

John J King

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Summary

- Writing Plays, Stories, Jokes, Songs, and Cartoons, sometimes all at once.
- Community activist and educator working with populations across Boston.
- 4 years as Artistic Director and Managing Director of Boston's only green theatre company

Full Length Plays

Martha's (b)Rainstorm - 2018

A democratic, audience-elected travesty about climate change in Boston. 6W, 4M.

Commissioned by Fresh Ink Theatre and the Boston Public Library, this play was developed in 2017 – 2018 through the BPL's Playwright in Residence program.

Workshop – Fresh Ink Theatre, November 2017 – May 2018

Staged Readings – Fresh Ink Theatre, June 2018

BlueShift - 2016

A black dramedy about depression and time travel. 4W, 1M

Reading – Breaking Ground Festival, Huntington Theatre Company, April 2016.

Finalist – 2016 National Playwrights Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. Anne G. Morgan, Literary Manager

Finalist – 2017 New Play Festival at Kitchen Dog Theatre, Dallas, TX.

Semi-Finalist – 2018 Bay Area Playwrights Festival

Der Vampyr - 2014

Heinrich Marschner's Gothic vampire opera, updated and adapted into a darkly hilarious feminist tale, threading contemporary sexuality and vampire motifs, including references to Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Twilight. 7M, 4W, and chorus.

Commissioned by OperaHub, Boston, 2013-14.

Productions:

OperaHub, Boston, June 2015

St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, October 2015

From Denmark With Love - 2013

The story of Hamlet, told as a James Bond action thriller. 3W, 4M

Productions:

Vaquero Playground, May 2013 at Boston Playwrights' Theatre

Vaquero Playground, July 2013 at Outside the Box Festival, Boston

IRNE Award Nominated for Best New Play – Fringe, 2014

Collaborations & Educating

The NanoTheatre Games – 2019, Beaver Country Day School

Directed twenty high school students in creating and writing a full length show made up of short plays, including comedy, drama, movement pieces, and musicals.

Interference – 2015, Liars & Believers at American Repertory Theatre

Wrote and performed as part of an ensemble devised play about tragedy, grief, and recovery, directed by Steven Bogart.

SubMerged – 2015, Beaver Country Day School

Directed fourteen high school students in creating and writing an immersive performance that led the audience on a murder mystery throughout the school

Picture Books

Hams of New England – 2017. Writer & Illustrator.

A picture book that imagines all of the New England towns ending with “-ham” were named after the local porcine activities. A book full of piggies, poetry, and puns.

Noosery Rhymes & Horror-Bull Pomes – 2016. Writer & Illustrator.

Irreverent rhymes and sketches on mental health, including depression and suicide, body dysmorphia, and pyromania.

Honors

Boston Public Library Playwright in Residence, 2017 – 2018

Michael Colford, Program Manager

Huntington Playwriting Fellow, Huntington Theatre Company, Boston. 2014 – 2016.

Lisa Timmel, Literary Manager

Freedom Art Retreat, August 2012 Juried retreat sponsored by Playwrights’ Commons.

Ilana Brownstein, Director

Golden Dolphin Award for Audience Favorite – “M. Riverside.”

Mill 6: The T Plays, Boston June 2010

Work Experience

Boston Public Library - Playwright in Residence

May 2017 – June 2018

- Developed a new play exploring climate change in Boston through Fresh Ink Theatre’s collaboration with the Boston Public Library
- Utilized and highlighted BPL resources including the Leventhal Map Center and Research Department
- Outreach and collaboration with local partners including GreenRoots Chelsea, Boston Harbor Now, and Northeastern University’s Marine Science Center.
- Created, managed, and executed engagement events at BPL including Climate Change Trivia

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston - House Manager, Public Programs

August 2015 - present

- Collaborate across departments to facilitate a wide variety of programs, including films, lectures, concerts, and panel conversations.
- Work with external partners for streamlined and clear communications and operations for third party events
- Work interdepartmentally to design and implement new programming to reach new audiences, including *Who Tells Your Story: Art & Hamilton at the MFA*, and *The Idea of North*, a conversation with co-curator Steve Martin.

Company One Theatre - Street Team Program Director **March 2014 – August 2015**

- Scheduled and coordinated events in and around Boston to promote shows and programming, to deepen ties to the community, specifically to high school and college-age students.
- Event planning; filming and editing promotional videos; relationship building with community organizations.
- Designed interactive audience engagement activities including visual art, word art, and video
- Managed social media presence around engagement events specifically targeting young audiences
- Successfully increased youth audience (under 30) by 23% in first season.

Beaver Country Day School – Artist in Residence / Director **November 2013 – February 2015**

- Created, Co-Wrote, and Directed original full-length play with students aged 15 – 18.
- Led students in story and character generation exercises, lessons on improv and story, and acting
- Worked with school faculty and staff to fulfill production needs of work in progress
- 2015 show *SubMerged* took place in locations around campus and required extreme coordination and planning with staff, faculty, and students.

CONSENSUS Project - Designer / Visioneer **March – August 2014**

- Created gallery space inspired-by and displaying works by 7 other artists, including video, music, sculpture, 2D, and tea-maker.
- Designed to spec and travel for shows in Martha's Vineyard, Somerville, and Worcester.

Vaquero Playground – Artistic & Managing Director **March 2009 – August 2013**

- Producer and head of marketing for three full productions in various locations throughout Boston.
- Contracted and hired all collaborators
- Worked with community partners, including over a dozen local bands contributing to soundtrack album for *From Denmark With Love*

Organizations

Member: Dramatists' Guild of America

Member: StageSource

Founding Member of Small Theatre Alliance of Boston

Education

SUNY Geneseo: B.A. in Theatre-English, December 2004

Dean's List, President's List Member, Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society

Other

Musician – guitar, violin, percussion, samples and producing, singing

Visual Artist – painter, sculptor, set design

Video Artist – shorts, videos, documentaries