

Peter Ellenstein

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Theatrical Resume

FT Positions

New Los Angeles Repertory Company, Inc.

Producing Artistic Director – Current

Reformed since 2021, the New LARep is currently developing several projects including the series Plays for Peace, whose first production Peter is directed - *Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground*, a one-person play by Richard Hellesten, starring John Rubinstein. Premier: Oct., 2022 at Theatre West, transfer to Hudson Theatre Mainstage Dec/Jan.,22/23. Expected NYC transfer Aug. 2023. Responsibilities included re-founding the company and establishing its non-profit status. Other projects are in planning and fundraising stages. www.newlarep.org

William Inge Center for the Arts (William Inge Theatre Festival)

Artistic Director 13 years

Responsibilities include overseeing all artistic and administrative aspects of a college-hosted Arts Center in conjunction with supporting 501(c)3 William Inge Festival Foundation. Produced the nationally recognized annual William Inge Theatre Festival. Directed, produced and collaborated with the nationally recognized playwrights, directors and performers. Designed theatre training program and integrated Center and Inge Festival activities with Independence Community College Theatre Arts program. Managed: full-time staff of 4, part time/ work study of 10, services from other college employees, artists and over 200 volunteers annually. Secured *State Theatre Festival of Kansas* designation by Legislature 2009. Quintupled unearned income: top five of NEA Theatre funding during last five years. During tenure, the Inge Center grew from a single day festival once a year, to year round programming in professional and educational theatre and National Prominence as a play development center. Over 50 Full Length plays and hundreds of short plays were developed or produced.

Los Angeles Repertory Company, Inc.

Producing Director – Seven years

Responsibilities included overseeing all aspects of non-profit theatre company: production, conservatory and theatre studio rentals. Experience highlights include: Directing and producing award-winning ensemble company productions, renovated and developed theatre and rehearsal studio space, created Professional Theatre Conservatory, created new play development programs and touring childrens shows, oversaw development, budgeting and marketing, facility maintenance and rentals, created partnerships with many other arts organizations.

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Positions (Cont.)

Gretna Theatre, Mt. Gretna, PA

Interim Artistic Director/Consultant

Responsibilities included oversight of artistic aspects of the five-show summer theatre season. In addition to previously chosen 2016 Summer season, launched a new direction for the theatre and planned the 2017 season in concert with the new Managing Director. Upon completion, delivered a recommendation report to aid the strategic planning.

Jerry Herman Ring Theatre, University of Miami, FL Interim Artistic Director

Responsibilities include overseeing all artistic aspects of a college-hosted theatre in conjunction with the University of Miami Theatre Department and a supporting 501(c)3 *Friends of Theatre*. In addition to overseeing the previously chosen season and the Studio Theatre season, as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre, taught BFA and BA classes. A primary charge in this employment was to analyze and improve production processes, assist in developing a forward thinking mission and create new projects with visiting artists. My short collaborations term resulted in: work on a new musical with Tom Jones, Nancy Ford, produced a new play with visiting playwright, Richard Helleesen, sponsored Grammy-winning guest composer/lyricist Michael Silversher to create new music for "As You Like It", and acquired outside grant funding for a guest artist/educator performance series for subsequent year.

Theatrical Activities

Directing & Producing

Directed and produced award-winning plays and musicals across the country in professional, academic & Industrial settings. Pioneering streaming productions during pandemic. Produced multiple festivals and multi-arts events. He has directed many of America's leading stage and film actors. A list of productions and collaborators is available upon request. Member of SDC over twenty-five years.

New Play Development

Aided the development of over 50 new full-length plays and musicals and hundreds of short plays. Including many of America's finest playwrights. Has commissioned dozens of new plays from diverse playwrights.

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Theatrical Activities (cont.)

Development/Funding/Grants

Successfully developed wrote dozens of successful grants from local to national funders, corporations and governments. Fourth highest recipient of National Endowment for the Arts(NEA) theatre funding over a 5-year period from a small rural organization. Served as panelist for national, regional and local grants; and as site-visitor for the NEA and California Arts Council.

