

# Saffron Henke

1514 Jersey Ridge Rd., Davenport, IA 52803

saffronhenke@yahoo.com

Cell: (206) 854 - 7399

## Overview of Experience

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**2010 - Current** – Assistant Director of the Grant Wood Art Colony and Arts Engagement, the University of Iowa

Resident Actor/Artistic Associate, Working Group Theatre

**2009 - 2012** –

Guest Director & Adjunct Cornell College (Acting)

Guest Director Coe College Guest Director Augustana College

Guest Director & Adjunct Faculty (Voice and Diction) St. Ambrose University

**Academic years 2007 - 2009** – Faculty, University of Southern California, Movement and Voice

**Fall Semester, 2007** – Adjunct Assistant Professor, The University of Iowa, Drama in the Classroom

**2004-2007** - Associate Artist, Resident Company Member, Director of STC-2, Sacramento Theatre Company

**2002 – 2004** – Resident Company Member, Oregon Shakespeare Festival

## Education

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Current Seeking training and certification in Fitzmaurice voice technique

2008 Center Theater Group/ Dana Institute: Trained to be a Teaching Artist for the Visual and Performing Arts Programs in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

2005 Post graduate work on Greek Theatre, Hydra Greece UC-Davis

2001 Master of Fine Arts, Drama (Acting) University of Washington

1996 Bachelor of Arts, Theatre Arts University of Iowa

1992-94 The Theatre School DePaul University

## Teaching

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### Faculty Positions:

**St. Ambrose University – Fall 2012**, Voice and Diction (Linklater, Shakespeare)

**Cornell College – Fall 2010**, Acting 1 (Spolin, Hagen)

**Chicago High School of the Arts – Academic years 2009 – 2011**, Movement Faculty (Suzuki, devised)

**University of Southern California – Academic years 2007 - 2009** – (Suzuki, Bogart, Devised, solo performance)

**Spring 2008** Basic Movement for the Actor

**Fall 2008** Basic Movement for the Actor

Advanced Movement for the Actor

**Spring 2009** Basic Movement for the Actor

Advanced Movement for the Actor

**University of Iowa – Fall 2007** –Drama in the Classroom (Boal, Spolin)  
**Sacramento Theatre Company – Academic years 2004 – 2007** - Program Head/Education Director, BFA level conservatory program in classes including audition/business, theatre history, and all aspects of performance, as well as a fully produced 3 – 5 show season

**University of Washington – 1999 – 2000**, Instructor of Record, Acting 1

### **Workshops/Intensives/Guest Artist:**

**Riverside Shakespeare Festival – June 2010 - 2013** Voice/text, movement, acting coach/dramaturgy for the area's premiere Shakespeare company

**Riverside Interns Intensive, June 2010 - 2013**  
Concentrated physical theatre sessions with recent college graduates from all over the country – Shakespeare text, monologue and movement work

**Riverside Theatre Young People's Intensive, July 2011**  
A two - week intensive for high school students on a range of subjects including monologues and scene work, Voice, Movement, Combat, Shakespeare and Audition

**Augustana College, Introduction to Suzuki for Acting Majors, Fall 2009**

**Guest instructor for the MFA Program, University of Southern California, Spring 2009**  
Using the physical theatre and movement principles of Tadashi Suzuki, Jerzy Grotowski and Anne Bogart, upper level undergraduate majors and master's students are introduced to the connection and utilization of their bodies in acting.

**Market Street Theatre School/Englert School of Performing Arts – Fall 2007 – 2011** Co-ordinator, curriculum designer and head teacher

**Mara Casey Acting Studio – through 2009 – Guest Artist**  
Using various acting and physical theatre techniques, in depth workshops for professional actors, focusing on centering, connection and ensemble.

**A Noise Within Theatre – Spring 2008 to Summer 2009 – Guest Artist**  
Using physical theatre techniques, workshops for professional and the post undergraduate aged intern company ensemble developed a cast created piece with Shakespeare's text.

