

# Rachel Luann Strayer

PLAYWRIGHT, THEATRE ARTIST, EDUCATOR

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## EDUCATION

Wilkes University	M.F.A., Creative Writing, focus in Playwriting	2012
Wilkes University	M.A., Creative Writing, focus in Playwriting	2011
Clarks Summit University	B.S., Communications and Theatre	2004

## CURRENT POSITIONS

Adjunct Assistant Professor	Messiah University	2024-Present
High School Library Aide	Hempfield School District	2021-Present

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Adjunct Director / Assistant Professor

TND 185 & 385 <i>Production Studio I &amp; II</i>	Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA	2025
ENGL 110 <i>Critical Reading and Writing</i>	Messiah University, Mechanicsburg, PA	2024-Present

### Director of Theatre

ENGL2165 <i>Introduction to Dramatic Literature</i>	Keystone College, La Plume, Pennsylvania	2016-2019
ENGL3011 <i>Special Topics in Creative Writing: Playwriting</i>		
THEA1120 <i>Introduction to Theatre</i>		
THEA1125 <i>Acting I</i>		
THEA2125 <i>Acting II</i>		
THEA2120 <i>Survey of Technical Theatre</i>		
THEA3110 <i>Directing for the Stage</i>		

### Assistant Professor of Communication Arts & Humanities

COMM 1125 <i>Speech Communication</i>	Keystone College, La Plume, Pennsylvania	2014-2019
COMM 2110 <i>Professional Speech</i>		
COMM 2145 <i>Public Relations</i>		
ENGL2110 <i>American Literature I</i>		
ENGL2115 <i>American Literature II</i>		
ENGL2120 <i>World Literature</i>		
ENGL3017 <i>Great Themes in Literature: Utopia/Dystopia</i>		

### Adjunct Instructor

COMM 1125 <i>Speech Communication</i>	Keystone College	2011-2014
ENGL 160 <i>Composition &amp; Rhetoric</i>	Marywood University	2012-2014
ENGL180 <i>Introduction to World Literature</i>	Marywood University	2012-2014

### Instructor

Scripts for the Stage: Intermediate Playwriting for Teens	Abington Community Library	2012-2016
Playing with Words: Introduction to Playwriting for Teens	Abington Community Library	2011-2015
Oh, the Drama! Theatre Workshop for Teens	Abington Community Library	2013
WordPlay: An Introduction to Playwriting for Adults	Abington Community Library	2012

### Guest Lecturer

Playwriting Workshop: A Playwright's Work	Central Michigan University	2024
Playwriting Feedback Workshop	Central Michigan University	2024
Screenwriting: Script Writing	Millersville University	2022
DR406 <i>Educational and Devised Theatre</i> – Study Abroad	Clarks Summit University	2018
Career Interest Seminar: Pitching & Querying Your Work	Clarks Summit University	2017
Creative Writing: Playwriting	Clarks Summit University	2016
Career Interest Seminar: Theatre & Writing	Clarks Summit University	2010
Creative Writing: Dramatic Writing	Clarks Summit University	2008

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## Other Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, EN401 <i>Fiction Writing</i>	Clarks Summit University	2009
Theatrical Workshop Instructor	Teen Leadership Conference	2007-2008

