

# KATHY A. PERKINS

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

<b>M.F.A.</b>	University of Michigan (Ann Arbor)	1978	Theatre - Lighting Design
<b>B.F.A.</b>	Howard University (Washington, D.C.)	1976	Drama

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

2012 - Present	<b>Professor</b> - Department of Dramatic Arts University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
1989 - 2011	<b>Professor of Theatre</b> - Department of Theatre University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) 1989-2009 Chair of Lighting Design Program 2009 - 2011 Chair of M.A. in Theatre History & Practice Program
Spring 2005	<b>Sterling Brown Visiting Professor of Theatre</b> Williams College Williamstown, Mass.
Spring 1997	<b>Visiting Professor</b> - Ethnic Studies Program University of Oregon (Eugene)
Summer 1995	<b>Visiting Lecturer</b> - United States Information Service (USIS) South Africa (Durban, Johannesburg and Pietermaritzburg)
Summer 1991	<b>Visiting Professor</b> - Course: Black Women Playwrights Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Ill.
Summer 1990	<b>Visiting Professor</b> - Women's Studies Program University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
1987 - 89	<b>Affiliated Scholar</b> - Center for the Study of Women The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
1986 - 89	<b>Curatorial Assistant (History)</b> - The California Afro-American Museum Los Angeles, Calif. (Curator - Lonnie Bunch, III)
1985 - 87	<b>Resident Lighting Designer</b> - Los Angeles Theatre Center (LATC)
1979 - 85	<b>Lighting Instructor</b> - Theatre Department, Smith College Northampton, Mass.

- 1981 - 82            **Visiting Scholar** - Theatre Arts Dept., Columbia University  
New York City (Ford Foundation Fellow)
- 1981                **Guest Lecturer** - The National Arts Consortium, New York City
- 1978-1979        **Lighting Designer/Technical Director** - Sounds in Motion Dance Company  
Artistic Director: Dianne McIntyre New York City

**PROFESSIONAL LIGHTING CREDITS**

(Representative Listing)

- Fall 89-  
Present            Black Eagles, A Soldier's Play, I Don't Have to Show You No Stinkin'  
Badges, One Mo' Time, Joe Turner's Come & Gone, Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery,  
The Piano Lesson, Flyin' West, Oedipus, When the Chickens Come Home to Roost, In  
White America, Williams and Walker, Train Is Comin', Eubie, The Wiz, The Dance on  
Widow's Row, Bubbling Brown Sugar, Dawn Yankees, Intimate Apparel, Dreamgirls,  
Ain't MisBehavin' , Othello and Ruined  
St. Louis Black Repertory Company - Artistic Director: Ron Himes
- Spring  
2012                I Just Stopped by to See the Man - Alliance Theatre (Atlanta)  
Director: Ron O.J. Parson
- Fall  
2011                The Parchman Hour - Playmakers Repertory Company (Chapel Hill, N.C.)  
Director: Mike Wiley
- Spring  
2011                The Gospel According to James - Victory Gardens (Chicago)  
Director: Chuck Smith
- Spring  
2011                The Gospel According to James (Premiere) - Indiana Repertory Theatre  
Director: Chuck Smith
- Fall  
2010                The Trip (Premiere) - eta Creative Arts (Chicago)  
Director: Mignon McPherson-Nance
- Spring  
2010                Sweet Tea - (Premiere) About Face Theatre/Ellen Stone (Chicago)  
Director: Daniel Alexander Jones

Spring  
2010 Two Trains Running - Geva Theatre (Rochester, NY)  
Director - Ron O.J. Parson

Fall  
2009 Resurrection - eta Creative Arts (Chicago)  
Director - Cheryl Lynn Bruce

Winter  
2009 The Whipping Man - Penumbra Theatre (St. Paul, MN)  
Director: Lou Bellamy

Winter  
2008 Blood Knot - American Conservatory Theatre (ACT) - San Francisco  
Director - Charles Randolph-Wright

Spring  
2007 The Blue Door - Berkeley Repertory Theatre  
Director - Delroy Lindo

Winter  
2007 Flyin' West - Court Theatre (Chicago)  
Director - Ron O.J. Parson

Winter  
2007 A Song for Coretta - (Premiere by Pearl Cleage) Spelman College  
Director - Crystal Dickinson

Winter  
2007 Gees Bend (Premiere) - Alabama Shakespeare Festival  
Director: Janet Cleveland

