

CHRISTOPHER NEIL HARRIS

Master Costume Technician

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts 2014
Boston University
Boston, Massachusetts

Bachelor of Fine Arts 2010
University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Lecturer – Costume Shop Management 2014-2020
University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
Taught the basic principles and foundations of Costume Shop Management. Focused on staff mentorship and supervision, health and safety, space planning, time management. Upper level class.

Associate Lecturer – Costume Construction Techniques 2014-2020
University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
Worked in conjunction with the Professor of Costume Design to teach and mentor the freshman class through basic sewing principles and techniques.

Associate Lecturer – Draping and Patternmaking 2014 – 2020
University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
Worked in conjunction with the Professor of Costume Design to teach various sections of the course. Topics usually consisting of measurements, dart manipulation, draping essentials, and pattern manipulation.

Associate Lecturer – Costume Crafts for Theatre 2014 – 2020
University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
Worked in conjunction with the Professor of Costume Design to teach various sections of the course. Topics usually consisting of Millinery, Thermoplastics, Shoe Maintenance and refurbishment, and Metal-crafting.

Teaching Assistant – to Lynn Hoffman “Costume History” 2013-2014
Boston University, Boston, MA
Maintained multimedia technology; maintained and distributed handouts and syllabi; administered and graded exams; maintained attendance and grade records.

Teaching Assistant – to Mariann Verheyen/Nancy Leary “Costume Colloquium” 2012-2013
Boston University, Boston, MA
Maintained multimedia technology; maintained and distributed handouts and syllabi; maintained attendance records.

Teaching Assistant – to Madelyn Shaw “Costume History” 2011-2012
Boston University, Boston, MA
Maintained multimedia technology; maintained and distributed handouts and syllabi; administered exams; maintained attendance and grade records.

Visiting Lecturer – Introduction to Costume Crafts: Millinery 2013
University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
Developed syllabus and overall course structure, including weekly lab practicum, supervised individual proficiency.

Visiting Lecturer – Introduction to Costume Crafts: Varaform Mascot Heads 2013

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University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Developed syllabus and overall course structure, including weekly lab practicum, supervised individual proficiency.

Visiting Lecturer – Masterclass: Wire Crafts and Jewelry Making

2013

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Developed Syllabus and overall class structure, including lab practicum

Guest Lecturer – Jon Young “Intro to Design: Drawing the Human Form”

2009/2010

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Collaborated with the Associate Professor, lectured on the process and theories of Drawing the Human Form.

Guest Lecturer – Alissa Branch-Millar “Intro to Theatre: Costume Design for the Theatre”2009

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Collaborated with the Adjunct Lecturer, lectured on the process and theories of designing costumes for professional theatre.

COSTUME TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE

Freelance Costume Technology

June 2014 – Present

Topher Productions

Freelance custom construction of costumes (both theatrical, dance, and cosplay), wigs, and jewelry.

Provide custom patternwork, fitting, construction and finishing of any and all costume pieces requested and negotiated with independent clients

Lead Draper

May 2022 – Present

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Responsible for patternmaking, instructing the first hand and/or stitchers on proper construction and finishing procedures. Instruct over-hire technicians on construction technique, labeling, sorting, restocking, cleaning and organizing of costume projects, Oversee fittings, actor measurements, and costume construction and maintenance.

Buyer

May 2020 – May 2022

University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX

Determine best value for contract awards. Work with Accounts Payable/Receivable and vendors to resolve problems. Perform data entry into PeopleSoft financial system to amend and adjust data entered by campus users. Write specifications for, and prepare, Invitation for Bids. Perform data entry into State of Texas Purchasing on-line system. Expedite delinquent orders. Visit with representatives from manufacturing and commercial firms. Perform other duties as assigned.

Costume Shop/Studio Manager

July 2014 – 2020

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Oversees the daily operation of the costume shop/studio including personnel and equipment. Responsible for the production and completion of new costumes and the refurbishment/alteration of existing costumes for the production season. Maintains the functionality of shop equipment. Schedules, coordinates, and supervises costume fittings. Coordinates and facilitates communication between the costume designers and production team. Acts as an auxiliary Cutter/Draper as the need arises. Acts as production crafts artisan as need arises.

Draper/Cutter

May 2013 – August 2013

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Responsible for the creation pattern-work through draping, drafting, flat patterning, radial projection, or digital drafting. Supervised the timely creation of new costumes, alteration of existing costumes, including

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maintenance and fittings. Acted as the floor supervisor of 3 full-time professional staff members, 15 undergraduate staff members and 25 undergraduate lab students.

Draper/Cutter

Boston University, Boston, MA

Responsible for pattern making, instructing the first hand and/or stitchers on how to construct and finish the costumes, instructing practicum students on construction technique, labeling, sorting and restocking patterns, cleaning and organizing project areas, attending fittings, measuring actors, and fabric/costume maintenance

March 2013 - May 2013

First Hand

Boston University, Boston, MA

Assisted in pattern-making, construction, fitting, alteration, and refurbishment of costumes for all productions, pattern, cut, and construct costumes as instructed by the Cutter/Draper, cut and sew trim and accessories, complete notes from all fittings and dress rehearsals as prioritized by the Costume Shop Manager. Contributed to maintaining a high level of quality, efficiency, and professionalism in the Costume Shop's operations.

