



Finn Lefevre

www.finnlefevre.com

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF
MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST

MFA in Dramaturgy, summa cum laude

MFA Thesis: "Transgressive Acts: Adapting Applied Theatre Techniques for a Transgender Community" Advisor: Dr. Priscilla Page

Graduate Certificate in Advanced Feminist Studies, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

STUDY ABROAD

Edinburgh, Scotland, Teaching Assistant

"Alternative Theaters: Navigating the Edinburgh Fringe Festival"

Grahamstown, South Africa, Participant

"Arts and Culture in South Africa"

St. Petersburg, Russia, Participant

Russian Literature, Russian History, Russian Art History, Russian Language

UNIVERSITY OF
EVANSVILLE

BS in Theatre Studies, Minor in Russian Studies, summa cum laude

BS Thesis: "Gender Roles Reflected and Produced by Cross-Gender Performance" Advisor: Dr. Diane Brewer

WORK HISTORY

ONGOING

Freelance Dramaturg and Facilitator

- Facilitate workshops on Consent & Boundaries, Boal/ Theater of the Oppressed, Trans theatre, Applied Theatre, JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion), Microaggressions & Bystander Intervention
- Provide script support & dramaturgical feedback for playwrights, created research resource materials for productions, written script evaluations for literary managers

2019-present

Guest Lecturer, University of Massachusetts Department of Theater, Amherst MA

- Taught Intro to Theater, Queer Theater (developed new course), Sci Fi & Fantasy Theater (developed new course), Drama and the Media, and Contemporary Playwrights of Color
- Guest lectured in other courses, facilitated workshops
- Served as Intimacy Choreographer, Dramaturg, and advisor for various department productions
- Advised student projects, served on MFA committees



- 2018 **Adjunct Faculty, Westfield State University Department of Ethnic and Gender Studies, Westfield, MA**
- Designed and taught a section of Introduction to Women and Gender Studies, a gen ed and major requirement. Topics include: postcolonial and transnational feminisms, gender and sexual diversity, gender based violence, women's and trans rights movements.
 - Designed and taught a standalone elective course, Queer Studies and Popular Cultures. This course uses artifacts of pop culture (film, tv, books, dating apps, laws, sports, etc.) to interrogate the perception of queer bodies and identities in various cultures.
- 2017 **Adjunct Faculty, Keene State College Department of Theatre&Dance, Keene, NH**
- Designed and taught a section of Art of the Imagination, an introduction to theatre for non-majors. Topics include: devised theatre, physical theatre, page-to-stage design process, adaptation, dramaturgy, acting techniques.
- 2015-2017 **LGBTQIA+ Graduate Support Group Facilitator, Stonewall Center Amherst, MA**
- Organized and facilitated weekly peer-support group meetings for LGBTQIA+ graduate students.
- 2014-2017 **Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Massachusetts-Amherst**
- Taught courses (Play Analysis, Contemporary Playwrights of Color Online and *Queering* Performance), assisted on Faculty courses, facilitated discussions, gave guest lectures, created and maintained course online presence, and worked as a grader.
- 2014-2017 **Joker/Facilitator of trans applied theatre troupe, Amherst, MA**
- As the basis for my MFA Thesis, I designed my own set of applied theatre techniques to use in community-based theatre.
 - Founded and facilitated a troupe of non-professional performers through applied theater techniques in both short and long-term workshops.
 - Management of troupe, spaces, interviews, and grant funding.
 - Techniques used include: Theatre of the Oppressed, Rainbow of Desire, Playback Theatre, Somatic Movement, John O'Neal Story Circles, Ping Chong's Undesirable Elements, Theatre of Witness, storytelling.
- 2012-2014 **Co-Founder and Co-President, Gender Warriors, Evansville, IN**
- A small non-profit organization for transgender people in the Tri-State area, with primary focus on facilitating various support groups and providing trainings to professionals with transgender clients.
 - Administrative work, including grants and fundraising, member databases, newsletters, space rentals, public event planning, outreach, sat on the board and helped achieve non-profit status
 - Creative work, including developing public presentations, continuing education trainings and advocacy workshops, using applied theatre techniques to facilitate group work.
- 2010-2012 **Ticket Office/Front of House Assistant, University of Evansville Theatre, Evansville, IN**