Spring  
2007 Wine in the Wilderness - A Contemporary Theatre (Seattle)  
Director: Valerie Curtis-Newton

Winter  
2006 Fences - Court Theatre  
Director: Ron O.J. Parson

Spring  
2005 Scourge - Yerba Buena Performing Arts Center (San Francisco)  
Directed by Kamilah Forbes

Winter  
2005 A Woman Named Truth - Indiana Repertory Theatre  
Director: Priscilla Lindsey

Fall  
2004/05 Black Nativity - The Goodman Theatre  
Director: Mike Malone

Spring  
2004      The Middle Passage (U.S. Premiere) - University of Louisville  
             Directors: Nefertiti Burton and Dumile Magodia

Winter  
2004      A Raisin in the Sun - Studio Arena, Buffalo  
             Director: Ron O.J. Parson

Fall  
2003      Word Becomes Flesh - Oberlin Dance Center (San Francisco)  
             Director: Gloria Bigelow

Summer  
2003      The Middle Passage: A Ritual of Healing (Premiere)  
             Grahamstown Festival and University of Cape Town, South Africa  
             Director: Nefertiti Burton and Dumile Magodia

Winter  
2003      Wedding Band - Steppenwolf Theatre  
             Director: Ron O.J. Parson

Winter  
2003      Blues for an Alabama Sky - Indiana Repertory  
             Director: Ron Himes

Fall  
2002      In Real Life - Manhattan Theatre Club  
             Director: Daniel Sullivan

Fall  
2002      Five Rooms of Furniture - Organic Theatre (Chicago)  
             Director: Jonathan Wilson

Winter  
2002      Jar the Floor - The Alliance Theatre (Atlanta)  
             Director: Andrea Frye

Winter  
2002      From the Mississippi Delta - Congo Square (Chicago)  
             Director: Cheryl Lynn Bruce

Summer  
2001      In Real Life - The Mark Taper Forum  
             Director: Daniel Sullivan (Nominated for L.A. Ovation Award)

Winter  
2000      In Real Life (Premiere) - Seattle Repertory Theatre  
             Director: Daniel Sullivan

Fall  
2000      Amy's View - Organic Theatre (Chicago)  
             Director: Ina Marlow

Summer  
2000 Purlie - New Legacy Theatre (Chicago)  
Director: Ilesa Lisa Duncan

Spring  
2000 A Raisin in the Sun - The Goodman Theatre  
Director: Chuck Smith

Spring  
2000 Stones: A Musical - Bailiwick Repertory Theatre (Chicago)  
Director: Cecilie Keenan

Winter  
2000 Desire Under the Elms Court Theatre (Chicago) & Freedom  
Theatre (Philadelphia) Director: Walter Dallas

Winter  
99 Sanango (Premiere) New WORLD Theatre/University of Massachusetts  
Director: Judyie Al-Bilali

Fall  
98 The Trial of One Short-Sighted Black Woman Vs Mammy Louise  
and Safreeta Mae New Federal Theatre (Off-Broadway)  
Director: Paul Carter Harrison Producer: Woodie King, Jr.

Fall  
98 Bourbon at the Border Plowshares Theatre (Detroit)  
Director: Gary Anderson

Summer  
98 A Coloured Place (co-design) The Playhouse (Durban, South Africa)  
Director: Tina Johnson

Winter  
95-98 4 Queens and No Trump, East Texas Hot Links,  
Unquestioned Integrity: The Hill/Thomas Hearings,  
Flyin' West, and Sty of the Blind Pig.  
Onyx Theatre Ensemble, (Chicago)  
Artistic Director: Ron O.J. Parson

Spring  
98 Blues for an Alabama Sky - The Goodman Theatre  
Director: Chuck Smith

Spring  
98 Let Me Live (Premiere) - The Goodman Theatre  
Director: Ron O.J. Parson

