

CHRISTINE PENNEY

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Christine.M.Penney@gmail.com • ChristinePenney.com

Theatre Educator & Director

Theater educator and director seeking to **engage and grow students, colleagues, & audiences** through the **power of the performing arts** by teaching empathy and self expression with a shrewd worldview via dramatic literature and best performance practices in the classroom and onstage.

Efficient, strong, and organized leader, producer, and teacher who excels at motivating students through high energy & engaging instruction, even when managing multiple priorities under pressure.

Outgoing, friendly, and motivated people person with a great sense of humor!

Resourceful, creative pragmatist, ardent for excellence.

Additional abilities: actor, singer, pianist, stage manager. Fluent in Portuguese. Writer, editor.

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

| Theatre Teacher & Director (as Director, Producer, & Music Director) | | 2008 to present |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Mountain Lakes High School, NJ | Director & Producer | 2016 to present |
| Ranney School, Tinton Falls, NJ | Drama Teacher, Long Term Leave | 2017 |
| Missisquoi Valley Union High School, VT | Theatre & Music Director, Producer | 2013 to 2014 |
| Websterville Academy, VT | Theatre & Music Director | 2008 to 2013 |
| Spaulding High School, Barre, VT | Theatre Director | 2010 to 2011 |
| Vermont Children's Theater, Lyndonville, VT | Director | 2010 |
| Quarry Works Theater, Adamant, VT | Director | 2008 |

- Teach dramatic technique, stage & theater elements & history, & best performance practices; coach & guide students in class & at rehearsals; communicate artistic vision & value; counsel/mentor students
- Produce, direct, design, and oversee student-based production - teach artistic vision and value
- Facilitate & manage task completion under intense time pressure
- Cast & coach actors; recruit and hire qualified individuals; manage, coordinate, schedule all
- Market, advertise, fundraise; conceive and coordinate promotional events
- Manage finances and analyze budget – production costs, box office sales, staff payment, etc.

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| Theatre, English, Music Teacher Mountain Lakes High School, grades 9 – 12 | 2016 to present |
| Manhattan Christian Academy, grades 6 – 8 | 2016 |
| Websterville Academy, grades 7 – 12 | 2008 to 2009 |

- Teach sixth through twelfth grades full English curriculum – developed independently & collegially toward evolving student academic needs (literature, reading, writing, study skills, etc.)
- Teach seventh through ninth grades a relevant music theory & choral curriculum
- Direct and music direct all-school musical from grades pre-school through 12 (150 students)

| Teaching Artist & Accompanist | | 2005 to 2017 |
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| Ping Chong & Co., NYC | Teaching Artist | 2017 |
| Applause NYC | Music Director & Teacher | 2016 |
| Barre Opera House, Barre, VT | Summer Camp Theater Director | 2014, 2015 |
| Flynn Center for the Perf. Arts, VT | Summer Camp Teaching Artist | 2011, 2012 |

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER, musicals – *selected work*

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| Disney's <i>Beauty and the Beast</i> | Ashman, Menken, Rice | Mountain Lakes, NJ |
| <i>Annie</i> | Charnin | Swanton, VT |
| <i>The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe</i> | Tasca/Drachman/Tierney | Websterville School, VT |
| <i>Pippin</i> | Stephen Schwartz | Barre, VT |
| <i>Honk! Jr.</i> | Drewe & Stiles | Vermont Children's Theater |
| <i>Cheaper by the Dozen</i> | Sergel (<i>adaptation</i>) | Websterville School, VT |
| <i>The Homecoming</i> | Swenson | Websterville School, VT |

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER, plays – *selected work*

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| <i>Peter and the Starcatcher</i> | Elice | Mountain Lakes, NJ |
| <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> | Shakespeare, student-devised | Mountain Lakes High School, NJ |
| <i>Cinderella, Cinderella</i> | Hotchner – audience participatory | Quarry Works, VT |
| <i>Our Miss Brooks</i> | Sergel (<i>adaptation</i>) | Websterville School, VT |
| <i>Sure Thing; Words, Words, Words</i> | <i>one acts</i> – Christopher Durang | Spaulding High School, VT |

MUSIC DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER – *selected work*

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| <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> | Shakespeare | Mountain Lakes High School, NJ |
| <i>Annie</i> | Meehan/Strouse/Charnin | Missisquoi Valley High School, VT |
| <i>The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe</i> | Tasca/Drachman/Tierney | Websterville Christian School, VT |
| <i>Pippin</i> | Stephen Schwartz | Spaulding High School, VT |
| <i>Honk! Jr.</i> | Drewe & Stiles | Vermont Children's Theater |
| <i>The Homecoming</i> | Swenson | Websterville School, VT |
| Music Director & Accompanist | 2005 to 2015 | Websterville & Green Mt. Alliance Churches, VT |

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

As Teacher, Director, Producer, and Stage Manager

- Produced 6 theater musicals with less than \$2000 budget – **every production = \$2000 or more in the black; doubled audience following** & future participatory interest by students & community
- Over **\$20,000 in ticket sales** – **largest earnings & audience attendance** program had ever seen
- Directed & music directed 150 students** in all-school (grades pre-school to 12th grade) musical

As Actor, Singer, Pianist

- Called back 3 times** by Stephen Kopel (Jim Carnahan Casting) & Andrea Zee (Stewart Whitley Casting) for **Broadway & Broadway National Tours of *Once***, for **leading actor & pianist “GIRL”**
- Final callbacks** as ensemble actor musician for in-development **Broadway production of *August Rush***

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

Teaching Certificate, Provisional, K – 12 English, June 2017 to present NEW JERSEY
State of Vermont, **Licensure in Secondary Theater Arts**, in progress, expected fall 2018 VERMONT

Presently attending **Montclair State University**, NEW JERSEY **Master of Arts in Theatre**
University of Vermont Burlington, VT

Bachelor of Arts in English, music minor, *Cum Laude*, December 2008

- University Honors, December 2008
- English Department Honors, May 2008

Circle in the Square Theater School, **Summer Acting & Musical Theater Program**, August 2013 NYC

Johnson State College, **Master of Arts, Secondary English Ed. coursework**, spring 2012 Johnson, VT

Private Acting Studio of Ken Schatz, 2013 to present NYC

Shakespeare & Company Workshop, Dennis Krausnick, 2016 NYC