

Leah Geis
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Curriculum Vitae

Education

- 2017 BFA Theatre Studies, University of South Dakota, Theatre Studies with focus on directing.
Graduated in May, 2017.

Directing Experience

- 2017 *Almost, Maine*, by John Cariani. Presented at Vermillion Winery as a part of Vermillion Community Theatre's annual season.
- 2017 *Young Frankenstein*, music, lyrics, and book by Mel Brook, book also by Thomas Meehan. Presented at the Harrisburg Middle School as part of Sioux Falls Community Theatre's annual season.
- 2017 *Fiddler on the Roof* by Joseph Stein. Presented at the Thomas H. Craig Center for the Performing Arts as part of Vermillion Community Theatre's annual season.
- 2017 *Cinderella Waltz* by Don Nigro. Presented in Farber Hall on the University of South Dakota campus as an independent project produced by Student Theatre Co-op and sponsored by the Student Government Association.
- 2016 *Elf Jr.*, book by Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin, music by Matthew Sklar, and lyrics by Chad Beguelin. Presented at the Orpheum theatre as part of Sioux Fall Community Theatre's annual season.
- 2016 *Appearances*, by Tina Howe. Presented in the Arena Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season of plays. University of South Dakota.
- 2016 *Seussical Jr.*, book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, book and music by Stephen Flaherty. Presented at the Orpheum theatre as part of Sioux Fall Community Theatre's annual season.
- 2013 *Alice in Wonderland*, by C. P. Wilmarth. Toured to the Vermillion Area Arts Council in Vermillion, South Dakota and Obert Hall in Obert, Nebraska with the non-profit theatre troupe, Joe's Bros Play Co.

Assistant Directing Experience

- 2018 *Cabaret*, music by John Kander, music by Frank Ebb, book by Joe Masteroff. Choreographed by Chet Walker. Directed by Joe Stollenwerk. Responsible for creating cohesive ensemble scenes and pictures, aiding the director in creative decisions, leading group warmups, and filling in for the director in his absence. Hired as a guest artist by the University of South Dakota.
- 2016 *The Wizard of Oz*, by L. Frank Baum, music and lyrics by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg, book adaption by John Kane. Assistant director to Ryan Fortney. Responsibilities include assisting in casting and actors' character development, blocking specific scenes, and giving a second opinion to directors. Vermillion Community Theatre.

- 2016 *Assassins*, music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by John Weidman. Assistant director to faculty director Raimondo Genna. Responsibilities include assisting in casting and actors' character development, blocking specific scenes, and giving a second opinion to directors. The University of South Dakota.
- 2015 *Guys and Dolls*, music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and book by Joe Swerling and Abe Burrows. Directed by regional director Libby Wasylik. Responsibilities include assisting in casting and actors' character development, blocking specific scenes, and giving a second opinion to directors. The University of South Dakota.
- 2014 *Next to Normal*, by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey. Assistant director to faculty director Matthew Nesmith. Responsibilities include assisting in actors' character development, blocking specific scenes, and giving a second opinion to director. The University of South Dakota.
- 2012 *The Three Musketeers*, adapted by Linda Alper, Douglas Langworthy, and Penny Metropulos. Assistant director to Joseph Geis. Responsibilities include aiding in actor's character development, heightening the onstage action, and giving a second opinion to the director. Northeast Players.

Stage Management Experience

- 2018 *Oklahoma!*, music by Richard Rogers, lyrics and books by Oscar Hammerstein II. Directed by Bill Russel. Responsible for time keeping, running meetings, aiding in rehearsals, organizing rehearsal space, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. Black Hills Playhouse.
- 2018 *Tokens of Affection*, by Topher Payne. Directed by Dan Workman. Responsible for time keeping, running meetings, aiding in rehearsals, organizing rehearsal space, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. Black Hills Playhouse.
- 2018 *Cabaret*, music by John Kander, music by Frank Ebb, book by Joe Masteroff. Choreographed by Chet Walker. Directed by Joe Stollenwerk. Responsible for time keeping, running meetings, aiding in rehearsals, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. Hired as a guest artist by the University of South Dakota.
- 2017 *VADO Annual Dance Concert*. Responsible for calling all cues, keeping time and attendance, and managing crew. Presented as part of Vermillion Area Dance Organization's annual season.
- 2016 *The Wizard of Oz*, by L. Frank Baum, music and lyrics by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg, book adaption by John Kane. Directed by Ryan Fortney. Responsible for time keeping, running meetings, aiding in rehearsals, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. Vermillion Community Theatre.
- 2015 *Joe Mahowald Benefit Concert*, responsible for running the tech rehearsal for and calling the concert of professional musical theatre guest artist under Actor's Equity expectations. University of South Dakota.
- 2015 *Bus Stop*, by William Inge. Directed by faculty director Tim Pyles. Presented in the Knutson Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. Responsible for time keeping, running meetings, aiding in rehearsals, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. University of South Dakota.
- 2015 *Guys and Dolls*, music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and book by Joe Swerling and Abe Burrows. Directed by regional director Libby Wasylik. Responsible for time keeping, running meetings,

aiding in rehearsals, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. Black Dirt Theatre.

