

ROSE BURNETT BONCZEK  
[roseburnettbonczek@gmail.com](mailto:roseburnettbonczek@gmail.com)

After a successful career as a professor of theater, and director and creator of the BFA Acting Program at Brooklyn College, I've launched a new chapter as a freelance consultant/educator. I'm seeking part-time/flexible teaching work, no full time positions.

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2018 recipient of the Oscar Brockett Excellence in Teaching Theatre in Higher Education Award. Association for Theater in Higher Education, 2018.

### **EXPERIENCE:**

**Brooklyn College**, City University of New York, 1999-2018  
Professor, Director of BFA Acting Program

### **Undergraduate Courses:**

#### **Improvisation for the Actor.**

BFA Acting majors. Developing awareness of instincts and impulses, freeing spontaneity and imagination, sensory awareness. Through improv, students explore the emotional, intellectual, and physical life of a character.

#### **Solo Performance.**

BFA acting majors. Creation, development and performance of solo performance material. Creating original material, adapting primary source, conducting and adapting interviews for the stage.

#### **Directing I.**

Process of the director from conceptualization to performance, and the role of the director as storyteller. Communication skills, rehearsal process, problem solving.

#### **Collaboration.**

Developed new course specifically focusing on techniques and methods of building and nurturing collaborative bonds; exploring nature of collaboration beyond theatre work.

#### **Senior Thesis and Performance.**

BFA Acting majors. Supervise all aspects of student's research and development of roles, attend rehearsals to provide practical guidance, supervision of written thesis (includes research, play and character analysis, in-depth description of personal process).

#### **Acting Workshop I and II.**

Intermediate scene study classes for BA level theatre students and theatre minors.

#### **Honors Level Independent Study.**

Mentor, advise, instruct independent studies in special topics areas for advanced level students.

## **Graduate Courses:**

### **Graduate Improvisation for the Actor I.**

MFA Actors and MFA Directors. Development of instincts and impulses, techniques in building ensemble, strengthening individual skills in the context of the ensemble, freeing spontaneity and imagination. Boal, Johnstone, Grotowski, and Spolin.

### **Graduate Improvisation for the Actor II.**

MFA Actors and Directors. Integration of long form improvisation, advanced techniques in building ensemble. Neutral mask, character mask.

### **Story: The Power and History of Storytelling**

Graduate Directors. Studying the history of story anthropologically and through myth, legend and fairy tales.

### **Collaboration in Performing Arts Management**

Graduate Management students. Exploring the nature of creating collaborative bonds, application in the work place and creative space.

### **Brooklyn College, City University of New York 1992-1999**

- Intro to Theater Arts
- Intro to Acting
- Intro to Scene Study
- Intermediate Scene Study and Analysis
- Contemporary Realism. BFA acting majors
- Modern Realism: plays of Anton Chekhov. BFA acting majors

### **The New School for Social Research**

Undergraduate acting students; techniques for documentary-style theater, culminating in a production of *The Laramie Project* by Tectonic Theater Company. Organized post-show panel discussions with students and guest artists including original Tectonic Theater members Greg Pierotti and Mercedes Herrero, and activist Romaine Patterson.

### **York College, York, UK**

Guest Lecturer

Workshops with senior acting students; acting, audition technique, comparison of British and American systems of acting.

### **Harrogate College, Harrogate, UK**

Guest Lecturer.

Rehearsal workshops with cast of *Talking With* by Jane Martin. Topics included character, dialects, sociological overview of American culture referenced in the play, research into character and culture.

### **Harrogate Theatre, Harrogate UK**

Guest Teaching Artist.

Invited to speak at series of rehearsals for production of *The Laramie Project*, directed by Steve Ansell, produced by Harrogate Theatre.

### **Awards:**

Oscar Brockett Excellence in Teaching Theatre in Higher Education Award.  
Association for Theater in Higher Education, 2018.

Excellence in Creative Achievement  
Brooklyn College, 2018

Claire Tow Distinguished Teacher Award.  
Brooklyn College, CUNY, 2009-2010

Making a Difference Award. Awarded for mentorship and serving as a role model for students.  
Brooklyn College, CUNY: 2006, 2015.

### **Interviews:**

Onstage/Offstage podcast with George Sapio

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/onstage-offstage/id955994429>

With Sarah Gaboury: collegeauditionprogram.com: Ensemble, Brooklyn College  
<https://vimeo.com/240609013>

with Ann Folino White, Association for Theatre in Higher Education  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8q62Zj6rxg8&feature=youtu.be>

National Public Radio: WNYC New York: *The Takeaway*  
<https://www.wnyc.org/story/theatre-sixty-second-attention-span/>

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/UNIONS:**

- Association for Theatre in Higher Education
- League of Professional Theatre Women
- PSC CUNY - Professional Staff Congress

### **ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS:**

#### **Brooklyn College:**

- Program head, BFA Acting Program 1998-2018  
Responsible for curriculum development, student advisement, recruitment, standards and pedagogical practices, hiring adjunct teams, supervising application of training to productions.
- Department Chair: 2006-2007

- Undergraduate Deputy Chair: 1998-2006
- Health and Safety Officer, 2001-2018

Committees:

Promotion and Tenure, Appointments, Undergraduate and Graduate Curriculum, Play Selection, Middle States, Self Study, Grade Appeals

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

*Ensemble Theater Making: A Practical Guide.*

Co-author David Storck. Routledge Press, 2013

The first comprehensive diagnostic handbook for building, caring for, and maintaining ensemble.

“...it’s an enjoyable read. The authors’ breezy, conversational tone falls somewhere between Keith Johnstone’s *Impro* and Charna Halpern, del Close and Kim Johnson’s *Truth in Comedy*. Two classic guides to improvisation that this book nicely complements.”

- *American Theatre Magazine, 2014*

*Turn That Thing Off! Technology and Collaboration in 21C Actor Training.*

Co-authors Roger Manix and David Storck. Routledge Press, 2018.

Impact of excessive use of smartphone and technology on collaborative behaviors in actors.

Research into why actors/students isolate instead of collaborate; impact of design of devices; pedagogies and methods to positively redirect and rekindle social skills and collaborative behaviors.

*One Minute Plays: A Practical Guide to Tiny Theatre.*

Co-author Steve Ansell. Routledge Press, 2017

Guide to writing, acting and directing one minute plays; application in the classroom, how to create a one minute play festival; Includes anthology of 200 plays from the Gi60 International One Minute Theatre Festival.

### In Progress:

*All the Classroom’s a Stage: Applying Theatre Principles to Teaching Techniques*

Co-author Mike Flanagan. Rowman & Littlefield, projected publication late Spring, 2020.

Comprehensive guide on adapting the processes of the actor and director to the craft of teaching, including personal preparation, performance aspects of teaching, understanding lesson plans and curriculum as ‘story’.

## **EDUCATION:**

Brooklyn College, City University of New York. 1991.

Master of Fine Arts in Theater: Directing.

State University of New York, New Paltz. 1980. Summa cum laude.

Bachelor of Arts in Theater, Concentration in Directing/Acting.