

# Ryan Keith Justus

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## EDUCATION

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- Master of Arts in Teaching** **December 2022**  
**Single Subject Teaching Credential in English**  
Umass Global, Walnut Creek, California.  
Action Research Project: “Shakespeare and Student Engagement: Applying Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to Instructional Practices for the Bard’s Works”  
Advisor: Professor Shari Farris.
- Graduate Certificate in Applied Shakespeare** **December 2022**  
University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, Colorado
- Master of Arts in Theatre Arts** **August 2020**  
San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California.  
Thesis: “The Big Reveal: Investigating Burlesque Practices in the 21st Century”  
Advisor: Professor Kurt Daw.
- Bachelor of Arts in Dramatic Arts** **May 2001**  
University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California.

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## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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- Grading for Equity** **October 2022**  
Acalanes Union High School District
- Working With and Across Difference** **April 2022-September 2022**  
Dr. Lynnā McPhatter-Harris | Acalanes Union High School District
- Elevating Racial Consciousness for Equity Transformation** **March 2022**  
Dr. Lori A. Watson | Acalanes Union High School District
- Theatre Teacher Bootcamp** **July 2021**  
Gai Jones & Krista Carson Elhai | Virtual
- Learning and Development in a Multi-Cultural Society** **January 2009**  
Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, California

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## TEACHING PROFILE

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**Bishop O’Dowd High School**, Oakland, California

**May 2023**

English Teacher - Short-Term Substitute

Instructional Formats: In-Person

Class sizes - range from 25-30 per section

### **Courses Taught**

#### **“English 3.”**

- Facilitated instruction in English at 9th and 11th.
- Maintained course pacing and alignment with other department teachers.
- Executed lesson plan provided by the department.
- Differentiate instruction to support the needs of each student.
- Regular communication and check-ins to ensure student success.

**Las Lomas High School**, Walnut Creek, California

**October 2020 - March 2023**

Theatre Arts Teacher & English Teacher

Instructional Formats: Online Synchronous & Asynchronous, Hybrid, and In-Person

Class sizes - range from 25-30 per section

### **Courses Taught**

#### **“Drama 1.”** Annually.

An exploration of theatre within a historical and cultural context. Emphasis on the development of performance skills and creative self-expression using a variety of topics and methods, including storytelling, pantomime, improvisation, moving on the stage, Greek Theater, Commedia dell’Arte, monologue and scene work, performance critiques, and musical theatre.

#### **“Drama 2.”** Annually.

Continuing theatre students gain additional experience in dramatic arts through acting, and technical theatre, while still focusing on a historical and cultural context. Topics include accent work, character development, Shakespeare, continued monologue and scene work, points of view in storytelling through the Roshoman effect, increased development of performance critiques, creative theatrical writing projects, and research-driven musical theatre projects focused on the mid-late 20th century.

#### **“Stagecraft.”** Annually.

The focus is on creating a firm foundation in technical theatre. Students examine all technical aspects of the production process. Units of study will include, theatre history, design, set construction, props, lighting, sound, costume and make-up, advertising, and stage management. The course is repeatable and provides the ability to refine knowledge and skill set.

**“Advanced Drama/Honors.”** Annually.

Providing deeper development as a student of theatre. This course is a production class. Participate in multiple public performances, which are developed by the students. We will not Engage with drama and theater moves from viewer and participant to creator. There is an exploration of direction, dramaturgy, use of Shakespeare and current applications, contemporary playwrights, the development of original works of theatre through playwriting and devising, and examine the technical side of theatre. Theater research is extended through special projects as well as in the research-driven musical theatre projects focused on the late 20th century-21st century.

The honors course is geared toward students who have demonstrated a unique commitment to Drama and who strive for additional and extensive Theatre Arts challenges. For the Honors designation, students complete capstone projects (i.e. write and/or direct a play) and additional academic papers each semester in addition to the Advanced Drama coursework.

**“English Credit Recovery.”** Annually.

- Facilitated instruction in English at 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades for credit recovery.
- Differentiate instruction to support the needs of each student.
- Regular communication and check-ins to ensure student success.

