

# SHAWN RENEE LENT

Chicago, IL, 773-308-3251, shawn@shawnlent.com

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**PROFILE:** I am a choreographer and a community arts practitioner/administrator with contagious enthusiasm, a generous supply of creative ideas, and an analytical mind. I have a proven ability to engage with arts participants at all levels, ages, and backgrounds. My skills and education also include database management, human resources, finance, marketing, and overall detail-orientation.

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## EDUCATION:

### **Masters in Arts Management—Arts in Youth and Community Development**

Columbia College Chicago (Chicago, IL), Graduated May 2006

### **Certificate in Professional Practice—Youth Arts Development**

Goldsmith's College, University of London (London, UK), Completed June 2003

### **Bachelor of Fine Arts—Theatre Major, Dance Minor**

Millikin University (Decatur, IL), Graduated cum laude May 2000, GPA 3.7/4.0

## WORK EXPERIENCE:

### **About Face Youth Theatre** (Chicago, IL)

February 2005-present

*Educational Programs Associate*

- Served as Teaching Artist for *The Home Project*, a two-year theatrical investigation of home and homelessness amongst the queer youth community.
- Coordinated workshops and events for gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender people ages 14-21.

### **Sherwood Elementary School** (Saginaw, MI)

October 2003-June 2004

*Director of After-School Program*

- Ran arts, literacy, sports, and fitness programming for 50-70 students per day.
- Supervised a staff of four, as well as relations with parents or care givers.

### **Froud Community Centre** (London, UK)

September 2001-July 2003

*Youth & Community Development Worker*

- Ran arts and sports programming for young offenders, young girls groups, and seniors.
- Organized community festivals and arts projects.

### **Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival** (Becket, MA)

May 2000-August 2001

*Development Associate / Database Manager*

- Handled over 55,000 records in the Rasier's Edge database.
- Organized special events including Paul Taylor's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration and 2 annual galas.

## TEACHING ARTIST EXPERIENCE (WORKSHOPS IN DANCE, TUMBLING, THEATRE, AND ARTS-IN-EDUCATION):

Performing Arts Limited	Chicago, IL	Jan 05-present
Solomon Schechter Day School	Skokie, IL	Jan 05-present
Cheetah Gym	Chicago, IL	Feb 05-present
Saginaw Art & Science Academy	Saginaw, MI	Jan-May 04
High/Scope Teen Educational Institute	Ypsilanti, MI	Jul-Aug 02, 03, 04
Bohaty School of Dance	Saginaw, MI	Sep 90-Jun 96

## HONORS AND AWARDS:

Selected for the 2004 Choreographers' Lab at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, MA.

Selected as a Dance Assessor/Critic for London Arts and The Place (2001-03).

Won the 2001 Dance Umbrella New Reviewers Competition, published in *Dance Theatre Journal*.

Awarded two full fellowships for graduate study at Columbia College Chicago.

Awarded two Millikin University Awards for achievement in theatre arts and academics.

Awarded a 2006 Weisman Scholarship to support my thesis project, which is to run a Community Choreographers' Lab partnered with the Dance Center at Columbia College Chicago.

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## CHOREOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE:

Lawndale Oral History Project	Multi-Cultural Arts High School	Chicago, IL	Jun 2006
Illuminations	Full Circle Festival	Chicago, IL	Feb 2006
It's a Wonderful Life	Pit & Balcony Theatre	Saginaw, MI	Dec 2005
Inventing Eve	Around the Coyote Festival	Chicago, IL	Sep 2005
Inventing Eve	Bailiwick Directors' Festival	Chicago, IL	May 2005
Pippin	St. Sebastian Players	Chicago, IL	Feb 2005
I Wasn't Born Yesterday	Full Circle Festival	Chicago, IL	Feb 2005
Joseph...Dreamcoat	Pit & Balcony Theatre	Saginaw, MI	May 2004
Big River	Theatre 7	Decatur, IL	Feb 2000
Dance Concert - Guest	Lincoln College	Lincoln, IL	Mar 2000
The Threepenny Opera	Millikin University	Decatur, IL	Apr 1999
Various original works	Millikin Dance Concerts	Decatur, IL	1996-2000

## PERFORMING EXPERIENCE:

Inventing Eve	Around the Coyote Festival	Chicago, IL	Sep 2005
A Chorus Line (Connie)	Midland Center for Arts	Midland, MI	Feb 2004
Pippin (Dancer/Chorus)	Millikin University	Decatur, IL	Apr 2000
Richard III (Prince)	Millikin University	Decatur, IL	Nov 1999
Various original works	Millikin Dance Concerts	Decatur, IL	1996-2000

## VOLUNTEERISM:

Chicago Cares, One State Together in the Arts Conference, Links Hall, Museum of Contemporary Art

## AFFILIATIONS:

Americans for the Arts, Chicago Dance and Music Alliance, Foundation for Community Dance, London Youth Arts Network, Chicago Cultural Network,

## REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.