

Sarah Gitenstein
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Education M.F.A., Directing, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2021
B.A., Theatre (Major); Philosophy (Minor), Kenyon College, Gambier, OH, 2005

University Appointments University of Notre Dame, Department of Film, Television, and Theatre:
Assistant Professor, 2024–Present.
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL:
Visiting Assistant Professor MFA Directing, 2023–2024,
Instructor, 2020–2022;
Brady Fellow, 2020–2023;
Teaching Assistant, 2018–2021.

University of Notre Dame: Courses Taught, 2024–Present FTT: Best Practices in Directing: The Body Onstage (2024, 2026)
FTT: Acting: Process (2025, Spring 2026, Fall 2026)
FTT: Directing: Process (2025)
FTT: Acting and Directing New Work for the Stage (2026)
FTT: Production Process (2025, 2026)

Directing **Professional Directing Experience**

Birds of North America (Anna Ouyang Moench) 2027
Penobscot Theatre
Bangor, ME

The Book of Will (Lauren Gunderson) 2027
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN

The Menopause Play (Cary Cronholm Rose) 2026
The Marsh Theatre
San Francisco, CA

John Proctor is the Villain (Kimberly Belflower) 2025
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Co-Production

Notre Dame, IN

Steel Magnolias (Robert Harling) 2025

Penobscot Theatre

Bangor, ME

Eurydice (Sarah Ruhl) 2025

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

Notre Dame, IN

Right to be Forgotten (Sharyn Rothstein) 2023

Raven Theatre

Chicago, IL

Jeff Nomination: Best Director; Best Production and Best Visual Design

Cry it Out (Molly Smith Metzler) 2021

Northwestern University MFA Acting Program

Chicago, IL

Peerless (Jiehae Park) 2020

Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

The Wolves (Sarah DeLappe) 2019

Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

This is Water (Sarah Gitenstein/David Foster Wallace) 2018

Toy Theatre Festival/Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

Tea and Sympathy (Robert Anderson) 2018

Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

Drunk (Hannah Ii-Epstein) 2018

Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

Gnit (Will Eno) 2016

National High School Institute

Evanston, IL

O Happy Dagger (Brett Neveu) 2016

A Red Orchid Theatre

Chicago, IL

The K of D (Laura Schellhardt) 2015
National High School Institute
Evanston, IL

Unhappiness (Brett Neveu) 2015
First Floor Theatre
Chicago, IL

Home (Alyssa Soresso) 2014
Side Project
Chicago, IL

Ten (Jennifer Rumberger) 2014
The Gift Theatre
Chicago, IL

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche (E. Linder & A. Hobgood) 2014
Chicago Commercial Collective
Chicago, IL

Kate and Sam are Not Breaking Up (Joel Kim Booster) 2013
The New Colony
Chicago, IL

Darkness (Adam Seidel) 2013
Collaboraction
Chicago, IL

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche (E. Linder & A. Hobgood) 2012
NY International Fringe Festival
Snapple Theatre (Off-Broadway)
Soho Playhouse (Off-Broadway)
The Paramount, Provincetown, MA
Winner: Best Production, NY International Fringe Festival 2012

Requiem (Briana Finegan) 2012
Prop Theatre
Chicago, IL

Big Shoulders Festival (Adrienne Dawes) 2011
American Theatre Company
Chicago, IL

One Minute Play Festival (Various Artists) 2011

Victory Gardens Theatre

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche (E. Linder & A. Hobgood) 2011
The New Colony
Chicago, IL

Old Times (Harold Pinter) 2005
Kenyon College
Gambier, OH

Tape (Stephen Belber) 2004
Kenyon College
Gambier, OH

*Assistant
Directing*

Harvey (Mary Chase) 2017
dir. by Devon DeMayo,
Court Theatre, Chicago, IL.

The Humans (Stephen Karam) 2014
dir. PJ Paparelli,
American Theatre Company, Chicago, IL.