- Fall  
96 Seeking the Genesis (Premiere) - The Goodman Theatre  
Director: Walter Dallas
- Summer  
96 Hang On In There, Nelson (Premiere) - Windybrow Arts Center  
Johannesburg, South Africa Director: Walter Chakela
- Spring  
96 The Ties That Bind - Alliance Theatre Company  
Director: Andrea Frye
- Fall  
94 A Raisin in the Sun - Alliance Theatre, Atlanta  
Director: Woodie King, Jr.
- Fall  
93 125th Anniversary Tribute to Dr. W.E.B. DuBois  
Carnegie Hall, New York City
- Winter  
93 Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott  
Indiana Repertory Theatre  
Director: Don Griffith
- Winter  
93 Spinning Into Blue - Victory Gardens Theatre (Chicago)  
Director: Sandy Shinner
- Fall  
92 Broadway Bound - Missouri Repertory Theatre (Kansas City)  
Director: George Keathley
- Summer  
92 Delta Sigma Theta National Convention - Convention Designer  
Baltimore Arena & Convention Center, Baltimore, Maryland  
90 Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami Beach, Florida
- Winter  
90 Jar the Floor (Premiere) - Written & Directed by Cheryl West  
Parkland College, Champaign, Ill.
- Summer  
89 Spirit Time - The New Federal Theatre (Off-Broadway)  
Director: Michi Jones Producer: Woodie King, Jr.
- Spring  
89 The Heart Outright - A Director's Theatre (Hollywood)  
Producer: Dorothy Lyman Director: Sheri Kane

- 87-88      Checkmates - Los Angeles and San Francisco  
Director: Woodie King, Jr.
- Winter  
88      Win/Lose/Draw - Skylight Theatre, Hollywood, Ca.  
Director: Dorothy Lyman
- Fall  
87      Some Sweet Day - A Director's Theatre, Hollywood, Ca.  
Director: Claude Purdy
- Spring  
87      Cast Me Down (Premiere) (Off-Broadway) - New York City  
Original Direction: Michi Jones
- Spring  
86      Sounds in Motion Dance Company, Newark Symphony Hall  
Newark, New Jersey    Artistic Director: Dianne McIntyre
- Spring  
86      "A Night for Dancing" The Callboard Theatre (Hollywood)  
Artistic Dir.: Otis Sallid
- 85 - 87      Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Theatre, Los Angeles  
Artistic Director: Lula Washington
- 82 - 84      "DANCEAFRICA" The Opera House, Brooklyn Academy of  
Music (BAM) Brooklyn, New York. Producer: Micki Shepard
- Spring  
83      Paper Dolls - Richard Allen Center for Culture (RACCA) New York City  
Producer: Hazel Bryant
- 81 - 83      Thelma Hill Performing Arts Dance Festivals  
Brooklyn, New York. Producer: Larry Phillip
- Winter  
82      Assistant to the Designer, Designer Shirley Prendergast  
Waltz of the Stork (Broadway) Century Theatre  
Producer/Director: Melvin Van Peebles
- Winter  
81      "Noel Pointer and Martha Reeves in Concert"  
The Savoy, W. 44th Street, New York City

- Fall  
80      *La Grima Del Diablo* Off-Broadway  
The Negro Ensemble Company (NEC)  
Director: Richard Gant
- Summer  
79      "Lena Horne in Concert" - Marriott Hotel Grand Ballroom  
New Orleans, Louisiana
- Summer  
79      *The Glorious Monster* (Off-Broadway) New Federal Theatre  
Director: Glenda Dickerson    Producer: Woodie King, Jr.
- Spring  
79      *Sound of Soul: A Musical Review* - Switzerland & Austria  
Director: Geoffrey W. Newman
- Spring  
79      Assistant to the Lighting Designer, *G. Houdovernik*  
*RAISIN*, (European Premiere) Switzerland, Austria, Germany

## PUBLICATIONS

### Anthologies

***Selected Plays by Alice Childress***

(Northwestern University Press) 2011

***African Women Playwrights: An Anthology***

(University of Illinois Press) 2008

***Black South African Women: An Anthology of Plays***

(London: Routledge & University of Cape Town Press) 1998

***Strange Fruit: Plays on Lynching by American Women***

Co-edited with Judith Stephens.