**Oregon Shakespeare Festival – 2002 - 2004**  
Actor/ Teacher: teaching workshops using Shakespeare to middle and high school aged students

**Center Theatre Group – January 2008**  
Teaching Los Angeles School District teachers how to utilize CTG's production of "The Color Purple" in their classrooms

## **Directing**

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### **Professional:**

*The K of D*, July 2011, Riverside Theatre

*Bugsy Malone*, August 2010, Englert Theatre

*The Heretic Mysteries*, May 2009, LA Theatre Ensemble – Asst. Director

*What a piece of work is man*, A Noise Within Theatre, Fall 2008

***The Importance of Being Earnest***, Oscar Wilde, Fall 2006, STC-2

***The Tale (Greek Myths for Young Theatre)\****, Fall 2005 & Fall 2006, STC-2

***STC-2 Showcase***, May 2005, STC-2

***I Believe... (Youth Theatre Intensive)***, June 2004, Riverside Theatre

***A Midsummer Night's Dream***, William Shakespeare, Fall 2004, STC-2

***The Pale Fire Project***, August 2003, Last Feast Productions, Black Swan Theatre

- Using Tadashi Suzuki's actor training techniques and 12 of Oregon Shakespeare Festival's actors, a devised theatre piece with text from the novels "Lolita" and "Pale Fire" by Vladimir Nabokov, and Shakespeare's "Hamlet"

***Lysa***, March 2003, Last Feast Productions, Oregon Shakespeare Festival

## **University:**

***L'Histoire du Soldat***, Assistant Director to George De La Pena, June 2013, Music IC (multi-media, dance, theatre, music)

***No Fish in the House***, Assistant Director to Paul Kalina, June 2013, University of Iowa (commedia)

***The Bock-eye (a new adaptation of Euripides "The Bacchae")***, January 2013, Augustana College

***Les Liaisons Dangereuses***, October 2012, St. Ambrose University

***In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)***, April 2012, Cornell College

***Bookwings (a theatre exchange with a Russian university)***, March 2012, 2013, University of Iowa

***The Prophet and the Poet***, October 2011, University of Iowa

***Global Express (with the International Writing Program)***, October 2011 and 2012, University of Iowa, a selection from which was performed in conjunction with an event for Nobel laureate, Wole Soyinka

***Metamorphoses (by Mary Zimmermann)***, January 2011, Augustana College

***Women in the Shadow: Frauen im Schatten***, October 2010, Coe College (devised piece)

***The Love song of J. Alfred Prufrock***, Fall 2008, University of Southern California (devised piece)

***The Hollow Men***, Spring 2008, University of Southern California (devised piece)

## **Acting**

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**Working Group Theatre**, Artistic Associate/Resident Company Member, current

**Oregon Shakespeare Festival**, Resident Company Member, 2 seasons

**Sacramento Theatre Company**, Associate Artist & Resident Company Member, 4 seasons

Member AEA, Performed in over 70 productions, including plays, staged readings, multi-media pieces in a variety of LORT venues and internationally. Experienced in commercial, feature on camera work. **(SEE RESUME/HEADSHOT)**

## **Arts Administration**

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### **Assistant Director for Arts Engagement/ Director of the Grant Wood Art Colony, the University of Iowa:**

- Creating and implementing a post – doc fellowship program/artist colony, from the ground up, running all aspects of the program including:
  - o Annual Fellowship search
  - o Overseeing symposium, board committees
  - o Development, marketing, PR
  - o Residency coordination
  - o All budgets and financial management
- Organizing the biennial Grant Wood Symposium
- Initiating, developing and administrating community arts programs and events, including Music IC, an annual 3 concert chamber music festival, administration as well as performing and directing
- Numerous projects for the Department of Performing Arts, including the inaugural statewide tour of “No Fish in the House”

### **STC-2 Director, Sacramento Theatre Company:**

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Served as both Artistic and Producing Director of the STC-2 season (3 large productions, 5 smaller staged readings, cabaret, etc.)
- Built and largely taught a 10 month curriculum under the auspices of the Sacramento Theatre Company paralleling that of a B.F.A. program
- Developed the program from a \$10,000 budget/ 15 student enrollment to a \$200,000 operating budget and student enrollment of 60 students.
- Recruited and conducted auditions for prospective STC-2 students.
- Arranged and attended private interviews with prospective STC-2 students.
- Created and taught the Master Class curriculum (5 classes/ month at 10 months + a week long intensive).
- Coordinated all Master Classes by scheduling classes and assigning and hiring faculty.

