

CARLOS TESORO

Actors' Equity Association (AEA)
MFA Acting, Yale School of Drama

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Chapman University

Assistant Professor of Theatre (Non-Tenure Track)
College of Performing Arts (COPA), Department of Theatre
Orange, California
August 2022 – Present

- Teach undergraduate coursework in Acting, Shakespeare, Directing, Scene Study, and Text Analysis.
- Design curricula emphasizing experiential learning, performance practice, and critical inquiry.
- Mentor students in creative development, graduate study applications, and professional preparation.
- Advise and evaluate directing projects, scene presentations, and performance-based coursework.
- Contribute to admissions review, departmental recruitment efforts, curriculum development, student mentorship, and departmental service initiatives.

EDUCATION

Yale School of Drama

Master of Fine Arts, Acting

Selected Faculty:

Evan Yionoulis, James Bundy, Ron Van Lieu, Peter Francis James, Penny Cherns, John Badham, Walton Wilson, Andrea Haring, Christopher Bayes, Rick Sordelet

California State University, Northridge

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre

Selected Faculty:

Peter Grego, Linda de Vries, Mia Truxaw, Maryellen Clemons, Lillian Lehman, AJ Kim

COURSES TAUGHT

Chapman University

Shakespeare I

Shakespearean language and performance through rhetoric, verse and prose analysis, scansion, characterization, and the historical and cultural contexts of Early Modern England.

Shakespeare II

Advanced Shakespeare performance emphasizing textual interpretation, scene study, embodiment, and rhetorical analysis.

Text Analysis and Scene Study

Script analysis, dramatic structure, objectives and actions, figurative language, character development, and performance application.

Introduction to Acting

Fundamental acting techniques including Stanislavski, Hagen, Chekhov, Meisner, Linklater, Viewpoints, and Spolin improvisation.

Directing I

Introduction to directing methodologies, script analysis, collaboration, rehearsal processes, and artistic leadership.

Directing II

Advanced directing practices emphasizing conceptual development, actor coaching, design collaboration, and contemporary performance practices.

Directing and Producing One-Acts

Production management, casting, budgeting, rehearsal planning, technical production, and collaborative leadership.

TEACHING INNOVATIONS/CURRICULAR DEVELOPMENT

The Corporate Stage: Theatre Skills are Soft Skills

Developed an interdisciplinary curriculum applying acting, directing, and improvisation techniques to leadership, communication, emotional intelligence, and professional development.

PEDAGOGY

My teaching philosophy is rooted in experiential learning, integrating embodied practice, collaboration, and rigorous text analysis. By connecting theory to practice, I seek to cultivate artistic discipline, critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and lifelong learning.

STUDENT MENTORSHIP AND ADVISING

Mentor undergraduate students in artistic development, graduate school preparation, MFA audition coaching, portfolio development, directing projects, professional career planning, and the creation of new theatrical and media-based works.

Provide individualized advising through portfolio reviews, audition preparation, application strategy, interview coaching, artistic statement development, and letters of recommendation for graduate study and professional opportunities.

Graduate School Mentorship Outcomes

Since joining Chapman University, successfully mentored and coached students admitted to nationally and internationally recognized graduate training programs, including:

- Five (5) students admitted to the MFA Professional Acting Program at LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art)
- One (1) student admitted to Columbia University Graduate School

Provided recommendation letters and mentorship for students applying to programs including Yale School of Drama, NYU, Juilliard, LAMDA, Columbia University, and other nationally recognized conservatories and universities.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Participated in departmental faculty meetings, strategic planning discussions, and program initiatives.
- Assisted with recruitment efforts, outreach activities, and the evaluation of prospective student applicants through Portfolio, audition, and admissions review processes.
- Served on departmental committees and special initiatives, including the Shakespeare Festival Revival Committee and season/play selection discussions.
- Contributed to curriculum development and assessment through the creation and refinement of guidelines, rubrics, and evaluation criteria for directing and One-Act Project coursework.
- Provided mentorship and support to Part-Time Lecturers (PTLs), including curriculum consultation, classroom resources, and pedagogical collaboration.

- Mentored student leaders and emerging artists through academic advising, artistic coaching, graduate school preparation, and professional development.
- Supported student wellbeing and academic success through individualized mentoring and collaboration with faculty to address concerns and foster inclusive learning environments.
- Supported departmental productions, festivals, public performances, and special events through production consultation, adjudication, and faculty collaboration.
- Participated in ongoing conversations regarding student learning outcomes, program effectiveness, and best practices in theatre and performance education.

DIRECTING THEATRE

A Bang Boom Bounce...

