JIM BRAY

Teaching Assistant Professor of Drama, UNC Chapel Hill

Company Member, PlayMakers Repertory Company

MFA Acting, Kent State University

BFA Musical Theatre, East Carolina University

AEA

jamesbentonbray@gmail.com www.JimBray.net
(646) 522-5882

Education

2018	Kent State University, MFA Acting, Alpha Psi Omega
1999	East Carolina University, BFA Musical Theatre, Outstanding Achievement in Musical Theatre
1996-98	East Carolina University, 2-year Meisner Technique, Professor Donald Biehn

Experience

2024 - present	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Dramatic Art- Teaching Assistant Professor/ PlayMakers Repertory Company- Company Member
2022-2023	East Carolina School of Theatre and Dance- Visiting Assistant Professor, Professional Acting
2022	Stephens College- Visiting Professor, Summer Performing Arts Intensive: Meisner/Chekhov
2018- 2022	University of Northern Iowa- Assistant Professor of Theatre, Acting
2015 -2018	Kent State University- MFA in Acting for the Returning Professional
2017- present	Certified Meisner Instructor- True Acting Institute/Larry Silverberg
2000 - present	Professional Actor (Actor's Equity Association) and Director

Classes Taught

2024- Present	**UNC Chapel Hill School of Dramatic Art**
	DRAM 250- Intermediate Acting for Majors, Fall 2026
	DRAM 135- Acting for Non-Majors, Fall 2026
	DRAM 135- Acting for Non-Majors, Maymester, 2026
	DRAM 150- Intro to Acting for the Major, Spring 2026

DRAM 115- Perspectives in Drama, Spring 2026
DRAM 150- Intro to Acting for the Major, Fall 2025
DRAM 115- Perspectives in Drama, Spring 2025
DRAM 135- Acting for Non-Majors, Spring 2025
DRAM 115- Perspectives in Drama, Fall 2024
DRAM 115- Perspectives in Drama, Fall 2024

2023 **Stephens College Conservatory for the Arts**
Acting I, Summer Performing Arts Intensive (Meisner/Chekhov)

2022-2023 **East Carolina University School of Theatre and Dance**
THEA 2020- Professional Acting II (Meisner), Spring 2023
THEA 3020- Professional Acting IV (Meisner/Chekhov), Spring 2023
THEA 2010- Introduction to Acting II, Spring 2023
THEA 3060- Advanced Acting II, Spring 2023
THEA 2010- Professional Acting I (Meisner), Fall 2022
THEA 3010- Professional Acting III (Meisner/Chekhov), Fall 2022
THEA 4010- Advanced Master Class in Acting- Styles, Fall 2022
THEA 1000- Introduction to Theatre (Global Course Design), Fall 2022

2022 **Stephens College Conservatory for the Arts**
Acting I, Summer Performing Arts Intensive (Meisner/Chekhov)

2018-2022 **University of Northern Iowa**
THEA 3127- Acting Studio II (Meisner), Spring 2022
THEA 1030- Acting, Spring 2022
THEA 3125- Acting Studio I (Meisner), Fall 2021
THEA 3120- Acting Styles, Fall 2021
THEA 1030- Acting, Fall 2021
THEA 3127- Acting Studio II (Meisner), Spring 2021
THEA 3186- Studies in Digital Theatre Performance, Spring 2021
THEA 2060- Production Studies: Theatre for Social Change, Spring 2021
THEA 3120- Acting Styles, Fall 2020
THEA 3125- Acting Studio I (Meisner), Fall 2020

THEA 1030- Acting, Fall 2020
THEA 1030- Acting, Spring 2020
THEA 3120- Acting Styles, Fall 2019
THEA 1030- Acting, Fall 2020
THEA 1030- Acting, Fall 2019
THEA 3125- Acting Studio (Meisner), Fall 2019
THEA 3125- Acting Studio (Meisner), Spring 2019
THEA 1020- Introduction to Playscripts (Play Analysis), Spring 2019
THEA 2012- Movement for the Actor, Fall 2018
THEA 1020- Introduction to Playscripts, Fall 2018