## WRITTEN WORK

### Selected Plays: Full-Length

<i>Drowning Ophelia</i>	Productions – NDNA Productions, Bulgaria	2024-2026
	Production – Art Trema Fest Ruma, Serbia	2026
	Production – Sibiu International Theater Festival, Romania	2025
	Production – Shakespeare Opera Theatre	2025
	Production – Suffolk University in Boston	2025
	Production – Balkan Theatre Festival, Serbia	2024
	Production – Wayne State University	2024
	Production – Eastern Washington University	2023
	Production – Pinecrest Players Theatre	2022
	Production – Acadia University	2021
	Production – University of Toronto	2021
	Production – University of Indianapolis	2021
	Production – University of Idaho	2019
	Production – Philadelphia Fringe Festival	2016
	Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2016
Production – Repurposed Theatre	2013	
<i>Laertes Dies Too</i>	Staged Reading – Lancaster Dramatists Platform	2026
	Staged Reading – The Container Globe, Detroit	2025
<i>The Last Daughter</i>	Production – Central Michigan University	2024
	Staged Reading – Jacksonville State University	2023
	Production – Oklahoma City University	2021
<i>The Poe Asylum</i>	Production – Heritage High School	2024
	Production – Cheyenne High School	2023
	Production – Keystone College	2018
	Production – Scranton Fringe Festival	2016
<i>After Jane</i>	Production – Skidmore College	2023
<i>A Decameron for the Apocalypse</i>	Production – McAllen High School	2021
<i>Songbird</i>	Staged Reading – Premiere Stages at Kean University	2020/2021
	Staged Reading – The Bechdel Group	2019
<u>Selected Plays: Short/One Act</u>		
<i>Bell Witch &amp; Bloody Mary</i>	Production – Gretna Theatre	2025
<i>Tooth Fairy from Hell</i>	Production – BATS Pop-Up Pub Theatre, Norway	2025
<i>Perchance to Dream</i>	Production – Falls Church High School	2025
	Production – G.P. Vanier Secondary School	2024
	Production – Clear Lake High School	2022
<i>The Keg of Amontillado, or Berenice Bites Back</i>	Staged Reading – Orpheus Theatre Company	2024

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## Selected Plays: Short/One Act (cont.)

<i>Apart</i>	Production – Endless Mountains Theatre Company Production – Interlochen Arts Academy	2023 2022
<i>Character Points</i>	Production – Endless Mountains Theatre Company Staged Reading – The Bechdel Group	2023 2021
<i>A Warrior's Heart</i>	Staged Reading – Orpheus Theatre Company	2023
<i>A Haunting in May</i>	Production – Creative Works of Lancaster Staged Reading – Lancaster Dramatists Platform	2022 2022
<i>River Witch</i>	Staged Reading – Orpheus Theatre Company	2022
<i>Light the Way Back</i>	Production – Bucknell University Production – Northland Pioneer College Production – Nechako Lakes School District Production – NextStage Theatre Virtual Production – Auburn University Virtual Production – Millersville University	2022 2022 2021 2021 2020 2020
<i>Corn Mother</i>	Staged Reading – Orpheus Theatre Company	2021
<i>The Single Ladies Cozy</i> <i>Murder Book Club</i>	Virtual Production – Femme Fatale Play Festival Virtual Production – Creative Works of Lancaster	2021 2021
<i>Light</i>	Virtual Production – Auburn University Virtual Production – The One-Minute Play Festival	2020 2020
<i>I'll be Zooming You</i>	Virtual Production – Millersville University	2020
<i>Ghost Story</i>	Virtual Production – Centerstage Theatre Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2020 2019
<i>Sisters</i>	Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2018
<i>Safe As Houses</i>	Virtual Production – Millersville University Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2020 2017
<i>In the Dark</i>	Production – Diva Theater Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2017 2015
<i>It's Enough</i>	Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2016
<i>The Next Step</i>	Virtual Production – Millersville University Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2020 2014
<i>A Clean Bathroom</i>	Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2013
<i>Empathy</i>	Production – Gaslight Theatre Company	2012

## PUBLICATIONS

<i>Drowning Ophelia</i>	Blue Moon Plays	2021
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## HONORS

<i>Laertes Dies Too</i>	Semi-Finalist – The O’Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference	2025
	Semi-Finalist – Premiere Stages at Kean University	2024
<i>Songbird</i>	Finalist – Henley Rose Playwriting Competition for Women	2022
	Finalist – Premiere Stages at Kean University	2020/2021
<i>The Last Daughter</i>	Finalist – Jane Chambers Award for Excellence in Feminist Playwriting	2020

