

# Benjamin Curns

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(646) 415-4700

# Theatre Director

Actors Equity Association

Society of American Fight Directors

## Directing Credits (selected)

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<i>Richard III</i>	William Shakespeare	Hoosier Shakes
<i>Macbeth</i> (National Tour)	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center
<i>Romeo &amp; Juliet</i> (National Tour)	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center
<i>King Lear</i> (Staged Reading)	William Shakespeare	PlayMakers Repertory Company
<i>Julius Caesar</i> (National Tour)	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> (National Tour)	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center
<i>The Boy</i>	Daniel Kennedy	Philadelphia Fringe Festival
<i>Shakespeare on Ice</i>	Paul Menzer	Blackfriars Conference
<i>'Diggers</i>	Michael Burdick	Blackfriars Conference
<i>Arsenic &amp; Old Lace</i>	Joseph Kesselring	Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre

## Assistant Directing

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<i>Two Noble Kinsmen</i>	William Shakespeare	Mary Baldwin University/Linda Bisessti
<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center/Nick Hutchison
<i>Importance of Being Earnest</i>	Oscar Wilde	American Shakespeare Center/Nick Hutchison
<i>Macbeth</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center/David Doersh
<i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center, Fred Nelson

## Youth/Academic Productions (selected)

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<i>As You Like It</i>	William Shakespeare	Elm Shakespeare Teen Troupe
<i>An Enemy of the People</i>	Henrik Ibsen	Southern Connecticut State University
<i>Complete Works....Abridged</i>	Long, Singer, Winfield	Southern Connecticut State University
<i>Coriolanus</i>	William Shakespeare	Shakespeare Academy @ Stratford
<i>Red Velvet</i>	Lolita Chakrabarti	Southern Connecticut State University
<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp
<i>Cymbeline</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp
<i>The Tempest</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp
<i>2 Henry IV</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp
<i>All's Well That Ends Well</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp
<i>Othello</i>	William Shakespeare	American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp

## Teaching

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-**Southern Connecticut State University:** THR 100 (Understanding Theatre), THR 121 (Foundations of Acting) THR 220 (Acting I), THR 499 (Acting II), THR 398 (Stage Combat), THR 391 (Plays in Performance)

-**Mary Baldwin University,** McDermott Visiting Teaching Artist for Shakespeare & Performance MFA Program

-**University of North Carolina Chapel Hill:** "Acting for Non-Majors" (DRA 135)

-**Lincoln Center Shakespeare Lab** (NYC) I assisted teaching artists in teaching *Julius Caesar* to NYC students

-**American Shakespeare Center:** Workshops for various college groups, senior tours, Federal Executive Institute

-**American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp:** led classes in combat, use of the First Folio, and text analysis.

-**Guest Teaching Artist:** James Madison University, Mary Baldwin University, Brave Spirits Theatre Company

## **Education & Training**

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- MFA in Acting, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Professional Actors Training Program
  - \*Recipient of the David A. Hammond Award for Excellence in Dramatic Art
- BA in History and Secondary Social Studies, State University of New York, Cortland, NY
- American Academy of Dramatic Art, New York, NY: Summer Acting Intensive
- Society of American Fight Directors: Advanced Actor/Combatant with Certifications in Knife, Sword & Shield, Quarterstaff, Rapier/Dagger, Single Sword, Broad Sword, and Unarmed Combat
  - \*Recipient of the David L. Boushey Founder's Award for Excellence in Unarmed Combat
  - \*Recipient of the Award for Best Scene, National Stage Combat Workshop (2016)

## **References**

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- Sara Holdren, Artistic Director Shakespeare Academy @ Stratford (434) 825-4788
- Sarah Enloe, Director of Education, American Shakespeare Center (540) 292-3395
- Mike Skinner, Chair of Theatre Southern Connecticut State University (203) 668-4772
- Linda Bissesti, Head of Acting, CalPoly Pomona, Artistic Director Southern California Shakespeare (909) 869-3987
- Jim Warren, Artistic Director, American Shakespeare Center (ret.) (540) 849-0465