

Contact Information

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Education

University of Denver -

MS in Nonprofit Leadership

The University of Alabama -

BA in Theatre, concentration in
Musical Theatre (Magna Cum Laude)

Florida Studio Theatre -

Directing Fellowship

Core Skills

Leadership

Directing

Organization

Clarity

Strategy

Communication

Vocal & Acting Coaching

Fundraising

Teaching



Kyle Van Frank

Director. Educator. Leader.

Professional Profile

Kyle Van Frank is a theatre director, passionate educator, and executive leader, committed to work that transforms lives.

Kyle's work as a director, actor, writer, and teaching artist has taken him across the country and world, specializing in musical theatre, theatre for young audiences, and new play development.

With extensive experience in fundraising, marketing, and organizational strategy, Kyle brings unique leadership experience to the arts that is supported by rich, formative experiences.

Kyle's interdisciplinary background has shaped a working style that prioritizes collaboration as an essential pathway to artistic creation. With extensive teaching experience and background leading seven-figure fundraising results for nonprofits, Kyle brings a sense of professionalism and dedication to every project.

Underpinning this diverse portfolio of work is Kyle's passion to lead with integrity and utilize the work of great storytelling to sustain and transpose our world.

I. Directing Experience

Specializing in musical theatre, theatre for young audiences, and new play development, Kyle has had the pleasure of working in LORT, professional, community, university, and high school settings.

Paramount to training in this area, is a Directing and Education Fellowship conducted at Florida Studio Theatre for 14 months.

Florida Studio Theatre, *Directing & Education Fellow*

- Served as a director, actor, writer, and teaching artist for Florida Studio Theatre (LORT D Regional Theatre).
- Additional duties in outreach through education and community engagement projects, cabaret development, improv and sketch comedy, and house management/patron services.
- Assisted literary department manager in schedule building for seven-person department, project development, and personnel management.
- Teaching Artist for students ages six to seniors in courses from Theatre Appreciation to Performance to Writing.
- Director of On-Deck Sketch program, managing and directing group of 25 writers/actors.

Below are selected credits for directing work:

Directing - Theatre (selected projects)

7UP	Director	Florida Studio Theatre
America in One Room*	Director	Florida Studio Theatre
Chomp	Director	Florida Studio Theatre
Crisis Actors*	Director	Florida Studio Theatre
25th Annual... Spelling Bee	Assistant Director	The University of Alabama
Shrek: The Musical*	Director	The University of Alabama
Pandora's Suitcase*	Director	Florida Studio Theatre
Whatta Ya Know	Director	FST 24-Hour Play Festival
The Tempest	Assistant Director/Movement Director	Colorado Shakespeare Festival's Camp Shakespeare

Directing - Theatre Continued (selected projects)

The Dolls*	Assistant Director	Florida Studio Theatre
Aesop's Fables*	Assistant Director	Florida Studio Theatre
Our Species Is Screwed	Director	The University of Alabama
Love's Labors Lost	Assistant Director	Colorado Shakespeare Festival's Camp Shakespeare
Zoom into Playwriting	Assistant Director	Florida Studio Theatre
Cinderella*	Assistant Director	Florida Studio Theatre
The SpongeBob Musical	Consulting Director	St. Benedict at Auburndale High School

Directing - Award Shows, Sketch Comedy, & Cabarets (selected projects)

On the Road Again	Associate Director/Choreographer	Florida Studio Theatre
Orpheum High School Musical Theatre Awards	Assistant Director (2022-2026)	Orpheum Theatre
Greater Giving Benefit	Artistic Director (2016-2019)	The University of Alabama
I Need a Laugh	Director	FST Sketch

**Denotes developmental and/or staged reading*

II. Acting Experience

Specializing in musical theatre, comedy, and Shakespeare, Kyle has a diverse resume, providing a firm foundation of theatrical experience that informs his directing work. After graduating from college, Kyle completed a 9-month Acting Apprenticeship at Florida Studio Theatre.