2015- 2018 **Kent State University**

THEA 21095- Meisner Technique, 2018
THEA 11303- Art of Acting, 2016
THEA 11000- Art of Theatre (Web course) Summer, 2017
THEA 11000- Art of Theatre, Fall 2017
THEA 11000- Art of Theatre, Spring 2017
THEA 11000- Art of Theatre, Fall 2016
THEA 11000- Art of Theatre, Spring 2016
THEA 11000- Art of Theatre: Fall 2015
Musical Theatre Performance IV (Assistant Teacher), 2016
Musical Theatre Performance III (Assistant Teacher), 2016
Scene Study for the Actor (co- teacher), 2016
Musical Theatre Performance III (Guest Teacher), 2017
Character and Scene Study, I (Guest Teacher), 2018

2017 **Houde School of Acting, Cleveland, OH**

Meisner Scene Study & private coach

2010-2013 **The Calhoun School, NY, NY**

Theatre Movement Instructor, 2012
Substitute Teacher, 2010-2013

Directing/Creative Experience

The Flick (Director, Producer)	UNC-CH PATP/PlayMakers Ground Floor
Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike [Director]	Okoboji Summer Theatre, Okoboji IA
Last Stop on Market Street (Associate Director)	ECU School of Theatre & Dance

Cinderella (Director, Intimacy Direction)	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
****Dream With Me*** (Conceived, Director)	
* 2021 George Floyd grant from UNI	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
You Can't Take It with You (Director, Intimacy Direction)	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
****Anything You Can Do, I Can Do…? A Cabaret***	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
(Conceived, Co-Director)	COR, Waterloo, IA
*Awarded 2019 Research Fellowship from UNI	
I Rise: A Black History Celebration	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
(Director & Choreographer)	
#ENOUGH: Plays about Gun Violence (Director, Producer)	National Web Series
****The Stonewater Rapture*** (Director)	Kent State University, OH
*2017 Best Student Director	
*2017 Best Student Show	
Forever Plaid (Director & Choreographer)	Arundel Barn Playhouse, ME
A Night at the Oscars: A Cabaret (Director)	Secret Cellar, Kent, OH
****The Three Little Pigs*** (Director & Choreographer)	Forestburgh Playhouse, NY
*Winner of 2012 Twiggy Award Best Children's Show	
****And the Oscar Goes to…*** (Director)	Forestburgh Playhouse, NY
*Winner of 2011 Twiggy Award Best Cabaret	
Gershwin (Director)	Forestburgh Playhouse, NY
Broadway Now (Director)	Forestburgh Playhouse, NY
Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Equity (Director)	Kent State University, OH
Kinky Boots (Associate Director)	Weathervane Theatre Whitefield, NH
Steel Magnolias (Associate Director)	Mt. Tabor High School, NC
Side Show (Assistant Director)	Kent State University, OH
We.Are.HereStory (Faculty Mentor)	ECU School of Theatre & Dance
Blood at The Root (assistant to guest director)	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
Legacy of Light (Period Movement)	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
Hunchback of Notre Dame (Movement Consultant)	Theatre Cedar Rapids, Cedar Rapids, IA
Amadeus (Period Movement)	Oster Regent Theatre Cedar Falls, IA
Damn Yankees (Choreographer)	Mt. Tabor High School, NC
¡Representas Nos, Por Favor! (Content Advisory)	Theatre UNI Cedar Falls, IA
Trippin' (Casting assistant w/ Disney Theatricals)	Aaron Davis Hall, NYC
Bus Stop (Casting)	Aurora Community Theatre, OH

