

CURRICULUM VITA

Dr. David Allan Kuester
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LaSalle, Illinois, 61301
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EDUCATION

**Ph.D., Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Illinois,
Completed. May, 1996.**

Specialization: Speech Communications.
 Theatre Arts/Playwriting

Dissertation Title: Thought Train: Original Plays Dealing
 With Mental Health.

**MASTERS OF ARTS. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb,
Illinois, 1985.**

Specialization: Playwriting/Theatre History

Thesis Title: Light Times: Two Original Scripts.

**BACHELOR OF ARTS. George Williams College, Downers
Grove, Illinois, 1981.**

Major: Humanities/Psychology

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Theatre Director and Professor of Theatre and Communications.
Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Science Department. Illinois
Valley Community College, Oglesby, Illinois. 1998-Current**

- Director for three to four main stage productions a year.
- Maintain and project budgets for Theatre Department.
- Maintain and project budgets for Winter Festival Accounts.
- Supervise theatre faculty, Technical Director, and all student workers in the performing arts area.
- Managing Director for the IVCC Comedy Improv Troop.
- Design and teach undergraduate courses in; Theatre, Playwriting, Oral Interpretation, Play Production, and Introduction to Speech.
- Faculty Advisor to SPAMO, Students of Performing Arts and Music Organization.
- Oversee all community and campus activities in the Cultural Center (600 seat theater space).
- Community development for off- property performances.
- Off-Campus Performance Manager and Liaison.

- Set Designer, Costumer, and House Management as needed.
- Publicity coordination for all Theatre Events.
- Script Development Consultant for New Works.
- Artistic Director/Play selection.

Theatre and Speech Communications Instructor. Humanities and Fine Arts Department. The Victoria College, Victoria Texas. 1996-1998.

- Constructed and Taught undergraduate courses in Business and Professional Communications, Speech Fundamentals, Acting, Theatre Practicum in Directing Concepts and Playwriting.
- Director for two to three main stage productions a year.
- Co-Producer for Music Department Musicals.
- Faculty Advisor for student theatre organization.
- Fine Arts Performance Publicist.

Communications Instructor (Adjunct). University of Houston at Victoria, Victoria Texas. 1997-1998.

- Constructed and taught Master's level classes in Argumentation and Debate.
- Conducted independent studies classes for Graduate Students.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship. Theatre Department, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. 1994-1996.

- Taught general education courses in theatre arts.
- Coordinated instructional evaluations for graduate instructors.
- Implemented Small Group Instructional Diagnosis.
- Coordinator for Graduate Playwright Group.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship. Speech Communication Department, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. 1993-1994.

- Taught General Education courses in public speaking.

Speech Communication Instructor. College of DuPage. 1986-1993

- Created and conducted public speaking and interpersonal communications courses at off-campus sites throughout DuPage County .

Graduate Teaching Assistant. Theatre Department. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois. 1983-1985.

- Assisted with 500 person theatre course. Served as lecturer, tutor, test creator, and proctor coordinator. Managed and operated the Theatre Department Script Library.

Theatre Arts Instructor. Actor's Center of DuPage. Villa Park, Illinois, 1989.

- Constructed and taught entry-level theatre classes for K-12 age groups through local area park districts.

Instructor/Program Director. Downers Grove Park District. Downers Grove. Illinois, 1984-1985.

- Revitalized curriculum for park district theatre programs serving age groups 12-15.
- Taught dramatic workshop programs for age groups 12-15.
- Directed creative dramatics program for age groups 3-11.

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Executive Producer/Artistic Director. DaviDon Entertainment. LaSalle, Illinois. 2005-current.

- Direct and produce shows for special events.
- Operated and managed three professional theatre venues.
- Operated as portable production company bringing shows and entertainment into existing venues and restaurants
 - Follies Theatre of Yorkville. Yorkville, Illinois. 2012
 - Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2008-2011
 - Court Street Cabaret, Ottawa, Illinois. 2005-2008

Life Skills Therapist. Center for Comprehensive Services. Carbondale, Illinois. 1993-1994.

- Assisted brain injured clients in long-term residential program.

Mental Health Coordinator/Therapist. DuPage County Health Department. Wheaton, Illinois. 1990-1993.

- Coordinated community re-entry for persons with chronic mental illness.
- Monitored client medication intake.
- Supervised and trained part time-staff.
- Created an ran workshops in health communication.

Program Director, TROOP. Theatre Recreation Outreach Opportunity Program. Actor's Center, Villa Park, Illinois. 1989-1993.

- Created, sought grant funding for, and implemented county-wide theatre workshop program for persons with developmental disabilities.

