

Malcolm K. Darrell

Curriculum Vitae

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SUMMARY

Hands-on senior creative leader with 25-plus years of live entertainment experience. Proven track record and enthusiasm for building, managing, mentoring, and inspiring interdisciplinary teams from blue-sky to project delivery. Adept in all aspects of creative development and production.

SKILLS

Creative Strategy | Content Curation | Collaboration | Leadership | Emotional Intelligence | Adaptability | Interpersonal Communication | Multi-Project Management and Delivery | Business, Financial & Trend Analysis | Fiscal/Project Budgeting | Media Creation

EDUCATION

- 2007 Yale University, Yale School of Drama, New Haven, CT
MFA, Theater Management
- 2001 University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
BA, Majors: American Studies (Business Management) & Theatre and Performance Studies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022- Now Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey/ Nearest Green Distillery, Shelbyville, TN
Director, Nearest Green Distillery Experiences
- Develop and direct overall experience strategy for the 432-acre distillery including producing tentpole events, elevating guest experiences, revenue strategy and future distillery expansion and development.
 - Creative Director/Producer for Uncle Nearest and CEO special projects.
 - Manage Marketing Manager and Transportation Manager.
- 2017- 2021 Walt Disney Imagineering/ Disney Parks Live Entertainment, Glendale, CA
Creative Director
- Lead and managed research and development creative studio for Disney Parks' Live Entertainment global portfolio.
 - Identified and leveraged creative talent, technology and trends to develop innovative, integrated immersive experiences and activations for Disney franchises and brands.
 - Planned, managed, communicated and collaborated with Imagineering executives, internal and external workflows, ensuring an effective exchange of information and deliverables.
 - Developed and produced studio's proof of concept mock-ups, playtests and workshops.
- 2014- 2023 MKD Arts Management, Los Angeles, CA
Founder/Principal
- Consulted with organizations and stewarded individual artists through comprehensive creative strategies including: values assessment, social media campaigning, brand management, contract negotiation, capacity building, fundraising, marketing strategies, diversity and inclusion training and strategic planning.
- 2010- 2014 Center Theater Group (CTG) Ahmanson Theatre/Mark Taper Forum/Kirk Douglas Theatre, Los Angeles, CA
New Play Production Associate
- Managed \$1 million plus grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for hyper-collaborative, devised and contemporary theatre initiatives including: production and individual artist commissions, workshops, readings and special events.
 - Line Producer for readings, workshops and special projects.
 - Developed strategy for the department and scouted artistic work for season planning.

- 2007- 2010 **Ebony Repertory Theatre (ERT) Nate Holden Performing Arts Center (NHPAC), Los Angeles, CA**
 Founding General Manager, Los Angeles' 1st African American Equity Company
- Established and led daily operations including: negotiation and execution of all artists, visiting presenters and vendor contracts, execution of all payroll, accounting and human resource needs for the entire staff, including hiring and termination, direct oversight of operating budget of \$650,000 and staff of 20.
 - Developed a 5- year capacity plan with Founder/Producer and ERT Board to ensure steady growth and solvency.
- 2006- 2007 **Yale Repertory Theatre, New Haven, CT**
 Associate Managing Director
- Oversaw artist contracting and general management for 6-show season.
 - Managed \$1.1 million artistic budget for the 2006-2007 season and created \$1.4 million budget for the 2007-2008 season.
 - Supervised company managers.
- Spring 2006 **Assistant Director of Marketing**
- Developed and implemented marketing plans; created and managed advertising plans.
 - Managed development of special events for the community in conjunction with Yale University Office of New Haven and State Affairs.
- 2003- 2004 **University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles, Ca**
 Customer Service Supervisor, Central Ticket Office
- Supervised university call center, handling calls for over 600 annual athletic, performing (UCLA LIVE!), academic, and other special events in a high-stress environment.
 - Hired, trained, and supervised 50 employees, including two full-time career staff and part time students.
 - Increased customer satisfaction by 25% within 6 months of hiring.

