



CARLOS TESORO

MFA, Acting | Yale School of Drama

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR/ DIRECTOR/ ENTREPRENEUR

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Theater Arts

Spolin Improv

Shakespeare Performance

Writing & Development

Directing & Producing

Accreditation & Compliance

Student Engagement

Coaching

Relaxation

Leadership & Administration

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

Yale University, School of Drama Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Acting

Acting, Scene Study & Text Analysis - Evan Yionoulis | James Bundy, Ron Van Lieu
Shakespeare: Peter Francis James | Brecht: Penny Cherns | Screen: John Badham
Voice and Speech: Walton Wilson | Linklater: Andrea Haring | Movement: Wesley Fata
Fitzmaurice: Grace Zandarski | Alexander: Jessica Wolf | Clown: Christopher Bayes
Animal Flow: Brandon Call | Stage Combat: Rick Sordelet | Games: Frank Deal
Singing: Vicki Shagoian | Speech & IPA: Beth McGuire, Jacqueline Farrington

Cal State University, Northridge Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Theater

Directing & Scene Study: Peter Grego | Acting & Shakespeare Linda de Vries
Text Analysis: Mary Ellen Clemons | Musical Theatre: Cathy Pyles
Movement: Suzuki | Laban | Ballet, Jazz, Modern & Hip-Hop | Ballroom Dance
Technical Design: Costume | Lights | Sound | Set Design | Stage Management

Shakespeare & Co. Actor Training

Shakespeare: Andrew Borthwick-Leslie | Linklater: Sarah Kate Anderson

Viola Spolin Improvisation

Side Coaching: Aretha Sills

Meisner Technique at Elizabeth Mestnik Acting Studios

Technique: Elizabeth Mestnik, Sandy Egan, Jordana Oberman

South Coast Repertory Actor Training

Scene Study: H. Adam Harris, Martin Noyes

David Henry Hwang's Playwriting Institute at East West Players Certificate Program

There are fundamental points to writing a playscript: Idea is just the beginning, executing a well told story is key.

Found Story: Armando 'Bing' Lao Screenwriting Certificate Program

Truth in character and circumstances should prevail when writing. There is social responsibility for truth in film.

Ricky Lee's Storytelling Workshop in Screenwriting Certificate Program

A story begins with a character's inner world, how they move to earn the objective is the epitome of storytelling.

200 Hour Yoga Teacher Training Certificate Program

I always enjoy growth: from yoga practitioner to developing as a Yoga Instructor it's just icing on the cake.

International Board of Coaches and Practitioners (IBCP) Certified

Certified Wellness and Mental Coach with emphasis on relaxation, clinical hypnotherapy and mindfulness.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor in Theatre (NTT)

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
College of Performing Arts (COPA)
Department of Theatre

August 2022 - Present
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866

PEDAGOGY

My teaching philosophy is rooted in experiential learning—where ideas aren't just discussed but lived and practiced. I believe students gain true confidence and understanding when they put theory into action. In class, concepts come alive only when they are embodied and applied. We fail to pick ourselves up.

I focus on giving students a strong foundation in core techniques—such as Stanislavsky's Magic If, Hagen's particularization exercises, Shakespeare's poetic specificity, and Meisner's practice of calling out behavior and responding with a clear point of view—while also emphasizing a sense of play through Spolin's Improvisation Games. Layered with a robust text-analysis vocabulary, Linklater voice technique and Native Dance; these practices equip students to make simple, impulsive, and rich choices. Active listening, honest communication, and thoughtful responses shape how we build relationships, collaborate, and move through the world.

In my classroom, I strive to create a space of exploration, collaboration, and fearless creativity. Theatre, to me, is more than performance—it is a practice that sharpens awareness, nurtures empathy, and encourages authenticity. My goal is to guide students not only on stage but also in life, leading them toward a deeper connection with their craft, their community, and themselves.

CURRICULUM

SHAKESPEARE ONE & SHAKESPEARE TWO

- Breath to Sound to Voice
- Onomatopoeic Sonnets
- Gathering and Personalizing Images
- Shakespearean Clues: Figures of Speech
- Following Thoughts and Arguments
- Body and Stamina to Play
- The Character Score
- Scansion and Me
- Prose Vs. Verse
- The Chains of Being
- History, Romance and Monster Monologues
- The Sallenger's Rounde (An Elizabethan Dance)