- 2015 *The Goat; or, Who is Sylvia?* by Edward Albee. Directed by student director Taylor Clemens. Presented in the Arena Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. Responsible for time keeping, running meetings, aiding in rehearsals, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. University of South Dakota.
- 2014 *Oliver!* by Lionel Bart. Directed by Callie Hisek. Presented on Responsible for time keeping, running meetings, aiding in rehearsals, communicating to a cast and production team, running technical rehearsals, and calling the show. Vermillion Community Theatre.

Workshop/Educational Instruction

- 2017 Commedia dell-arte, South Sioux City High School. Taught workshops on commedia history, character types and tropes, applying the physical body to character work, then accumulated the workshops to the final project, the commedia-inspired play *All In Disguise*, by Gene Traylor and James Michael Elrod.
- 2016 Puppetry workshop, Wayne State College. Discussed puppetry construction as well as performed a demonstration performance, followed by a Q and A.
- 2016 Performance Arts, Vermillion Area Arts Council. Taught theatre basics, mask making, and collaboratively created short presentation for classes ranging from preschoolers to seventh grade.
- 2013 Improvisation, Norfolk Area Arts Council. Taught improvisation to classes ranging from first to fifth grade.

Masterclasses

- 2016 Weston Olson, member of Broadway's *Les Misérables* cast. University of South Dakota.
- 2015 Dr. Bryan Wade, musical director/conductor, vocal coach and Broadway accompanist. University of South Dakota.
- 2014 Cody Jamison-Strand, actor as Elder Cunningham in *The Book of Mormon*. University of South Dakota.

Acting Experience

- 2016 *...And Others*, by Dennis Bush. *Rachel*. Madeline Schmidt, presented in the Arena Theatre as part of the mainstage season. University of South Dakota.
- 2015 *Young Frankenstein*, by Mel Brooks. *Ensemble*. Directed by Matthew Nesmith. Presented in the Knutson Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. University of South Dakota.
- 2014 *The Way of All Fish*, by Elaine May. *Ms. Riverton*. Directed by Ryan Fortney. Presented in the Knutson Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. University of South Dakota.
- 2013 *Les Misérables*, music by Claude-Michel Schönberg, lyrics and book by Alain Boubil and Herbert Kretzmer. *Ensemble*. Directed by Matthew Nesmith. Presented in the Knutson Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. University of South Dakota.

- 2013 *Robin Hood: Spirit of the Green*, by Steve Miller and Anthony Burbach. Directed by Jen Dickenson. Presented at Thomas H. Craig Center for the Performing Arts as part of Vermillion Community Theatre's annual season. Vermillion Community Theatre.

Technical Experience

- 2015 *Mary Poppins*, music and lyrics by Robert B. Sherman and Richard M. Sherman, book by Julian Fellowes. Assistant stage manager. Presented at Thomas H. Craig Center for the Performing Arts as part of Vermillion Community Theatre's annual season. Vermillion Community Theatre.
- 2015 *Suessical the Musical*, book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, book and music by Stephen Flaherty. Makeup and wardrobe. Presented in the Knutson Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. The University of South Dakota.
- 2014 *USD at the Pavilion*. Assistant stage manager. Directed by faculty director Raimondo Genna. Presented at the Washington Pavilion as a showcase of the Fine Arts department at the University of South Dakota. The University of South Dakota.
- 2014 *Pippin*, by Stephen Schwartz. Props manager and fly line operator. Directed by faculty director Raimondo Genna. Presented in the Knutson Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. The University of South Dakota.
- 2014 *General O's Toenail*, by Pak Choyol, translated by Bruce Felton and Ju-Chan Fulton. Fly lines operator. Presented in the Knutson Theatre as part of the University of South Dakota's mainstage season. University of South Dakota.
- 2012 *Annie*, music by Charles Strouse, lyrics by Martin Charnin, book by Thomas Meehan. Stage hand. Presented at Thomas H. Craig Center for the Performing Arts as part of Vermillion Community Theatre's annual season. Vermillion Community Theatre.