James McNamara

Curriculum Vitae

Academic Profile

Lighting designer, Professor of Lighting and Sound Design, and inaugural Chair of the Theatre Arts Department at Westfield State University. Active professional practice encompasses new plays, musicals, classical work, and world premieres. Teaching centers on the development of each student's artistic voice through collaborative storytelling, close production mentorship, and the integration of artistic research with theatrical technology. Academic leadership includes curriculum reform, recruitment, production management, and the current departmental self-study for external program review.

Teaching and Research Interests

Lighting as a means of shaping narrative, space, and emotional experience; student-centered design mentorship; collaborative theatre-making; the articulation of artistic vision through research, drafting, and performance; and emerging technologies in live and virtual production.

Academic Preparation

University of Massachusetts Amherst, MFA in Theatre, May 2008

Concentration: Lighting and Sound Design
Thesis: The Lighting and Sound Design of Martin McDonagh's The Pillowman
Advisors: Penny L. Remsen, Jane Frances Cox, Robert Kaplowitz

St. Michael's College, BA in Theater, May 2000

Advisors: James Peterson, Michael Lounsberry

Academic Appointments

Professor of Lighting and Sound Design, Fall 2021–present

Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

Faculty appointment, Fall 2010–present; promoted to Associate Professor, Fall 2016; tenured, Fall 2018; promoted to Full Professor, Fall 2021. Resident lighting and sound designer; teacher and mentor in design and technical theatre.

Inaugural Department Chair, July 2022–present

Westfield State University, Theatre Arts Department

Sabbatical leave, January–June 2026. Previously Program Area Chair, January–June 2022, and Interim Program Area Chair, July 2019–January 2020.

Teaching and Student Mentorship

Westfield State University, 2010–present

Teach lighting design through observation journals, visual research, script analysis, drafting, lighting-lab projects, cueing, and critique. Connect color, angle, distribution, intensity, and movement to narrative and emotional choices. Projects include recreating the light in paintings, realizing journal observations, and lighting musical moments. Integrate professional design practice with the development of each student's artistic voice.

Courses Taught

Lighting Design (THEA 390); Sound Design (THEA 343); Theatre and Society, formerly Introduction to Theatre (THEA 104); Stagecraft Techniques (THEA 156, formerly THEA 356); Theatre Workshop (THEA 253, formerly THEA 353); Lighting Practicum, formerly Scenic and Lighting Practicum (THEA 110); Theatre Run Crew Practicum (THEA 112); Computer Software for Theatre Design (THEA 330, special topics); Speech; and advanced independent studies in design.

Course Development and Assessment

Developed Computer Software for Theatre Design in Fall 2017, connecting digital tools to theatrical drafting, rendering, and collaborative design communication. Provide advanced design instruction through independent studies and assistant design assignments, with increasing responsibility for artistic research, presentation, documentation, and realization.

Evaluate design work through the strength of textual analysis, clarity of presentation, and the relationship between stated artistic intent and technical execution. Use journals, design discussions, critiques, and completed projects to assess students' ability to observe, interpret, communicate, and realize artistic choices.

Related media practice: developed virtual theatre workflows using Isadora, OBS, and ZoomOSC in 2020–2021, integrating live video, green-screen backgrounds, compositing, and streaming. Mentored student projection designers for O Beautiful and collaborated with Animation II on sound projects. Secured CARES Act-supported virtual-production training with the dean's assistance.

Production Mentorship and Advising

Mentor student lighting and sound designers from initial analysis and visual or aural research through design presentations, drafting, programming, and technical rehearsals. Use mainstage assistantships and Student Theatre Association designs to develop collaborative judgment, professional communication, and independent artistic decision-making.

Advise design and technology students and transfer students on degree planning, course equivalencies, double majors, minors, and professional goals. Work with Admissions and transfer staff to support appropriate placement and progress toward graduation.

Prepare students for regional and national design presentations through practice exhibitions and professional critique, including shared mentoring with scenic and costume design faculty.

Selected Student Achievements under Faculty Mentorship

Madeleine Hebert: National Award for Excellence in Lighting Design, KCACTF, 2020, for The Tempest; Region 1 lighting recognition and a nine-week Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas tuition scholarship. Region 1 sound design recognition, 2019, for American Idiot, followed by national festival participation.