## DIRECTING

<i>Murder on the Orient Express</i>	Director	Franklin & Marshall College	2025
<i>The Tempest</i>	Co-Director	Lancaster Shakespeare Theatre	2025
<i>Love’s Labour’s Lost</i>	Director	Lancaster Shakespeare Theatre	2024
<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	Director	Lancaster Shakespeare Theatre	2023
<i>Puffs</i>	Director	Millersville University	2023
<i>Over the River and Through the Woods</i>	Director	Keystone College	2019
<i>The Poe Asylum</i>	Director	Keystone College	2018
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Co-Director	CSU & Keystone College	2018
<i>The 39 Steps</i>	Director	Keystone College	2017
<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	Director	Keystone College	2017
<i>Almost, Maine</i>	Director	Keystone College	2016
<i>The Poe Asylum</i>	Co-Director	Scranton Fringe Festival	2016
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Director	Ghostlight Productions	2016
<i>Almost, Maine</i>	Director	Ghostlight Productions	2015
<i>Scenes from Metamorphoses</i>	Director	Ghostlight Productions	2014
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Director	Ghostlight Productions	2012
<i>A Midnight Dreary</i>	Co-Director	Ghostlight Productions	2011
<i>The Mousetrap</i>	Director	Ghostlight Productions	2010

## PERFORMANCE WORK

<i>Measure for Measure</i>	Escala	Lancaster Shakespeare Theatre	2025
<i>The Moon and Stars</i>	Lenore	Creative Works of Lancaster	2023
<i>Itch (A Monologue from The Last Daughter)</i>	Eve	Disrupt Theatre Company	2020
<i>Hamlet</i>	Horatio	Ghostlight Productions	2018
<i>The Tempest</i>	Prospero	Ghostlight Productions	2017
<i>The Poe Asylum: The Raven</i>	Woman	Scranton Fringe Festival	2016
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Innogen	Scranton Shakespeare Festival	2016
<i>Steel Magnolias</i>	M’lynn	Clarks Summit University	2015
<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>	Adriana	Ghostlight Productions	2015
<i>Weapons of Whedon</i>	River Tam & others	Access Theatre, NYC	2014
<i>Macbeth</i>	Lady Macbeth	Ghostlight Productions	2014
<i>How Does It Feel?</i>	Cassius & others	Access Theatre, NYC	2013
<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	Mrs. Ford	Ghostlight Productions	2013
<i>Rock Bottom: Monologues About Starting Over</i>	Various Roles	Scranton Public Theatre	2013
<i>Physical Discussions</i>	Joan of Arc & others	Access Theatre, NYC	2012
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Beatrice	Ghostlight Productions	2011
<i>A Midnight Dreary</i>	Murderess & others	Ghostlight Productions	2011
<i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i>	Helena	Ghostlight Productions	2010
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Feste the Clown	Ghostlight Productions	2009

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## STAGE COMBAT TRAINING

Stage Combat Workshops and Choreography for <i>She Kills Monsters</i>	2019-2020
• Assisted Jared Kirby with instruction for knife and unarmed	
Stage Combat Workshop and Choreography for <i>Hamlet</i>	2018
• Assisted Jared Kirby with instruction for longsword and sword and shield	
• Learned choreography for two fight scenes	
Stage Combat Workshop and Choreography for <i>The Tempest</i>	2017
• Assisted Jared Kirby with instruction for unarmed and attended workshop for quarterstaff	
• Learned choreography for one fight scene	
Stage Combat Workshop and Choreography for <i>Julius Caesar</i>	2016
• Assisted Jared Kirby with instruction for unarmed and knife	
• Assisted with the choreography of two fights	
Combat Con – Las Vegas	2015
• Attended workshops in several knife fighting techniques, knife throwing, and Steampunk umbrella fighting	
Art of Combat Intensive with John Lennox, Jared Kirby, and Kyle Rowling – NYC	2012-2014
• Attended workshops in unarmed combat, knife, longsword, tomahawk, small sword, whip, and quarterstaff	
• Performed in seven fight scenes for three Art of Combat Intensive Showcases & assisted with choreography for one fight	

## ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION WORK

<i>The Tempest</i>	Costume Designer	Lancaster Shakespeare Theatre	2025
<i>Macbeth</i>	Costume Designer	Millersville University	2023
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Stage Manager	Lancaster Shakespeare Theatre	2022
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Assistant Director	Scranton Shakespeare Festival	2016

## MEMBERSHIPS

Lancaster Dramatists Platform	2019-Present
New Play Exchange: <a href="https://newplayexchange.org/users/21286/rachel-luann-strayer">https://newplayexchange.org/users/21286/rachel-luann-strayer</a>	2019-Present
Dramatists Guild of America	2015-Present
Art of Combat / New York Combat for Stage and Screen	2012-2022