- 2011 **Literary Intern and Playlabs Blogger, The Playwrights' Center
Minneapolis, MN**
- 2010 **Intern, New Harmony Theatre, New Harmony, IN**
- 2010 **Theatre Scenic Work Study, University of Evansville, Evansville, IN**
- 2009 **Youth Programs Intern, Hermitage Museum St. Petersburg, Russia**
- 2009 **Theatre Teaching Artist, Camp Vega, Fayette, ME**

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 **“The Name (isn’t a) Game: New Explorations in Trans Applied Theatre”** in *Diversity, Inclusion, and Representation* for Routledge Press, edited by Philippa Kelley and Amrita Ramanan
- 2021 **“Schrödinger’s Dick: The Transgender *Reveal* Trope in *Boy Meets Girl*”** in *Beyond Binaries: Trans Identity in Contemporary Culture* for Lexington Press, edited by John Lamothe, Rachel Friedman, and Michael Perez
- 2021 **“*how to tell time (when you’re trans and processing trauma)*”** in the *Methuen Drama Book of Trans Plays* for Methuen Drama Publishing, edited by Lindsey Mantoan, Leanna Keyes, and Angela Michelle Farr Schiller
- 2021 **“Lip Sync for Our Lives: Trans Reclamations of Drag in *Queer & Now*”** in *The Palgrave Handbook of Queer and Trans Feminisms in Contemporary Performance* for Palgrave MacMillan, edited by Sandra D’Urso, Tiina Rosenberg, and Anna Renée Winget
- 2021 **“Toward and Away: The Dramatic Tension of a Queer & Trans Canon”** in *Troubling Traditions: Canonicity, Theatre, and Performance in the US*, for Routledge, edited by Angela Farr Schiller, Lindsey Mantoan, and Matthew Moore

- OTHER PROJECTS Part of editing and curation team for the *Dramaturging the Phoenix* series for Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, essay collection currently being shopped with publishers
- Researcher for *Our Gay History in 50 States*, a text book edited by Zaylore Stout

TEACHING

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

For me, teaching is about two things: providing questions and the tools with which to examine those questions, and providing a space in which students can try, fail, and grow. Using Freirean problem-posing pedagogy, I focus on the issues and questions my students have about their world, and develop tools to help them find their own solutions. I strive to create learning spaces for my students that are equitable, accessible, multidisciplinary, and socially conscious.



Theater 130: Contemporary Playwrights of Color

- I taught online and multiple in-person sections of this course that meets both gen-ed and theater major requirements.
- Units included connections between artistic movements such as the Black Arts Movement and corresponding social contexts, play analysis, writing from identity, cultural hybridity and appropriation, and writing techniques of contemporary BIPOC playwrights.

Theater 333: Queer Performance

- For this upper-level dramaturgy course that also meets the Junior Year Writing requirements, I designed exercises and projects around a repertory of contemporary queer plays and performances. Assignments included academic research papers, queer aesthetics performances, creative writing, and dramaturgy protocols.
- I have taught this course fully in person and fully online

Theater 397z: Monsters, Magic, and Outer Space: Contemporary Science Fiction and Fantasy Theater

- I designed this special topics dramaturgy class to explore the theories, aesthetics, questions, and considerations of staging sci fi & fantasy.
- Projects include adapting short stories, world-building creative exercises, critical analysis, and visual design paper projects.

Theater 105: Drama and the Media

- I taught this course online both synchronous and asynchronously.
- The course focuses on using performance theories to analyze media objects. From fandom to surveillance, social media to satire, the course provides several analytical tools for students to become more engaged readers of contemporary media.
- Projects include a satirical performance, a social media archetype branding project, a critical identity analysis essay, and more.

