

# BRIDGET KATHLEEN O'LEARY

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Associate Artistic Director New Repertory Theatre**

**2011–Present  
Watertown, MA**

New Repertory Theatre is a 1.6 Million dollar a year equity theatre. It produces 7-10 productions a year as well as an educational tour, a reading series and special events. As Associate Artistic Director I work as the literary manager, casting director, and season director.

- As Literary Manager, manages relationships with agents and writers; participates in Season Planning with our Artistic Director; oversees all of the dramaturgical research for our programs and play development
- Develops and leads audience engagement activities including: post-show talk backs; Page to Stage, a five week course offered to our patrons; and Insider Experiences
- As Casting Director, stays current and Boston area-theater, attends the Annual Stage Source Auditions, 3 days of open call auditions for the New England area theaters; facilitates annual equity auditions and show specific callbacks for New Rep's season
- Founded and runs Next Voices Playwrighting Fellowship. Selects two to four area writers to join New Rep for a season to develop a script that will be strongly considered for production. Provides dramaturgical support, actors, designers and directors to help writers develop their work. The fellowship culminates in a staged reading
- Oversees New Rep's internship programs throughout the season
- Directs 1-2 shows a season

### **Chair, Literary Department National New Play Network**

**2014–Present  
Washington, DC**

The National New Play Network is the Country's alliance of nonprofit theaters that champions the development, production, and continued life of new plays. The organizations is made up of over 100 theater companies and new play development organizations across the country.

- Is a member of the Executive committee, overseeing programing and policy changes for the organization
- Is a voting board member for the organization
- Works to connect NNPN member organizations across the country to like-minded theaters for collaborations on new work
- Leads monthly online chats with literary managers from core and associate member theaters and alumni playwrights
- Acts as the liaison between the Alumni Playwright's Council and the board
- Heads the selection process for the Annual Showcase where six plays are chosen for readings each year
- Participates in the selection process for the Kennedy Center's MFA Playwright's workshop where six MFA playwrights are chosen to have their worked developed with theater professionals each year
- Participates in the selection process for the annual Smith Prize and NNPN Commission proposals
- Participating in Long Range Planning as the organization moves into the next phase of growth both financially and in membership
- Identifies areas where the organization can further innovate with regards to programs offered, productions happening across the country and grants given out to member organizations
- Attends the annual Showcase at member theaters each year

### **Artistic and Education Associate New Repertory Theatre**

**2008–2011  
Watertown, MA**

- Secured the rights for the season
- Selected writers for reading series
- Read and evaluated literary submissions
- Created program notes for all of our productions
- Managed the development, production and sales for New Rep's educational touring program
- Taught and administered the Summer high school educational program
- Lead post-show discussions
- Worked with Marketing to develop copy for marketing and online materials

**Assistant to the Artistic Director** 2007  
**O'Neill National Playwrights' Conference** Waterford, CT

- Assisted on productions of plays by Rebecca Gilman and Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa
- Observed development and rehearsal processes for playwright's Ifa Bayeza, Lucy Caldwell, Deborah Zoe Laufer, James Still, Samuel Brett Willams, and Karen Zacharias

**Artistic Director** 2001–2005  
**Phoenix Theatre DC (Cofounder)** Washington, DC

- Selected, cast and produced two shows a year
- Marketed shows and interacted with the press
- Created budgets and handled all finances associated with the company

### **RELATED EXPERIENCE**

**Freelance Director** 2008–present

- Direct shows for Boston Area Theaters

**Founding Member of New England New Play Alliance** 2014–present

- Collaborate with area theaters and playwrights on how to better serve our playwrighting community; how to better tell our story to the region; how to better market new work to audiences

**Boston Theatre Marathon, Boston Playwright's Theatre** 2009–present

- Annually participate as a director in an event that brings the Boston Community together to raise money for the Theatre Community Benevolent Fund

**Dramaturg, Boch Center and Boston Theatre Company's production of FINISH LINE** 2016

- Worked with playwrights and co-creators to craft a 90-minute documentary play about the Boston Marathon Bombing.

**Dramaturg, Washington University, St. Louis, MO** 2016

- Worked with three student playwrights on developing their scripts as part of HOTCH FEST, and annual festival of student work.

**My College Audition** 2016

- Worked with participants on techniques and strategies to best prepare them for the audition process.

**StageSource Go Audition** 2012–2015

- Lead sessions on how to market yourself as an actor; how to use your headshot and resume effectively; how to prepare an audition. Coached participants on their audition material

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Northeastern University, Boston, MA**

**Boston Theater Experience, 2015–present**

- Teach a semester long course I designed that introduces students to the landscape of Boston area theaters – from fringe to LORT and everything in between. The course gives students the tools to articulate what they want from a theater community and the resources to create that for themselves.

**The Eloquent Presenter, 2017 – present**

- Teach a semester long course I designed that helped Computer Science majors access an authentic voice and define their objectives for presentations, networking opportunities and one-on-one pitches of themselves and their work. The course gives students the confidence and tools to market themselves and their ideas to peers, potential employers and potential investors.