The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow (Rolin Jones) 2007
dir. Cecilie Keenan,
Collaboraction Theatre, Chicago, IL.

Acting

First Wing (Alexx Johnson) 2025
dir. by Alexx Johnson.
Role: Mom.
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN.
Winner: Best Student Short, Independent Shorts Awards

The Long Christmas Ride Home (Paula Vogel), 2015
dir. by Josh Sobel.
Role: Rebecca.
Strawdog Theatre, Chicago, IL.

Red Bud (Brett Neveu), 2015
dir. by Brant Russell.
Role: Jen.
Signal Ensemble, Chicago, IL

Asshole (Lisa Kenner Grissom), 2014.
dir. by Jo Cattell.

Role: Lena.
Collaboraction Theatre, Chicago, IL.

ReWilding Genius (Andrew Hobgood and Megan Johns) 2013.
dir. by Andrew Hobgood.
Role: Lily.
Steppenwolf Garage Rep, Chicago, IL.

The Improv Play (Randall Colburn) 2012
dir. by Mitch Golob.
Role: Lindsay.
Infusion Theatre, Chicago, IL

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We Live Here (Laura Eason) 2011.
dir. by Margot Bordelon and Cassy Sanders.
Role: Laura.
Theater Seven, Chicago, IL.

11:11 (Tara Sissom) 2011
dir. by Meg Johns.
Role: Anna.
The New Colony, Chicago, IL.

The Warriors (Evan Linder) 2010
dir. by Benno Nelson.
Role: Danni. The New Colony, Chicago, IL.

Calls to Blood (James Asmus) 2010
dir. by Andrew Hobgood.
Role: Alison.
NY International Fringe Festival + The New Colony, New York, NY.
Winner: Best Ensemble, NY International Fringe Festival

Death to Fascism, Freedom for My People (Harold Pinter), 2010.
dir. by Mike Rice.
Role: Woman.
Slimtack Theater, Chicago, IL.

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche (Evan Linder/Andrew Hobgood), 2010.
dir. by Evan Linder.
Role: Pearl.
Collaboraction Theater, Chicago, IL.

Beatrice and Beau (Chelsea Marcantel), 2008.
dir. by Brandon Ray.
Collaboraction Theatre, Chicago, IL,.

*Winner: Audience Choice Award for Best Performance,
Collaboraction*

Tesla's Letters (Jeffery Stanley), 2007.
dir. by Nick Bowling.
Role: Daisy (understudy).
TimeLine Theatre, Chicago, IL

The Madelyn Trilogy (Beau O'Reilly) 2007.
dir. by Beau O'Reilly.
Role: Joan McGuffin.
Prop Theater, Chicago, IL.

Perks of Nudity (David Perez) 2006.
dir. by Margot Bordelon.
Role: Laura.
Pavement Group, Chicago, IL.

Measure for Measure (William Shakespeare) 2005.
dir. by Daniel Kramer.
Role: Isabella.
Kenyon College, Gambier, OH.
Winner: Joanne Woodward Trophy for Best Performance

Clytemnestra (Adaptation by Thomas Turgeon) 2004
dir. by Thomas Turgeon.
Role: Electra.
Kenyon College, Gambier, OH.

Boys' Life (Howard Korder) 2003
dir. by Harlene Marley.
Role: Lisa. Kenyon College, Gambier, OH.

In the Summerhouse (Jane Bowles) 2001.
dir. by Steven Mazzola.
Role: Molly.
Washington Shakespeare Co., Washington, DC..

Mastery of the Illusion (Erin Loren) 2000
dir. by Erin Loren.
Role: Shelley.
Source Theater, Washington, DC.

*Casting /
Producing /*

Give Up the Ghost (Joe Zarrow) 2023.