Theater 100: Theatrical Frontiers

- I taught multiple sections of this large gen-ed participation-based course. I built the course to examine the edges of theater—what we are working towards, new technology, new techniques, ethical debates, etc.
- I led lessons and exercises on design, playwriting, directing, devising, applied theater, race and gender in performance, dramaturgy, and more.
- I have taught this course fully in person and fully online

Theater 120: Text Analysis

- As instructor, I took the existing departmental model and integrated my areas of focus. I taught EL Fuchs' Visit to a Small Planet, Guerrilla Design, Image Tracking, and other analytical techniques and led discussions and applied projects to develop analysis skills for production.

Humanities and Fine Arts 191: Queering Performance

- In designing this First Year Seminar I created critical and creative exercises to encourage analysis of queer performance, decode images and text, consider the possibility of queering performance. In this course I have combined media and technology with writing and group projects to create an experiential learning process.



English 397: Alternative Theaters: Navigating the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (TA)

- I helped organize and facilitate travel, accommodations, festival experience, and group discussions.

Independent Studies

- I designed coursework and supported students through independent studies in: Contemporary Puppetry, and a performance theory study of media representations of covid-19.

WESTFIELD STATE UNIVERSITY

EGST 102: Introduction to Women and Gender Studies

- This course is designed to introduce students to issues in feminism through a postcolonial and transnational lens. Students will get an overview of concepts of gender identity, social construction of gender, the relationship between gender and politics and power, and more. Using an applied critical pedagogy approach, students will examine current social issues from various perspectives, analyzing structures of power and oppression, and creating their own next steps.

EGST 235: Queer Studies and Popular Cultures

- Part media studies and part queer studies, this class examines the construction of queer images in popular culture. By analyzing the artifacts of pop culture (various media, ceremonies, politics, law, and more) students will discover the tools by which queer identities are shaped and presented to the world. Using these same tools, students will work to create new media and disrupt the production/representation/consumption of media to shift the dominant discourse on queerness.

KEENE STATE COLLEGE

IATAD 100: Art of the Imagination

- I designed this course as an overview of theatre techniques, careers, and histories. Using a combination of applied projects, exercises, group work, and experiential learning, students have the opportunity to try their hand at acting, design, directing, and more. Crafted for non-majors, I focus on skills and experiences that open the imagination and can be applied to other disciplines.

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE

Theatre 461: Theatre History II (TA)

- I taught weekly case studies and led the discussion section.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2022

Voicing Intimacy, Intimacy Coordinators of Color

Stage Managers & Intimacy, Theatrical Intimacy Education

Stand Up Against Street Harassment Training, Hollaback!

Trama-informed Creative Practices, Momentum Stage

Conflict De-Escalation Training, Hollaback!

Kiss & Masking Choreography, National Society of Intimacy Professionals



	Intimacy on Set with Ita O'Brien, INDI's Film Festival
2021	Consent in the Acting Classroom, Theatrical Intimacy Education Trauma-informed Practices, Theatrical Intimacy Education Foundations of Race, Intimacy, and Consent, Theatrical Intimacy Education
2020-21	International Dramaturgy Lab
2020	Intimacy Direction training, Heartland Intimacy
2019	Intimacy Direction intensive, Theatrical Intimacy Education
2018	Reiki I Training and Certification, Sanctuary Healing Arts
2017	Double Edge Theatre Intensive Class with Anna Deavere Smith
2016	Diversity Lecture Series: Creating an Inclusive Syllabus, University of Massachusetts QLab Intensive Workshop, Smith College Classroom Activities Workshop, University of Massachusetts Helping New Students Transition to Campus Workshop, University of Massachusetts Instructional Design for Online Teaching, University of Massachusetts Syllabus and Course Planning Workshop, University of Massachusetts Advanced Joker Training, Theatre of the Oppressed New York
2015	Joker Training, Theatre of the Oppressed New York