Case Management Coordinator. PACT, Inc. Elmhurst, Illinois. 1988-1990.

- Coordinated educational and residential placements for persons with developmental disabilities within a three county area.
- Maintained a 70-100 person case load

-Advocated for the rights of clients as a representative of the Illinois Department of Mental Health Springfield Illinois.

Respite Supervisor. Bednorz Children's Center. Lombard, Illinois. 1981-1986

-Supervised full and part-time staff in a client-centered behavior modification treatment and diagnostic center for DMH/EMH Children.

Program Director and Technical Consultant. Hanson Center, Burr Ridge, Illinois. 1986

-Conducted theatre workshops for developmentally disabled
 -Directed three student productions
 -Theatre consultant on planning committee for new theatre.

PROFESSIONAL/ CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Professional Development for IVCC new faculty . 2016, 2018

Presented interactive workshops on communication for educational settings as a part of the new faculty training.
 Staff Development Day Training for IVCC, 2018.

Presented a communication and skill interactive workshop for IVCC Staff development day. IVCC, 2018

Day of The Arts. 2015-2016-2017. Illinois Valley Community College/Community Celebration of Performing and Visual Arts. Presentations in Creative Dramatics and Improv.

Writing and Performing the World of Disability Awareness. 2015-2016-2017-2018

Continued each year since 2012, writing for Performance Workshop for Area School Districts. This is part of an area partnership I have worked to create between Horizon House, IVCC, Follies Theatre and the local area school Districts. The purpose of this program is to promote tolerance for persons with disabilities. The end-cap of this program is a cornerstone performance where actors and IVCC students will perform the works submitted by the school districts. We have continued this program 2012,2013,2014,2015,2016,2017 and will be active in 2018 as well.

Career Day Expo, Reach for the Stars.2018. Presented the educational and professional areas of theatre through interactive activities for visiting Junior High students each year at our career expo.

College Night Host. IVCC. 2011-2016, 2016-2018

Represent IVCC Theatre Department at an all college and area institutions awareness night open to community and prospective students.

Improvisational story work and long form improv. Illinois Valley Community College. 2013, 2018

Domestic Violence Awareness show. 2015

This show is a product of a partnership with Freedom House of Princeton. The show was workshopped from client journals and true accounts of area domestic violence survivors. Students faculty and community members comprised the troop that performed in a five county area in Illinois to promote better understanding to providers and service personnel of the humans they treat.

Communication Sensitivity for Mixed Media Learning. Workshop presentation for teacher professional development. 2013

Writing and Performing for the World of Disability.

Developed a, Writing for Performance Workshop for Area School Districts. 2010- 2018(one each year)

Presentation of Original Work: Daffodils. Illinois Theatre Association, College Festival 2001.

Presentation of Original Work: Excess Baggage, One Act. Illinois Theatre Association, College Festival 2000.

Presented Paper: Therapeutic Communication with Mental Illness. DuPage County Health Department. Lombard, Illinois. 1999.

Presentation of Original Work: Holiday Flare. Phi Kappa Phi Celebration, University of Houston, Texas, 1998.

Presented Paper: Lyceum/Chautauqua: A Bridge Between Religion and Theatre in America. The National Society for the Preservation of Tent, Folk, and Repertoire Theatre. Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. 1995.

Presentation of Original Play: Personal Tastes. Illinois Theatre Association Convention, Chicago, Illinois. 1985.

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION AND PUBLICATIONS

The Casting Stone (short play) Illinois Valley Community College. Oglesby, Illinois. 2017

The Night Dream (short play) Illinois Valley Community College. Oglesby, Illinois. 2017

The Necklace (short play) Illinois Valley Community College. Oglesby, Illinois. 2016

Grunella, The Story Stealer. (full length children's theatre) Produced for The Hegeler Carus Foundation. 2014

Breeders From Space (comic spoof) Produced by Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2011

Run to the Roundhouse Nellie, (full Length) Produced by Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2009, 2011

The Snow Queen, Court Street Cabaret Theatre, Ottawa, Illinois. 2006

Mom's Dead and Breakfast.(murder mystery) Brightwood Inn, Utica, Illinois. 2004.

We're All Different: A Cautionary Tale of Tolerance. (puppet theatre) Illinois Valley Community College. Oglesby, Illinois. 2004

Excess Baggage . IVCC, 2004.

Holiday Flare, (full-length) Produced at IVCC in 2000.

Winter's Rule, (children's play) Produced at IVCC 1999.

Second Thought, (living newspaper) Produced IVCC 1999.

A Holiday Dream, (children's play) Published by I.E. Clark Publications Schulenburg, Texas. 1998.

