hedda Gabler</u> , <u>Loras College: The Musical</u> , <u>Silent Sky</u> , <u>Oedipus Rex</u>	
	<b>Editor &amp; Sound Designer</b> , Loras College/Guild of St. Genesius and Loras Players on the Air.	2020
	Productions: <u>The War of the Worlds</u> , <u>Miracle on 34th Street</u> .	
	<b>Technical Director, Projections &amp; Sound Designer/Operator</b> , Dubuque Fine Arts Players.	2013
	Productions: <u>Like Music</u> , <u>The Last Days of Wonder</u> , <u>The Favor</u>	
	<b>Scenic &amp; Lighting Designer</b> , <u>The Last Five Years</u> , University of Dubuque.	Fall 2012
	<b>Scene-Graphic Designer</b> , <u>The Mistakes Madeline Made</u> , Strayer-Wood Theatre.	Summer 2010
	<b>Director of Photography/Editor</b> , <u>Dr. Horrible's...</u> , Trainwreck Productions.	Summer 2019
<b>Production Manager</b> , <u>pool (no water)</u> , Trainwreck Prod. & Dubuque Senior High.	Spring 2009	
<b>MUSIC ENSEMBLES</b> (select credits)	<b>Drummer</b> (on rotation), Music at the Blu Room (Blues, Folk, Jazz & Funk).	2018-20
	<b>Drummer</b> (on rotation), Round Midnight Trio (Jazz, Blues, & Funk).	2008-15
	<b>Vocalist, Percussionist/Drummer</b> , Upstanding Gentlemen (Folk/Bluegrass).	2011-12
	<b>Percussionist/Drummer</b> , Fourth Floor Orange (Alt. Rock).	2010-11
	<b>Percussionist</b> , <u>Marat/Sade</u> (Play with Music), Strayer-Wood Theatre.	2009
	<b>Vocalist</b> , UNI Singers (Choral), UNI, Fall 2008.	2009
	<b>Vocalist</b> , Men's Glee Club (Choral), UNI.	2008
	<b>Vocalist</b> , St. John's Episcopal Inaugural Choir (Liturgical).	2007-08
	<b>Percussionist/Timpanist</b> , Dubuque Youth Symphony Orchestra.	2007, 2008
	<b>Drummer</b> , Jazz Combo.	2006-08
	<b>Vocalist</b> , DSHS Chamber Choir & Madrigal Choir.	2004-08
	<b>Principal Timpanist/Percussionist</b> , Symphonic Band, Orchestra, & Percussion Ensemble.	2004-08
	<b>Percussionist/Drummer &amp; Composer</b> , Ram Marching Band and Winter Drumline.	2004-08
<b>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>Ally Training</b> . The Alliance (Michelle Bechen), Loras College.	2020
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING</b>	<b>Improvisation, Comedy</b> . The New Movement.	2016-17
	<b>Multiple intro fight styles</b> . Society of American Fight Directors (2-day).	2011
	<b>Introduction to Moment Work</b> . Tectonic Theater Project (1-day).	2010
	<b>Contact Improv</b> . National Theatre Institute (1-day).	2009
	<b>Film directing shadow</b> . Great River Film Initiative.	2009
<b>MEMBERSHIPS</b>	<b>Guild of St. Genesius</b> , (also faculty advisor) theatre honor society.	2019–
	<b>Alpha Psi Omega</b> (formerly member of Theata Alpha Phi), national theatre honor society.	2010–
	<b>Great River Film Initiative</b> .	2008-2015
	<b>International Thespian Society</b> , Troupe 69.	2008–

SERVICE

CITY OF DUBUQUE, IA

- Commissioner**, Arts & Cultural Affairs. (See *ADMIN POSITIONS & OFFICES HELD*) 2019–22
- **Member**, City of Dubuque Public Art Policy Subcommittee.
  - **Member**, Art on the River Subcommittee.
  - **Juror**, Bee Branch Storm Drain Mural Project (Pilot Project).