SELECTED THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

INTIMACY	<i>Late: A Cowboy Song</i> by Sarah Ruhl, University of Massachusetts dir. Iris Sowlat
CHOREOGRAPHY	<i>Witch</i> by Jen Silverman, University of Massachusetts dir. Rudy Ramirez <i>Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play</i> by Anne Washburn, University of Massachusetts dir. Michelle Ong-Hendrick
DEVISING	<i>The Maids</i> by Jean Genet (devised adaptation), dir. Jen Onopa, Northampton, MA <i>Queer&Now: Sync or Swim</i> , ensemble devised, Amherst & Greenfield, MA, New York, NY <i>Queer&Now: A Lip Sync Spectacular</i> , ensemble devised, Amherst, MA



PRODUCTION
DRAMATURGY

The Mystery of Irma Vep by Charles Ludlam, St. Louis Rep dir. Nelson Eusebio

Wild Thing adaptation by Harley Erdman, University of Massachusetts dir. Gina Kaufman

Hir by Taylor Mac, Jobsite Theater dir. David Jenkins

Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen, University of Massachusetts, adapted in collaboration with dir. Christina Pellegrini

Marie Antoinette by David Adjmi, University of Massachusetts dir. Christina Pellegrini

Dead Man's Cell Phone by Sarah Ruhl, University of Massachusetts dir. Glenn Proud

The Cripple of Inishmaan by Martin McDonagh, University of Evansville dir. R. Scott Lank

The Farnsworth Invention by Aaron Sorkin, University of Evansville dir. R. Scott Lank

NEW PLAY
DEVELOPMENT

Gender Experience™ by M. Sloth Levine, University of Massachusetts dir. Josh Glenn-Kayden

Pride and Prejudice adapted by Christopher Baker, Baltimore Center Stage

What Actually Happened Was by Stephanie Swirsky, University of Massachusetts

The Rape of the Sabine Women by Grace B. Mathias by Michael Yates Crowley

Short term workshops or script development work with: The Playwrights' Center, 20% Theatre Company, Jacqueline Goldfinger, Shannon TL Kearns, MJ Kaufman, Chris Baker, Dave Harris, Harley Erdman, Adam Pasen

DIRECTING

White History by Dave Harris, University of Massachusetts

Fissures (lost and found) by Steve Epp, Cory Hinkle, Dominic Orlando, Dominique Serrand, Deborah Stein and Victoria Stewart, University of Massachusetts

Dinner with Friends by Donald Margulies, University of Evansville

The Clean House by Sarah Ruhl, University of Evansville

PRODUCING

LMDA 2020's Dramaturging the Phoenix series

- As part of a small team, I helped organize weekly zooms with guest speakers, activities and discussions. I helped solicit essays and curate them into a digital archive.

University of Massachusetts New Play Lab 2016

- As producer I submitted a call for plays, read over 250 submissions (playwrights chosen: Kim Euell and Stephanie Swirsky), organized class visits, rehearsals, and events.



University of Massachusetts New Play Lab 2015

- As a co-producer, I read submission finalists (playwrights chosen: Michael Yates Crowley and MJ Kaufman), additional administrative tasks.

ADVISING

University of Massachusetts New Play Lab 2020

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

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Student Advising

- Advising undergrads on independent projects
- Served on UMass MFA committees—Maegan Clearwood, Iris Sowlat
- Served on CUNY MA committee—Brennan R O'Rourke

Advisor for UMass New Play Lab (2019-2020)

- Advised graduate student producers and dramaturgs in creating a call for plays, reading submissions, and planning/implementing workshops.

Season Selection Committee, University of Massachusetts Department of Theater (2015-16; 2016-17)

- As a committee member I have helped craft the call for submissions based on department and student needs, read dozens of proposals, and curated a selection that meets educational goals, budgetary restrictions, and artistic desires in a cohesive season.

Stonewall Center Advisory Board, University of Massachusetts

- As a member of the advisory board, I review the Center's yearly plan, their steps to meeting the goals set forth by the department review, and advise on future planning and expansion efforts.

OTHER

LMDA co-VP of Freelance (2020-2022)

- I run a social media page, help support freelance dramaturgs, and help produce the Dramaturging the Phoenix series (weekly zoom forums and an ongoing writing series).