Florida Studio Theatre, Acting Apprentice

- Served as an actor in Children's Touring company of the award-winning Write a Play program and in-house children's shows, FST Improv, Mainstage, and Cabaret series.
- Worked as professional teaching artist in playwrighting and musical theatre.
- Additional duties as a House Manager, Box Office Associate, and reader for new plays selection.

The following page includes selected credits for acting work:

Acting (selected projects)

Theatre

<i>NEWSIES</i>	Crutchie	Crane River Theater	Rob McKercher
<i>BRIGHT STAR</i>	Billy u/s (Performed)	Florida Studio Theatre	Kate Alexander
<i>SWEENEY TODD</i>	Toby	The University of Alabama	Seth Panitch
<i>FALSETTOS</i>	Jason	The University of Alabama	Raines Carr
<i>RICHARD III</i>	Scrivener/Page	Colorado Shakespeare	Wendy Franz
<i>YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU</i>	Gangster 1 (u/s Tony)	Colorado Shakespeare	Carolyn Haworth
<i>THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE</i>	Jason/Rexy u/s	Florida Studio Theatre	Kate Alexander
<i>SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN</i>	Rev. Oglethorpe	SummerTide Theatre	Stacy Alley

Concerts/Cabarets

<i>DECK THE HALLS</i>	Jolly (Dance Capt.)	Florida Studio Theatre	Caroline Kaiser
<i>THAT'S AMORE: THE DEAN MARTIN</i>	Male u/s (Performed)	Florida Studio Theatre	Catherine Randazzo
<i>SHREK THE MUSICAL</i>	Pinocchio	The University of Alabama	Kyle Van Frank
<i>HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL</i>	Nerd/Ensemble	The University of Alabama	Marie Videou

Methods and Styles:

Acting: Seth Panitch (Shakespeare, Shaw), Kate Alexander (Story Theatre), Allison Hetzel (Fitzmorris), Kelley Schoger (Alexander), Jeff Whiting (Acting the Song), Annie Levy (Theatre of the Oppressed, Viewpoints)

Voice: Justin P. Cowan, William A. Martin, Emily Herring, JemmiLou Rye

Dance (Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Modern): Stacy Alley, Lawrence Jackson, Rita Snyder, Ja'Morris Rivers

III. Teaching & Research

My teaching philosophy is steeped in Stanislavsky-based acting techniques, honoring the truth and simplicity of action and objective-based acting training. I believe in creating a supportive and challenging environment that creates a space for actors to take chances, make brave choices, and explore.

With experience teaching young students to retired adults, I have had the opportunity to craft and refine a diverse toolbelt of skills. My teaching interests include Audition Techniques, Musical Theatre Scene Study, Puppetry Building and Manipulation, Improvisation, Vocal Coaching, and Theatre History.

Teaching & Coaching

Freelance (2016 - present) - ages 22+

- Nonprofit Fundraising and Marketing workshops and seminars at the following: *FIRE Foundation Affiliate Retreat, Widening the Table Conference, Greenfield Solutions, The University of Alabama MFA/MBA Arts Management Program, and other conferences, retreats, and arts companies.*

Orpheum Theatre Group (2016 - present) - ages 9 to 18

- *High School Musical Theatre Awards (2016 - present):* provide annual coaching for 14 lead actor/actress nominees competing to participate in the Jimmy Awards; experience directing, choreographing, coaching, producing, writing, and music coordination.
- *Department Internship (2016):* Served as a department assistant, managing material preparation for summer camps and teacher professional development workshops, database entry and management, teaching artist in film for summer camps.

Florida Studio Theatre (2019 - 2021) - ages 6 to 80+

- Served as a teaching artist for two years for FST's schools, serving all ages of children and adults.
- Conducted playwriting workshops in public, private, Catholic, charter, and Montessori schools across southern Florida as a part of the award-winning Write a Play program for students in grades K-5.
- Two years teaching music and acting to young adults with disabilities.
- Taught musical theatre performance for ages 11 to 14.
- Offered additional theatre history & appreciation workshops, play reading discussions & analyses, and improv & sketch comedy courses for adults.