Daffodils, (short play) Published in, The Good Parts: A Collection of Short Plays and Monologues. The SIUC Press. 1997.

Nancy's Monologue. Published in, The Good Parts: A Collection of Short Plays and Monologues. The SIUC Press. 1997.

Excess Baggage, (one act) Produced at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. 1996, and ITA College Festival in 1999.

This House is Not a Home, (full-length). Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. 1995.

“The Simple Stage” (book review) Published in, Theatre Studies. Volume, 40. pp.83-84. 1995.

The Christmas Dream. Produced. Elm School, Burr Ridge, Illinois. 1993.

The Haunted Village. Produced . TROOP, Naperville, Illinois. 1992, 1996.

A Chicago Fairy Tale. Produced. TROOP, Naperville, Illinois. 1991.

Phantom of the Footlights. Produced . TROOP, Naperville, Illinois. 1990, 1997.

Jack, The True Story. Produced .TROOP, Naperville Illinois. 1989.

Tim’s Christmas. Produced at, Concordia College. Forest Park, Illinois. 1987.

WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED

Writing and Performing the World of Disability Awareness. 2015-2016-2017-2018

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Special Project for the LaSalle County States Attorney: 2015

Used theatrical make-up and staging technique to assist States Attorney and LaSalle County Sheriff's Office in Criminal investigation leading to conviction.

Addressing Social Issues with Improv,

A workshop presented in conjunction with a granted training program in domestic violence. Freedom House Inc. 2015.

Improvisational story work and long form improv.

Illinois Valley Community College, Conducted an interactive workshop for interested students, Fall semester of the past four years. **2015, 2016, 2017, 2018**

Communication Sensitivity for Mixed Media Learning.

Workshop presentation for teacher professional development. **2015**

OLIO Restoration Team. 2015.

Raised funds, hosted restoration specialists from a national organization, Conducted Workshops and organized a community task force to facilitate the restoration of a local Theatre artifact, entrusted to the college from the city of Ladd.

Scripting with Improv, A workshop presented for SPAMO Students of Performing Arts and Music Organization. 2016

Improvisational Theatre, A workshop in skill building. Presented for Horizon House Industries. Peru, Illinois. 2008

Improvisational Theatre, A workshop in skill building. Presented for IVCC. 2007

Theatre Lock-In, A twenty-four hour intensive workshop in theatre and script creation for high-school seniors. 2004.

Creating a Script, A lecture and interactive workshop in playwriting.
For the IVCC Art's and Letter's Series. 2003.

The Therapist as Master of Subtext: Communication Awareness Working With Persons With Mental Illness. DuPage County Health Department. 2002

Teaching Evaluations Utilizing Small Group Instructional Diagnosis. Illinois Valley Community College, Oglesby, Illinois. 1998 and 1999.

Teaching Evaluations Utilizing Small Group Instructional Diagnosis. Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1995.

Creating New Plays. Actor's Center of DuPage. 1993.

Teaching Drama to Developmentally Challenged Adults. Western DuPage Special Recreation Association. 1992.

Technical Theatre for Small Productions. Actor's Center of DuPage. 1991.

AWARDS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Awarded **The Stephen Charry Teaching Excellence Award.** IVCC, 2010
- Awarded Most Inspirational Teacher by incoming students at Western Illinois University. 2010
- Awarded a plaque of Appreciation for outstanding contributions from the Illinois Community College Faculty Association. 2010
- Executive Producer. Follies Theatre. 2008-2012
- Nominated for IVCC Teacher of the Year 2009
- Easter Seals. Co-Host for telethon 2008.- 2007- 2006
- Hegelar/Carus Historical Mansion Foundation member, 2007-Current
- Owner and Co-Producer of DaviDon Productions 2006-Current
- Owner/Co-Producer. Court Street Cabaret Theatre. 2005-2007
- Advisory/Co-Producer. BRAVO. Production Company. 2005
- Attended CQIN Summer Institute for Higher Education. AZ. 2004
- Nominated for IVCC Teacher of the Year 2003
- Awarded grant for pilot teaching evaluations. IVCC, 1998.
- Illinois Theatre Association. 1998-Current.
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Since 1995.
- Best Short Play Award, SIUC. 1995
- Best Full-length Play Award, SIUC. 1995.
- Best Full-length Play. Second Place Award. 1994.
- Elected Communications Officer in Playwright's Theatre, SIUC.

- Elected Graduate Representative to Curriculum Committee, SIUC. 1994, 1995.
- Member of ATHE.
- Advisory Board of the DuPage Arts Alliance. 1989-1990.
- Outstanding Young Man of America Award. 1984.