Performing

Professional acting and singing career began in 1975, joined SAG in 1980, AEA in 1981. Included dozens of starring and featured roles on stage, in films, television, commercials and musicals. A list of selected credits is available upon request.

Service

Elected to National and regional Boards for both professional and academic organizations (e.g., ATHE, LA Stage Alliance).

- Selected to serve on many trade and academic service committees.
- Served as Panelist/Selector/Reader/Adjudicator/Responder for dozens of conferences for diverse organizations (e.g., TCG, ATHE, KCACTF, EDTA, The Playwrights Center).

Training/Education

In addition to professional study beginning at age 13 with such noted teachers as Stella Adler, David Craig and Paul Sills, Peter attended American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco and the Academy of Stage and Cinema Arts, and has a BA and MFA in Theatre. He also trained in Psychodrama with Dorothy Baldwin Satten.

Consultation

Consulting services at more than 20 theatres include: budgeting, production management, organizational design, casting, training, design, literary management, ideation.

Publications, presentations & Lectures

Peter has been featured in dozens of lectures, presentations, interviews and essays at leading theatres, publications and conferences around the country. Publications include the New York Times, International Herald, American Theatre Magazine, Los Angeles Times. Theatres include Manhattan Theatre Club, The Shaw Festival, Huntington Theatre, Kansas City Rep. Conferences include TCG, ATHE, KCACTF, EDTA.

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Theatrical Activities (cont.)

Television & Video Production

Multiple years' experience in television production as Associate Producer and researcher. Produced many theatre-related videos including *The Drama of Creation: Writers on Writing* and over a dozen comprehensive tributes to America's greatest playwrights. Recently directed the streamed production of "Necessary Sacrifices" which garnered a great deal of critical acclaim and national attention as one of the first plays streamed under a SAG contract.

Academic and Professional Teaching Experience

Peter is currently teaching as an adjunct professor for the California Community College System. He created the Professional Conservatory at the Los Angeles Repertory Company, featuring many of the nation's finest teachers. He has taught professional workshops throughout the country. He has been a professor or instructor of theatre at the University of Miami, Minnesota State University at Mankato, Wichita State University, Baker University and Independence Community College, and workshop presenter for many other academic institutions. Leading subjects include: Directing, Playwriting, Acting (all levels), Musical Theatre, Shakespeare, New Play Development, William Inge and Ensemble Creation. Peter attended American Conservatory Theatre and the Academy of Stage and Cinema Arts. He holds a BA in Theatre from Thomas Edison State University and an MFA in Theatre from Minnesota State University at Mankato.

Website and Portfolio Links

Peter Ellenstein's website has a considerable amount of portfolio and biographical material concerning work as a director, producer, consultant and educator.

www.Peterell.com
www.NewLarep.org

Recent Projects:

Necessary Sacrifices

<https://northcoastrep.org/production/necessary-sacrifices/>

Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground

<https://northcoastrep.org/new-works-reading-series/>

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Portfolio Links (cont.)

Sample Projects initiated:

“The Greensburg Project” - Preview/fundraising video

<http://ingecenter.org/greensburg-project/>

“The Drama of Creation: Writers on Writing” - Playwriting instruction video

<https://www.mcintyre.ca/titles/393445>

“A Complex Evening”: six short plays by William Inge” - Publication

<http://www.amazon.com/Complex-Evening-Short-Plays-William/dp/B005WD1XBK>

“The William Inge Variations”: seven short plays inspired by William Inge - Publication

http://www.amazon.com/William-Inge-Variations-Seven-Inspired/dp/0988509717/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1401113506&sr=1-1&keywords=The+inge+variations

Commercials created for the William Inge Theatre Festival:

2009: Tom Jones & Harvey Schmidt

https://youtu.be/RnrHmYCXP_w

2012: David Henry Hwang

<http://vimeo.com/39907463>

2013: William Inge 100th Birthday

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACLzJfAYjdU>

Inge Festival short promo for funding:

“What We Do at the Inge Festival”

<http://vimeo.com/39509074>

Reference / Review Links

Playwrights’ thoughts about Peter:

<https://www.peterell.com/playwright-comments-about-peter>

Directing review quotes:

<https://www.peterell.com/directing-review-quotes>

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References

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