Crane River Theatre Co. (2019) - ages 5 to 16

- Taught summer camp courses in acting, singing, and dance to students as a part of Crane River Theatre Co.'s summer camp.

Colorado Shakespeare Festival (2018) - ages 8 to 12

- Served as an assistant director and movement/music specialist to two, multi-week sessions of summer camp at the award-winning Camp Shakespeare, where students learn to perform Shakespeare in the original text.

The University of Alabama (2017 - 2018) - ages 18 to 22

- Serving as an Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, assisted musical theatre faculty in history lecture preparation.
- Delivered lectures on Golden Age of Musical Theatre, the cultural history of African Americans and Jewish Americans in the development of Jazz, and the birth of the Movie Musical.
- Served as assistant director in course final performance for 400-level university course.

SummerTide Theatre (2017) - ages 4 to 14

- Planned and taught a week of singing, acting, and dancing to elementary and middle school students

AL's Pals- Student Mentor (2015-2016) - ages 8 to 10

- After school homework aid and enrichment activities for elementary-age students

Research & Creative Activity

Blended Culture: The Story of Tap Dancing America:

- Published: National Conference on Undergraduate Research 2019 Proceedings
- The University of Alabama System Honors Research Conference (1st Place)
- The University of Alabama Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference (1st Place)

Senior Project: Shrek the Musical:

- Produced and Directed a staged reading of Shrek the Musical
- Received grant from the UA College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Creativity and Research Academy

Jewish Immigrant Identity and the Birth of the American Musical:

- UA College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Summit

Hamilton: An American Musical—The Story of America Then, Told by America Now:

- The University of Alabama Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference

IV. Executive Leadership Experience

One Classroom, *Executive Director (2025-present)*

- Leading One Classroom as its first Executive Director, ensuring mission efficacy to create inclusive Catholic educational opportunities for children with disabilities in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.
- Provide operational leadership for all aspects of the foundation's activities and provide public advocacy for the inclusion of children with special needs and promotion of Catholic education and values.
- Manage team of fundraising, marketing, and programming professionals.
- Organize and manage board meetings, originate potential board members, and participate in all strategic planning activities.
- Form and manage advisory groups. Develop direct relationship with all critical stakeholders including schools, high schools, the Catholic Education Office, major donors, partner institutions, and families.
- Work closely with development staff to organize fundraising efforts including major gifts, direct appeals, grant requests, and events.
- Manage budgeting processes and provide oversight for the organization's use of funds and cash flow.
- Foster and maintain relationships with other Catholic inclusion organizations.
- Manage school granting processes and facilitate funding to participating schools.
- Recruit, organize and manage volunteers.

FIRE Foundation of Denver, *Executive Director (2023-2025)*

- Led FIRE Denver as its first Executive Director, serving as the institution's chief executive officer, designing and coordinating efforts to most effectively implement its mission to champion the inclusion of students with disabilities in Catholic schools by providing educational resources, fundraising, and promoting a culture of belonging.
- More than tripled total giving to the institution in two years. Growth was achieved through development of a robust and diversified fundraising portfolio of major gifts, grants, monthly recurring gifts, giving campaigns, and events.
- Developed, maintained, and supported a dedicated and active Board of Directors. Grew the Board of Directors from 9 to 12 and supported bimonthly meetings. Exponentially grew the Board's committees and helped coordinate their efforts.
- Acted as a spokesperson for FIRE Denver at all fundraisers, board events, and meetings with diocesan representatives and school administrators.

