

CHRISTINA NEUBRAND

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Education

MA, in Educational Theatre from New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, & Human Development, Department of Performing Arts Professions

BFA in Theatre Performance from Stephen F. Austin State University.

Expertise

Arts Administration, Management, Social Media, Group Facilitation, Professional Development, Community Building, Curriculum Development, Theatre Activities, Process Drama, Devised Theatre, Choreography & Directing

Personal Statement

The arts have the power to transform and I have used the skills I learned as an artist to transform a variety of positions, responsibilities and goals into a well-rehearsed and effective production.

Cantu Holdings

Executive Manager

Jan 2019-Present

Supporting a diverse technology and sales team in designing, building and successfully launching multiple minority owned small businesses

Borough of Manhattan Community College & LIM College

Adjunct Professor

2015-Present

Sharing the art of public speaking with such a diverse population of students is a constant balancing act of patience, clear communication, flexibility and differentiation.

- Rati, a middle-aged professor from India took my class to improve his English so he could teach in America. At first, I was intimidated as he was far more educated than I, but I respected the life experience he shared and encouraged the students to see him as a resource. In the end, the entire class learned a great deal about public speaking, but also empathy, life experience and understanding.

- The first speech assignment is a 1-2-minute Introduction speech and each student must turn in a typed outline. On the day of the speech, despite having given the class a template I realized that most of the class had never learned how to outline to organize their thoughts. After a couple of deep breaths, I decided the best use of class time was to break down the outline process and set the foundation, so the group would be set up for success moving forward.

The Leadership Program

Community School Director at It Takes a Village Academy

August 2017-Dec 2018

Partnering with students, administration, parents and the DOE to cultivate a vibrant community setting within the school that promotes student attendance, provides meaningful after school programming and fills in the gap in relation to student needs like violence prevention programs, arts opportunities, community service, health and wellness.

-After losing our principal in October the school has been in a state of anxiety and stress, but the priority is maintaining a safe and vibrant community for the students. I was able to maintain a fluid after school program to support the students' academic growth while also allowing them a place to express and create using music, dance and visual art. Being able to maintain the programming while helping the new principal to transition more fluidly has been a huge challenge, but a wonderful learning experience for setting clear goals, prioritizing and communicating clearly and openly between all stakeholders including, but not limited to students, parents, administration, staff and community based organizations.

Stages on the Sound
Pod Captain/Facilitator

October 2015-May 2016

Every day is an adventure traveling from various schools in Brooklyn and Queens bringing the performing arts to students in 4th, 6th and 8th grades using Shakespeare, Playwriting and Stop Motion Animation.

- As a Pod captain I was able to guide the Stages team of Teaching Artists through a restorative, self-care activity in the wake of a crisis that then allowed us to progress through our training with calm, focus and positivity.
- When the curriculum Stages had in place for our 6th grade productions were not working in some populations I was able to strategize and help develop more flexible plans to accommodate the students, the variety of learning styles and the unique situations while still generating a quality final product.

Power Brain Education
Curriculum Development/Trainer/Social Media

2015-2016

Where the mind goes, energy follows and by teaching students from 5-95 how their brain works they have the tools, the mindfulness and the confidence to design their own circumstances and create the life they want.

- Power Brain began in a yoga studio with small student classes teaching a variety of physical and mental exercises that promoted mind/body awareness. The games and activities were fun, engaging and taught great skills. How could we make these skills available to the teachers and students in NYC schools, so they could benefit too? By creating a curriculum that was hands on, user friendly, and aligned with Common Core so teachers could readily integrate the activities into their everyday.
- Power Brain is up and running in NYC schools, but how can we share our work Nationally and encourage growth? Social Media is quick, cutting edge, creative and the students LOVE it. With some basic structure and guidance in place weekly news segments, demos, pictures, quotes and features were generated in partnership with the schools.

CityKids
Program Manager of Arts & Leadership

2014-2015

Keep a positive thought, because a positive thought cannot be denied. Creating a safe space for urban high schoolers to express, collaborate and create while remaining positive and empowered was not always easy or fun, but with a solid team to lean on and open dialogue with the young people that's what we had at CityKids.

- In partnership with a group of interns from The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama the CityKids team developed an original performance exploring Identity. Students created original music, dance, dialogue and art which allowed them close out their time at CityKids with positivity while fostering lifelong friendships. CityKids is still around in a grass roots capacity and working to reinvent their mission to support today's youth.

Counseling in Schools
Field Coordinator/Arts Integration Specialist/Facilitator

2010-2015

Caring Inspires Success and we used everything from theatre to robotics to motivate the students, to build trust and to provide a safe space for young people in NYC schools from Staten Island to the Bronx to thrive.

- The job of my program manager was overwhelming, supporting multiple programs in multiple boroughs and in multiple disciplines. Deadlines were falling through the cracks and challenging schools were not being taken care. Seeing this, I offered to help guide our monthly meetings and consolidate program notes from the various teaching artists, as a result I became the Field Coordinator for the after-school initiatives and took over many of the organizational tasks, developed a more fluid curriculum and streamlined the program notes template so the after-school team quickly became a well-oiled and supported machine.
- Hurricane Sandy hit and all the sudden our usual after school programming was not enough to support the schools, the students and the staff. I took a training on psychological first aid and skills for psychological recovery and was able to integrate the module with the creative programming we already had in place. The following year we got a grant that allowed me to travel to all 5 boroughs to share the curriculum with teachers, social workers and administrators.

The Leadership Program, Wingspan Arts, Step Up Women's Network
Facilitator

2010-2013

Juggling trains, buses and people while caring copious bags of supplies from school to school, program to program to share the arts with public school students, K-12 from every neighborhood you can think of, the further and more obscure the neighborhood the better, because that's where the need is.

National Cable Communications
Team Leader

2003-2006

The challenges of being a sales assistant only increased when my sales team went through a huge turnover, as a result I was made team leader and helped hire new assistants, trained them and their sales executives and worked closely with the manager to cultivate a positive and productive work environment in a fast-paced rep firm.

DALLAS

St. John's Episcopal School
Drama Specialist

2007-2010

Fresh out of grad school, full of idealism I moved back to Dallas, TX and took on the role of Drama Specialist. After some roadblocks, some learning curves, and a few tears I was able to step back, understand the new community I was working in and move forward in a way that best supported the students. I was determined to challenge some old habits. Ultimately this effort gave birth to a fully integrated performing arts program where all students, K-8 had the opportunity to create original pieces illuminating curriculum and building confidence through performance. This culminated in their first full-length middle school musical, "Bye Bye Birdie"; which was a bonus!

Tela-Rep
Sales Assistant

2001-2003

When you are fresh out of undergrad after earning a BFA in theatre and you need a job, but don't wait tables, insert advertising. Transferring my production skills like public speaking, collaboration, multi-tasking and meeting deadlines to support a sales team.

Special Skills & Interests

Playback Theatre
Brain Management Training
Skills for Psychological Recovery
Crisis Management/Psychological First Aide
Mentoring
Drama Therapy
Brain Education Leadership
Process Drama
Theatre of the Oppressed

Natalie Gomora
International Brain Institute
NCTSN
FEMA
Mentoring Partnership NY
CANY
IBREA
Dorothy Heathcote/Cecily O'Neill
Julian Boal