ADDITIONAL CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Theatrical Productions for Illinois Valley Community College;

Producer,/Performer Show Choir Holiday Show, IVCC 2018

Writer/Director/Producer. Directors Scenes 2018

Director/Producer/Team writer, Story Telling Workshop and Show, 2018

Producer/Costumes/Set Decoration, Disaster the Musical, 2018

Director/Producer/Lead Team writer, School project Tolerance play 2018

Director. IVCC Improv Show 2018

Producer/Performer, Show Choir Holiday Show, IVCC 2017

Director/Producer/Lead Team writer, Story Telling Workshop and Show, 2017

Producer/Costumes/Set Decoration, Sweet Charity, 2017

Director/Producer/Team writer, School project Tolerance play 2017

Director. IVCC Improv Show 2017

Producer, Show Choir Holiday Show, IVCC 2016

Writer/Director/Producer. Directors Scenes 2016

Director/Producer/Team writer, Story Telling Workshop and Show, 2016

Producer/Costumes/Set Decoration, Young Frankenstein, 2016

Director/Producer/Team writer, School project Tolerance play 2016

Director. IVCC Improv Show 2016

Director/Producer/Team writer: Domestic Violence Awareness Show 2015

Producer/Costumes/Set Decoration, Olio Restoration Show, 2015

Producer, Show Choir Holiday Show, IVCC, 2015

Writer/Director/Producer. Legacy, A Love Story in the Shadow of Lincoln, 2015
Director/Producer/Team writer, Story Telling Workshop and Show, 2015
Producer/Costumes/Set Decoration, Ruthless, 2015
Director/Producer/Team writer, School project Tolerance play (Peru IL)2015
Director. IVCC Improv Show 2015

Producer, Show Choir Holiday Show, St. Bede, 2014
Writer/Director/Producer. Grunella The Story Stealer, 2014
Director/Producer/Team writer, Storytelling Workshop and Show, 2014
Producer/Costumes/Set Decoration, Gypsy , 2014

Director/Producer/Team writer, School project Tolerance play (Cherry IL)
Director. IVCC Improv Show 2014

Co-Director/Producer/Costumes. Xanadu, 2013
Producer, Show Choir Holiday Show, St. Bede, 2013
Director/Producer/Team writer, Story Telling Workshop and Show, 2013
Director. IVCC Improv Show 2013
Writer/Director/Producer. A Holiday Dream , 2013
Director/Producer/Team writer, School project, Tolerance play (Peru), 2013

Director/Producer.
Producer, Show Choir Holiday Show, St. Bede, 2012
Writer/Director/Producer. The Snow Queen. 2012
Director/Producer/Team writer, Halloween with Improv and song 2012
Director. IVCC Improv Show 2012
Director/Producer. Nickel and Dimed, Spring play 2012
Director/Producer/Team writer, School project, Tolerance play (Waltham School) 2012

Producer, Show Choir Holiday Show, St. Bede, 2011
Director/Producer/Team writer, The Haunted Halloween Show, 2011
Director. IVCC Improv Show. 2011
Director/Producer. IVCC Theatre Festival. 2011
Director/Producer. After the Beep. 2011
Producer. Vanities and Sorry Wrong Number. 2011

Director/Producer. The Good Doctor .2010
Director. IVCC Improv Show. 2010

- 2010
- Director/Producer.** Let The Eagle Fly (Illinois Premier)
- Director/Producer.** A Haunted night of Ghost stories. 2009
- Director.** IVCC Improv Show. 2009
- Director/Producer/costumes.** Scrooge. 2009
- Director/Producer/costumes.** Camelot. 2009
- Director/Producer/costumes.** Bat Boy the Musical. 2008
- Producer/costumes.** She Stoops To Conquer. 2008
- Director.** IVCC Improv Show. 2008
- Director.** Improvisational Study on Domestic Violence. 2008
- Director/Producer/costumes,** Dracula Baby, 2007.
- Director.** IVCC Improv Show. 2007
- Director/Producer/costumes.** Cabaret, 2007
- Director/Producer/costumes/** Spring Music Revue 2006
- Director/Producer/costumes/writer,** Victorian Holiday Show
Reddick Mansion and Hegeler Carus Mansion 2006
- Director/Producer/costumes/writer.** Murder at the Mansion
at the Reddick Mansion of Ottawa, 2006
- Director/Producer/Costumes.** School House Rock. 2006
- Producer/Costumes.** Once on This Island. 2005.
- Director/producer.** Victorian Holiday at Hegeler –Carus
Mansion. 2005
- Director/Producer/costumes/writer.** Mother’s Dead And
Breakfast. 2005
- Director.** The Murder Room. 2004.
- Producer/Performer.** IVCC Madrigal Dinner. 2004
- Properties/Set Dressing.** Importance of Being Ernest. 2004.
- Director.** What’s Improv? 2003.
- Producer/Performer.** IVCC Madrigal Dinner. 2003.
- Director.** Deathtrap. 2003.
- Producer/Performer.** The Boys Next Door. 2003.
- Producer/Performer.** IVCC Madrigal Dinner. 2002.
- Director.** Bell Book and Candle. 2002.
- Music Talent Coordinator.** The Illinois Classic Car Show.
2002.
- Director.** Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf. 2002.
- Producer.** You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown. 2002.
- Director.** Murder on Center Stage. 2001.
- Director.** The Up and Down Relationship. 2001.