<i>Workshops / Readings</i>	Gift Theatre, Chicago, IL. <i>Jo & Liv</i> (Evan Linder) 2018. Writers Theatre, Glencoe, IL. <i>Sick by Seven</i> (Various Artists) 2016. A Red Orchid Theatre, Chicago, IL <i>Everything is Wonderful</i> (Chelsea Marcantel) 2013. The New Colony, Chicago, IL. <i>Jon</i> (Seth Bockley/George Saunders) 2008. Collaboraction Theatre, Chicago, IL. <i>Sketchbook 7/8/9</i> (Various Artists) 2007–2010. Collaboraction Theatre, Chicago, IL. <i>Dreamlandia</i> (Octavio Solis) 2008. Teatro Vista, Chicago, IL.
<i>Playwriting + Devising Contributions</i>	<i>5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche</i> (Co-devised with Evan Linder and Andrew Hobgood). 2011–Present - Produced over 350 times across the US, UK, Australia, Canada, Belgium, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden, Portugal, Spain, South Africa, Mexico, Scotland, Wales, and beyond; translated into 9 languages; 2011–2026. - Published by Samuel French, 2014. <i>Kate and Sam are Not Breaking Up</i> (Joel Kim Booster) 2013. - The New Colony, Chicago, IL. <i>Jeff Nomination Best New Play (2013)</i> - Ankeny Theater, IA - Cue 6 Theatre, Toronto, Canada - Published by Chicago Dramaworks, 2014. <i>ReWilding Genius</i> (Andrew Hobgood and Megan Johns) 2014. - The New Colony at Steppenwolf Garage Repertory. Chicago, IL <i>The Warriors</i> (Evan Linder) 2011 - The New Colony. Chicago, IL <i>11:11</i> (Tara Sissom) 2010 - The New Colony at Victory Gardens Theater. Chicago, IL <i>Calls to Blood</i> (James Asmus) 2010. - The New Colony, Chicago IL. - New York International Fringe Festival. NYC, NY. 2010.
<i>Invited Lectures</i>	Invited Workshop: Body Onstage: Best Practices in Directing. 2026 University of Cincinnati, College Conservatory of Music. Guest Lecture: Devising and Directing <i>5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche</i> 2026 Tower Theatre, London. Guest Lecture: The Body Onstage + <i>Steel Magnolias</i> 2025

Penobscot Theatre, Bangor, ME.

Guest Lecture: Navigating the Academic Landscape 2024.
Northwestern University MFA in Directing Directors' Circle
Evanston, IL

Guest Lecture: The Body Onstage: Best Practices in Directing
Workshop 2022.
Northwestern University MFA in Acting Program
Evanston, IL

*Awards,
Honors, and
Grants*

Creative and Performing Arts Grant, \$3,391(Intimacy Choreography
Intensive with Theatrical Intimacy Education), Franco Institute and
Arts Initiative, 2026.

Teaching Beyond the Classroom, \$5,000 Midsize Grant, College of
Arts and Letters (Kimberly Senior), University of Notre Dame, 2026.

Teaching Beyond the Classroom, \$250 Grant, College of Arts and
Letters (Kevin Dreyer), University of Notre Dame, 2025.

Teaching Beyond the Classroom, \$250 Grant, College of Arts and
Letters (Kimberly Senior), University of Notre Dame, 2025.

Teaching Beyond the Classroom, \$2,500 Grant, College of Arts and
Letters (Siobhan Hogan Fallon), University of Notre Dame, 2025.

Jeff Nomination for Best Director, *Right to Be Forgotten*, Raven
Theatre, 2023.

Jeff Nomination for Best Production, *Right to Be Forgotten*, Raven
Theatre, 2023.

Jeff Nomination for Best Projection Design, *Right to Be Forgotten*,
Raven Theatre, 2023.

Jeff Nomination for Best New Play, *Kate and Sam are Not Breaking
Up*, The New Colony, 2013.

Winner: Best Production, *5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche*, NY
International Fringe Festival, 2012.

Winner: Best Ensemble, *Calls to Blood*, NY International Fringe
Festival, 2010.