- Magnified the organization's brand and dramatically increased online presence and local name recognition. Coordinated a strategic and aligned marketing strategy across public relations, social media, print campaigns, and more.
- Built collaborative relationships with archdiocesan, parish, educational, and disability advocacy leaders and community stakeholders.
- Led the organization's programming efforts through realignment into three flagship programs – School Grants, Professional Development, and Friends of FIRE (parent and family programming). Through strategic realignment, grew funded schools from 10 to 18, students directly served from 60 to over 200, engaged educators from 150 to well over 300, and parent participants from 15 to over 30. Additionally developed and launched the Spark School program as an engagement pipeline for future funded schools and professional development participants.
- Worked closely with the board treasurer on budget development, expense management, tracking, and financial forecasting.
- Collaborated with FIRE Foundation affiliates across country through monthly meetings, annual retreats, and biannual professional development conferences. Provided coaching and support for Affiliate leaders.

St. Benedict at Auburndale High School, *Director of Alumni (2021-2023)*

- Managed all alumni programming, engagement, and stewardship for 56-year-old Catholic co-ed high school in Memphis, TN.
- In two years, grew Alumni giving by 300% and partnered with Director of Advancement to increase overall giving by 60% and Annual Fund contributions by 20%.
- Served as Assistant Director for Advancement Office, which oversaw Fundraising, Admissions, Communications, Special Events, and Alumni programming for school community.
- Led school's 5,500-member Alumni Association.
- Planned class reunions and sustained relationships with class representatives and alumni at-large.
- Compiled and edited alumni newsletters, updates, and communications. Supported maintenance of school website and digital materials. Guided giving campaign strategy, design, and execution.
- Oversaw alumni-based fundraising initiatives, as well as other fundraising drives and initiatives.
- Planned, supported, and executed an average of 20 major events annually.

V. Volunteer Experience

Blackburn Institute, External Vice Chair (2024-2026)

- Volunteer for Blackburn Institute, the State of Alabama's premier leadership and civic engagement institute, as the External Vice Chair for the Fellows
- Coordinate fundraising efforts with the Institute's office including development of campaigns, advising on strategy, and creation of content.
- Design materials for giving campaigns and develop graphic content for digital venues.
- Coordinate relationships between current students, alumni, and the advisory board.
- Support the planning of annual events, such as the Blackburn Symposium, Spring Networking Dinner, and regional networking events.

Blackburn Institute, Internal Vice Chair (2022-2024)

- Volunteered as the Internal Vice Chair for the Fellows Involvement Network.
- Supported Fellow to Fellow networking and PD opportunities for the Institute's 600+ alumni across the country.
- Weekly support of Institute Social Media, newsletters, and internal networking.
- Supported the planning of annual events, such as the Blackburn Symposium, Spring Networking Dinner, and regional networking events.

National Catholic Partnership on Disability, Development Committee Member (2025-present)

- Support the fundraising and development efforts of the NCPD, which works with dioceses, parishes, ministers, and the laity to advance the full and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the life of the Church and society.

VI. Awards & Honors

- St. Benedict at Auburndale High School Hall of Fame (2025)
- The University of Alabama National Alumni Association 18Under31 Young Alumni Award (2024)
- Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award (2019, highest undergraduate honor at UA), presented to two UA students who "have demonstrated the highest standards of scholarship, leadership, and service."
- Raphael Crystal Achievement in Musical Theatre, UA Department of Theater and Dance (2017, inaugural recipient)
- Almbase 50Under50 Advancement Professionals (2023)
- Campbell-Portera Scholarship, UA College of Arts & Sciences (2017-2018)
- Marian Gallaway Performance Award, UA Department of Theatre and Dance (2019)
- Ed Williams Academic Award, UA Department of Theatre and Dance (2019)
- Judy Bonner Leadership Award, UA Department of Theatre and Dance (2018, 2019)



References

Stacy Alley, *Professor/Head of Musical Theatre* - The University of Alabama
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Seth Panitch, *Professor/Head of Acting Programs* - The University of Alabama
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Caroline Saldivar, *Director of Children's Theatre* - Florida Studio Theatre
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Catherine Randazzo, *Associate Producer* - Florida Studio Theatre
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Jennifer McGrath, *VP of Education, Community Engagement, & Halloran Centre Programming* - Orpheum Theatre Group
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*"The theater shall be a kind of sacred thing, where a festive and artistic mood shall always reign."
-Maurice Schwartz*