Selected Acting Experience

International

Grease Das Musical	Doody	Wolfgang Bocksch Productions

Touring

Ferdinand the Bull	Ferdinand	TheatreWorks/USA

New York

T.V. Time!	Man 3	Laurie Beechman Theatre
It's Karate, Kid! The Musical	Daniel	Zipper Theatre
Rattlesnake	Billy	Workshop Theatre Company
Jitterbug	Vincent "Mad Dog"	National Black Theatre
Baggage Claim	"Ownership"	MCS/Times Square Arts Center
The Great Pretender	Daisy	On Que/The Great Pretender, LLC
And/Or (Ben Rimalower, Dir.)	3/Y	Dixon Place Theatre
Trippin' (Daniel Koa Beatty, Dir.)	Bumble Wanna Bee	Aaron Davis Hall
Blood Drive	Donor	Barrington Stage
Fallen Angel	Lucifer	Bay Street Theatre
Sodom	Larry	Broadway Arts Center

Regional

The 39 Steps	Clown 1	PlayMakers Repertory Company
Oedipus: King Colonus (Carey Perloff, Dir.)	Old Shepard/Chorus	PlayMakers Repertory Company
Macbeth	Witch 1	PlayMakers Repertory Company
You Can't Take it with You	Mr. DePinna	PlayMakers Repertory Company
****Little Shop of Horrors***	Orin Scirvello, et al.	PlayMakers Repertory Theatre
*[*2025 Broadway World nominee Best Supporting Actor in a Musical]*		
Death of a Salesman	Stanley	PlayMakers Repertory Theatre
Curse of the Starving Class	Taylor/Emerson	Theatre Raleigh
Elf: The Musical	Mr. Greenway/Santa	NC Theatre
33 1/3 A New Musical	Older Jules/Father	Dobama Theatre
Next to Normal	Dr. Madden/Dr. Fine	Porthouse Theatre
Allegro	Dr. Joe Taylor	Musical Theatre Project, Cleveland
The Music Man	Charlie Cowell	Cain Park

Footloose	Cowboy Bob/Wes	Porthouse Theatre
Sister Act	Joey	Porthouse Theatre
Zorba!	Manolakas	The Musical Theatre Project
Young Frankenstein	Igor	Forestburgh Playhouse
Laughter on the 23rd Floor	Milt	Forestburgh Playhouse
****Avenue Q***	Nicky/Trekkie	Forestburgh Playhouse
*[*Twiggy Award Best Supporting Actor]*		
Chicago	Amos	Forestburgh Playhouse
Man of La Mancha	Sancho Panza	Forestburgh Playhouse
The Producers	Leo Bloom	Weathervane Repertory Theatre
Hairspray	Corny Collins	Weathervane Repertory Theatre
Sweeney Todd	Tobias	Weathervane Repertory Theatre
Bat Boy	Bat Boy	Weathervane Repertory Theatre
Forever Plaid	Jinx	Wayside Theatre
Plaid Tidings	Jinx	Surflight Theatre

Educational (graduate school)

****Macbeth***	Macbeth	Kent State University
*[*APO Award for Best Leading Actor]*		
****Little Women***	Professor Baher	Kent State University
*[*2018 Broadway World nominee Best Actor in a Musical]*		
Irena's Vow	Rokita	Kent State University
Bus Stop	Dr. Lyman	Kent State University
Side Show	The Boss	Kent State University

Film/Television

A Good Fight	City Worker	White Lightning Studios
Born This Way	Adam	UNCSA Film
Ghost Car *(upcoming)*	Bruce	Unicorn & Unicorn Productions
The Virus Dialogues #4	Glenn	True Acting Institute
Be the Sun *(upcoming)*	Saulie	Larry Silverberg, producer/director
The Anonymous Lives of John & Jane	Stan	Web Series
Strangers with Candy	Skating Bully	Comedy Central

Recordings

Womyn in Three, concept album	Sir	Caren Lynn Tackett
Sympathy Jones	Tick Tock	Asiwome Belle Music (ASCAP)

		Music by Masi Asare
		www.sympathyjones.com
Trippin' concept album.	Bumble Wanna Bee	Music/lyrics by Daniel Koa Beaty
It's Karate, Kid!	Daniel	www.itskaratekidthemusical.com