Director. Miss Firecracker Contest. 2001.

Director/Producer. The Old Time Radio Show. 2000.

Director. Harvey. 2000.

Director. Middle Summer Night Dream. 2000

Director. Holiday Flare. 2000.

Director. Winter's Rule. 2000

Director. I Hate Hamlet. 1999.

Director. Second thought. 1999.

Director. Tim's Holiday Dream. 1998.

Director. House of Blue Leaves. 1998.

Director. Blithe Spirit. 1998.

Theatrical Productions at Victoria College, Victoria Texas.

Director. Company (musical). 1998.

Director. Harvey 1998.

Director. Once Upon a Mattress (musical) 1998.

Director. A Holiday Dream. 1997.

Director. The Snow Queen. 1996.

Director. I Hate Hamlet. 1996.

Theatrical Productions at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Illinois.

Dramaturgy/Consultant. This House is Not a Home. 1996.

Director. Fig's Last Wish. 1996.

Director. The Snow Queen. 1995.

Theatrical Productions at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois.

Assistant Director. Shakespeare and the Indians. 1985.

Director. Personal Tastes. 1985.

Other Professional Theatrical Productions:

Performer/ Long form improv team with 'Howard'

Johnson. Follies Theatre, Yorkville, IL 2013

Performer/ Director. Follies Children's Theatre, Yorkville,
IL 2013

Performer/Costume/Props, Wild West Show, Cherry Cruise
Night. Cherry, Illinois 2011

Co-Director, Lost in The 50's. Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois.
2011

Writer, Breeders From Space. . Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2011

Performer/ Writer. Run to the Roundhouse Nellie. Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2011

Director, Sister Mary Ignatious Explains It All. Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2011

Radio Performer, Commercial for Starved Rock Dental Spa. 2010

Director/Performer. Santa's Very Merry Christmas Show, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2010

Co-Producer, Holidazzle 2010, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2010

Co-Producer/Director, Hot Country Nights, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2010

Co-Producer/Director/Performer, Queen of Bingo, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2010

Co-Producer/Director, Get Happy: The Judy Garland Songbook, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2010

Co-Producer/Director, Fly Me To The Moon, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2009

Set Decoration, It's a Wonderful Life Radio Show. Stage 212, LaSalle, Illinois. 2009

Director/Performer. Santa's Very Merry Christmas Show, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2009

Performer. Run to the Roundhouse Nellie. Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2008-2009

Co-Director, The Red Garter Revue, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2009

Production Coordinator/co-Producer. Illinois Valley Cellular's Dancing with the Stars. 2008-2009

Director/Performer. Santa's Very Merry Christmas Show, 2008

Co-Director. All Shook Up, Follies Theatre, Utica, Illinois. 2008

Costumer. Wild West Show, August Hill Winery, Utica, Illinois 2008

Costume Assistant. Mame , River Valley Players, Henry, Illinois. 2007

Director/Performer. Santa's Very Merry Christmas Show Court Street Cabaret Theatre, Ottawa Illinois, 2006

Director/Performer. The Snow Queen. Court Street Cabaret Theatre, Ottawa Illinois, 2006

Performer. Snow White and the Seven Dwarves. Court Street Cabaret Theatre, Ottawa Illinois, 2006

Director. Sister Mary Ignatious Explains It All. Court Street Cabaret Theatre, Ottawa Illinois, 2006

Director/Performer. Mom's Dead and Breakfast. Brightwood Inn, Utica, Illinois. 2003/2004.

Director. Just Desserts. (Murder mystery) Ottawa, Illinois, 2003.

Actor/Writer. NCTV's Fox Valley Soap Opera. 1989.

Performer. Brigadoon. Banner Players. 1982.

Performer. Death of a Salesman. Banner Players. 1981.

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST