



# COURTNEY GASTON

318.655.8383 | COURTNEYGASTONDESIGN@GMAIL.COM

WWW.COURTNEYGASTON.COM

## LIGHTING, SCENIC, & MEDIA

### EDUCATION

University of Iowa	MFA: Theatre Arts, Design	Iowa City, Iowa	2020
Centenary College of Louisiana	BA: Theatre	Shreveport, Louisiana	2007

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>Graduate Assistantship</b>		<b>6 semesters</b>	<b>2017-present</b>
University of Iowa Iowa City, IA	Duties include: Assisting in teaching undergraduate students, technology support for classes including setting up lighting and media systems, maintaining online archive of class projects, training sessions with students outside of class time, and creating and updating software tutorials for media servers Pandora’s Box and Dataton’s Watchout.		
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	<b>THTR:3270 Entertainment Design</b>	<b>3 semesters</b>	<b>2017-present</b>
University of Iowa Iowa City, IA	Introduction to elements of entertainment and corporate design elements such as media design, lighting design, and event layout drafting. Programs covered include Watchout and Pandora’s Box media servers, the GrandMA2 lighting console, and VectorWorks drafting software.		
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	<b>THTR:3250 Lighting I</b>	<b>2 semesters</b>	<b>2018-present</b>
University of Iowa Iowa City, IA	Introduction to theatrical lighting design using the ETC EOS computer-based Nomad software and the ETC Ion console. Students produce two practical projects in the light lab with an assortment of conventional lighting fixtures and several LED and moving light fixtures.		
<b>Guest Lecturer</b>	<b>DIGA:3876 Video for Performance</b>	<b>1 session</b>	<b>Spring 2019</b>
University of Iowa Iowa City, IA	Artist Application of Media Design: Lectured for one two-hour class on the practical and design applications in the media design of <i>Sunday in the Park with George</i> . Topics discussed include placement of projectors, process of design and development of content, and application of that material in the tech process.		
<b>Guest Lecturer</b>	<b>THTR:5200 Design Seminar</b>	<b>1 session</b>	<b>Spring 2019</b>
University of Iowa Iowa City, IA	Animating Transitions: Lectured and taught one half-hour session on animating video and media for the theatrical transition using After Effects. Provided content was manipulated in the program to create a dynamic and engaging series of simple animations that created a cohesive event.		
<b>Guest Lecturer</b>	<b>THTR:3240 Costume Design I</b>	<b>2 sessions</b>	<b>Fall 2019</b>
University of Iowa Iowa City, IA	Digital Rendering: Taught two two-hour sessions on digital renderings for costume design based on lesson materials created by colleague Chelsea June. Using Photoshop, the first lesson covered creating blocks of color, developing shading and highlights, using clipping masks, and experimenting with blend modes. The second lesson introduced importing students’ original line drawings, preparation of those drawings, and importing and manipulating textile patterns.		
<b>Guest Lecturer</b>	<b>THEA:363 Production II</b>	<b>3 sessions</b>	<b>Spring 2017</b>
Centenary College of Louisiana Shreveport, LA	Lighting Design: Lectured and led discussion on aspects of lighting design including form, color theory, texture, and dramaturgy using Sam Shepard’s <i>Buried Child</i> . Students were required to create a design concept, annotated script, and cue list.		

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE, CONT.

<b>After School Art Teacher</b> Legacy Elementary Benton, LA	<b>Learning to See as an Artist</b> Created and implemented an after-school art program for third to fifth grade students. Class sizes ranged from 10-15 students and met three times per week. Students learned skills in drawing and painting with lessons in line, perspective, shading, negative space, and structure. At the end of each 10-week course, students had an evening gallery reception in the school to display their work. My duties for this program included organizing, scheduling, lesson plan building, billing, and event organizing.	<b>6 semesters</b>	<b>2008-2010</b>
<b>After School Theatre Teacher</b> Legacy Elementary Benton, LA	<b>Theatre and Performance</b> Created and implemented an after-school art program for third to fifth grade students. Class sizes ranged from 10-15 students and met twice per week. Students in theatre worked on developing skills in public speaking, reading and comprehension, communication, and expression. At the end of each 10-week course, students had a one-evening performance. My duties for this program included organizing, scheduling, lesson plan building, billing, and event organizing.	<b>3 semesters</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>
<b>Art Teacher</b> Bossier Arts Council Bossier City, LA	<b>Arts in Education</b> The Arts in Education program was formed to provide art to elementary schools in the area in which art classes may not have been available to students due to staff or funding cuts. Duties as the floating art teacher included visiting all 13 elementary schools in Bossier Parish and teaching two one-hour lessons to each third grade class. Duties also included contacting schools and organizing a schedule in which to visit the classrooms, as well as create unique, engaging, educational lesson plans for this program.	<b>2 semesters</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>

## SCHOLARSHIP & PROFESSIONAL CREATIVE WORK

<b>Lighting Designer</b> University of Iowa Iowa City, IA	<b>SOFA Design Competition</b> A collaboration between the 3D Arts Department and the Theatre Arts Department at the University of Iowa, designers were challenged by the sculpture Objects Functional Art and Design (SOFA) Fair to create an cohesive installation that utilizes seating, lighting, and objects or staging. The project will be presented for adjudication at Navy Pier in October 2019 at the Chicago SOFA Fair. This project was possible due to departmental funding and interdepartmental grants.	<b>2019</b>
<b>Lighting Designer</b> She NYC Arts Los Angeles, CA	<b>She LA! Summer Arts Festival</b> Summer theatre festival featuring 5 female-identifying playwrights at the Zephyr Theatre in on Melrose Avenue in West Hollywood. Duties included designing the repertory light plot, cueing and designing lighting for individual shows, supervising load-ins and load-outs, and training interns working on electrics.	<b>2019</b>
<b>Lighting &amp; Scenic Design</b> The Prague Quadrennial 2019 Prague, CZ	<b>Media Clown</b> Media Clown is a grant-funded research project exploring how analog and digital performance evolves and interacts with each other through the art of clowning. Using cutting-edge technology, this project explores the potential theatrical uses of motion capture, location tracking, and projections to create an immersive digital world for the performer. The project was presented in the Emerging Artist series during the 2019 Prague Quadrennial and continues to develop with invitations to present at LDI 2020, CalArts, and goals of a national tour as it continues to explore current and emerging technology.	<b>2018-present</b>
<b>Lighting Design &amp; Tech Dir.</b> Edinburgh Fringe Festival Edinburgh, SCT	<b>bad things happen here...</b> This new play by Eric Conner Marlin was first produced at the University of Iowa in 2017. Using grant funding and private donations, the project was taken to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in the summer of 2018. Duties included analyzing the space and preparing for load-in and tech, managing the load-in and installation of lighting and scenic elements, programming, and supervising the two week run.	<b>2018</b>



## LIGHTING DESIGN

### UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

### IOWA CITY, IOWA

<i>Faculty/Grad Dance 2019</i>	Armando Duarte	2019
<i>Media Clown (Prague Quadrennial)</i>	Dan Fine	2019
<i>Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.</i>	Lila Rachel Becker	2018
<i>Northanger Abbey (premiere)</i>	Carol MacVey	2018
<i>Shoe (premiere)</i>	Erica Vannon	2018
<i>Found (premiere)</i>	Morgan Grambo	2018
<i>bad things happen here... (premiere)</i>	Lila Rachel Becker	2017

### SHE NYC ARTS

### LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

<i>She LA Summer Arts Festival</i>	Danielle DeMatteo	2017
------------------------------------	-------------------	------

### CENTENARY COLLEGE OF LOUISIANA SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

<i>The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	Twyla Robinson	2017
<i>Romeo &amp; Juliet</i>	Heather Peak Hooper	2017
<i>Pangaea (premiere)</i>	Ryan Williams	2010
<i>A New Brain</i>	Emily Heugatter	2010
<i>The House of Yes</i>	Emily Heugatter	2009
<i>The Rimers of Eldritch</i>	Nate Wasson	2008
<i>echoBOOM</i>	Brandy Austin	2008
<i>The Marriage of Bette &amp; Boo</i>	Adam Boyd	2006
<i>Boy Gets Girl</i>	Charity Schubert	2006
<i>Wildebeest (premiere)</i>	Stanton Dosset	2005
<i>Escaped Images Dance Concert</i>	Ginger Folmer	2005

### RIVER CITY REPERTORY THEATRE

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

#### ACTOR'S EQUITY GA CONTRACT

<i>Grey Gardens: The Musical</i>	Patric McWilliams	2016
<i>Venus in Fur</i>	Patric McWilliams	2014
<i>Bus Stop</i>	Patric McWilliams	2013
<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolfe?</i>	Patric McWilliams	2013
<i>The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	Patric McWilliams	2011
<i>God of Carnage</i>	Patric McWilliams	2011

### SHREVEPORT OPERA

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

<i>Così fan Tutte</i>	David Ronis	2017
<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i>	Nate Wasson	2017

### BYRD HIGH SCHOOL

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

<i>Sister Act: The Musical</i>	Ryan Williams	2017
<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Ryan Williams	2016
<i>Grease</i>	Ryan Williams	2014
<i>Xanadu</i>	Ryan Williams	2013
<i>Singin' in the Rain</i>	Ryan Williams	2013
<i>An Then There Were None</i>	Ryan Williams	2012
<i>Little Women: The Musical</i>	Ryan Williams	2011
<i>Hairspray</i>	Ryan Williams	2011
<i>Funny Girl</i>	Ryan Williams	2010