PRODUCING EXPERIENCE

- 2011-2013 **RADAR LA Festival- Center Theatre Group, The Public Theater and REDCAT, Los Angeles, CA**
 Associate Producer
- Developed and managed all production logistics for site-specific work around Downtown Los Angeles.
 - Developed and managed symposium logistics for international artists, producers, presenters and funders.
- 2012 **Ovation Awards- Los Angeles Stage Alliance, Los Angeles, CA**
 Producer
- Oversight and execution of LA's largest theatre awards ceremony.
 - Managed on-stage production, including all design, coordination and management elements including budgeting and staff supervision, pre and post event.
 - Coordinated logistics of rehearsal, load-in, strike and parties/receptions.
 - Hired and oversaw all support staff, designers and technicians.
- 2006-2007 **The Brother's Size by Tarell McCraney- The Public Theater, New York, NY**
 Co-Producer (in association with The Foundry Theatre)
- Lead fundraiser; assisted with marketing, general management.

- 2014-2015 National New Play Network (NNPN) Strategic Plan, Washington DC
Lead Consultant
- Oversaw the planning process with NNPN committee; ensured complete engagement for a successful plan that was aligned with the organization's mission, core values and desired goals.
 - Created a comprehensive and fluid document with SWOT analysis, action plan and recommendations to strengthen and guide organization into next four years and its 2018 20th Anniversary celebration.
- 2011-2012 El Teatro Campesino (ETC) Strategic Plan, San Juan Bautista, CA
Consultant
- Wrote and presented a 3-year strategic plan to coincide with ETC's 50th Anniversary.
 - With a three-person team, guided organization in defining and crafting a strategic plan to strengthen artistic, educational, financial, management and board development goals and objectives.
 - Created plans to strengthen fundraising, board development and external partnerships.

AWARDS/AFFILIATIONS

- 2020 Village School, Board Member
- 2015 James P. Shannon Leadership Institute, Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
- 2013 Divine 9 Honoree, Los Angeles Urban League Young Professionals
- 2012-13 Cultural Exchange International Fellowship, Department of Cultural Affairs Los Angeles, British Council USA
- 2012 Nathan Cummings Young Leader of Color, Theatre Communications Group
- 2007 Dexter Wood Luke Memorial Prize, given by the fellows of Yale University, established by Jane Kaczmarek
- 2007 Producer's Chair Award (Inaugural recipient) given by the Foundry Theatre NY, NY
- 2006 Yale University Seton Elm-Ivy Award, given by President of Yale and Mayor of New Haven, CT
- 2005 Yale Presidential Public Service Fellowship

SELECTED PANELS

- 2020 Disney Dreamers Academy, Panelist, (CA & FL)
- 2020 32nd Annual Festival of New Musicals, Selection Committee- National Alliance for Musical Theatre (NY, NY)
- 2014 Organizational Grant Program, Panelist- Los Angeles County Arts Commission
- 2014 Tangible Solutions to Advance Diversity and Inclusion, Panelist- TCG Conference (San Diego, CA)
- 2011-14 Sherwood Award, Panelist- Center Theatre Group (Los Angeles, CA)
- 2013 Cultural International Fellowship, Panelist- Department of Cultural Affairs City of Los Angeles
- 2013 We are Proud to Present..., Moderator-California Institute of the Arts
- 2013 Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowship, Panelist- Theatre Communications Group (NY, NY)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS/PODCASTS

- 2015 ["The Beautiful, Strange, Brilliant, Sloppy, Genius of Lester Bangs"](#) The Grid, Center Theatre Group, June 8, 2015
- 2013 ["Culture Connection: A Drop in Arts Attendance"](#) Culture Connection, Black Is Online, October 17, 2013
- 2013 ["Omar Lye-Fook, MBE King of British Soul"](#) Culture Connection, Black Is Online, June 27, 2013