Master Classes/Workshops Taught

Michael Chekhov Workshop
International Thespian Festival (proposed)

Advanced Acting
Theatre Raleigh ACT, Fall 2026

Presentation/Acting Workshop for Bio Medical Students
UNC Chapel Hill, Fall 2026

Audition Workshop
UNC Chapel Hill, Professional Actor Training Program, 1st year MFA Acting class

Michael Chekhov Workshop
UNC Chapel Hill, Fall 2024

Pitt County Day of Theatre, Instructor- Acting with Chekhov and Clown
East Carolina University, March 2023

Summer Performing Arts Intensive (Meisner)
Stephens College, Summer 2023

Spoken Word Workshop
Black Makers Theatre Guild, East Carolina University, Fall 2023

Monologue Workshop
East Carolina University, Fall 2023

Summer Performing Arts Intensive (Meisner/Chekhov)
Stephens College, Summer 2022

Musical Theatre Workshop
University Northern Iowa, 2021

Michael Chekhov Workshop
Wisconsin Thespian Festival, 2020

Michael Chekhov Workshop (assistant to Fabio Polanco)
University Northern Iowa, 2019

Michael Chekhov Workshop
University of Northern Iowa, 2018 Thespian Festival

Michael Chekhov Workshop (assistant to Fabio Polanco)
Kent State University, 2018

Improv for Entrepreneurs
Kent State University, 2018

Meisner Technique
Kent State University, 2018

Monologue Technique
Kent State University, 2017

Nursing Simulation Workshops- Lead
Kent State University, 2017-2018

Cold Reading Technique
Porthouse College Academy, Summer 2016

Audition Technique
Porthouse High School Academy, Summer 2016

Presentations

Michael Chekhov Workshop: Bringing Character and Circumstance to Life Through Imagination and Movement (proposed)
International Thespian Festival, Kentucky 2027

"Theatrical Intimacy and Meisner Technique" Jim Bray, Laura Rikard & Kim Shively
ATHE Conference: Driving Toward Connection, 2020

"Remote Roundtable: Driving Research Through Student Collaborations"
ATHE Conference: Driving Toward Connection, 2020

"Meisner in Musical Theatre"
ATHE Conference: Scene Changes, Orlando 2019

"Flipping the Script on Performance Juries"
ATHE Conference: Scene Changes, Orlando 2019

Nursing Symposium: "*Transgender Medical Care",* Akron, October 2017- writer, director, actor

Graduate Research Symposium: "*Action, and Movement through Crisis: Investigating Character Building within Larry Kramer's The Normal Heart",* Kent State University, April 2017

National Outreach & Events

International Thespian Festival (proposed)
Presenter (Michael Chekhov) and Adjudicator, Kentucky, June 2027

International Thespian Festival
Adjudicator in Musical Theatre, Indiana, June 2026

East Carolina University
Adjudicator at North Carolina Thespian Festival, 2022

Pitt County Day of Theatre @ ECU SoTD
Instructor- Acting with Chekhov and Clown

North Carolina Theatre Conference College Day, Adjudicator and recruitment
East Carolina University, November 2022

NC Youth Arts Community Arts Festival, Clowning class and recruitment,
East Carolina University, October 2022

Lynn Nottage Q & A event (facilitator)
Theatre UNI, 2022

Michael Chekhov Workshop
Grundy Center High School, IA 2019

University of Northern Iowa

- Adjudicator at Iowa Thespian Festival, 2021
- Adjudicator at Iowa Thespian Festival, 2019
- Adjudicator at Iowa Thespian Festival, 2018

Kent State University

- Director of *A Night at the Oscars: A Cabaret* - fundraising event for the Senior Musical Theatre class showcase, November 22, 2016.
- Interview/Monologue Workshop for Undergraduates, 2017
- Monologue Workshop sponsored by MTSO, 2017
- Private coaching in Audition/Acting through Song Technique, 2015-2018

Joe's Pub, NYC
Featured Soloist, *Raise the Roof:* A fundraiser for The Weathervane Repertory Theatre, 2013

The Duplex, NYC
Featured Soloist, *Cabaret for a Cure*, 2013

Forestburgh Playhouse, Forestburgh, NY
Company Manager, 2011

N.C. State Grange Youth Team
Team Leader

Cooperative Leadership Council of North Carolina
Winner of Thad Eure Leadership Award and designated speaker at Cooperative Council National Convention, Washington, D.C.