(Bloomington: Indiana University Press) 1998

***Contemporary Plays by Women of Color*, Co-edited**

with Roberta Uno. (London: Routledge Press) 1996

***Black Female Playwrights: An Anthology of Plays before 1950.***

(Bloomington: Indiana University Press) 1989

**Articles/Biographies/Essays**  
(Representative Listings)

*African American Drama: 1910-1945* in **Oxford Handbook of American Drama**  
(New York: Oxford University Press) Forthcoming

*Theatre: 1865-1940* in **Encyclopedia of African American History**.  
(New York: Facts on File, Inc.) Forthcoming

Black Women Playwrights in the American Theatre  
(with Sandra Richards) *Theatre Journal* December 2010, Vol. 62, No.4

*Spotlight on Shirley Prendergast - Black Masks*  
Jan/Feb. 2006 Vol. 17, No. 4

*Theatre* entry in **Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia**, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.,  
Darlene Clark Hine, ed. (New York: Oxford University Press) 2005

*Esther Rolle* in **Notable American Women, Vol. 5**  
Editor: Susan Ware. (Harvard University Press) 2004

*Theatre* entry in **The Reader's Companion to U.S. Women's History**.  
Eds., Wilma Mankiller, Gwendolyn Mink, Marysa Navarro, Barbara Smith and Gloria Steinem  
(Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company) 1998

"Felix Cochren: Innovative Designer for the American Theatre"  
**Black Masks**, August/September, 1996. Vol. 12, No. 1

*Shirley Graham Du Bois* in **Oxford Companion to Women's  
Writing in the United States**. Eds., Cathy N. Davidson &  
Linda Wagner-Martin (New York: Oxford University Press) 1995

*Anne Cooke (Reid)* in **Notable Black American Women, Vol. II**,  
Ed., Jessie Carney Smith (Detroit: Gale Research, Inc.) 1995

*Their Place in History: African Americans Behind the  
Scenes in American Theatre*  
**Theatre Design and Technology Journal (TD&T)** Summer, 1995  
Volume 31, Number 3

*Mary P. Burrill, Laretta Butler, May Miller, Anne Cooke Reid, May Miller, Louise Evans, Mildred Blount, Shirley Prendergast, Vinnette Carroll, Judy Dearing, and Black Women and the American Theatre.*  
In **Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia**, ed. Darlene Clark Hine (Brooklyn: Carlson Publishing, Inc.) 1993

*May Miller, Eulalie Spence, and Gertrude McBrown,*  
**Notable Black American Women**, ed., Jessie Carney Smith (Detroit: Gale Research, Inc.) 1992

*The Genius of Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller* **Black American Literature Forum** (BALF) spring, 1990, Vol. 24, No. 1.

*Shirley Graham* in **Dictionary of Literary Biography: Afro-American Writers between 1940 & 1955**. Trudier Harris, editor. (Detroit: Gale Research, Inc.) 1988

*Race Colony Examined* with Lonnie Bunch, III. **The Afro-Am. Vol. 25** No. 1, 1985 (First Quarter Issue) Published by the California Afro-American Museum, Los Angeles.

*The Unknown Career of Shirley Graham* in **Freedomways Magazine** Volume 25 No. 1, 1985 (First Quarter Issue)

*Black Backstage Workers in American Theatre: 1900-1969*  
**Black American Literature Forum (BALF)** Winter Issue, 1982

## **PRESENTATIONS**

(Selected Listing)

"African American Women behind the Scenes" (Guest Lecturer)  
Xiamen University Xiamen, China January 7, 2011

"Are You Looking for Me: Diversifying Creative Teams?" - panelist  
Theatre Communications Group (TCG) Annual Conference Chicago, Ill. June 18, 2010

"African Women in Contemporary Theatre" - panelist  
International Colloquium, National Black Theatre Festival  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina August 5, 2009

"African American Women behind the Scenes"

United States Embassy - Kampala, Uganda March 20, 2009

"Transnational Aesthetics and the Impact on the Lighting Design Process" - panelist

Prague Quadrennial (PQ) Scenofest 2007

Prague, Czech Republic June 21, 2007

"Women Playwrights of the Prohibition Era" - panelist

The American Century Theater Arlington, Va. March 17, 2007

"The History of African American Designers"

Presented at the Black Theatre Network (BTN) Conference

Louisville, Ky. July 29, 2006

"African Women and Theatre for Development"

The Venus Project: A Symposium on African Diaspora Performance and African American Theatre.

