

SIERRA ROSETTA TUMBLESON

Interdisciplinary Theatre and Drama PhD Student Class of 2028
Northwestern University
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EDUCATION

Expected Interdisciplinary Doctorate of Philosophy in Theatre & Drama. May 2028. Northwestern University. Evanston, Illinois.

Early Admissions Decision Program Winner.

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. May 2023. Northwestern College. Orange City, Iowa.

Faculty Honors Award, Outstanding Theatre Senior, Honors Scholar, Summa Cum Laude, 4.0 Major GPA.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant. Northwestern University. January 2024 to June 2024.

Responsibilities (not exhaustive):

Assisted Dr. Danielle Bainbridge with researching BIPOC film festival locations, film and media training in producing challenges, organized and compiled bibliographies and graphics for Bainbridge's upcoming documentary series.

Conducted research alongside Northwestern Department chair, Dr. Henry Godinez. Completed dramaturgical research for Goodman Theatre's production of "Inherit the Wind" that Godinez will direct in the fall of 2024. Analyzed critical essays in order to ascertain modern themes and parallels.

Theatre Professor's Assistant. Northwestern College. August 2022 to May 2023.

Responsibilities (not exhaustive):

Assisted with research. Graded exams and homework assignments. Proficient in Blackboard online learning database. Created a website on Squarespace from scratch showcasing the professor's work. Proofread multiple academic materials from the professor. Served as dramaturg for two productions that the professor directed. Formulated and developed multiple syllabi for classes that the professor taught.

Honors Program Leader. NWC. August 2022 to May 2023.

Responsibilities (not exhaustive):

Led Northwestern College's Honors Program. Organized events. Held and ran student leadership team meetings. Helped devise honors curriculum for academic programming.

Peer Tutor. NWC. January 2020 to May 2023.

Responsibilities (not exhaustive):

Served as a peer academic tutor for multiple classes: Theatre Experience (introductory theatre course), First-Year Seminar (freshman speaking and writing class), Christian Story 2 (theology class), Mission and Justice (theology class), Literary Contexts (general education writing class), writing tutor for multiple classes. Conducted group study sessions. Directed and coached amateur actors. Helped with group projects and public speaking skills.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer. Northwestern University. April 2024.

Fundamentals of Directing

Teaching Assistant. Northwestern College. January 2023-May 2023.

THE343WI: History/Theory of Theatre 1 (Guest Lecturer)

THE110AE The Theatre Experience (Tutor)

PUBLICATIONS

HowlRound: A Knowledge Commons by and for the Theatre Community

August 2023: *How Larissa Fasthorses' "The Thanksgiving Play" Lays the Groundwork for Native Artists Like Me*
<https://howlround.com/how-larissa-fasthorses-thanksgiving-play-lays-groundwork-native-artists-me>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS (Representative List)

"The Clean House by Sarah Ruhl Dramaturgy." Presenter. Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of America Digital Conference. February, 2024.

"Aesthetic Theory in Performance: A Comparative Study on Aristotle's Catharsis and Bharata Mundi's Rasa and their Applications for Modern Theatrical Practice." Presenter. Northwestern College's Celebration of Research. Orange City, Iowa. 2023.

"Aesthetic Theory in Performance: A Comparative Study on Aristotle's Catharsis and Bharata Mundi's Rasa and their Applications for Modern Theatrical Practice." Presenter. Northwestern University's Summer Research Opportunity Program. Evanston, Illinois. 2022.

"Remember: A Verbatim Scripture Performance Showcasing Byzantine and Renaissance Image Theory." Presenter. Northwestern College's Celebration of Research. Orange City, Iowa. 2022.

Augusto Boal's Games For Actor's and Non-Actors/Improv Games. Workshop Leader. Northwestern College's High School Theatre Camp. Orange City, Iowa. 2021.

"What Comes Next? Thornton Wilder's View on the Afterlife Showcased in *Our Town*." Presenter. Minnesota Department of Education Theatre Scholar Program. Perpich Center for the Performing Arts. Golden Valley, Minnesota. 2019.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Theatre Communications Group Rising Leaders of Color Fellow. Theatre Communications Group. Chicago, Illinois. 2024-2025.