Western Massachusetts Transgender Awareness Month Planning Committee (2014)

- Helped plan over 20 events, including film screenings, guest speakers and artists, and Transgender Day of Remembrance.

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Cult Film Society Co-President (2011-2012)

PRIDE President, University of Evansville (2010-2011)

PRIDE Secretary, University of Evansville (2009-2010)

Lighting Design Hiring Committee, University of Evansville Department of Theatre (2010)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PAPERS

LMDA 2021

"I wear glasses too" International Dramaturgy Lab digital presentation



USITT Virtually Anywhere, 2021	“Finding our Voices through Theater of the Oppressed”
Gender Conference NYC, 2020	“Drag for Gender Exploration”
USITT, Louisville, KY 2019	“Training in Identifying Microaggressions and Adopting Inclusive Language for our Industry”
Pride Youth Theatre Alliance Conference, Cambridge, MA 2018	“Trans Naming Workshop”
Transformative Feminisms: Interventions and Innervations, Amherst, MA 2017	“Untitled Trans Naming Project”
Trans Futurity Symposium, Amherst, MA 2016	“Using Theater to Dismantle Internalized Oppressions: an Introduction to Cops in the Head”
Trans Ohio, Columbus, OH 2014	<p>“A Trans* Brand of Social Justice: Past, Present, and Future” co-authored with Eliot Colin and Ian Harris Schroeder</p> <p>“TransQueers Unite” co-facilitated with Eliot Colin and Ian Harris Schroeder</p> <p>“Trans History in the U.S.” co-authored with Eliot Colin and Ian Harris Schroeder</p>
Come Together Kentucky Conference, Louisville, KY 2012	<p>“Transgender Sexual Health” co-authored with Eliot Colin</p> <p>“Being a Trans* Ambassador and/or Beacon of Queer” co-authored with Eliot Colin</p> <p>“TransQueers: At the Intersection of Identity” co-authored with Eliot Colin</p>

GUEST SPEAKING & WORKSHOPS

2021	<p>“Horrorturgy: The Dramaturgy of all things Halloween” panel organizer and facilitator, LMDA</p> <p>New Directions in Dramaturgy: Trans Applied Theater, presentation for Cal Shakes workshop series</p> <p>Visionary Futures, panelist, digital presentation</p> <p>Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Workshop for TransHealth Northampton</p>
2019-20	<i>Queer & Now</i> sex ed workshop series, dramaturg/co facilitator



- 2019
- The Maids* devising workshop, dramaturg/co facilitator
 - Wild Thing* post-show panel on feminism, facilitator, University of Massachusetts
 - Wild Thing* post-show panel on trans performance, facilitator, University of Massachusetts
 - Wild Thing* pre-show workshop with area high schoolers
- 2018
- Non-binary identities in *Wild Thing*, cast and crew workshop
 - “Living the Hyphenate Life” LMDA online chat, panelist
 - Developing a Drag Identity or Alter Ego, University of Massachusetts
 - LGBTQ+ 101 and Disrupting Microaggressions, a workshop for University of Massachusetts Department of Theater
 - “Trans Naming Rituals”, a 2-week applied theatre workshop, Trans Student Union, University of South Florida
 - “Theatre of the Oppressed in the Classroom: Activism for Academics”, Department of Women, Gender, Sexuality at University of South Florida
 - Hir* Post-show discussion, respondent, Jobsite Theater
 - Boal for Beginners Workshop, University of Massachusetts
- 2017
- Trans embodiment in performance, an acting workshop, University of Massachusetts
 - “Monstrous/Queer: A Physical Theatre Workshop”, University of Massachusetts
 - “Toward a Feminist Devising Process”, *Hedda* Post-Show Presentation, University of Massachusetts
 - “Trapped: Societal Expectations of Women Across the Century”, *Hedda* Post-Show Presentation, University of Massachusetts
 - Life Defying Acts* Post-Show Discussion, University of Massachusetts
 - Stonewall Center Speakers Bureau Panel, University of Massachusetts (2 Panels)
- 2016
- “Feminist Pedagogies in Difficult National Moments” Panel, University of Massachusetts
 - “Image Tracking in Ibsen’s *Hedda Gabler*” University of Massachusetts
 - “Guerrilla Design for Text Analysis” University of Massachusetts
 - “Toward an Ensemble: Boal in Practice” University of Massachusetts
 - Stonewall Center Speakers Bureau Panel, University of Massachusetts (5 Panels)