TEXT ANALYSIS AND SCENE STUDY

- Cold Read Analysis (E-CAST)
- Diction and Syntax
- Denote vs. Connotate
- Figurative Language: Tennessee Williams
- Your Spine: The Character Givens
- Scene, Super and Life Objectives
- Intro to Spolin Improv Ensemble Training
- World of the Play: Anton Chekhov
- Events and Key Moments
- Scene Study: Stage and Screen
- Relationships That Change You
- Play to Win: Need, Action, Objective

DIRECTING ONE & DIRECTING TWO

- Mission, Vision, Theme and Approach
- The Director's Book
- Attack and Retreat Scenes
- Table Work, why do you do it?
- Actor, Designer & Collaborator Relationships
- Direct to Fail... only to Succeed
- Director's Manifesto
- Your Personal Hero's Journey
- Scene Study: Backwards and Forwards
- Challenging Case Study & Workshops
- Directing with Style
- Modern Director Presents

DIRECTING & PRODUCING ONE ACTS

- The Production Meeting
- Your Production Book (Director/SM/Design)
- Budget vs. Needs
- Audition, Callbacks and Casting
- Pre-Prod to be Free
- The First Day of Rehearsal
- An Efficient Calendar
- Communicate, communicate, then email.
- Producer and the Production Team
- Rehearsal Reports
- Tech Week Execution
- The Last Day and Post Production

INTRO TO ACTING

- Name Game, Concentration & Celebrity
- Relaxation and Meditation
- Emotional Recall: Call you by your name
- Physical Recall: Substitution
- Hagen's Exercise One: Physical Destination
- Viewpoints Semaphore Exercise
- Building Character (Monologues)
- The Character Score & Scene Breakdown
- Yoga Intro: Sun Salutation A
- Creating Relationships (Partnered Scene)
- Linklater Voice Exercises
- OnStage Actor Terminology

Film and Media Production

Line Producer, Songs for Selina (Feature Film, Distributed by Synkronized [SKD]), 2025.

Managed production logistics and cross-departmental coordination for an internationally distributed feature film. Available on Amazon Prime

Director & Producer, The Corps (Season 2, Streaming Episodic Series), 2025.

Directed and produced the second season of an independent comedy series; official selection, Los Angeles Comedy Festival.

Director, Producer & Writer, Homecoming (Short Film, Some Folks Productions), 2025.

Independent film exposing the horrors of a house that seems to come alive as generations of residents seem to vanish.

Producer, The Good Pain Podcast (Some Folks Productions), 2024

Original podcast series distributed on Spotify, Amazon, Google, Stitcher, and Apple Podcasts. 2 Seasons

Associate Producer, Cotton Fruit Baby (PPP Festival), 2023.

Collaborated on the production of an independent Young Audience Filipino feature screened at international festivals.

Contributing Writer, Seven Sundays (Feature Film, Star Cinema) 2017.

Creative and writer to feature film highest grossing blockbuster feature. Family favorite award winning film.

Marketing Director, Apocalypse Child (Feature Film, Skinny People Productions) 2017.

GAWAD award winning Filipino feature screened at international festivals and released through Candy Film Distribution.

Producer & 1st Assistant Director, Kristo (Feature Film, Eichef Media), 2016.

Tokyo International Film Festival in Exhibition Feature Film also screened at International Film Festivals.

Director, Editor & Writer, iBully (Short Film, SlaughterHouse Productions), 2012

Wrote and directed this socially conscious short film exploring bullying and self expression. Awarded New Media Award at the Los Angeles Short Film Festival.

Associate Segment Producer, The Voice (NBC Television), 2012-2014

Coordinated story research, contestant development, and performance logistics under tight broadcast deadlines. Worked with directing and camera teams to integrate narrative segments and live musical performances for national television audiences. Supported producers in editing and shaping contestant narratives for viewer engagement and storytelling clarity.

Co-Director & Associate Producer, JYJ: The Beginning World Tour (CJES Productions), 2011

Served as co-director and associate producer for a multi-country world tour of the K-Pop group JYJ, performing across U.S., Canada, South Korea, Japan, and Spain. Managed artist logistics, stage transitions, and technical coordination across diverse international venues.

Associate Segment Producer, Divas Live (VH1 Television), 2010

Collaborated with producers to plan and execute live televised performances featuring Leona Lewis and other international artists. Managed stage direction logistics, artist coordination, and camera transitions for broadcast. Liaised between artist management and production teams to ensure performance continuity.

Assistant Segment Producer, American Music Awards (ABC Television), 2009

Assisted in the production of live televised segments, including performances by Christina Aguilera. Supported on-site stage management, live cue coordination, and artist preparation for broadcast. Collaborated with director and segment producers to manage live timing and musical transitions.