1 of 6 chosen to represent TCG as a Rising Leader of Color for their Chicago cohort. Program includes workshops, conferences, and professional development.

Young Native Playwright Winner. Yale Indigenous Performing Arts Program. New Haven, Connecticut. 2024.

Winner of the 2024 Young Native Playwrights Award. The award-winning play received a developmental process and staged reading at Yale University

Faculty Honors Award. Northwestern College. Orange City, Iowa. 2023.

The Faculty Honors award is bestowed upon graduates who excel in academic achievement, meaningful influence, general attitude, and participation in worthwhile campus activities. The highest honor the faculty gives to one graduating senior per year, it is determined by a vote of the entire Northwestern faculty.

Outstanding Senior Award. Northwestern College. Orange City, Iowa. 2023.

Annual award given to the top undergraduate senior in each department.

LMDA/National Dramaturgy Winner. Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival 55. Des Moines, Iowa. 2023.

Selected to participate in a literary/dramaturgy fellowship at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford, Connecticut for dramaturgy work in "The Cherry Orchard" directed by Robert Hubbard at Northwestern College.

Irene Ryan Acting Competition Semi-Finalist. Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival 55. Des Moines, Iowa. 2023.
Nominated for playing Liubov Ranevskaya in “The Cherry Orchard” directed by Robert Hubbard at Northwestern College.

Sound Design Recognition. Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival 55. Des Moines, Iowa. 2023.
Recognized for sound designing “Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor” directed by Drew Schmidt at Northwestern College.

Early Admission Decision Program Winner. Northwestern University. Evanston, Illinois. 2022.
Early Acceptance into Northwestern University’s Theatre and Drama PhD Program.

Stage Management Recognition. Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival 53. Virtual Festival. 2021.
Recognized for excellent Stage Management in “Little Shop of Horrors” directed by Megan Weidner at Northwestern College.

Irene Ryan Acting Competition Finalist. Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival 53. Virtual Festival. 2023.
Nominated for playing The Princess of France in “Love’s Labour’s Lost” directed by Robert Hubbard at Northwestern College.

Theatre Scholar of Distinction Winner. Minnesota Department of Education. Perpich Center for the Performing Arts. Golden Valley, Minnesota. 2019.
Award for top high school theatre scholar and actor in the state of Minnesota.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING (REPRESENTATIVE LIST)

Public Writing Workshop. Participant. Northwestern University. Virtual. January 2024.

Playwriting Workshop with Tara Moses. Participant. Yale Indigenous Performing Arts Program. Virtual. December 2023.

Literary Fellowship. Literary Fellow/Assistant Dramaturg for National Puppetry Conference, National Playwrights Conference, National Music Theater Conference, and Cabaret & Performance Conference. Eugene O’Neill Theater Center. Waterford, Connecticut. June-August, 2023.

Summer Research Fellowship. Researcher with Dr. Danielle Bainbridge on Indian and Greek Aesthetic Theory. Crafting of Undergraduate Thesis. Summer Research Opportunity Program at Northwestern University. Evanston, Illinois. June-August, 2022.

Shakespeare Apprenticeship. Training in Shakespearean Text, Voice, and Acting. Commonwealth Shakespeare Company. Virtual. June-August, 2021.

Executive Intern. Arts Administration Intern. Fairmont Opera House. Fairmont, Minnesota. June-July, 2020.

SERVICE (REPRESENTATIVE LIST)

Literary Managers and Dramaturgy Association Social Media Committee. Volunteer researcher for LMDA’s theatre history series on social media. January 2024-May 2024.

Spring Service Partnership Participant to Lindale, Texas. Volunteer missions work at a college for ex-convicts. Directed and adapted a play that was performed at a maximum security prison. March 2020.