Medical Park Hospital, Winston-Salem, N.C.
Volunteer

Committees, University Citizenship & Service

UNC Chapel Hill

2025 - present Department of Dramatic art liaison for Undergraduate Research

2024- present LAB! Theatre Advisor

East Carolina University

2022–2023	ECU Cinema Guild, co-advisor
2022–2023	ECU SoTD Performance Committee
2022–2023	ECU SoTD Black Makers Theatre, co-advisor
2022–2023	ECU SoTD Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
2022–2023	ECU SoTD Recruitment Committee
2022-2023	ECU School of Theatre and Dance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
2022- 2023	ECU School of Theatre and Dance Recruitment Committee

University of Northern Iowa

2021-2022	College of Arts and Humanities Faculty Senate
2020-2022	Theatre UNI Equity and Anti-Racism Task Force- Founder and Chair
2020	Mentor and private coach for TCUTA auditions
2020	Mentor and private coach for UPTA auditions
2019-2022	Advisor and founder of UNI Multicultural Theatrical Society
2019	Mentor and private coach for UPTA auditions
2018-2022	Performance Committee
2018-2022	Season Selection Committee
2018	Freshman welcome and outreach
2018	Season audition adjudicator 2018-2019 season audition adjudicator
2018-2022	UPTA screening adjudicator
2018	Student trip coordinator: Iowa Repertory Stage Co. production of *Fun Home*

Kent State University

2016-2017	Graduate Student Forum in Theatre, Vice President
2017-2018	Graduate Student Forum in Theatre, Treasurer
2017-present	Alpha Psi Omega
2017-2018	Season Selection Committee
2017-2018	Student Production Board
2015-2018	Graduate Studies Committee
2016-2017	Black Box Series
2016	Curriculum Committee
2015-2016	Production Committee,
2015-2018	Mentor/private coach Audition Technique/Acting Through Song technique

Continued Training & Workshops

2025	Intuitive Playwriting w/ Amy Barryman
2024	National Alliance for Acting Teachers Workshops in NYC, June 2024
2022	TV/Film Workshop with Jack Plotnick
2022	Anti- Racist Theatre: A Level Up Course w/ Nicole Brewer
2022	Mosaic: Prevent Discrimination and Harassment Together: Faculty & Staff
2020-2022	Theatrical Intimacy Education: Intimacy Training, Laura Rikard, Chelsea Pace. Forty-two hours: *Consent in the Acting Classroom, Foundations of Race, Intimacy and Consent, Working with Trans and Non-Binary artists, Best Practices, Intimacy Choreography, Studio Techniques, Casting and Policy.*
2021	Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program)
2020	The Pandemonium Studio- Three-week, fifty-hour Advanced Teacher Training in Clown, Chris Bayes
2020	"The Moving Frame", Screen Acting Intensive for Teachers, Welker White & Damian Young. Twelve-hour Workshop.
2020	**"**Moment Work Level 1", Barbara Pitts McAdams**,** Tectonic Theatre Project
2020	IDC Professionals- Intimacy Direction + COVID-19
2020	Musical Theatre Educators Alliance Webinar; Teaching Online w/ Sheri Sanders
2020	**"**We are the Canon" Anti-Racist Pedagogy, Dr. Daphnie Sicre & Professor Karl O'Brien
2020	Anti-Racist Theatre: A Foundational Course with Nicole Brewer
2020	Black Acting Methods-A Conversation with Freddie Hendricks, The Hendricks' Method, Freddie Hendricks, Dr. Sharrell Luckett
2020	Black Acting Methods- Meeting of the Minds: Hip-Hop Theatre Pedagogy Pioneers, Professors Rickerby Hinds & Kashi Johnson
2020	Black Acting Methods- Black Actors and Mental Health, Dr. Jonathan Mathis Lassiter
2020	Black Acting Methods- Diversifying Approaches to Acting with Dr. Sharrell Luckett and Crash Acting
2018	Viewpoints – Anne Bogart, SITI Co. Master Classes
2017	True Acting Institute, One hundred and eight-hour Meisner Certificate Teacher Training – Larry Silverberg