Arizona State University, March, 2006

"African American Women Playwrights of the 1920s"

Women Playwrights of Color of the 1920s: A Series of Readings and Talks

University of Massachusetts (Amherst) March 4, 2006

"The Middle Passage: Theatre as a Media to Educate on Slavery"

Presented at the International Abolishment of Slavery Commemoration

Goree, Senegal August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004

"Fatima Dike and the Middle Passage Process"

Panelist on African Women Playwrights

Black Theatre Network Akron, Ohio August, 2004

"Plays on Lynching by American Women"

The Institute for Freedom Studies

Northern Kentucky University Fall, 2003

"The Lack of Technical Training on the African Continent and

how American Universities can Help" International Session panelist

United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) Conference

Minneapolis, March 21, 2003

"Theatre for Development in Africa" - Guest Speaker  
University of Kentucky - Lexington Spring, 2002

"Making Theatre for Change: Women in Theatre in Uganda and Zimbabwe"  
Who Wants to Be a Woman Tomorrow Conference  
Braunschweig, Germany July 4-9, 2000

"Women in Exile" - panelist, Zimbabwe International Book Fair  
Harare, Zimbabwe August, 1999

"The Aesthetics of Color" - panelist  
USITT Conference, March, 1999 Toronto, Canada

*Contemporary African American Theatre*  
Department of Dance, Drama, and Music Makerere University  
Kampala, Uganda June, 1998

*Searching for Voices: Black South African Women Playwrights*  
The Women's Political Performance Speaker Series.  
Temple University, Philadelphia. March 13, 1998

"Black Women Playwrights of the Harlem Renaissance"  
Canonizing African American Literature: Black Anthologies in America Symposium  
University of Wisconsin April 4, 1997

*How does Black Theatre Affect Our Perceptions of Black People:  
A Debate on the Need for the Canonization of Black Theatre*  
Panelist, Washington University, St. Louis, October 31, 1997

"Emerging Voices: Black Women Playwrights in South Africa"  
The Black Theatre Network Conference, August 2, 1997  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

"How to Publish"  
United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) Conference  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 18-21, 1997

"The Impact of Lynching on African American Artists"  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) Conference  
New York City, August 7, 1996

"The Role of Computers in Theatre Design"  
National Conference on African American Theatre (NCAAT)  
Baltimore, Md. March 28-30, 1996

"Early Black Women Playwrights"  
Hampshire/Amherst/University of Massachusetts, April, 1995

"Lighting Design Theory and Aesthetics" &  
"Exploring the Paradigm: Rethinking how Theatre is Taught"  
United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) National  
Conference, Las Vegas, Nev. March, 1995

"African American Stage Designers" &  
"Living Lighting Designers" (Designed scene from *MacBeth*)  
United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) National  
Conference, Nashville, Tenn. March, 1994

"From Hester Street to Harlem: Cultural Diversity on  
Stage in the 1920s." Panelist 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Classics in Context Festival  
Actors Theatre of Louisville (Kentucky) Oct. 15-17, 1993

"Rethinking Design in the Liberal Arts/Theatre Curriculum"  
(A Workshop Presentation)

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"African American Theatre from World War I to 1950: Women  
and Feminism." Panelist  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) conference  
Philadelphia, August 4-8, 1993.

"Early African American "Wimmin" in the American Theatre." panelist  
The Black Theatre Network 1993 Conference  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina. August 1-6, 1993.

"Strange Fruit: Lynching Plays by African American Women"  
Images of Race in the American Theatre Symposium  
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, May 1-2, 1993  
"Building Archives: Maintaining Our Theatre History"  
National Conference on African-American Theatre (NCAT)  
Baltimore, Maryland, April 1-3, 1993

"Incorporating Cultural Diversity in the Academic Theatre Environment": Panelist  
United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT)  
National Conference, Wichita, Kansas, March 20, 1993

"African American Women Playwrights of the American Theatre"  
The University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica January 6, 1993

"African American Female Designers"  
The American Theatre of Higher Education Conference (ATHE)  
Atlanta, Georgia, August 1-5, 1992

Keynote Speaker - "African Americans Backstage"

&

"Women Behind the Scenes in the American Theatre"  
Panelist: The Works of Shirley Graham, Laurette Butler and  
Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller.  
The National Conference on African American Theatre (NCAT)  
Baltimore, Maryland, April 1992

"Black Female Playwrights of the American Theatre  
Before 1950." National Conference of the Association  
for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. (ASALH)  
Dayton, Ohio. October 1989.