**Senior Career Seminar**

- Teach a semester long course I designed for Senior theater majors to help them to define their personal career goals and creative ambitions and to develop individualized strategies for success. Students survey potential career paths in areas such as acting, design, stage management, tech/production, marketing, fundraising, literary management, and education/community outreach.

**New Repertory Theatre, Watertown, MA**

**Page to Stage, 2012–present**

- Designed and teach a five-week course that follows a professional production from script selection through the design, rehearsal and technical process. This class is aimed at giving students a deeper engagement with theatrical production and the tools in which to discuss their experience of the performances and the overall aesthetics

**Audition Coaching, 2009–present**

- Help area actors prepare for seasonal auditions

### **Summer Studio, 2009–2013**

- Designed and taught a five-week course for high school students that explored character development, obtaining objectives and improv which culminated in a devised piece

### **Master Class Series: Acting, 2009–2012**

- Scene study class for advanced professionals on how to use obstacles to achieve their objectives

### **New England Institute of Art, Brookline, MA**

#### **Advanced Directing, 2010**

- Designed and taught a semester-long course to help film and video production students connect and communicate with their actors

#### **Introduction to Acting, 2009**

- Designed and taught a semester long course to help engage film and video production students on different methods of storytelling through acting

### **Boston University College of Fine Arts, Boston, MA**

#### **Acting for Non-Majors, 2006–2007**

- A semester long course introducing students to the craft of acting

### **Boston University Summer Institute, Boston, MA**

#### **Acting, 2006**

- A five-week scene study course for high school students

#### **Teaching Assistant, 2005–2007**

- “Dramatic Literature” (instructor, Sid Friedman)
- “Modern Drama” (instructor, Eve Muson)

## **AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS**

MUDBLUE SKY	IRNE Nomination, Best Play
BLACKBERRY WINTER	Eliot Norton Nomination, Best New Play
THE FLICK	IRNE Nomination, Best Director, Best Play
PATTERN OF LIFE	IRNE Winner, Best New Play
COLLECTED STORIES	Eliot Norton Nomination, Best Production, IRNE nomination Best Director
DOLLHOUSE	Eliot Norton Nomination, Best Production
THE BOYS OF WINTER	IRNE Nomination, Best New Play
DEVIL’S TEACUP	IRNE Nomination, Best New Play

## **EDUCATION**

MFA, Theatre Directing  
Boston University College of Fine Arts

Certificate in Arts Administration  
Boston University MET College

BA, Theatre  
University of South Carolina

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## **REFERENCES**

Jim Petosa, Artistic Director of the Boston University School of Theater and Artistic Director of New Repertory Theatre  
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Scott Edmiston, Chair of the Theatre Department, Northeastern University  
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Kate Snodgrass, Artistic Director, Boston Playwrights’ Theatre  
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## DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

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RIPE FRENZY*	New Repertory Theatre (February 2018)
GRAND CONCOURSE	Speakeasy Stage Company
MUDBLUE SKY	Bridge Repertory Theater
BLACKBERRY WINTER*	New Repertory Theatre
THE HEIDI CHRONICLES	Northeastern University
OTHELLO	Actors Shakespeare Project
THE FLICK	Gloucester Stage Company
SCENES FROM AN ADULTERY*	New Repertory Theatre
MUCKRAKERS	New Repertory Theatre
RECONSIDERING HANNA(H) *	Boston Playwrights Theater
PATTERN OF LIFE*	New Repertory Theatre
THE OTHER PLACE	The Nora/Underground Railway Theatre
LUNGS	New Repertory Theatre
FULLY COMMITTED	New Repertory Theatre
RECENT TRAGIC EVENTS	Whistler in the Dark
TALES OF POE*	New Rep On Tour
COLLECTED STORIES	New Repertory Theatre
ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD	Summer Festival Theatre
AUNT DAN AND LEMON	Whistler in the Dark
DOLLHOUSE	New Repertory Theatre
THE SCARLET LETTER*	New Rep On Tour
CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL	New Repertory Theatre
BOOM!	New Repertory Theatre
FOOL FOR LOVE	New Repertory Theatre
THE BOYS OF WINTER*	BKS Productions
ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD	Boston University
THE DEVIL'S TEACUP*	Boston Playwrights Theater
THE AMERICAN CLOCK	Boston University
CURSE OF THE STARVING CLASS	Boston University
4.48 PSYCHOSIS and CRAVE	Boston University
LULU FABULOUS*	Phoenix Theatre DC
DAY OLD PLAYS*	Cherry Red Productions
PARALLEL LIVES: THE KATHY AND MO SHOW	Phoenix Theatre DC
UNWRAPPED: AN EVENING OF WOMEN'S VOICES*	Phoenix Theatre DC
INDEPENDENCE	Phoenix Theatre DC

\* World Premiere