

Rachel Johns

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Education

New York University, Class of 2021

- Tisch School of the Arts, BFA Drama
- Minor in Child & Adolescent Mental Health Studies

Experience Working with Students

Teaching Artist • Round House Theatre Round House Theatre

Each week for Round House's afterschool *Stories Onstage* class for kindergarten through second grade I choose one picture book to plan and teach a lesson around. We warm up our actor bodies, voices, minds and imaginations, read our story, and play games, make crafts, and act out scenes all inspired by that week's book.

Teaching Artist • Educational Theatre Company

Teaching second – fifth graders through Educational Theatre Company's after school programming involves planning and teaching weekly drama lessons, which include warming up, physical storytelling, parts of a story, improv games, character exercises, and incorporating activities based on the class's theme like *Greek Myths & Monsters*, or *Superheroes & Villains*. I have also worked as a director on ETC's mainstage residency program, where I co-lead a group of elementary schoolers as we created and performed an original play together that dealt with the science of light and sound. Lastly, I have also worked with ETC's summer camp programming as an Assistant Director, where I worked with third – ninth graders in both *Improv Comedy Camp*, and a two-week *Page-to-Stage Camp* where we helped the campers create and perform an original play.

Instructor • Smithsonian Associates: Summer Camp

As an instructor for Smithsonian Associates' camp "Geology Geniuses," I planned and taught a 5-day long geology camp with my co-instructor for a group of third and fourth graders. We visited at least one Smithsonian Museum every day, and did lots of fun experiments like growing crystals, learning about the rock cycle by melting starbursts, and examining illustrated pollen fossils to create pictures of what that landscape may have looked like millions of years ago.

Performer • Smithsonian Associates: Discovery Theater

I was an understudy in Discovery Theater's production of *Once Upon a Moon*, a STEAM focused, interactive Theatre for Young Audiences play designed for ages 4-7.

Teaching Artist • NextStop Theatre Company

Working with the *Footloose Jr* Student Crew as a teaching artist, I helped five middle schoolers create props and scenic elements, select costumes, design lighting, and ultimately run our hour-long production. My primary job was to find out what behind-the-scenes elements the students were interested in working on and finding ways to make that happen.

Teaching Artist • Enhance Arts Project

As a Teaching Artist with Enhance Arts Project, I provided drama enrichment programming to public elementary school students in Frederick, MD as a part of ELEVATE Academy (one of their summer school programs). I created my own lesson plans with a focus on exploring how theatre can be used to help our community.

Company Member • Stella Adler Studio of Acting Outreach Tour

As a student selected to join the annual fourth year student company, I was able to act in an hour-long production of *Love's Labour's Lost*, which we performed over Zoom for general audiences, and then recorded to send out to NYC community groups, prisons, and middle and high schools. We virtually met with these (primarily student) groups throughout the Fall 2020 semester to lead discussions on Shakespeare and our production.

Teaching Artist & Assistant Director • North Carolina Theatre Conservatory

During the summer of 2019, I worked as an assistant director and teaching artist for NCTC's summer conservatory program with elementary and middle school aged students where we produced *Annie Jr.* I created lesson plans and taught acting technique, lead character work exercises, warmups, and lunch time activities ranging from improv games to a talent show.

Special Skills & Interests

- I am an actor, director, producer, singer, & theatre maker
- Very basic beginner conversational Spanish
- I write children's books, which I hope to one day have published!