Associate Producer, iPOP! Showcase (John Robert Powers Productions, NYC, LV, LA), 2009-2011

Produced national performance showcases for aspiring actors, singers, and models. Coordinated casting, stage rehearsals, and multi-day live events in major U.S. cities. Collaborated with celebrity coaches and industry professionals to structure training and talent development programs.

Festival Direction and Artistic Leadership

Artistic Director & Programmer, SEE Asian Film Festival, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 2023–Present.

Founding member and curator of an annual Southeast and East Asian film festival integrating performance and film discourse.

Delegate, Festival de Cannes, Eichef Productions, 2023.

Engaged in film industry networking and international co-production development. Programming, sales and marketing focus.

Delegate, Asean International Film Festival & Awards (AIFFA), Eichef Productions, Sarawak, Indonesia, 2019.

New Works focus. Engaged in film industry networking and international co-production development.

In-Exhibition, QCinema Film Festival, This Side Up Productions, Manila, Philippines, 2018.

Represented Feature Apocalypse Child at Film Festival as Producer Company Delegate. Sales and Marketing Focus.

In-Exhibition, PPP Festival, HF Films, Manila, Philippines, 2018.

Presented the Award Winning Film Best Partee Ever at the Film Festival showcase.

In-Exhibition, Cinemalaya International Film Festival, Eichef Productions, Manila, Philippines, 2017.

Kristo, feature film for exhibition at International Renowned Film Festival. Showcase and Distribution Focus.

Research and Writing

Writer, Apple Falls From the Tree (Full-Length Play), 2026.

A new dramatic work exploring neurodiversity, communication, and family relationships through the perspective of a non-verbal autistic protagonist. The play investigates themes of empathy, inclusion, and identity in contemporary performance.

Writer, Dime Jigs (Feature Film), In Pre-Production, 2026

In 1920s-30s Stockton, California, a young Filipino immigrant arrives chasing the American dream but is drawn instead into the glittering underworld of zoot suits, dance halls, and gambling dens.

Writer, Carlos Fell Off the Boat (Episodic), 2026.

A young man is forced to return to America to confront family obligations and old wounds. Back home, he faces the tangled web of family drama, cultural expectations, and the struggle for acceptance within his devout religious family.

Conference Proposal, "Making Being Human Work Again:

Applied Theatre for Corporate Communication and Leadership," For Submission, 2026.

Scholarly research presentation exploring applied theatre as a methodology for enhancing communication, empathy, and leadership in organizational contexts.

Applied and Corporate Theatre Engagements

Presenter, Camera Presence: The Influencer Guide to Your Own Skin, Live Well, Los Angeles, CA, 2023.

Workshop on camera presence, embodiment, and self-presentation for digital media creators.

Consultant, Unleashing Your Brand: Brainstorming to Gather, Michiko, San Diego, CA, 2022.

Applied theatre-based training for corporate and creative professionals.

Lecturer, The Art of Producing: Free on the Day-Of Technique, Pino Studios, Los Angeles, CA, 2022.

Lecture on adaptive producing methodologies for emerging filmmakers.

Consultant, Presenting to Clients: Grounding Through Theatrical Power, Moss Manila, 2021.

Interactive session on performance-based communication and embodied leadership.

Lectures, Workshops, and Public Engagements

Key Speaker, Projecting Confidence: You! Wellbeing Festival, Wellnest Group, USA - SEA, 2020.

Presenter, Behind the Scenes: Making Being Human Work Again, Manila, Philippines, 2020.

Consultant, Presentational Skills: Empowering Your Impressions, Sinag, Manila, Philippines, 2020.

Presenter, Storytelling Your Journey: Bathe in I Want, Spark It, San Diego, CA, 2019.

Lecturer, Ten Points of Shakespeare, Metta Repertory, Makati, Philippines, 2016.

Industry Collaborations and Live Event Production (Selected Credits)

Events Producer, Conceptualized and produced live audience engagement events integrating theatrical performance, immersive design, and branded storytelling for international media clients.

Extraction 2 featuring Chris Hemsworth, Netflix / Jack Morton Worldwide, 2023.

Spotify House featuring Jeremy Zucker, Spotify International, 2023.

Stranger Things Season Launch, Netflix / Jack Morton Worldwide, 2019.

AsiaPop Comic-Con featuring Finn Jones of Iron Fist, Netflix / Jack Morton Worldwide, 2018.

Umbrella Academy Escape Rooms Immersive Experience, Netflix / Jack Morton Worldwide, 2018.

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events, Netflix / Jack Morton Worldwide, 2018.

Earlier Creative and Performance Work (Selected Work)

1st AD: Toy Short Film dir. Lena Waithe (Hillman Grad Productions), 2015.