## **Organizations and Awards**

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- Actor’s Equity Association Member since 2004
- Taft Hartley – SAG eligible
- Yoga Alliance certified Yoga Therapist and Instructor, RYT 200 hours
- Certified Actor Combatant in R&D, Quarterstaff and Unarmed
- Received the **2005 Theatre Honorarium Award for Emerging Artists from the Princess Grace Foundation**, a prestigious award from a national search of the country’s up and coming artists in the performing arts for work as **artist and educator**
- \*Award winning collaboration for *The Tale*, a new musical based on Greek mythology created in collaboration with playwright Tommy Smith and composer Michael McQuilken, was performed in several festivals throughout Greece, including the Miaoulia Festival on the Greek island of Hydra in June 2007
- \*\*Best Performance of 2005 Award for *The Syringa Tree* in both *The Sacramento Bee*, and the *Sacramento News and Review*.
- California Educational Theatre Association – Named “Extraordinary Theatre Artist” for work as an educator – March 2006

## References:

- Alan MacVey, Head of the Division of Performing Arts, University of Iowa, 319/335-2700, or [alan-macvey@uiowa.edu](mailto:alan-macvey@uiowa.edu), 104 Theatre Bldg, Iowa City, IA 52242
- David Bridel, Professor of Movement, Univ. of Southern California, 213/821-4035, or [bridel@usc.edu](mailto:bridel@usc.edu), School of Theatre, Univ. Parkway Campus, LA, CA, 90089
- Jim Van Valen, Assistant Professor and Head of Acting, Cornell College, 319/895-4562, or [JVanValen@cornell.edu](mailto:JVanValen@cornell.edu), 600 First Street SW, Mount Vernon IA, 52314
- Brian Parsons (worked with at USC), Director of Drama, Shrewsbury School, Shropshire, UK, [Bdp@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:Bdp@shrewsbury.org.uk)

# SAFFRON HENKE

AEA, Taft - Hartley

## FILM

The Thanatos Complex	Supporting	Dir. Zac Susnara
Indigo	Supporting	Dir. Stephen Simon
Raspberry Heaven	Supporting	Dir. David Oas
Junk	Supporting	Schlimozzle Films

## TELEVISION

Human Sexuality	Guest Star	KCRG TV
Speed Therapy	Series Regular, web series	Media Nation, dir. Steve Chivers
True Blood	Lead, web series	HBO, dir. Ben Rock

\* Commercial list available upon request

## THEATER (Partial List)

Venus in Fur	Vanda	Riverside Theatre
The Broken Chord	Helen	Working Group Theatre
The Clean House	Ana	Iowa Summer Rep
Dead Man's Cell Phone	The Other Woman	Iowa Summer Rep
US Drag	Christen	Furious Theatre Company
<i>*Nominated for 7 LA Weekly Awards, including best comedy ensemble</i>		
The Typographer's Dream	Annalise	Capital Stage
Hidden Waters	Dr. Jael	West Coast Jewish Theater
Sanctimonious Dogs	Sue E. Pepper	Blank Theatre (LRS)
What the Butler Saw	Mrs. Prentice	B St. Theatre
As American As	Alicia Ahmid	Magic Theater
Electricidad	Electricidad	Sacramento Theatre Company
Amadeus	Constanze	Sacramento Theatre Company
Queen of the Remote Control	Divya Shah	Sacramento Theatre Company
*The Syringa Tree	24 characters	Sacramento Theatre Company
<i>*Voted Best Performance 2005 by the Sacramento Bee and Sacramento News and Review</i>		
Tartuffe	Dorine	Sacramento Theatre Company
Arranged Marriage	Parvati	Sacramento Theatre Company
Much Ado About Nothing	Beatrice	Riverside Shakespeare Festival
Measure for Measure	Mistress Overdone	Riverside Shakespeare Festival
Wild Oats	Lucy	Oregon Shakespeare Festival
MacBeth	MacDuff/ Witch/ Etc.	Oregon Shakespeare Festival
Idiot's Delight	Francine	Oregon Shakespeare Festival
The Taming of the Shrew	Katherine	Montana Shakespeare in Parks
Private Eyes	Lisa	Idaho Repertory Theater
Love's Labor's Lost	Princess	Recklinghausen Festival
Mildred the Goat	Animal Farm	Seattle Children's Theatre

## TRAINING

M.F.A., Acting – Professional Actor Training Program, **The University of Washington**

B.A., Theatre Arts – **The University of Iowa**

Post Graduate work in Hydra, Greece through UC –Davis

## SPECIAL SKILLS

- SAFD Certified Actor Combatant (Rapier & Dagger, Broadsword, Unarmed)
- 200 hr RYT Yoga instructor
- Many Dialects, Alto Singing Voice
- Teleprompter, Host experience, Conversational Spanish