"Black Female Playwrights of the Harlem Renaissance  
University of California - Los Angeles Center for Afro-  
American Studies, April 1988

"Glenda Dickerson: Profile of a Director"  
The American Theatre Association Conference  
Minneapolis, Minn. August 1983

"Black Women in Twentieth Century American Theatre"  
Smith College, Northampton, Mass. April 1983

"The Non-Performing Black Artist in Twentieth Century  
American Theatre." The National Research Council/Ford  
Foundation Conference on Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities.  
National Academy of Sciences. Washington, D.C. Fall, 1981

**Design Workshops**  
(Selective Listing)

Lighting Design Workshop  
University of Dar es Salaam & TaSuBa College of the Arts  
Dar es Salaam and Bagamoyo, Tanzania April 2011

Lighting Design Workshop  
Makerere University  
Kampala, Uganda March, 2009

Lighting Design Workshop  
Eastern African Theatre Institute Festival  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia November, 2008

Lighting Design and Stagemanagement workshop  
Windybrow Performing Arts Center, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Witbank Center for Performing Arts, Witbank, South Africa  
March, 2002

Lighting Design and Stagemanagement workshop  
Department of Music, Dance and Drama Makerere University  
Kampala, Uganda January 2000 and March 2002

Lighting Design Workshop  
University of Dar es Salaam Tanzania, 2001

Lighting Design Workshops  
National Theatre of Ghana and Ghana National Television  
Accra, Ghana August, 1999

**Book Reviews**

**Contemporary African American Female Playwrights: An Annotated Bibliography.** (Westport, CT.: Greenwood Press, 1998) by Dana A. Williams. For **Modern Drama**, Volume XLI, Number 3, fall 1998, pg. 483-484

**The Lighting Art: The Aesthetics of Stage Lighting Design**  
(Second Edition) by Richard H. Palmer. Prentice-Hall. 1996

**Crosswinds: An Anthology of Black Dramatists in the Diaspora.**  
(Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1993) by William B.  
Branch. For **Theatre Research International**, Volume 20, Number 1,  
Spring 1995, pg. 75-76.

**Lighting and the Design Idea** by Linda Essig. Harcourt-Brace, 1995

**The Lighting Art: The Aesthetics of Stage Lighting Design**  
(First Edition) by Richard H. Palmer. Prentice-Hall. 1993

**Center Stage: An Anthology of Twenty-One Contemporary  
Black-American Plays** (Champaign: University of Illinois Press,  
1991) by Eileen Joyce Ostrow. For **Theatre Research  
International**, Volume 18, Number 1, spring 1993, pg. 76.

#### Reviewer/Judge

Theatre Communications Group/NEA Fellowship in Lighting  
Design Competition, 1999 and 2005 (Judge) New York, New York

Judy Dearing Design Competition - Black Theatre Network  
New York, New York, 1999

Theatre Communications Group/NEA Fellowship in Lighting  
Design Competition, 1996 (Judge) New York, New York

#### Exhibitions

**Co-Curator/Scholar - ONSTAGE: A Century of African American  
Stage Design.** The New York Public Library for the Performing  
Arts at Lincoln Center. New York City, Jan. 24-May 20, 1995

**Assistant Curator - Visions: The History of the East Bay  
Afro-American Community, 1852-1977.** Oakland Museum,  
Oakland, California and The California Afro-American Museum,  
Los Angeles. 1989 and 1990

**Curator/Exhibit Designer - "The Life and Times of Dr. Martin  
Luther King, Jr. Presented for "King Week 1987 Festival"**  
Sponsored by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)  
Los Angeles, Ca. January 1987

### Research Related Experience

- Spring  
2010      **Artistic/Producing Director:** *Celebrating African Women Writers Festival*  
University of Illinois
- Spring  
1999      **Guest Editor** for *Black Theatre Network (BTN) Newsletter*  
Special edition on *Theatre in Africa*
- Fall  
1991      **Advisory Editor - Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia**, ed. Darlene Clark Hine (Brooklyn: Carlson Publishing, Inc., 1993)
- Spring  
89      **Film Researcher** - PBS/KCET Channel 28, Hollywood  
"Ode to Central Avenue." (Documentary)  
Producers: Carolyn King and Arthur Barron.
- Winter  
89      **Field Researcher** - "San Pedro Traditions Festival"  
City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department  
Folk Arts Program. Director: Dr. Willie Collins
- Fall  
88      **Researcher** - KCOP/Channel 13, Los Angeles  
"Black Angelenos: The True Story"      Producer: Barbara Solomon