**Additional Roles**

- Collaborated with the parent Performing Arts Foundation on fundraisers and program needs and support options.
- Developed a new Musical Theatre course for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Advisor for clubs:
  - Drama Council (annually)
  - Improv Club (21-22)
  - Fashion of the Future (22-23)
- Engaged with all IEP and 504 meetings to provide adequate feedback for evaluation.
- Tier 2 team member using data to drive decision-making processes and interventions for the campus. (21-22)
- School site council member (22-23)
- VAPA department Course Alike Lead (22-23)

**San Francisco State University**, San Francisco, California

**Spring 2019-Spring 2020**

Graduate Assistant

Instructional Formats: Online Synchronous & Asynchronous, Hybrid, and In-Person

- Developed and administered a course unit on Musical Theatre for the online “Intro to Theater” Course.
- Utilized the online learning management system to design, deploy, and evaluate unit assessments.
- Facilitated unit on theatre critique and evaluative practices.
- Assessed assignments and provided feedback and grades based on an established rubric.

Guest Lecturer as a Graduate Student

Spring 2020

Topic: Writing About Theater

- Developed an asynchronous lecture series about playwright Lauren Gunderson and her play *I and You*.
- Created a discussion activity that utilized learning management software.

**Professional Dance Network**, Irvine, California

May 2012-Present

Musical Theatre and Dance Faculty & Adjudicatory

- Taught master classes containing 100-200 students, from both private studios and high school dance programs.
- Instruction is accessible to multiple skill levels and a variety of backgrounds.
- Lead special topics workshops (i.e., Staging a Show - concept to curtain, music editing, casting).
- Provided constructive feedback as a performance adjudicator that helps students hone their skills and abilities as performers.

**Dance/10 Performing Arts Center**, Alameda, California

August 1997-Present

Faculty/Choreographer/Director

Dance instruction in Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Musical Theatre, and Theatre Camps

- Develop curricula that are appropriate by age-level and experience, ensuring that all students can learn and develop their abilities during the year.
- Utilize a variety of instructional methods, including project-based learning, to satisfy multiple learning styles.
- Coach students in the use of critical-thinking skills related to the performing arts through oral descriptions and demonstrative skills.
- Plan, build, and create set and prop pieces needed for seasonal productions.
- Advise parents about student-level placement and advancement to ensure student success.
- Choreograph and produce award-winning choreography for teen and pre-teen students involved in our competitive team.
- Develop and direct 3-5 performances per year, including concert style and theme-driven productions.
- Summer program instruction and direction for Musical Theatre camps.
- See Professional Experience for further details.

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## CONFERENCE PAPERS

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“Record, Notate, and Develop: Butoh-fū’s Place in Western Dance.” SPAS Graduate Student Conference. University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI. June 2020. Due to Covid-19, the conference was virtual.

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## THEATRE & PERFORMANCE PROFILE

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### Director/Choreographer/Set Designer/Costumer

**Las Lomas High School**, Walnut Creek, California

*Oklahoma!* by Rodgers and Hammerstein. March 2023.

*The Two Gentlemen of Verona* by William Shakespeare. October 2022.

*Ranked, A Musical* by David Taylor Gomes and Kyle Holmes. March 2022.

*The Laramie Project* by Moisés Kaufman. October 2021

**Annual Student Cabaret.** May 2021 & 2022

**Alameda High School**, Alameda, California

*Dogfight* by Peter Duchan and Pasek & Paul. April 2017.

*A Chorus Line* by James Kirkwood Jr. and Nicholas Dante. May 2017.

### Choreographer/Assistant Director

**Alameda High School**, Alameda, California

*The Reality of Now* by Annika Stenstedt. April 2019.

*Heathers* by Laurence O'Keefe and Kevin Murphy. April 2018.

*Pitch Perfect* by Kay Cannon. March 2018.

*Carrie* by Lawrence D. Cohen. April 2016.

*Footloose* by Dean Pitchford and Walter Bobbie. March 2016

**Annual Student Cabaret.** June 2016, 2017, 2018

### Performance - Stage

**Dance/10 Performing Arts Center**, Alameda, California

<i>ProjectRyRy</i>	One-Man Show	2024
<b>Featured Dancer</b>	Various Performances	1997-Current
<i>Aladdin</i>	Genie	2018
<i>Elf</i>	Buddy	2016
<i>The Music Man</i>	Harold Hill	2014

**Altarena Playhouse**, Alameda, California

<i>Steppin' Out</i>	Stagecrew	1997
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**Alameda High School**, Alameda, California

<i>The Diviners</i>	Basil	1996
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<i>Charlotte's Web</i>	Father	1995
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**Alameda Chamber Ballet**, Alameda, California