Original Work

Yale Cabaret, New Haven, CT

The Glass Menagerie

By Tennessee Williams

La Consolacion, Manila, Philippines

All's Well That Ends Well

By William Shakespeare

Metta Repertory, Manila, Philippines

Golden Child

By David Henry Hwang

CSU, Northridge, CA

Popcorn

By Ben Elton

Actor's Alley (AD)

North Hollywood, CA

I'm Coming, NYC!

Devised Work

JRP Productions, New York, NY

One Heart Four Voices

Original Work

Fullerton, California

The Changing Seasons

Devised Work

JRP Productions, Los Angeles, CA

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Film and Television

Line Producer

Songs for Selina (Feature Film) 2026
Amazon Distribution

Director and Producer

The Corps, 2025
Los Angeles Comedy Festival

Director, Writer, and Producer

Homecoming, 2025

Producer

The Good Pain Podcast, 2024
Spotify, Anchor, Apple

Associate Producer

Cotton Fruit Baby, 2023
Recipient: *Special Mention* Award
PPP- Philippine Film Festival

Contributing Writer

Seven Sundays, 2017
Recipient: Best Screen Play
Filipino Academy of the Philippines, Luna Award

Producer and First Assistant Director

Kristo, 2016
Tokyo International Film Festival

Director, Editor, and Writer

iBully, 2012
Recipient: New Media Award
Los Angeles Short Film Festival

AWARDS

The Richard Ward - Yale School of Drama

Best Screenplay, FAP Luna Awards — *Seven Sundays*

New Media Award, Los Angeles Short Film Festival — *iBully*

Special Mention Award, PPP Philippine Film Festival — *Cotton Fruit Baby*

FESTIVAL LEADERSHIP

Founder and Artistic Director

SEE Asian Film Festival

Segerstrom Center for the Arts

2022 – Present

Lead the artistic vision, strategic planning, and annual implementation of a film festival dedicated to celebrating Southeast and East Asian cinema while fostering cross-cultural dialogue, community engagement, and artist development.

Responsibilities include:

- Curate annual programming featuring filmmakers from Southeast Asia, East Asia, and the Asian diaspora.
- Develop partnerships with artists, cultural organizations, educational institutions, and community stakeholders.
- Design educational programming including panels, artist talks, and community engagement initiatives.
- Lead audience development and emerging filmmaker initiatives.
- Advocate for Asian and Asian American representation through curatorial leadership and public programming.

Delegate

Festival de Cannes

2023 - Paris, France

ASEAN International Film Festival and Awards (AIFFA)

2019 - Sarawak, Malaysia

CREATIVE WRITING

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

A full-length play exploring communication, neurodiversity, identity, and family relationships.'

Dime Jigs

In Development (Feature Screenplay)

Carlos Fell Off the Boat

In Development (Episodic Project)

Seven Sundays, Star Cinema Contributing Writer (Feature Film)

Winner Best Screenplay FAP Luna Award

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, & LECTURES

Camera Presence: The Influencer Guide to Your Own Skin

Live Well, 2023

The Art of Producing: Free on the Day-Of Technique

Pino Studios, 2022

Unleashing Your Brand: Brainstorming to Gather

Michiko, 2022

Presenting to Clients: Grounding Through Theatrical Power

Moss Manila, 2021

The Kerry Way: The Role Play

Kerry Manila 2021

Impactful Presentation: Storytelling to Succeed

Sinag, 2020

Projecting Confidence: You!

Wellbeing Festival, 2020

Ten Points of Shakespeare

Metta Repertory, 2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BTS Corporate Coaching

Lead Coach / Co-Founder

Develop and facilitate communication, leadership, and performance-based training programs for corporate clients including Netflix, Hyundai, Nestlé, Pandora, and Dr. Martens.

Some Folks Productions

Creative Producer / Co-Founder

Develop film, podcast, and educational content amplifying underrepresented voices and community-centered storytelling.

Behind the Scenes Events, Inc.

Creative Producer / Co-Founder

Produced immersive live experiences for Netflix, Spotify, Hayu, Telstra, and international media clients.

Star Cinema

Writer / Creative Contributor

Contributed to story development and screenplay creation for major Filipino feature films.

House of Sam

Associate Producer / Segment Producer Contributor

Produced and assisted for televised performance for Networks such as CBS, NBC, ABC, MTV, VH1 along with celebrities, Christina Aguilera, Leona Lewis, Whitney Houston, Lady Gaga, Janet Jackson and Cyndi Lauper.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Shakespeare & Company

Meisner Technique EMAS Studio

Viola Spolin Improvisation

South Coast Repertory Conservatory

David Henry Hwang Playwriting Institute

Ricky Lee Storytelling Workshop

Found Story Screenwriting Program

200-Hour Yoga Teacher Certification

International Board of Coaches and Practitioners Certification