Winner: Audience Choice Award for Best Performance, *Beatrice and Beau*, Collaboraction, 2010.

Winner: Joanne Woodward Trophy for Best Performance, *Measure for Measure*, Kenyon College, 2005.

*Artistic
Leadership*

Northwestern University, Associate Producer, MFA Theatre Program, 2021–2023.

Northwestern University, MFA Director's Circle Coordinator, 2019–2020.

The New Colony, Company Member, 2008–2021.

American Theater Company, Literary Circle Member, 2014–2017.

The New Colony, Associate Artistic Director, 2011–2015.

Collaboraction Theater, Company Member, 2007–2014.

*Professional
Conferences*

Panelist:

“Directing Debut Panel,” Association for Theater in Higher Education, Baltimore, MD, 2026.

Roundtables:

“Casting Queer Theater in 2026,” Howlround at Association for Theater in Higher Education, Baltimore, MD, 2026.

Workshops:

“What the Body Carries: Sustainable Practice for Theatre Artists,” Association for Theatre Movement Educators, Baltimore, MD, 2026.

Working Group:

"Taking Stock: Dramaturgical Methods that Center the Body,"

American Society for Theatre Research, Minneapolis, MN 2026

*Service to the
Field*

Playwrights' Center, Playwrights' Fellowship Committee Member, 2025–Present.

Panel Judge and Moderator: The Crucible Project. 2026

The Portage School, South Bend, IN.

*University
Service*

Chair of University Core Curriculum Committee

Fine Arts and Literature

3 year term beginning fall 2026

University of Notre Dame Arts Initiative.

Chicago Theater Trip Facilitator, FTT + Neuroscience Department trip to Goodman Theatre to see *Theater of the Mind* by David Byrne, Spring 2026

Facilitator: Q and A with Lisa Wolpe 2024.
University of Notre Dame + Shakespeare at Notre Dame

*College
Service*

Committees

Professional Development Committee (elected), 2026.
Music Writing Hiring Committee, 2026.
New Musical Committee, 2026.

*Departmental
Service*

Dance Adjunct Hiring Committee, 2025.
Musical Theatre Committee (elected), 2024–Present.
Theatre Minor Committee (elected), 2025–Present.

Advising

Faculty Mentor, Erin Farmer, FTT mainstage directing, *El Viaje de Beatriz: Beatriz's Journey* (2026)
Faculty Mentor, Logan Schlitt, FTT mainstage directing, *These Shining Lives* (2026)

Guest Artist Facilitation

Guest Artist Facilitator, Playwriting and Acting class visit with actor and producer Dewayne Perkins, Spring 2026.
Guest Artist Facilitator, Department visit by theater director Kimberly Senior, Winter 2026.
Guest Artist Facilitator, Department visit with actress and director Siobhan Fallon Hogan, Winter 2025.

Lectures

Guest Lecture: *Eurydice* in Collaboration 2025.
World Theater I with Tarryn Chun.
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN

Panels

Panelist: *John Proctor is the Villain + The Crucible* in Conversation. 2025. University of Notre Dame + The Civic Theatre with Dawn Hagerty. Notre Dame, IN.

*Additional
Professional
Experience*

Sheehan Associates, Communications Specialist, 2023–Present.
McDonald's Global Convention, Las Vegas, May 2026; McDonald's Global Convention, Barcelona, April 2024. Coaches c-suite employees on presentations for global conventions.

Pinnacle Performance, Instructor: Speech Coaching, 2022–Present.

Facilitator of 1-2 day intensive workshops on effective communication and executive presence. Clients include: Abbott Laboratories, Associated Bank, Consigli, Exelon, GATX, KPMG, Oracle, Walgreens.

National High School Institute, Acting teacher and director, summer intensive, 2015–2016.

Creative Scholars Preschool, Lead teacher; Drama and Art Teacher, 2011–2014.

Evanston Day Nursery, Assistant Director and After School Program Coordinator, 2008–2011.

Updated on October 12, 2026