## LIGHTING DESIGN CONTINUED

*Eleemosynary*  
*The Wizard of Oz*  
*Footloose*

Ryan Williams 2009  
 Ryan Williams 2009  
 Ryan Williams 2008

### PETER PAN PLAYERS

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

*Snow White & the Seven Dwarves*  
*The Little Mermaid*  
*The Jungle Book*  
*Sleeping Beauty*  
*Robin Hood*  
*Snow White & the Seven Dwarves*  
*Pinocchio*  
*Beauty & the Beast*  
*Aladdin*  
*Aristo-cats*

Shannon Shea 2012  
 Shannon Shea 2010  
 Shannon Shea 2009  
 Shannon Shea 2009  
 Shannon Shea 2009  
 Isabel Rudy 2006  
 Isabel Rudy 2006  
 Isabel Rudy 2005  
 Isabel Rudy 2005  
 Isabel Rudy 2005

### ACADEMY OF CHILDREN'S THEATRE

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

*Oliver!*  
*Hairspray*  
*The Sound of Music*  
*The Diary of Anne Frank*  
*Annie*  
*Fiddler on the Roof*  
*Little Women*

Cynthia Whitaker 2012  
 Cynthia Whitaker 2011  
 Cynthia Whitaker 2008  
 Cynthia Whitaker 2007  
 Cynthia Whitaker 2006  
 Cynthia Whitaker 2006  
 Cynthia Whitaker 2005

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

*Miracle on 34th Street*  
*Harvey*  
*The Pink Panther Strikes Again*  
*It's a Wonderful Life*  
*I Remember Mama*  
*Crazy for You*  
*Mousetrap*  
*Honk*  
*The Secret Garden*  
*Kiss Me, Kate*

Richard Folmer 2012  
 Reagan Casanova 2012  
 Regean Casanova 2012  
 Regean Casanova 2011  
 Richard Folmer 2011  
 Richard Folmer 2011  
 Richard Folmer 2011  
 Ryan Williams 2010  
 Ryan Williams 2009  
 Ryan Williams 2008

### EXTENSIONS OF EXCELLENCE

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

*Dance His High Praise IX*  
*Bethune*  
*Dance His High Praise VIII*  
*Storm Stories: Katrina*  
*Dance His High Praise VII*  
*Dance His High Praise VI*  
*Dance His High Praise IV*

Vincent Williams 2017  
 Vincent Williams 2017  
 Vincent Williams 2016  
 Vincent Williams 2016  
 Vincent Williams 2015  
 Vincent Williams 2014  
 Vincent Williams 2012

### LOUISIANA DANCE FOUNDATION

### SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

*LA Dance ALIVE!*

Carol Smitherman Anglin 2012



## LIGHTING DESIGN CONTINUED

<b>HEALTHY OYSTER COLLECTIVE</b>	<b>IOWA CITY, IOWA</b>		
<i>bad things happen here... (Edinburgh Fringe Festival)</i>		Lila Rachel Becker	2018
<b>SOUTHFIELD SCHOOL</b>	<b>SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA</b>		
<i>Aladdin</i>		Courtney Young	2016
<i>Willy Wonka &amp; the Chocolate Factory</i>		Courtney Loggins	2013
<i>Alice in Wonderland</i>		Courtney Loggins	2012
<i>Thoroughly Modern Millie</i>		Mary Thoma	2011
<b>LANCASTER UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>LANCASTER, ENGLAND</b>		
<i>An Inspector Calls</i>		Ben Davis	2007
<b>FRIENDS OF MARJORIE LYONS</b>	<b>SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA</b>		
<i>August: Osage County</i>		Nate Wasson	2016
<b>STAGE CENTER OF LOUISIANA</b>	<b>SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA</b>		
<i>Sweeny Todd</i>		Jared Watson	2013

## SCENIC DESIGN

<b>UNIVERSITY OF IOWA</b>	<b>IOWA CITY, IOWA</b>		
<i>Sweat</i>		Sarah Lacy Hamilton	2019
<i>Media Clown (Prague Quadrennial)</i>		Dan Fine	2019
<i>P O L A R I S: a tragedy expansion pack (premiere)</i>		Erica Vannon	2019
<b>SOUTHFIELD SCHOOL</b>	<b>SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA</b>		
<i>Alice in Wonderland</i>		Courtney Loggins	2012
<i>Thoroughly Modern Millie</i>		Mary Thoma	2011
<b>SHREVEPORT LITTLE THEATRE</b>	<b>SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA</b>		
<i>Dark of the Moon</i>		Courtney Loggins	2013
<b>PETER PAN PLAYERS</b>	<b>SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA</b>		
<i>The Jungle Book</i>		Shannon Shea	2009