### Service

- University/Resident Theatre Association, Inc. (URTA)  
Member - Board of Directors (2007-2010)
- Advisory Board - The History Makers (Chicago) 2003-2006
- Co-Chair - Black Faculty and Academic Professionals Association  
University of Illinois 2002-2004
- Editorial Board - **Theater in the Americas Series**  
Southern Illinois University Press 2000-2006
- Advisory Board - New World Theatre (Amherst, Mass.) 1999-2002
- Advisory Board - Congo Square Theatre (Chicago) 2001-2008

## AWARDS

- 2011 Ford Foundation and the Institute for International Education, Inc. for travel to Tanzania to conduct technical theatre workshops at the University of Dar Es Salaam and Tasuba College of the Arts.
- 2010 Best Lighting Design - Black Theatre Alliance Award (Chicago) for *Sweet Tea*.
- 2010 Creative Research Award (UIUC) to assist with the Celebration of African Women Writers Festival at UIUC
- 2009 Fulbright Senior Specialist - Makerere University Kampala, Uganda
- 2008 Ford Foundation and the Institute of International Education, Inc For travel to Ethiopia to conduct technical theatre workshops
- 2006 Woodie Award for Best Lighting Design for production of *Dreamgirls* St. Louis, Mo.
- 2006 The Winona Lee Fletcher Award for Theatre Excellence Black Theatre Network
- 2005 African Studies Program Course Development Award (UIUC)
- 2005 Woodie Award for Best Lighting Design for *Intimate Apparel* St. Louis, Mo.
- 2003 Los Angeles Ovation Theatre Award Nominee for Best Lighting for *In Real Life*
- 2003 African Studies Travel Grant - Senegal and Mali (UIUC)
- 2002 Best Lighting Designer - Black Theatre Alliance Award (Chicago) for *From the Mississippi Delta*
- 2002 Woodie Award for Best Lighting Design for *Bubbling Brown Sugar* St. Louis, Mo.
- 2001 Research Board Award (UIUC)

- 2000 Research Board Award (UIUC)
- 99 - 00 Ford Foundation/Afro-American Studies Program Course Development Grant.
- 98, 99 Woodie Award for Best Lighting Design  
& 2000 The St. Louis Black Repertory Company
- 98 Black Theatre Alliance Award (Chicago) for Best Lighting Designer  
Goodman Theatre production *Let Me Live*
- 98 - 99 University Scholar (UIUC)
- 98 William and Flora Hewlett Summer International Research  
Grant (UIUC) (Travel to Uganda, South Africa & Zimbabwe)
- 97 Black Theatre Alliance Award for Best Lighting Designer  
Goodman Theatre production of *Seeking the Genesis*
- 96 Research Award for Outstanding Book in Theatre Practice  
and Pedagogy (*Contemporary Plays by Women of Color*)  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
- 96 Herbert D. Greggs Publication Award  
United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT)
- 95 - 96 Arnold O. Beckman Research Award (UIUC)
- 95 International Research Support Grant (UIUC)
- 94 - 95 Center for Advanced Study Fellow (UIUC)
- 94 United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT)  
Edward F. Kook Endowment Fund
- 93 New York Times Company Research Award
- 93 University of Illinois Research Board Award
- 91 *Choice Outstanding Academic Book of 1990*  
(*Black Female Playwrights: An Anthology of Plays Before 1950*)

- 90 Outstanding Young Alumna Award - Howard University
- 90 The Arnold O. Beckman Research Award - UIUC
- 89 Resolution from the City of Los Angeles City Council, in  
Conjunction with Mayor Tom Bradley, for outstanding achievement  
in the areas of stage lighting and African-American history.
- 89 Best Lighting Designer - The National Association  
for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Theatre  
Image Award. Hollywood/Beverly Hills Branch.
- 89 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Research Grant.
- 88 Institute for American Cultures/Center for the Study of  
Afro-American Studies (IAC/CAAS) Grant. University  
of California - Los Angeles.
- 87 Money for Women/Barbara Deming Memorial Fund
- 86 NEH Travel to Collections Grant
- 84 NEH Summer Faculty Grant
- 82/83 Faculty Research Grant, Smith College
- 81/82 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship for Minorities
- 81 & 82 Outstanding Young Woman of America

**Professional Organizations**

United Scenic Artists Association (USAA) Local 829  
1986-present

College of Fellows of the American Theatre (Inducted 2007)  
Board Member (2010-2013)

United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT)  
(Director at Large 1994-1997 and Co-Vice Commissioner  
for Education 1996-1998) Member since 1990

Black Theatre Network (BTN) - Archivist 1993-1998, 2006