March 2012 - May 2012

Stitcher

May 2012 - August 2013

Boston Ballet Company, Boston, MA

Assisted in pattern-making, construction, fitting, alteration, and refurbishment of costumes for all productions, pattern, cut, and construct costumes as instructed by the Cutter/Draper, cut and sew trim and accessories, complete notes from all fittings and dress rehearsals as prioritized by the Costume Shop Manager. Contributed to maintaining a high level of quality, efficiency, and professionalism in the Costume Shop's operations.

Draper/Cutter

December 2010 - August 2011

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Responsible for pattern making, instructing the first hand and/or stitchers on how to construct and finish the costumes, instructing practicum students on construction technique, labeling, sorting and restocking patterns, cleaning and organizing project areas, attending fittings, measuring actors, and fabric/costume maintenance.

First Hand

October 2008 - December 2010

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Assisted in pattern-making, construction, fitting, alteration, and refurbishment of costumes for all productions, pattern, cut, and construct costumes as instructed by the Cutter/Draper, cut and sew trim and accessories, complete notes from all fittings and dress rehearsals as prioritized by the Costume Shop Manager. Contributed to maintaining a high level of quality, efficiency, and professionalism in the Costume Shop's operations.

COSTUME DESIGN EXPERIENCE

Costume Design

Production	Director/Choreographer	Venue	Year
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Tom Huston Orr	Helmerich Literature Alive Tour	2018
Alice in Wonderland	Dr. Judith Pender	Elsie C. Bracket Theatre	2018
Charlotte's Web	Dr. Judith Pender	Helmerich Literature Alive Tour	2016
Rocky Horror Show	Richard Hines	Wietzenhoffer Theatre	2015
The Metamorphosis	Elaine Vaan Hogue	Lane/ Comley Studio 210	2013
Owen Wingrave	Jim Petosa	Boston University Theatre	2013
Execution of Justice	Elaine Vaan Hogue	Wimberly Theatre	2012
Rent	Shawn Churchman	Rupel J Jones Theatre	2010

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Copenhagen	Susan Shaughnessy	Weitzenhoffer Theatre	2010
Four Sonatas	Helen Simoneau	Reynolds Performing Arts Center	2009
Dives and Lazarus	Kathleen Ridlon	Reynolds Performing Arts Center	2009
The Zone	Darrell Moultrie	Reynolds Performing Arts Center	2009
Fractured Memories	Fritz Ludin	Reynolds Performing Arts Center	2009
Henry IV, Part 1	Tom Huston Orr	Weitzenhoffer Theatre	2009
Bremen Town Musicians	Christopher Boyd	Weitzenhoffer Theatre	2009
Pride and Prejudice	Dr. Judith Pender	Weitzenhoffer Theatre	2009
Lend Me a Tenor	Dr. Judith Pender	Weitzenhoffer Theatre	2008
Leonardo & The Flying Machine	Michael Sullivan	Waco Civic Theatre	2007
Les Liaisons Dangereuses	James Johnson	Waco Civic Theatre	2007
Fools	James Johnson	Waco Civic Theatre	2007
Equus	James Johnson	Waco Civic Theatre	2006

Assistant Costume Design

Production	Designer	Venue	Year
Distant Vision	Lloyd Cracknell	OCCC Digital Video	2015
Peer Gynt	Evan Prizant	Lane/Comley Studio 210	2011
Biloxi Blues	Lloyd Cracknell	City Rep	2011
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Lloyd Cracknell	Reduxtion Theatre	2011

AWARDS

Outstanding Staff Award, <i>University of Oklahoma</i>	2017
White Buffalo Mask Award, <i>University of Oklahoma</i>	2016
Mission Impossible Award, Shop Management/Mentorship, <i>University of Oklahoma</i>	2015-2016
Jo Ellen Uptgraft Award for Costuming, <i>University of Oklahoma</i>	2007 - 2008
Wietzenhoffer Design/Technical Award, <i>University of Oklahoma</i>	2009 - 2010
Beatrice Carr and W. Ray Wallace Scholarship, <i>University of Oklahoma</i>	2009 - 2010

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Patternmaking – Draping, Drafting, Radial Projection
 Tailoring – Men’s Historical Tailoring, Contemporary Men’s Tailoring, Women’s Tailoring
 Millinery – Felt, Straw, Wire, Cloth, Buckram, Paper, High Density Foam
 Costume Crafts – Jewelry Making, Varaform, Fossshape, Wonderflex, High Density Foam, Soldering, Mold Making
 Fabric Dying and Painting – Fiber Reactive Dying, Direct Dying, Immersion Dying, Discharge Dying, Shibori, Devore, Screen Printing,
 Makeup Design and Application - Old Age Makeup, Fantasy Makeup, Glamour Makeup, Wounds, Basic Prosthetics
 Hair/Wig Design, Construction, and Maintenance
 Stretch, Dance, and Sportswear Design and Production
 Digital Costume Design and Production – Cameo, Patternmaster, Tailor Made, Corel Painter 11, Adobe Photoshop