DIRECTING (Representative List)

<i>The Thanksgiving Play</i>	Northwestern College	2022
<i>The Things That We Know</i>	Northwestern College	2022
<i>Remember</i>	Northwestern College	2021

ACTING (Representative List)

<i>How to Know the Wildflowers</i> dir. Jessica Thebus	Anna	Northwestern Uni. (2024)
<i>Harvey</i> dir. Ethan Koerner	Veta Louise Simmons	Northwestern Col. (2023)
<i>Silent Sky</i> dir. Molly Wiebe Faber	Annie Cannon	Northwestern Col. (2023)
<i>Life is a Dream</i> dir. Robert Hubbard	Rosaura	Northwestern Col. (2022)
<i>Wake</i> dir. Madeline Sayet	Sophie	Yale Univ. (2022)
<i>Court Cafe</i> dir. Tara Moses	Server	Yale Univ. (2022)
<i>12 Angry Indians</i> dir. Elizabeth Richards	Juror 9	Yale Univ. (2022)
<i>Boy, Mole, Fox, and Horse</i> dir. Wyatt Waage	Mole	Northwestern Col. (2022)
<i>The Cherry Orchard</i> dir. Robert Hubbard	Liubov Ranevskaya	Northwestern Col. (2022)
<i>Regresando a Casa</i> dir. Mark Tyler Miller	Solo Show	Northwestern Col. (2021)
<i>The Two of Us</i> dir. Mark Tyler Miller	Solo Show	Northwestern Col. (2020)
<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i> dir. Robert Hubbard	Princess	Northwestern Col. (2020)
<i>Little House on the Prairie</i> dir. Brandon Raghu	Nellie Oleson	Fairmont Opera (2020)
<i>Jonah and the Giant Fish</i> dir. Jeff Barker	Narrator/Sailor	Northwestern Col. (2019)

DRAMATURGY/LITERARY WORK (Representative List)

<i>Literary Assistant</i>	Native Voices at the Autry	2024-present
<i>Native Voices New Play Festival</i>	Native Voices at the Autry	2024
<i>Literary Assistant & Dramaturg</i>	Hedgepig Theatre Ensemble	2023-24
<i>Literary Assistant for Scratchpad Series</i>	Playwrights Realm	2024
<i>The Clean House</i> dir. Francesca Patrón	Northwestern University	2024
<i>Frida Libre</i> dir. Ismael Lara	Northwestern University	2023
<i>The Matriarchs</i> dir. Melia Bensussen (assistant)	Eugene O'Neill Theater Center	2023
<i>Life is a Dream</i> dir. Robert Hubbard	Northwestern College	2022
<i>Cherry Orchard</i> dir. Robert Hubbard	Northwestern College	2022

SOUND DESIGN (Representative List)

<i>Harvey</i> dir. Ethan Koener	Northwestern College	2023
<i>The Things That We Know</i> dir. Sierra Rosetta	Northwestern College	2022
<i>Frank Einstein</i> dir. Drew Schmidt	Northwestern College	2022
<i>Drama Ministries Ensemble</i> dir. Debra Freeberg	Northwestern College	2022
<i>Remember</i> dir. Sierra Rosetta	Northwestern College	2022

PLAYWRITING/DEVISING/ADAPTATION

From the Old Wood Forest. Original Full-Length Play. Winner of Yale Indigenous Performing Arts Program, 2024. Semi-Finalist at Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwright's Conference, 2024. Finalist at Yale University's Indigenous Performing Arts Program, 2023.

How to Know the Wildflowers: A Map. Devised and Adapted Piece. Performed at Northwestern University, 2024.

The Things That We Know. Original One-Act Play. Winner at Marshalltown Theatre's Playwriting Competition, 2022. Produced at Northwestern College, 2022.

Remember. Adapted Full-Length Verbatim Scripture and Liturgy Performance. Honors Component Project. Produced at Northwestern College, 2021.

Regresando a Casa. Original solo show for Drama Ministries Ensemble. Produced at Northwestern College, 2021.

The Two of Us. Original solo show for Drama Ministries Ensemble. Produced at Northwestern College, 2020.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival (KCACTF). Native Voices. Yale Indigenous Performing Arts Program (YIPAP). Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. Hedgepig Theatre Ensemble. Literary Managers Dramaturgy Association & BIPOC Affinity Space (LMDA)

REFERENCES

Dr. Robert Hubbard
Professor of Theatre & Chair of Theatre Department
Northwestern College
712-541-0828
rhubbard@nwcsiowa.edu

Dr. John VonderBruegge
Professor of Biblical & Theological Studies, Dean of Arts and Humanities, & Co-Leader of Honors Program
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Dr. Danielle Bainbridge
Assistant Professor of Theatre & African American Studies
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