<i>Scavengers</i>	<i>Featured Dancer</i>	1996
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<i>Fiesta Primavera</i>	<i>Featured Dancer</i>	1996
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### **Performance – Parade**

**The Tap Dancing Christmas Trees**, Alameda, California  
**Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade**, New York City, NY 2001, ‘04, ‘07, ‘12, ‘16, ‘23  
**Palm Springs Festival of Lights**, Palm Springs, CA 2017, ‘19, ‘22  
**Global Winter Wonderland**, Sacramento, CA 2014 & 2017  
**Hollywood Holiday Parade**, Los Angeles, CA 2010 & 2013  
**America’s Children’s Parade**, Oakland, CA 2001-2013

### **Performance – International**

**Dance/10 Performing Arts Center**, Alameda, California  
France dance performance tour. 2018  
Italy dance performance tour. 2016  
London (Summer Olympics) performance tour. 2012  
France dance performance tour. 2012

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## **PLAYWRITING & PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT**

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**Dance/10 Performing Arts Center**, Alameda, California  
*Not Another Nutcracker*, A Hipster Take on a Holiday Tradition. 2019.  
*The Coconut Cracker*, A Tropical Twist on a Holiday Classic. 2007.

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## **AWARDS**

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**Mask & Dagger Award**  
University of California, Berkeley – Department of Dramatic Arts. May 2001.  
**Teen Mister Dance of California**  
Dance Masters of California Chapter 13. November 1995.

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## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS**

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California Educational Theatre Association (2020-Current)  
California Teachers Association (2020-Current)  
National Education Association (2020-Current)  
Dance Masters of California, Chapter 13 (1998-Current)  
Certified Teacher and Nationally Certified Examiner in Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Acrobatics, and Modern  
Cal Alumni Association Life Member

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## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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American Burlesque  
Queer representation in American theatre, specifically works set in rural America,  
Musical Theatre  
Shakespeare, specifically exploring his works and practices through a lens of DEI practices.

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## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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### **Dance Masters of California Chapter 13, California**

Coordinate youth-centric performing arts competitions and educational conventions.  
Board Member since 2010. President from 2015-2019. Treasure 2022-current.

### **Dance/10 Dancers, Inc., Alameda, California**

Facilitate fundraising and scholarship oversight.  
Board Member since 2004. Treasure 2017-current.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Dance/10 Performing Arts Center, Alameda, California**

**August 1997-Present**

#### Operations Manager

- Create and produce branding and promotional materials for both print and web, which have aided in communicating services to prospects that doubled student population over 5 years.
- Faculty manager and trainer, database manager, accounts receivable, merchandiser, purchasing agent, event planner, and website maintenance/developer.
- Manage daily operations of the facility.
- Responsible for all accounts receivables, purchasing, budget planning, and payroll.
- Planned, produced, and led dancers to the 2012 London Olympics and 2016 World's Fair in Milan, as well as 5 trips to the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade as associate director and performer in The Tap Dancing Christmas Trees.

### **Oakland & Alameda Magazine, Alameda, California**

**March 2004-August 2013**

#### Operations Manager

- Organized and maintained daily workflow for all administrative staff.
- Maintained company FileMaker database and ensured that data entry was completed error-free. Responsible for the design of new database components and reports.
- Acted as human resources, providing all necessary documentation and information to employees.
- Developed a training program for all new hires, both administrative and artistic. Created reference materials for all employees.
- Responsible for proofreading and contract-checking all publications before final printing.
- Responsible for uploading content to the website as publications were published.

### **Mariner Square Athletic Club, Alameda, CA**

**June 1997-January 2004**

#### Assistant Manager/Director of Cafe, Aerobics & Aquatics

- Maintained a successful aerobics & aquatics program, kept a detailed budget, calculated payroll, organized specialty programs, and coordinated instructor schedules.
- Redeveloped in-house café. Monitored waste and shrinkage. Tracked profit & loss based on the cost of goods and cost of service.
- Supervised staff of seventy-five at the front desk, cafe, and all facility instructors.

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## REFERENCES

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**Jessica Jurgens**

Visual & Performing Arts Department Chair  
Las Lomas High School  
(925) 280-3920 | jjurgens@auhsdschools.org

**Megan McKinley**

Drama Teacher (Former)  
Alameda High School  
(510) 867-9194 | megangel@aol.com

**Pamm Drake**

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Dance/10 Performing Arts  
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