Lakisha Michelle May

lakishamichellemay@gmail.com + www.kishamay.com

An artist dedicated to service and using the arts as a tool to expand our humanity. Helping individuals of all ages and abilities speak from their authentic voice and perform with ease.

Work Experience

Playfair (USA & Canada) Facilitate team building workshops at colleges/universities virtually and inperson. June 2011-Present

New York University: NSB

Acting professor. (sub) Feb.2022 - April 2022

SÜPRMARKT (Los Angeles, CA)

Co-produced & hosted South Central's first Vegan Festival, SÜPRFEST Fall 2019 Assisted in daily operations of Süprmarkt, providing low cost organic produce to residents of south LA Oct 2018 - Feb 2020

Everytable (Los Angeles, CA)

Field marketing/sales. Provided healthy food and education to those experiencing food apartheid in South Central Los Angeles. Nov.2018- Mar 2019

Center Theater Group (Los Angeles,CA)

Teaching Artist within August Wilson In-School Residency Audience Engagement Facilitator: facilitated talkbacks and community conversations at the Mark Taper Forum. Oct 2018 – June 2021

Access Acting Academy (Los Angeles,CA)

5 week acting intensive for blind/low vision adult actors TA for Breath embodiment, dynamic movement, scene work. Jan - Feb 2020

A Noise Within (Los Angeles, CA)

Coached young people through August Wilson monologues Dec 2018 – Dec 2019

Theatre for a New Audience (NYC)

Taught playwriting to $4^{\rm th}$ graders and performed in their student written plays. Jan 2017 – Apr 2018

Stages on the Sound (NYC) Taught playwriting, filmmaking, and Shakespeare to young people Sept 2014 - Mar 2018

SAY: Stuttering Association for the Young (NYC)

Coached young people that stutter through scene work. Spring 2014

CUNY: Creative Arts Team (NYC)

Actor-Teacher; Facilitator. Used the arts as a tool for change in Middle/High schools, Safe Spaces and community centers throughout the five boroughs. Feb 2012-Dec 2015



Expertise

- Facilitating/Moderating
- Breath embodiment
- Script Analysis
- New Play Development
- Scene Study
- Audition Technique
- Devised Work
- Voice and Text
- Script Analysis
- Character Development
- Movement for the actor
- Meisner Technique
- African American Plays
- Career Coaching
- Applied Theater
- Producing

Education

American Conservatory Theater MFA - Acting

Spelman College BA - English (Phi Beta Kappa) Universidad Nacional Autonoma

Advocacy

SPACE on Ryder Farm (board member) SÜPRSEED/SÜPRMARKT (board member)

JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION Leadership Awards Committee (co-vice chair)



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KANNER ENTERTAINMENT 212.496.8175

Lakisha May

SAG-AFTRA+AEA

CBS/Jackeline Tejada Showtime/Benny Boom NBC/Arthur Forney ABC/ Sam Hill HBO/Allen Coulter

MTC/dir: Whitney White MTC/dir: Ruben Santiago Hudson

Hypatia Films/Manglar Films (Panamá) A Katrina Montgomery Film Twice Paper Productions/Ari Issler + Ben Snyder Afrolite Productions/Lakisha May Lakisha May (self-produced & writer) Lakisha May (self-produced & writer) Lakisha May (self-produced & writer)

Signature Theatre Company NYTW & Playwrights Realm Signature Theatre Company

La Jolla Playhouse Arden Theater Company Triad Stage & Playmaker's Rep Alliance Theater Company Marin Theater Company The American Conservatory Theater

WACO Theater Center/Billie Holiday Theater Paula Vogel/CTG/Geffen Playhouse Arena Stage New Play Festival/ Cal-Shakes New Dramatists Theater Royal Bath/ACT

Blue Bloods City on a Hill

Law & Order: SVU Forever Boardwalk Empire Guest Star Supporting Guest Star Supporting Supporting

Lead

Lead

Lead

Lead

Supporting

Supporting

Supporting

Somebodies

Welfare Lady/Bully

Moxie

Broadway

Jaja's African Hair Braiding (World Premiere) Vanessa/Radia/Sheila Skeleton Crew Shanita*

Film

TV

Historias del Canal Two of Diamonds Nobody's Nobody The Fallout Farmer Kisha Tale of Cuani Self-Preservation

Off-Broadway

Everybody (World Premiere) Sojourners (World Premiere) In the Blood

Regional Theater

The Squirrels (World Premiere) Two Trains Running The Mountaintop Spoon Lake Blues (World Premiere) In the Red and Brown Water A Christmas Carol Chordata Risa Camae Caitlin Oya Anabelle

Selected Workshops/Special Performances

50 in 50: Letters to our Sons Cressida on Top The Pastures of Heaven The Ufot Cycle Riot (World Premiere) Ensemble Aggie Molly Morgan/ Mae Munroe Moxie/Kim Kelly

American Conservatory Theater M.F.A Program Spelman College BA Universidad Nacional Autonoma (Heredia, Costa Rica)

Skills/Hobbies

Conversational Spanish, Playfair facilitator, Breath Embodiment, boxing, rapier/dagger/broadsword certified **Dialects**: Cockney, RP, Nuyorican, South African, French African, Southern American