



Stage Managers' Association



A View from the Wings LA
Stage Manager Skills-BUILDER
August 28, 2022



MOVINGARTS
BOLD NEW THEATRE
L.A. Born | L.A. Bred | L.A. Built

3191 Casitas Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90039

The Program

10:00 am **Check-in**

10:15 am **Carolyn Dunn**

What is the role of the stage manager and how can they best support the theatre making process.

11:30 am **Jon Allen**

Best practices both working on and getting into Corporate Production and Broadcast.

12:45 am **Light lunch**

Sandwiches, salad, fruit and cookies

1:30 pm **Doug Jacobs**

More conversation about best practice. What does the Director need from the Stage Manager in the process of creating new work.

3:00 pm **End of day**

About the SMA

The SMA, whose inception is traced to 1981, is the only professional organization for working stage managers across the United States. Our mission is to recognize, advocate for, and provide continuing education and networking opportunities for stage managers across the USA.

The SMA strives for equity, fairness, diversity and inclusion. As stage managers we are discreet in our dealings with productions, producers and employers. We respect and value diverse life experiences and heritages, strive toward equitable treatment of our members, and support members who nurture diversity and equity in their places of work and in their broader communities.

Our NYC roots, networking and education remain an important part of the association today. SMA members, 1175 strong (as of this printing), are united for a common cause: to advocate for and recognize stage managers for the work we do in the entertainment profession.

Bios

Carolyn M. Dunn, MFA, PhD., is an Indigenous artist of Cherokee, Muskogee Creek, and Seminole descent on her father's side, and is French Creole (French-Canadian, African, Tunica/Choctaw/Biloxi/Ishak) on her mother's. Her life as a storyteller encompasses both poetry and playwriting with works about family, grief, resilience, and the landscape in all genres and in between. In addition to the award-winning *Outfoxing Coyote* (That Painted Horse Press, 2002), her books include *Through the Eye of the Deer* (with Carol Zitzer-Comfort, Aunt Lute Books, 1999), *Coyote Speaks* (with Ari Berk, HN Abrams, 2008) *Echolocation: Poems, Stories and Songs from Indian Country: L.A.* (Fezziweg Press, 2013), *The Stains of Burden and Dumb Luck* (Mongrel Empire Press, 2017), two forthcoming titles, *The Frybread Queen*, *Soledad*, and *Three Sisters: Three Plays by Carolyn Dunn* (No Passport Press, 2022, edited and with an introduction by Sarah dAngelo) and *Decentered Playwriting*, coedited with Leslie Hunter and Eric Micah Holmes, Routledge, 2023). and more. Her plays *The Frybread Queen*, *Ghost Dance*, and *Soledad* have been developed and staged at Native Voices at the Autry, and her current work in progress is the pow wow comedy entitled *Chasing Tailfeathers*. Stage acting credits include *The Bingo Palace*, *Citizen*, *Desert Stories for Lost Girls*, *Neechie-itas*, *Sliver of a Full Moon*, and the musicals *Distant Thunder* and *Missing Peace*. She lives part-time in Los Angeles and part-time in Oklahoma with her family.

Jon Allen– SkySeaStone Productions, Inc. Jon Allen is a long-standing and extremely well-connected member of the live events and broadcast community. He is a highly respected innovator bringing culture-shifting technologies to the live experiential landscape. Professionally he began early (17) by lighting theatre and dance, and then touring with Jimmy Buffet, Harry Belafonte, and the Gypsy Kings, to name only a few. Jon's career quickly evolved into technical producing for the largest companies and most extreme events ... such as Wynn Resorts, Royal Caribbean Cruise

lines and the Red Bull Air Races. As a live show director, Jon has traveled all over the world to fine-tune messaging and craft the most impactful experiences for audiences. Over the years, he has gained the confidence of corporate leaders from Volvo, Intel, Samsung, PepsiCo, EA, LinkedIn, Microsoft, Heineken and many others. They have become repeat clients trusting Jon with their most important events year after year. These clients also utilize him as a coach for their presenters, editing script and choreographing their onstage delivery.

D. W. Jacobs is a playwright, director, actor and poet. Through high school, he studied science and math. At UC Santa Barbara, he was studying political geography when he saw Bucky Fuller speak several times on campus. By some twist of fate, he was also rowing crew, taking his first acting class and performing in a play. Thirty years later, he found himself writing *R. Buckminster Fuller: The History (and Mystery) of the Universe*, a play drawn from the life, work and writings of Bucky Fuller. This play has had over 1,000 performances in Southern California, San Francisco, Chicago, Ventura, California, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Napa, Scottsdale, Santa Fe, Boston/Cambridge, Washington, D.C., Asheville, N.C., SIU Carbondale; Edwardsville (where Bucky taught in the 1960s), Atlanta, Montreal and in both Krakow and in Wrocław (pronounced Vrotswoff), Poland. Eight actors have played the role of Bucky. He has twice lectured on Buckminster Fuller at the Wrocław University of Science & Technology in Poland. Jacobs lives in Highland Park, Los Angeles, where he co-founded TEATRO ARROYO // Theater Stream (a performance wing of the Arroyo Arts Collective.) Early in his career, he co-founded San Diego Repertory Theatre with Sam Woodhouse, where he served as Artistic Director for 20 years.