

IYANNA HUFFINGTON WHITNEY

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PRODUCING EXPERIENCE

The Carlotta Festival of New Plays

Managing Director

May 2025 - Present

- Curated and secured creative teams through targeted research, outreach, and contracting of directors, actors, and collaborators
- Lead creative producer for a festival of new works, overseeing artist engagement, contracts, and cross-functional coordination among several departments.
- Negotiated with Actors' Equity Association and contracted union members, ensuring compliance with Yale's collective bargaining agreement and industry practices.
- Managed scheduling and logistics for guest artists, serving as primary liaison between creative teams and the institution.
- Coordinated across stage management, production management, and producing departments to ensure cohesive execution of festival productions.
- Represented the festival in communications with industry professionals, elevating visibility of productions and participating artists.

Yale Cabaret / Yale Summer Cabaret

Associate Managing Director

Jan 2025 - May 2025

Managing Director

May 2024 - Sept 2024

- Directed daily operations for two graduate student-run nonprofit theatre companies, each managing \$100K+ budgets and focused on new work and student development.
- Supervised and mentored administrative staff, providing training in systems, leadership, and professional growth.
- Led weekly cross-functional meetings to align production timelines, audience services, and marketing strategy.
- Designed and executed fundraising initiatives, including an annual Spring Gala, to support programming and deepen community engagement.
- Cultivated relationships with donors, sponsors, and alumni, increasing institutional visibility and contributed revenue.
- Managed financial operations including accounting, payroll, and hiring for part-time and production staff, ensuring compliance and timely processing.
- Oversaw front-of-house, box office, and patron services, prioritizing an inclusive and welcoming audience experience.
- Streamlined operations by identifying challenges and implementing solutions to improve organizational efficiency.

EDUCATION

Yale University

MFA/Theater Management

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

BA/Theatre & History

Minor: American Sign Language

ARTISTIC PORTFOLIOS

Available at iyannahuffington.com

New 42 / The New Victory Theater

Artistic Programming Fellow

Sept 2024 - Dec 2024

- Supported the Artistic Director at The New Victory Theater in curating a season of national and international Theatre for Young Audiences productions aligned with institutional mission and audience impact.
- Conducted artistic research and vetting of touring productions and artists through script analysis, video review, and field tracking.
- Contributed to season planning and programming strategy, balancing artistic excellence, cultural diversity, and developmental appropriateness.
- Collaborated cross-functionally to align programming with education initiatives, audience engagement, and community partnerships.
- Supported international artist relations, including communications, contracting processes, and residency and logistics coordination.
- Provided dramaturgical and administrative support for new work development and artist residencies.
- Represented the artistic office in internal meetings, advising on programming, accessibility, and audience experience.
- Coordinated presenting engagements to ensure alignment between artistic vision, venue capacity, and audience needs.
- Advanced equity and inclusion initiatives through intentional artist sourcing, research, and programming recommendations.

Virginia Children's Theatre

Interim Director of Education

Oct 2022 - Aug 2023

Assistant Director of Education

Sept 2022 - Oct 2022

Education Associate

Sept 2021 - Sept 2022

- Designed and launched an apprenticeship program and revitalized the Summer College Internship program, expanding pipelines for emerging artists.
- Directed a comprehensive education portfolio serving PreK–12 students, including 18 annual classes, 9 performance-based summer camps (including adaptive/special needs programming), and two intensive Broadway Junior productions.
- Led marketing and communications strategy, increasing enrollment, retention, and community visibility.
- Recruited, hired, and supervised teaching artists and staff, while building partnerships with schools and community organizations, including a K–5 residency with Roanoke City Public Schools and regional outreach initiatives.
- Provided producorial and administrative support for partner institutions, including a coeducational, college-preparatory school.
- Developed curriculum and directed youth productions, ensuring high artistic standards, operational effectiveness, and student safety.

Relevant Experience

Associate Managing Director, **DGSD at Yale**

May 2025 - Present

Artistic & Literary Intern, **Soho Rep**

2019

Arts Admin & Theatrical Education Intern, **Springville Center**

2020

for the Arts