Samuel Masoud: National Award for Excellence in Allied and Technical Design, KCACTF, 2022, for original music for Marisol, following selection as the Region 1 finalist.

Casey Dubrowski: KCACTF Region 1 Vectorworks Award, 2019, for lighting design for American Idiot; mentored jointly with departmental design faculty.

Selected Theatrical Designs

Lighting Design

Fireflies	Dir. Daniela Varron	Shakespeare and Company, MA	2026
Sanctuary City	Dir. Rose Schwietz Malla	Silverthorne Theatre, MA	2026
Come From Away	Dir. Russell Garrett	Majestic Theatre, MA	2026
KEVIN!	Dir. Talya Kingston	The Factory, MA	2025
The Piano Lesson	Dir. Christopher Edwards	Shakespeare and Company, MA	2025
Into the Woods	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2025
Twelfth Night	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2024
Moon for the Misbegotten	Dir. James Warwick	Majestic Theater, MA	2024
Unreconciled (World Premiere)	Dir. James Barry	Chester Theater Company, MA	2024
Rent	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2024
Peter and the Starcatcher	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2023
Lunar Eclipse (World Premiere)	Dir. James Warwick	Shakespeare and Company, MA	2023
Guards at the Taj	Dir. Reena Dutt	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2023
Henry IV Part 2	Dir. Tina Packer	Shakespeare and Company, MA	2023
Antigone or *And Still She Must Rise*	Dir. Sheila Bandyopadhyay	Westfield State University, MA	2023
Andrew Lippa's Wild Party	Dir. Eric Parnees	Westfield State University, MA	2022
An Iliad	Dir. Jeffery Mousseau	Shakespeare and Company, MA	2022
Lucky Stiff	Dir. Ilana Toeplitz	Westfield State University, MA	2022
Marisol	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2021
An Iliad	Dir. Jeffery Mousseau	Ancram Opera House, NY	2021
She Kills Monsters (Zoom)	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2021
What Life Matters (Zoom)	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2020
Cabaret	Dir. Tim Tavcar	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2019
O Beautiful	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2018
Twelfth Night	Dir. Amanda Rafuse	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2018
Disgraced	Dir. Kristen Van Ginhoven	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2018
Urinetown: The Musical	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2018
Big Love	Dir. Allegra Libonatti	Westfield State University, MA	2017
Folk	Dir. James Warwick	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2017
Spring Awakening	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2017
The Learned Ladies	Dir. Sabine Kleine	Westfield State University, MA	2016
Chicago	Dir. Vincent Tycer	Westfield State University, MA	2016
Blood Wedding	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2015
Memory House	Dir. Sheila Siragusa	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2015
The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2015
All My Sons	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2014
The Amish Project	Dir. Daniel Elihu Kramer	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2014
True West	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2014
The Kentucky Cycle	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2013
Body Awareness	Dir. Knud Adams	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2013
How We Got On	Dir. Summer Williams	Company One, MA	2013
Julius Caesar	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2012
Hamlet	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2012
The Deputy	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2011
Nickel and Dimmed	Dir. Samuel Rush	New Century Theatre/Smith College MA	2011
An Oresteia	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2011
Nickolas Nickelby	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2010
Transit of Mercury…	Dir. Robert Lawson	Franklin Pierce University, NH	2010
Proof	Dir. Keith Stevens	Franklin Pierce University, NH	2009
Blue Grass/Brown Earth	Chor. Chuck Davis	Sankofa Dance Project, MA	2009
Voices in Conflict	Dir. Keith Langsdale	New Century Theatre, MA	2009

Summer and Smoke	Dir. Benjamin Mosse	Yale Dramatic Assoc., CT	2009
The Pain In The Itch	Dir. M. Bevin O'Gara	Company One, MA	2009
The Gilgamesh Epic	Dir. Margret Wolfson	World Myth and Musci, NY	2008
Trestle at Pope Lick Creek	Dir. Aaron Schmookler	University of Massachusetts	2008
The Tibetan Book of the Dead	Dir. Kim Mancuso	Pilgrim Theater/LaMaMa ETC, NY	2008
Sash and Trim	Dir. Lauri Carlos	New World Theater, MA	2008
Man of La Mancha	Dir. Nick Corley	The Commons Group, VT	2008
Pirates of Penzance	Dir. Carl Schmel	On the Isle, MA	2008
Sankofa 2008	Chor. George Faison	Sankofa Dance Project, MA	2008
Unaired Public Radio	Dir. Gilbert McCauley	University of Massachusetts	2008
People Almost Always Smell Good In The Art Museum	Dir. Sheila Siragusa	University of Massachusetts	2008
Happy Days	Dir. Shawn LaCount	University of Massachusetts	2008
The Hungry Woman	Dir. Dora Arreolla	University of Massachusetts	2008
The Pillowman	Dir. Shawn LaCount	University of Massachusetts	2007
The Fantasticks	Dir. Peter Boynton	The Commons Group, VT	2007
Tartuffe	Dir. Ethan Bowen	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2007
The Interview	Dir. Victor Maog	The Chester Theater Co., MA	2007
The Selfish Giant	Dir. Kim Bent	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2007
The Musical of Musicals	Dir. Kathleen Keenan	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2007
Vivien	Dir. Peter Sanders	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2007
The Chairs	Dir. Julian Olf	University of Massachusetts, MA	2007
City Of Angels	Dir. A. Scott Parry	Amherst College, MA	2007
A Christmas Carol	Dir. Maryann Lombardi	University of Massachusetts, MA	2006
Mr. Dooley's America	Dir. Charlotte Moore	The Chester Theater Co., MA	2006
The Last Five Years	Dir. Andrea Bonamico	The Commons Group, VT	2006
Sea Marks	Dir. Nick Corley	The Commons Group, VT	2006
Arms And The Man	Dir. Gilbert McCauley	University of Massachusetts	2006
Batboy The Musical	Dir. Nick Corley	The Commons Group, VT	2005
The Robber Bridegroom	Dir. Nick Corley	The Commons Group, VT	2003
I Hate Hamlet	Dir. Paul Ugalde	Essex Players, VT	2003
Romeo and Juliet	Dir. Paul Ugalde	Green Mountain Shakespeare, VT	2002
The Reindeer Monologues	Dir. Ken Wyman	Theater on a Shoestring VT	2001
Histoire du Soldat	Dir. Mark Nash	FlynnSpace, VT	2001
Soulstice	Dir. Cathy Hurst	St. Michael's College, VT	2000

Sound Design

Fannie: The Music and Life…	Dir. Gilbert McCauley	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2026
Madame Mozart	Dir. Judy Braha	Great Barrington Public Theatre,MA	2025
Magdelene	Dir. Kiera Naughton	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2025
Into the Woods	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University	2025
The Thin Place	Dir. Gabby Farrah	Chester Theatre Company	2024
Rent	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University	2024
Peter and the Star Catcher	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University	2024
The Light	Dir. Christina Franklin	Chester Theatre Company	2023
Andrew Lippa's Wild Party	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2022
PassOver	Dir. Christina Franklin	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2022
Lucky Stiff	Dir. Ilana Toeplitz	Westfield State University, MA	2022
Marisol	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2021
The Niceties	Dir. Christina Franklin	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2021
Title and Deed	Dir. Kiera Naughton	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2021
She Kills Monsters (Zoom)	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2021
What Life Matters (Zoom)	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2020
Little Shop of Horrors (Video)	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2020
The Tempest	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2019

On the Exhale	Dir. Colette Roberts	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2019
O Beautiful	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2018
Urinetown: The Musical	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2018
Big Love	Dir. Allegra Libonatti	Westfield State University, MA	2017
Folk	Dir. James Warwick	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2017
Spring Awakening	Dir. Eric Parness	Westfield State University, MA	2017
Choke (World Premiere)	Dir. Ted Clement	Counter Productions Theatre Co, RI	2016
The Learned Ladies	Dir. Sabine Klein	Westfield State University, MA	2016
Sister Play	Dir. Daniel Elihu Kramer	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2016
Chicago	Dir. Vincent Tycer	Westfield State University, MA	2016
Blood Wedding	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2015
The Love Song of J. Robert…	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2015
All My Sons	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2014
A Number	Dir. Byam Stevens	Chester Theatre Company, MA	2014
True West	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2014
The Kentucky Cycle	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2013
The Seagull	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2013
Lean Back (workshop production)	Dir. Patrick Donnelly	Pierce Artist Residency, NH	2012
Julius Caesar	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2012
The Deputy	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2011
Wittenberg	Dir. Byam Stevens	Chester Theater Co., MA	2011
An Oresteia	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2011
Nicholas Nickleby	Dir. Jack Shea	Westfield State University, MA	2010
Molly Sweeney	Dir. Michael Dowling	Chester Theater Co., MA	2010
Proof	Dir. Keith Stevens	Franklin Pierce University, NH	2009
Love Song	Dir. Byam Stevens	Chester Theatre Co., MA	2009
Dov and Ali	Dir. Michele Tatunbaum	Chester Theatre Co., MA	2009
Voices in Conflict	Dir. Keith Langsdale	New Century Theater, MA	2008
Unaired Public Radio	Dir. Gilbert McCauley	University of Massachusetts	2008
People Almost Always Smell…	Dir. Sheila Siragusa	University of Massachusetts	2008
Happy Days	Dir. Shawn LaCount	University of Massachusetts	2007
The Pillowman	Dir. Shawn LaCount	University of Massachusetts	2007
Tartuffe	Dir. Ethan Bowen	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2007
The Selfish Giant	Dir. Kim Bent	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2007
The Musical of Musicals	Dir. Kathleen Keenan	Lost Nation Theater, VT	2007
The Caucasian Chalk Circle	Dir. Keith Langsdale	University of Massachusetts	2007
Sterling Family Radio Hour (Foley)	Dir. Adam Sullivan	Banned in Warwick Prod.	2001

Assistant Design

Judgement Day	Des. Jane Cox	Bard SummerScape	2010
The Golden Lotus	Des. Penny L. Remsen	Smith College, MA	2008
Rabbit Hole	Des. Penny L. Remsen	New Century Theater	2008
The Secret Fall of Constance Wilde	Des. Jane Cox	The Guthrie Theater, MN	2008
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Des. Jane Cox	The Guthrie Theater, MN	2008
Tartuffe	Des. Jane Cox	Yale Repertory Theater, CT	2007
Tartuffe	Des. Jane Cox	The McCarter Theater, NJ	2007
A Flea in Her Ear	Des. Penny L. Remsen	Clarence Brown Theater, TN	2007
Romeo and Juliet	Des. Penny L. Remsen	University of Massachusetts	2006
Trying To Find My Way Home	Des. Penny L. Remsen	Junebug Productions	2006
GUM (Sound Design)	Des. Vincent Olivieri	University of Massachusetts	2005
Asst. Lighting & Sound Designer	Des. Michael Lounsberry	St. Michael's Playhouse	1999

Academic Leadership and Program Development

Department Leadership and Administration

Guided an amicable transition from a program within the English Department to an independent Theatre Arts Department in Fall 2022. Coordinate academic planning, course scheduling, adjunct appointments, guest artist contracts, and departmental production operations.

Oversee a department comprising four full-time faculty positions, one staff member, and a shared administrative assistant; collaborate with the campus technical director in Media Services. Hire three to seven adjunct faculty per semester and manage annual operating budgets ranging from $44,000 to $48,000.

Serve as Theatre Production Manager, Box Office Manager, and Marketing Manager. Coordinate production calendars for two faculty-produced and two student-produced shows annually, and manage use of the Ely Studio Theatre, scene and costume shops, and instructional facilities in Ely and Dower.

Curriculum Reform and Experiential Learning

Led a comprehensive revision of the Theatre Arts major from 52 to 42 credits, balancing theatre history and dramatic literature, performance, and design and technical theatre. Preserved breadth and rigor while increasing flexibility for double majors and students entering theatre later in their undergraduate studies.

Created three one-credit production practica in lighting, costumes, and theatre run crew to integrate faculty-led production work into structured academic learning. Developed a student-centered model connecting design practice, technical execution, and experiential instruction.

Advanced musical theatre instruction through development of Acting the Song, Ensemble Seminar, Voice for Musical Theatre, Ensemble Skills for the Actor, and Directed Ensemble Skills, supporting continued development of the musical theatre program.

Revised Theatre and Society and Theatre Workshop for the Westfield Integrated Student Experience general education curriculum. Connected theatre study to cultural context and creative practice, and incorporated a culminating digital portfolio into Theatre Workshop.

Recruitment and Enrollment

Established Theatre Arts Open Houses in Fall 2022 and Fall 2023 and maintained personal outreach to accepted students. During chair tenure, theatre major enrollment increased from 13 in Fall 2022 to 37 in Spring 2025; current enrollment is 30 following a large graduating class.

Program Review and Planning

Lead the department's current self-study for external academic program review. Develop an account of curricular change, enrollment, student achievement, faculty creative activity, facilities, and resource needs to inform departmental priorities and long-term planning.

Frame program development around collaborative production learning, intensive faculty mentorship, professional preparation, and sustainable growth. The review addresses opportunities in musical theatre and other curricular pathways, alongside staffing and facilities needs.

Professional Practice and Service

Freelance Lighting and Sound Designer, 2000–present

Professional and educational theatres

Conceive and realize lighting and sound designs in collaboration with directors, performers, designers, and production teams. Maintain an active professional practice that informs teaching and student preparation.

Company Member and Designer, May 2022–present

Shakespeare and Company, Lenox, MA

Associate Artist and Resident Designer, August 2017–present

Chester Theatre Company, Chester, MA

Contribute to artistic planning and discussions of theatre technology in addition to lighting and sound design work.

Journeyman Stagehand, May 2010–present

IATSE Local 232, Amherst/Northampton, MA

Work as lighting director, electrics crew chief, stage electrician, carpenter, audio engineer, and stagehand in regional performance venues.

Regional and National Theatre Education Service

Co-Chair, Design Technology and Management, KCACTF Region 1, April 2017–April 2020; Co-Vice Chair, April 2015–April 2017. Managed DTM programming, budgets, workshops, professional respondents, and the Student Design Expo. Revised assessment rubrics and supported constructive professional responses to student work; helped select technical interns and develop the vendor exhibit.

Design respondent, workshop presenter, and National Selection Committee representative at KCACTF regional festivals. Presented Articulating the World of Light and I'll Go Get Phil: An Exploration of the Narrative Power of Sound at Region 3 (2019); the sound workshop at Region 6 (2019); and Painting with Light at Region 7 (2020).

Coordinated the festival transfer of WSU's Peter and the Starcatcher following its Fall 2023 campus production. Adapted the lighting design to the festival repertory plot and arranged travel and lodging for 32 students, faculty, and staff.

University and Professional Service

Search committees: Campus Technical Director, Fall 2015; Performance Faculty, Spring 2016; Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Spring 2024. English Department Personnel Evaluation Committee, Fall 2019: conducted teaching evaluations for faculty reappointment, tenure, and promotion reviews.

Guest Lecture Series selection committee, 2013–2020; Musical Theater Guild advisor, 2013–2019; Student Theatre Association advisor. Co-presented a collaborative storytelling workshop for the NEST Summer Engagement Program, 2020.

External reviewer for faculty tenure and promotion: Stonehill College, 2021, and Whitman College. Chair, Board of Trustees, IATSE Local 232, May 2014–April 2017: led financial audits and participated in grievance review.

Lighting systems consultant, Ancram Opera House, 2019: recommended electrical, lighting-position, and equipment improvements for a grant-supported theatre renovation.

Earlier Teaching and Production Experience

Visiting Instructor in Lighting Design and Technical Direction, September 2009–May 2010
Franklin Pierce University, Rindge, NH. Resident lighting designer and technical director; taught Stagecraft I and II, Lighting Design I and II, Audio Production, Experiencing the Arts, and independent studies.

Guest Artist and Lighting Designer, Spring 2009
Yale Dramatic Association, New Haven, CT. Designed Summer and Smoke, mentored student designers and electricians, and taught a Vectorworks workshop.

Technical Director and Lighting Designer, September 2008
New World Theater, Amherst, MA. Designed lighting for the world premiere of Sash and Trim and coordinated installation of scenery, projection, lighting, and sound.

Teaching Assistant in Lighting Design, Spring 2007 and Spring 2008
University of Massachusetts Amherst. Taught and mentored students in introductory and advanced lighting design (TH 361 and TH 461), including lab projects, drafting, and technical rehearsals.

Lighting Design Seminar Leader, November 2007
Western New England College, Springfield, MA. Led a seminar on lighting design, collaboration, and the design process using The Pillowman at UMass Amherst.

Resident Lighting and Sound Designer, Summer 2007
Lost Nation Theater, Montpelier, VT. Designed a four-production summer season and supervised intern crews through hang, focus, sound installation, and changeovers.

Lighting Design Advisor, April 2007–April 2013
Gateway Acting Company / Chester Theatre Company, Huntington, MA. Mentored high school students designing original one-act plays and taught lighting hang and focus.

Lighting Designer and Lighting Supervisor, January 2007
Amherst College, Amherst, MA. Designed the January interim musical and supervised student lighting installation.

Teaching Assistant and Electrics Shop Assistant Supervisor, Fall 2005–Spring 2008
University of Massachusetts Amherst. Taught lighting for Introduction to Technical Theater (TH 160); supervised student crews, equipment maintenance, lighting installation, and focus.

Theater Director, Fall 2002–June 2004
The Gailer School, Shelburne, VT. Created and led the theatre program; taught acting, improvisation, and technical theatre; directed and designed two productions annually.

Co-Artistic Director, Capocomico, January 2002–June 2004
Effeto Meraviglioso, Burlington, VT. Founded a Commedia dell'Arte troupe, trained seven actors, co-created and co-directed seven original productions, and taught performance and mask-making workshops.

Technical Director and Designer, Fall 2000–June 2004
Champlain Valley Union High School, Hinesburg, VT. Supervised technical production, designed scenery, lighting, and sound, and taught students construction, electrics, scenic painting, and safe working practices.

Facilities Development and Technical Consultation

Collaborated with architects and theatrical lighting and audio contractors on Dower Center instructional facilities: a lighting lab and acting studio, a 16-computer design studio, and a recording studio. Advocated for teaching needs and coordinated technical planning and installation.

Honors and Awards

2024 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 1, Merit Award for Outstanding Lighting Design, *Rent,* Westfield State University
2023 Berkshire Theatre Critics Award Nominee, Outstanding Lighting Design, *Guards at the Taj*, Chester Theatre Company
2022 Berkshire Theatre Critics Award Nominee, Outstanding Sound Design, *PassOver*, Chester Theatre Company
2021 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 1, Merit Award for Outstanding Technical Design for Zoom Theatre, *What Life Matters,* Westfield State University.
2020 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, National Commendation for exemplary support of educational theatre excellence as a member of the Region 1 Leadership Board.

2014 Production recognition: Elliot Norton Award Nominee, Outstanding Production, *How We Got On*, Company One.
2011 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, National Commendation, Distinguished Achievement in Production Design and Conception for *The Transit of Mercury Across the Face of the Sun*, Franklin Pierce University.

Technical Expertise and Professional Development

Lighting and drafting: Vectorworks, Lightwright, ETC lighting consoles; theatrical drafting, lighting documentation, programming, and lighting systems installation.

Sound and media: Pro Tools, QLab, Audacity, GarageBand, digital mixing consoles, recording and editing, sound routing, Isadora, OBS, and ZoomOSC.

Production skills: scenic construction, woodworking and metalworking, rigging, lighting hang and focus, and supervision of student production crews.

ETC Education Center: Ion Console Programming Level 1, Essentials, completed May 19, 2014; Level 2, Enhanced Skills, completed May 20, 2014.

2026 professional development: completed ETC Eos Level 2 and Level 3 training at the New York City Educational Training Center, April 2026. USITT National Conference, Long Beach, March 2026: workshops in Eos programming and effects, moving lights in education, show networking, and Dante audio networking.

Professional contact: jamesmm78@gmail.com