- Stonewall Center LGBTQIA+ Athletes Sensitivity, University of Massachusetts
- Resident Assistants' LGBTQIA+ Sensitivity Training, University of Massachusetts
- 2015 Stonewall Center LGBTQIA+ Athletes Sensitivity, University of Massachusetts
- Stonewall Center Speakers Bureau Panel, University of Massachusetts
- "Bad Mama: Motherhood, Femininity, and Leadership" *Marie Antoinette* post-show presentation
- "Britney in '07: Celebrity Culture and the Distruction of Idols" *Marie Antoinette* post-show presentation
- "Going Viral: Propaganda Art and Tabloids" *Marie Antoinette* post-show presentation
- "Revolutionary Fashion: How the Clothes Make the Movement" *Marie Antoinette* post-show presentation
- "Versailles is Burning: Staging Aesthetic Inspirations" *Marie Antoinette* post-show presentation
- "Dead Like Who?: Changing Perspectives on the Afterlife" *Dead Man's Cell Phone* post-show presentation
- "Technically a Ghost: Remnants of the Deceased in Technology and the Internet" *Dead Man's Cell Phone* post-show presentation
- "Demechanizing Education: an Introduction to Boal" University of Massachusetts
- 2014 Transgender Health Providers Panel facilitator, Northampton, MA
- Stonewall Center Speakers Bureau Panel, University of Massachusetts
- "Transgender 101" PFLAG of Evansville, IN
- "Transgender Social and Mental Health" Unitarian Universalist Church of Evansville, IN
- "Transgender Medical Transitioning" AIDS Resource Group of Evansville, IN
- 2013 "Transgender Issues on College Campuses" University of Southern Indiana Continuing Education Series
- "Transgender 101: an Introductory Guide to Gender Identity" Unitarian Universalist Church of Evansville, IN
- "Transgender 201: Health and History" PGLAG of Evansville. IN
- "Transgender 101: an Introductory Guide to Gender Identity" University of Evansville
- "Transgender 101: an Introductory Guide to Gender Identity" PFLAG of Evansville, IN

- “Transgender Clients: A Guide for Counselors and Social Workers”
Deaconess Hospital Continuing Education “Lunch and Learn” Series,
Evansville, IN
- “Transgender Safe Zone Training” University of Southern Indiana
- “Transgender 101: an Introductory Guide to Gender Identity”
Owensboro High School Gay Straight Alliance, Owensboro, KY
- “Transgender Clients: Sexual Health” AIDS Resource Group of
Evansville, IN
- 2012 “Respecting All Genders” PFLAG of Evansville, IN
- Panel on Transgender Issues in response to “Becoming Chaz”. Raise
Up, Jasper, IN
- “Transgender Clients: A Guide for Healthcare Professionals” University
of Southern Indiana Social Work
- 2011 Panel on Transgender Issues. SPECTRUM, Southern Indiana
University
- Coming Out Day Panel. University of Evansville (facilitated three times)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2011-present Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, Co-VP of
Freelance 2020-2022
- 2021-present Trans Entertainment Guild
- 2016-present Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed, INC
- 2016-present Consortium of Higher Education LGBT Resource Professionals
- 2018-present Pride Youth Theater Alliance

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2019 University of Massachusetts Small Project Grant
- 2018-19 NSF grant consultant for study on LGBTQIA+ STEM students
- 2016-17 University of Massachusetts Arts Council Grant
- University of Massachusetts Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2014-15 University of Massachusetts Arts Council Grant
- University of Massachusetts Graduate School Diversity Fellowship
- 2013-14 Do Something Award (small project grant)
- 2012 KCACTF Region 3 New Play Dramaturgy Award