2016	The Funny School of Good Acting - Clown Intensive, Christopher Bayes
2015-2018	Michael Chekhov Technique – Fabio Polanco
2014	Barrow Group Theatre Company – Monologue Performance, Lee Brock
2014	The Queen's Studio – Shakespeare, Jodie Lynne McClintock,
2014	Atlantic Theatre Company - Monologue Technique, Karen Kohlhaas
2014	Stairwell Shakespeare – Sam Gibbs
2013	Maggie Flanigan Studio - Meisner Scene Study Intensive, Maggie Flanigan
2007-2012	Matthew Corozine Studio - Scene Study based in Meisner Technique
2003-2004	Upright Citizen's Brigade- Level 1: Dannah Feinglass, Level 2: Brian Huskey
1996-1998	East Carolina University - Full 2-year Meisner Technique, Don Biehn

Voice & Speech

2015–2018	Lessac, Courtney Brown
2001–2002	Anat Keidar
2000	Ron Shetler, Shetler Studios

Honors & Scholarships

Honors

2021	Awarded "George Floyd Fund," University of Northern Iowa
2021	Nominee: "UNI Outstanding Teacher Award", University of Northern Iowa
2020	Nominee: "MWOne UNIque Academic Advising Award", University Northern Iowa
2020	Nominee: "Advisor of the Year Award", Multicultural Theatrical Society, Student Leadership Awards
2020	CHAS Dean Travel Fund; research in producing large scale musicals for audiences on the autism spectrum and with differing abilities
2019	Research Fellowship, *"Anything You Can Do, I Can Do…?"*, University of Northern Iowa
2019	First Year Friendly Professor, University of Northern Iowa
2018	Alpha Psi Omega Outstanding Student Performer, Kent State University
2017	Alpha Psi Omega Best Overall Student Production- *The Stonewater Rapture*
2017	Alpha Psi Omega Best Director- *The Stonewater Rapture*

2017	Alpha Psi Omega Best Leading Actor- *Macbeth*
2016	Alpha Psi Omega Outstanding Student Performer, Kent State University
2016	Alpha Psi Omega Outstanding Newcomer Award, Kent State University
2012	Twiggy Award- Outstanding Children's Show, *The Three Little Pigs*
2011	Twiggy Award- Outstanding Cabaret, *And the Oscar Goes to…*, FB Playhouse
2010	Twiggy Award- Best Supporting Actor, Avenue Q- Nicky/Trekkie, FB Playhouse
1999	Outstanding Achievement in Musical Theatre, East Carolina University
1995	Honorable Mention in Acting, North Carolina Theatre Conference
1994	1st place winner: National, Regional & State "Sign-a-Song" Competition

Scholarships

2018	Erin Myers Memorial Scholarship, Kent State University
2016	R. Eugene Jackson Scholarship, Kent State University
2015-2018	Kent State University Full Scholarship for Returning Professionals MFA

Professional Organizations

2021-present	MICHA (Michael Chekhov Association)
2020-present	National Alliance for Acting Teachers
2020-present	ATHE- Theatre for Social Justice -Member at Large (2020)
2020-present	ATHE- Black Theatre Association
2019-present	ATHE- Acting Focus Group
2019-present	ATHE- Association for Movement Instructors
2017-present	Alpha Psi Omega
2001-present	Actor's Equity Association
	Theatre Development Fund
	Southeastern Theatre Conference
	Human Rights Campaign