

Mary C. Parker

Portland, OR

QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

Over 17 years of experience as an international leadership trainer and dialogue facilitator. Curricula writer of race, inclusion, and leadership for students and communities in London, Kuala Lumpur, Pittsburgh, Zimbabwe, Atlanta, and Seattle. Interrupts bias and actively engages in dismantling oppression as an applied theatre practitioner through services of playshops and coaching sessions for individuals, educational institutions, and corporations.

EDUCATION

Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, Master of Arts in Applied Theatre London, England
Modules: Pedagogies, Critical Contexts, Theatre and Social Exclusion, Performing Research, Applied Practices, Dissertation

Emory University, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology; minor in Ethics Atlanta, Georgia
Modules: Racial & Ethnic Relations, Politics of Identity, Class/Status/Power

Emory Summer Italian Studies Program Multiple
Italian Cities

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

Just Collaboration, LLC Pittsburgh, PA
Creative Director, Principal Consultant Apr 2020-Present
Founder, Organizational Consultant, Coach Oct 2015-Sep 2018

- Collaborate with individuals, educational institutions, and corporations who are ready to deepen their self-awareness, interrupt bias, and actively engage in dismantling oppression through services of playshops and coaching sessions
- Coached individuals, executives, and teams using intentional change theory as a framework and model to identify values amplify the voice and create a vision

Coro Center for Civic Leadership, Coro Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA
Director of Training and Learning Development May 2012-Dec 2015
Coro Fellow in Public Affairs Aug 2011-May 2012

- Trained and coached over 100 participants in the Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs, Women in Leadership, and Next Neighborhood Leaders programs using a four-part learning model based on adaptive leadership curricula
- Participant in Partnering for Stronger Communities Grants Program, program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the United States Department of State and implemented by IREX (International Research & Exchanges Board) to travel to Zimbabwe and deliver leadership training
- Authored proposal for more inclusive policies for persons with sight, hearing, and mobility disabilities and impairments for Coro Pittsburgh including a toolkit with best practices

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Instructor

Point Park University Conservatory of Performing Arts, Department of Theater Arts Jan 2022-Apr 2022

- Teach weekly Ensemble Lab course to junior theater art majors on methodologies from the theatre of the oppression and playback theatre

Special Visiting Faculty

Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama Department of Dramaturgy Aug 2021-May 2022

- Teach weekly courses on Theatre of the Oppressed: An Introduction to Forum Theatre and Applying Improv to the Workplace
- Taught all incoming first-year students and all incoming graduate students a weekly course on Anti-racism and Equitable Practices in Theatre
- Coordinated with experts in the field of dramaturgy, performance, and social justice to give guest lectures to enrolled students, faculty, and staff

Teaching Assistant

The Alice Smith School Department of Drama, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia May 2019

- Led original workshop for United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) secondary school teachers on applying drama tools and techniques in classroom settings
- Led UNHCR refugee youth (5-17) for one-time workshops on drama games
- Designed and led a custom workshop on leading with confidence and voice projection for Sixth Form students
- Collaborated to create an original stage combat workshop on Shakespeare stage fighting for Year 7
- Drama in Role for year 8 on Macbeth with a focus on how voice and movement can create mood and atmosphere
- Drama Teacher Assistant for devising ensemble work incorporating Frantic Assembly techniques for Year 9 and 10

- Rehearsal Coach for year 6 production of Mary Poppins with a focus on voice projection and character development

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE, AWARDS, & HONORS

- Black Improv Alliance, Executive Board Member Feb 2021-Mar 2022
- Do the Right Scene Improv Troupe Member, short-form, long-form Jan 2019- Present
- Cardboard Citizens, Project Volunteer Nov 2018
- Pedagogy & Theatre of the Oppressed, Inc. Board of Directors, Member Sep 2018-Feb 2020
- Playback Theatre Pittsburgh Company Member Jan 2018-Aug 2018
- Arcade Comedy Theater House Team Member, short-form improv, musical improv Mar 2015- Aug 2018
- Arcade Comedy Theater Board of Directors, Board President Dec 2015-Jun 2018
- New Voices Pittsburgh: Women for Reproductive Justice Board of Directors, Board Secretary Jan 2014-Dec 2015
- YWCA Young Leaders Board Member, Chair of Empowerment Committee Dec 2012-Dec 2014
- Dignity and Respect Campaign Champion May 2014
- Get Involved, Inc. Western PA Rising Star Feb 2013
- AmeriCorps Alums Day at the White House Participant Aug 2012
- AmeriCorps Senior Corps Member, City Year Sep 2007-Jun 2009

CERTIFICATIONS

- Katie Goodman “Improvisation for Life” Workshop Certification Oct 2019- Jan 2020
- artEquity Facilitation Training Sep-Oct 2019
- Duquesne University, Palumbo Donahue School of Business International Coaching Federation Professional Coaching Certificate, focus on individual, executive, and team coaching Apr 2016
- Soliya Advanced Training Facilitation (United Nations Alliance of Civilizations) Dec 2012
- International Institute for Sustained Dialogue Inclusive Facilitation Training on Transforming Relationships and Creating Change Jun 2011
- National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) Prejudice Reduction Nov 2003-May 2011

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Parker, Mary C. “Playing the Other.” *Improv for Gamers*. Edited by Karen Twelves. *Improv for Gamers*, 2nd. ed. Evil Hat Productions, 2022, pp. 62-63.

Parker, M., Walker, A., and Gasteratou, M., 2020. Reflections on Researching Within a Structurally Racist Institution. *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Equality and Diversity*, [online] 6(2). Available at: <<http://journals.hw.ac.uk/index.php/IPED/article/view/99>>

Stand-up Comedy as an Applied Theatre Practice: One Black Woman’s Authoethnographical Perspective. Dissertation - Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Association for Theatre in Higher Education Jul 2021-Present
- Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor Sep 2019-Present

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Improv Comedy
- Stand-up Comedy
- Singing
- Traveling
- Audio Books
- Cooking