

Statement on Service Activity  
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In the dynamic field of performing arts it is important to recognize that wherever you are in your particular career path, the responsibility to the development of the art form is as important as the field itself. Service for me is a required responsibility within my profession, the theatre community, the world community, campus, and my department. The give and take of service and performance is part of an ongoing process that is at once both a learning and teaching endeavor.

I have been a member of the labor union that represents more than 49,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, the Actors' Equity Association (AEA), for nearly 17 years. As a member of this nationally recognized professional performing arts union, I have had the opportunity to work with some of the regions most highly recognizable theatres including the Denver Center for the Performing Arts (1998 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre), Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Northlight Theatre (Chicago), Chicago Dramatist, Nebraska Repertory Theatre, and Angels Theatre Company (Nebraska). As a member of AEA, my devotion towards maintaining the highest performance standards, continued artistic development, and following professional protocol are the fundamental values in which I believe and practice most.

I am an active member of the Association of Theatre Movement Educators (ATME) and the co-chair of the Engagement Committee of VASTA, the Voice and Speech Trainers Association. ATME is the only national organization for university professors and professionals affiliated with physical training for the actor and VASTA is an international organization whose mission is to advance the art, research, and visibility of the voice and speech profession. Both organizations are important components of the Association of Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), to which I also belong.

I have served as the ATME/VASTA liaison at ATHE for more than seven years due to my training in both areas and ability to integrate both body and voice work. This position is invaluable to my growth as a teaching artist because it requires my professional presence and participation in both organizations. I was the VASTA/ATHE

Assistant Annual Conference Planner for two years (2008 & 2009), and then served as the VASTA/ATHE Annual Conference Planner for two years (2010 & 2011).

I have been honored to serve as one of the regional university responders for the KC/ACTF (Kennedy Center / American College Theatre Festival) for the past seven years. In this capacity I see the work of college students in our region, meet colleagues, and learn about other methodologies being taught. I have also been called upon to serve as a responder for the Irene Ryan Acting Competition at the annual Region VII festival and was one of three Irene Ryan Semi-final judges at the Region VI conference in San Angelo, TX. In both cases, I observe and critique over 100 university students who compete in this national event. As part of my service to VASTA and the Kennedy Center, I serve as the VASTA representative at selected KC/ACTF conferences where I observe students compete and nominate one student for the VASTA designated KC/ACTF Student Scholarship Award.

I serve in a recruitment capacity as the primary contact for the BFA in Performance program at UCB for interested students and parents. For the last seven years, I have participated in the annual Colorado Thespian Festival where I offer at least two workshops to interested participating high school theatre students and teachers from across the state. I then meet with the students and their parents personally as a follow-up when requested. In my efforts to build our program professionally and confront the reality of the difficult task theatre students have of navigating a career path in performance, I created the New York Senior Showcase. This annual program allows CU senior theatre students the chance to showcase work in either New York or Los Angeles to casting, talent and industry professionals, and gain professional training from highly regarded professionals in the field. For the past two years the program has garnered great praise from and for our students.

As a member of the faculty in the CU Department of Theatre & Dance, I have served on several committees: Curriculum Committee, Season Planning Committee, Program Fee Committee, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee, Budget Committee, Merit Review Committee, and By-laws Revision Committee. As part of the Curriculum Committee, I chaired a task force addressing the concerns of our theatre students who

desired more professional course content within the program. As a result of student feedback, I created a new course, Professional Orientation, and other initiatives generated out of the group. I also served as the interim Head of the BFA in Musical Theatre program for one year.

At the University of Colorado Boulder, I have most recently had the honor of serving on Boulder Faculty Assembly Leadership Institute (2014-15) with thirteen other nominated colleagues from across campus. Together we learned about the inner-workings of the university, discussed ways in which to improve communication and collaboration, and created initiatives that were presented to Provost Russell Moore and Kelly Fox, Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer. I was invited to join the FTEP (Faculty Teaching Excellence Program) team as a faculty associate in providing service workshops focused on becoming a better teacher and helping colleagues to craft optimal learning environments.

I am dedicated to opening the student experience to include additional scholarly input from across the university and the global communities. Thanks to my continued professional affiliations, I have been able to initiate and coordinate invaluable guest artists residencies including: Joan Schirle (Founding Artistic Director, Dell'Arte International), Deborah Robertson (ATME President and Michael Chekhov Association Master Teacher), Bill Bowers (nationally recognized mime artist), Tim Miller (professional performance artist), Gary John La Rosa (New York-based theatre director), Chris Jones (*Chicago Tribune* national theatre critic), and Antonio Fava, to name a few.

I take seriously the responsibility to pay forward all that has been shared with me by means of the many great teachers, inspirational artists, colleagues and students in my life. In a field where promise and possibility are remarkably linked to how we connect and collaborate with each other, it is essential to share what we know and what continues to evoke great wonder. For me, the action of service provides the opportunity to directly recognize what has come before, the present moment, and pave the way for continued excellence towards the future. Michael Chekhov describes the transmission of energy that is a direct response to receiving as *radiating*.