Production Designer: Morgan Stanley Industrial Video (Start Beat Entertainment), 2015

Lead Actor: UNICEF Industrial Video (Start Beat Entertainment), 2015

Director, Producer & Editor: Christina Aguilera's "Let There Be Love" Music Video (SlaughterHouse), 2013

Production Designer: Topaz Industries Industrial Video: Simulation Demo (Greystar Entertainment), 2013

Director, Choreographer & Concept: One Heart Four Voices: Seasons of Life Concert, 2012

Co-Director & Associate Producer: Junsu: Xiah Concert (CJES Productions) Seoul, S.Korea 2012.

Director, Developer & Choreographer: "A Bang Boom Bounce..." (Yale Cabaret), New Haven, CT 2003

Director: "Golden Child" by David Henry Hwang. Black Box Theatre, (CSUN, Northridge), CA 2000

Producer: "The Sound of a Voice" by David Henry Hwang. Black Box Theatre, (CSUN, Northridge), CA 2000

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SOME FOLKS PRODUCTIONS, INC.

Creative Producer/ Co-Founder (2021- Present)

Passionate about developing content that amplifies marginalized voices under the motto “The UN-Told Story Told.” We are a collective of multifaceted artists—storytellers, creators, and visionaries—collaborating to challenge the uncertainties of today’s world. Through podcasts, streaming projects, full-length features, and educational content, we strive to spark dialogue, inspire change, and bring unheard perspectives to the forefront.

SEE ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL at Segerstrom Center for the Arts

Founder and Artistic Director (2022-Present)

Curating a diverse program celebrating Asian cinema for AAPI Heritage Month at Segerstrom Center for the Arts. Showcasing works from Southeast and East Asia, from acclaimed films like Past Lives to emerging talent through our Short Film Competition. Dedicated to honoring cinematic legends while supporting the next generation of filmmakers.

BTS CORPORATE COACHING

Lead Coach / Co-Founder / Writer

High-Profile: Pandora | Hyundai | Netflix | Nestle, Inc. | Dr. Marten’s

Clients: Kumu App | Philux, Inc. | Goon | Cloud CFO | Spark It

Dedicated to “making being human work again,” I specialize in syllabus curation and communication training. Each company presents unique challenges—bridging gaps between peers, departments, and brands—where acting techniques become powerful tools for engagement and learning. I translate key concepts into accessible, relatable exercises that enhance goal-setting, self-worth, and collaboration. Through this approach, I’ve developed a flexible business model adaptable to any industry.

BEHIND THE SCENES EVENTS, INC.

Creative Producer / Co-Founder / Writer

Netflix Series Launch: Riverdale | Chilling Adventures of Sabrina | Umbrella Academy | You Stranger Things | Insatiable | Lost In Space | Lemony Snickett’s A Series of Unfortunate Events International: Hermes | Spotify | Telstra | HayU App Launch

Focused on storytelling through immersive events that introduce audiences to new and upcoming shows. Led a team in crafting impactful audience engagement strategies, from training unseasoned staff into standout performers—whether as fish-head waiters, ’90s rockers, or drag queen choristers—to overseeing event production, coordinating builders, designers, vendors, and media. Ensured high-profile press coverage and international collaboration for both creative impact and fiscal success.

STAR CINEMA INC. Film & Distribution Company

Writer / Creative Contributor

The premier Filipino film company, I honed the craft of building compelling characters, relatable stories, and inspiring narratives. Long brainstorming sessions, endless rewrites, and refining every story’s logic were standard practice. Quick thinking and deep storytelling instincts became second nature, as did embodying characters to craft authentic dialogue and action. Collaboration with passionate writers and directors, each committed to originality, was all in pursuit of the next multi-million-peso blockbuster.

HOUSE OF SAM, INC.

Associate Producer / Writer / Creative Producer / Technical Lead / Talent Acquisition

JYJ K-POP BoyBand World and North America Tour Associate Producer

Christina Aguilera Tour Book Writer | NBC’s The Voice Segment Producer

Specials: Grammy Awards, American Music Awards, MTV Music Awards, MTV Movie Awards

Clients: Christina Aguilera | Whitney Houston | Leona Lewis | Mariah Carey | Cyndi Lauper

Blending high-profile taste with practicality and innovation, every project had a character, a story, and a message to leave a mark on the world. Brainstorming was relentless, pushing creative limits was essential, and crafting bold, one-of-a-kind statements was the standard. Our mission: to shape the next big trend, the next cultural moment, the next work of art that could inspire change. Research, development, and execution continue to drive my creative pursuit today.