Kristen Kochanik Garza

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EDUCATION

Crosby Rigging Certification

OSHA 30 Hour

Masters of Arts in **Career and Workforce Education**

University of South Florida- FL 2019 – GPA 3.9

Bachelor of Arts in **Theatrical Design**

University of South Florida – FL 2009 – GPA 3.8

SKILLS

- PROJECT/PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT
- ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS
- ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- PROGRAM/CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT
- CARPENTRY
- STAGE MANAGEMENT REPORTS/COORDINATION
- FORK/SCISSOR LIFT OPERATION
- BUDGET REPORTS/CREATION
- CPR/FIRST AID
- ENTERTAINMENT RIGGING
- SCENIC PAINTING

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Central Florida 08/2023-Present

Production Shop Manager/Asst. Tech Director/Asst. Professor

Work collaboratively with the Technical Director, Prod Manager, Theatre Dept and students to construct, load-in, maintain and load-out scenery necessary for all Productions across multiple performance spaces.

- Painting and creating scenic elements and props
- Instruct student and over-hire crews on proper installation and construction
- Develop curriculum for students in scene shop class.
- Maintain an accurate Health and Safety Inventory and maintain OSHA Entertainment standards.

Savannah College of Art and Design 07/2021-08/2023

Production Shop Manager/Adjunct Professor

Work collaboratively with the Technical Director, Asst Technical Director and students to construct, load-in, maintain and load-out scenery necessary for all Productions across multiple performance spaces.

- Painting and creating scenic elements and props
- Maintain safety standards within performance spaces
- Develop curriculum for students in scenic design class
- Maintain an accurate grade book and student records for class

K&A Design and Renovations LLC 08/2019-07/2021

Owner/Carpenter/Designer

A design and renovation business working with realtors and clients to prepare and stage their homes so they can be listed on the MLS.

- Meet with clients to discuss their needs for their properties so they can be listed.
- Work with investors to upkeep their rental properties
- Design, install, and complete “Handywoman” tasks that clients require such as carpentry, painting, trim work, and installation of lighting or plumbing fixtures.

Technical Theatre Director/Teacher 08/2014-06/2021

Hall High School, Manatee School of the Arts, Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, Blake High School

Collaborate with fellow instructors to create large scale professional caliber shows in a high school setting.

- Assisting students with the technical show aspects of over 20 performances a year in all disciplines of performance.
- Teach all high school levels in scenic disciplines including, construction, scenic painting, and rigging.
- Coordinate with contracted professionals for private rentals in the theatre to implement desired look for clients.

Jobsite Theatre Company 05/2017-09/2017

Technical Director/Charge Scenic Artist

Collaborate with designers, Straz Center Staff, and volunteers to create, build, and meet production deadlines.

- Directing contracted staff on production to do lists and completion of tasks
- Painting and creating props and scenic elements
- Attending production meetings and adhering to production deadlines

Feld Entertainment Palmetto FL 04/13-06/14

Scenic Artist

Collaborate with scenic artists and designers to create props and scenery pieces for multiple arena shows.

- Paint props and scenic pieces
- Carving small hand props out of foam for use in shows
- Maintaining equipment in shop including tools and paint guns.

Busch Gardens Tampa, FL 08/06- 12/09 & 07/15-12/15

Entertainment Technician

Collaborate with stage managers and other technicians to operate several different shows within the theme park. Personally responsible for running shows during performances (Run Crew), maintenance on any costume, lighting equipment, scenic pieces, and sound equipment.

- Upkeep of theatrical space
- Enforce theatre safety for performers, fellow technicians, and park guests
- Assist with teaching run crew classes to fellow technicians looking to branch out
- Giving proper training to newly hired technicians