COMMUNITY

- Coordinator**, “An Evening of Shakespeare’s Sonnets.” St. John’s Episcopal, Dubuque, IA. 2019–
- LORAS COLLEGE – DIV. OF COMMUNICATION & FINE ARTS*
- Member**, Loras College Honors Program. 2020-23
- Member**, President’s Taskforce on High Impact & Transformative Learning. 2020-21
- Chair**, Loras Players Hall of Fame Committee. 2019–
- Trustee**, Loras Players Award (Scholarship). 2019–
- Trustee**, Stribling Theatre Arts Award (Scholarship). 2019–
- Committee Member**, Rechenmacher Award for Creativity (Scholarship). 2019–
- Faculty Advisor**, Duprov, student improv troupe. 2019–
- **Coach/producer** and **Technical Director** of showcases/competitions (biannual).
- Faculty Advisor**, Guild of St. Genesius, campus theatre honor society. 2018–
- **Chaperone** for professional theatre excursions (biannual);
  - **Producer** and **Technical Director** of One-Day Play (annual); and
  - **Adapter, Producer** and **Technical Director** of Christmas Radio Play (annual).
- Director**, Faculty/Staff Play, fundraiser for Faculty Scholarship fund (biennial). 2018–
- Various recruitment calls/correspondence and facility tours** for prospective students. 2018–
- New Program Development: Performance Studies**, academic minor proposal. 2020
- Secretary**, Communication & Fine Arts division faculty. 2019-20
- New Course Development: Film & Theatre** for FEV Gen. Education requirements. 2018-20
- Facilitator**, gig employment of student on National Tour Load-Out of *RENT* at UD. 2019
- Panelist**, New Faculty Orientation: “What I Wish I Knew.” 2019
- Facilitator**, Guest Lecturer on Comedy, Al Gini (*postponed*). 2018
- U. NEW ORLEANS – DEPT. OF FILM & THEATRE*
- Actor**, M.F.A. Creative Writing – Screenplay Workshop. 2016-18
- Various recruitment calls/correspondence and facility tours** for prospective students. 2016-18
- Film & Theatre Administrative Assistant** 2016-18
- U. NORTHERN IOWA – DEPT. OF THEATRE*
- “Ask-a-Student” Correspondent**, B.A. in Theatre: Performance-Acting and Music Minor. 2009-12
- Strayer-Wood Theatre Production Archivist**. Archived four years of UNI Department of Theatre productions and for new Rod Library special collection. 2011
- Theatre Recruitment Display Set-up/Take-Down** at the Iowa Thespian Festival. 2011
- Representative** of student organizations UNISTA and APO-TAP at University CHAS Day. 2011
- Thespian Festival - Video Interview** on B.A. in Theatre: Performance Program & UNISTA. 2011
- Theater Facility Tour Guide** for prospective students. 2009-11
- High School Talkback Speaker**, *Count Dracula* (Management), *Mother Hicks* (Cast). 2010

**HONORS &  
ACHIVEMENTS**

<i>Excellence in Directing</i> for <u>Silent Sky</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival, Region 5.	2020
<i>Student Commendations (Four Ryan Acting Noms &amp; Two Tech Comms)</i> – for <u>Silent Sky</u> and <u>The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival, Region 5.	2020
<i>Nomination – Best University Production</i> for <u>A Doll’s House</u> , Big Easy Entertainment Awards.	2019
<i>Winner (tie) – Best Director</i> for <u>The Royale</u> , Lakefront Player Awards.	2018
<i>Winner (tie) – Best Production</i> , <u>The Royale</u> , Lakefront Player Awards.	2018
<i>Nomination – Best University Production</i> for <u>The Royale</u> , Big Easy Entertainment Awards.	2018
<i>Excellence in Directing</i> for <u>The Royale</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival, Region 6.	2018
<i>Invited Performance</i> , <u>The Royale</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival, Region 6.	2018
<i>Nomination – Best Ensemble</i> for <u>Airline Highway</u> , Big Easy Entertainment Awards.	2017
<i>Nomination – Best University Production</i> for <u>The Aliens</u> , Big Easy Entertainment Awards.	2017
<i>Winner – Best National Ensemble Acting</i> for <u>The Aliens</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival, USA.	2017
<i>Winner – Best National Production</i> for <u>The Aliens</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival, USA.	2017
<i>Nominee – Irene Ryan Acting Award</i> for Evan in <u>The Aliens</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival Reg. 6.	2016
<i>Invited Performance</i> , <u>The Aliens</u> , KCAC Theatre Festival, Region 6.	2016
<i>Winner – EMMY® Award, 33A Commercial – Single Spot</i> for Dubuque Intl. Film Festival Commercial, EMMY® - Upper Midwest Region (Actor).	2015
<i>Winner – ADDY Award, Gold/Best in Show Television Regional/National Spot</i> for Dubuque Intl. Film Festival Commercial, ADDY Awards (Actor).	2015
<i>Superior-Rated, Experienced-Level Adjudicator</i> , Iowa High School Speech Assoc. (IHSSA).	2013
<i>Official Selection</i> , <u>Limelight</u> series, Julien International Film Festival.	2013
<i>Recipient – Theatre Activity Scholarship</i> , University of Northern Iowa.	2008-12
<i>Dean’s List (5x)</i> , College of Humanities and Fine Arts, University of Northern Iowa, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012.	2008-12
<i>Finalist – S.T.A.G.E., Inc. Scholarship</i> , S.T.A.G.E., Inc.	2011
<i>Nomination – Best Ensemble Cast</i> for <u>Chicago: The Musical</u> , Iowa Comm. Theatre Assoc.	2011
<i>Best Acting</i> (Youth Actor Coach) for <u>Striking Out</u> , Madison 48-Hour Film Competition.	2009
<i>Recipient – Artistic Achievement Award</i> , Department of Music, Dubuque Senior High.	2008
<i>Winner – Outstanding Lead Performance in a Short Play</i> for Norm Prescott in <u>Present Tense</u> , International Thespian Society - Troupe 69.	2008
<i>Winner – Best Marketing Strategy &amp; Publicity Design</i> for work on <u>Footloose: The Musical</u> , International Thespian Society - Iowa Festival.	2007

**ONLINE  
PORTFOLIO**

[www.RyanDecker.net](http://www.RyanDecker.net)  
*Directing and teaching philosophy statements*  
*Production photos, reviews, and testimonials*  
*Sample syllabi and lesson plans*