## MEDIA & PROJECTION DESIGN

<b>UNIVERSITY OF IOWA</b>	<b>IOWA CITY, IOWA</b>		
<i>Sunday in the Park with George</i>		Alan MacVey	2019
<i>Love + Information</i>		Bo Frazier	2019
<i>Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.</i>		Lila Rachel Becker	2018

## ASSOCIATE SCENIC DESIGN

<i>Sunday in the Park with George</i>	University of Iowa	Nic Wilson	2019
---------------------------------------	--------------------	------------	------

## ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGN

<i>Fun Home</i>	University of Iowa	Bryon Winn	2017
<i>LA Dance ALIVE!</i>	LA Dance Foundation	Pavel Perebillo	2014
<i>L'eliser D'amore</i>	Shreveport Opera	Don Hooper	2006



## ELECTRICIAN

### IATSE Local 298

Business Agent: Debra Graham

### Shreveport, Louisiana

2004-2017

Worked as a permit worker on electrics as local crew for both local and touring productions at large venues including The Strand Theatre, The Municipal Theatre, and Riverview Theatre. Duties included loading touring equipment in and out of the building, hanging and focusing lighting equipment, building trussing, serving as run crew during performances, and operating lighting consoles. Local crew was also responsible for restoring the venue to standard repertory lighting hang after load outs.

## OWNER/OPERATOR

### No Drama Productions, LLC

### Shreveport, Louisiana

2009-2013

Formed, owned, and operated a production company serving the Northwest Louisiana theatre community with business partner, Adam Boyd. Services provided by the company included set construction, lighting design, sound design, and set design. The company provided services to over 15 different performing companies in the area along with corporate events and Mardi Gras balls. The construction was operated out of a private shop where we had the ability to do both carpentry and metal working.

## SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

### Student Ambassador

University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA

### MFA Recruiting

2017-2020

Responsible for correspondence and tours for potential MFA candidate for the University of Iowa.

### USITT Student Chapter

University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA

### Founding Member

2019

Founding member of the USITT student chapter at the University of Iowa serving as secretary for the first semester of formation. The organization is focused on raising interest in technical theatre and fundraising to support undergraduate and graduate students attendance of USITT conventions and expos.

### Alpha Psi Omega

Centenary College  
Shreveport, LA

### President

2005-2006

Alpha Psi Omega is a student honor fraternity for theatre students. Presidential duties included maintaining and organizing events and roster, as well as holding monthly meetings for the elected officers. Every year, two major events were held. The end-of-year banquet for the department and the initiation ceremony during which new students who had demonstrated excellence and commitment to the department were invited to join the fraternity.

### Christmas in the Sky

Shreveport Regional Arts Council  
Shreveport, LA

### Volunteer

2006, 2008

Christmas in the Sky is an arts fundraising event that takes place every other year with an annual arts economic contribution of \$90 million. It requires over 500 volunteers to create and run from artists to auctioneers to costumed characters.

### Red River Arts Festival

The Junior League of Shreveport  
Shreveport, LA

### Volunteer

2007

The Red River Revel is an annual festival of food, culture, art, and music that is run on a volunteer basis. Volunteer duties include ticket and coupon sales, managing entrances, serving food and drink, and assisting artists.



## SKILLS

### Computer Software

- Vectorworks 2019
- Photoshop
- Premiere Pro
- InDesign
- Microsoft Office
- Lightwright 6
- SketchUp
- After Effects
- Illustrator
- Pages, Sheets

### Media Servers

- Watchout
- Pandora's Box
- Isadora
- Qlab

### Lighting Consoles

- ETC EOS & Legacy
- GrandMA2
- Strand Palette

### Construction

- Carpentry
- MIG Welding

## RECOGNITIONS & AWARDS

2019	Felton Travel Funding Award	University of Iowa	SOFA Design Competition
2019	GPSG Travel Grant	University of Iowa	Prague Quadrennial
2019	Ulfers/Hall Study Abroad Scholarship	University of Iowa	Prague Quadrennial
2019	Felton Travel Funding Award	University of Iowa	Prague Quadrennial
2019	Summer Funding in the Arts	University of Iowa	Prague Quadrennial
2018	Felton Travel Funding Award	University of Iowa	Edinburgh Fringe Festival
2018	Summer Funding in the Arts	University of Iowa	Edinburgh Fringe Festival
2007	Best Artistic Design	Alpha Psi Omega	<i>Antigone</i>
2006	Best Lighting Design in a Musical	SB Memory Award	<i>Beauty &amp; the Beast</i>
2006	Best Lighting in a Play	SB Memory Award	<i>Wildebeest</i>



## REFERENCES

References available upon request.

