

Abby Bender

Technical Director, Carpenter, & Educator

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Previous Work Experience

West Virginia Public Theatre: Technical Director, May-Jul. 2024

- ❖ Budgeted, drafted, and supervised load-in and strike of a two-show season
- ❖ Managed a crew of five carpenters at various skill levels
- ❖ Fostered communication and collaboration between departments as pertained to scenery

West Virginia University: Graduate Teaching Assistant, Aug. 2024-Present

- ❖ Led crews of undergraduate students in construction/installation of scenery in three different venues
- ❖ Taught THET103 Stagecraft as professor of record
- ❖ Functioned as Technical Director for *The Rimers of Eldritch* and *Dracula, ...revenge fantasy, really*

George Washington University: Instructional Lab Associate, Scene Shop, Oct. 2019-July 2024

- ❖ Instructed and supervised undergraduate students in safe and effective building practices
- ❖ Aided in developing a new shop space on the Foggy Bottom campus
- ❖ Maintained shop, performance, and storage spaces on all three GW campuses
- ❖ Supported the program in all production departments except costuming

Olney Theatre Center: Staff Carpenter, Sept. 2017-Oct. 2019, Scenic Apprentice, May 2016-May 2017

- ❖ Served as Interim Assistant Technical Director during a vacancy from Feb.-Jul. 2018
- ❖ Became primary programmer/operator of a 4'x8' ShopBot CNC router
- ❖ Built 13 shows per year with a variety of styles and techniques

Totem Pole Playhouse: Master Carpenter, May 2017-August 2017

- ❖ Constructed scenery for five shows in a shop of two full time carpenters, a TD, and ATD
- ❖ Moved to and organized a newer, larger scenery studio and stock scenery storage space
- ❖ Altered stock scenery to fit the needs of the productions as well as built new pieces

Education

West Virginia University

Montgomery College

Indiana U. of Pennsylvania

M.F.A. Technical Direction

Intro to Fab Lab & Fab Lab CNC Courses

B.A. Theater

Anticipated Grad. May 2027

Fall 2017

Summa Cum Laude December 2015

Skills

- AutoCAD (2D/3D)
- CNC operation (ShopBot, Laguna SmartShop II)
- Vectric Ltd CAD/CAM softwares (VCarve, Aspire)
- Vectorworks (basic 2D/3D)
- MIG welding
- Trim/finish carpentry
- Dead-hung rigging

- Single/double purchase fly system operation
- Driving up to 26' box truck (16' in urban areas)
- OSHA30 certified
- Theatrical electrician experience (basic wiring, hang/focus, basics of ETC Eos software)
- Basics of QLab5
- Sewing experience (basic hand/machine stitching)

References

References available upon request, thank you for respecting their privacy.