

# MERCEDES ARNDT

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## EDUCATION

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**Oklahoma City University**, Oklahoma City, OK

*Bachelor of Fine Arts, Acting | Costume Technology, Minor*

GPA: 3.9 | Graduated May 2019

**HONORS:** President's Honor Roll & Dean's Honor Roll 2015-2019

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

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Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, AmeriCorps, 2018 & 2019

Academic Excellence Scholarship, National Society of Leadership and Success, 2019

Outstanding Junior Award, Oklahoma City University, 2018

National Engaged Leader Award, National Society of Leadership and Success, 2018

The Arno Nowotny Scholarship, Phi Eta Sigma, 2017

Society State of Mind Award, National Society of Leadership and Success, 2016 & 2018

Inspirational Leader Award, National Society of Leadership and Success, 2016

## EXPERIENCE

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**After School Outreach Coordinator | Oklahoma Children's Theatre** | Oklahoma City, OK | 2016-2019

- Lead in the coordination of outreach programs at Title 1/underserved schools in the Oklahoma City area including the after school theatre program and the newly established "Play in a Box" program
- Developed an 8-week "Theatre Basics" curriculum as well as a 9-week "Shakespeare for Kids" curriculum for grades 3rd-5th for after school
- Established workshop curriculum, recruited workshop leaders and participants, lead workshops working with grades 1st-5th, and directed children's theatre plays for "Play in a Box"
- Trained new teachers and assistants on program procedures and policies and conducted pre and post assessment of teachers and participants

**ArtLAB Administrator | Oklahoma Children's Theatre** | Oklahoma City, OK | Summer 2019

- Administrated the onsite "ArtLAB" summer camps: running checkin and checkout, handling camp payments, maintaining the building, and directly managing all ArtLAB teachers, assistants, students and their needs
- ArtLAB hours ran from 8:00am - 4:15pm, M-F, for 10 weeks of summer with around 40 different students each week ranging from ages 6-13

**AmeriCorps Member | AmeriCorps** | Oklahoma City, OK | 2017-Present

- Served more than 900 hours of direct service through Oklahoma Children's Theatre in 2017-2018
- Served 1200 hours of direct service through Oklahoma Children's Theatre in 2018-2019

**“Page-To-Stage” Teacher | Oklahoma Children’s Theatre | Oklahoma City, OK | Spring 2017**

- Traveled to different Title 1 elementary schools in the Oklahoma City area reading Judy Blume’s *The One In The Middle Is The Green Kangaroo* to first grade classrooms
- Engaged students in active lesson plans regarding the assigned book involving physical and mental warm ups, vocabulary, reading, performing, and interactive games with the goal of enhancing student’s love for books through theatre

**Assistant Teacher | Dallas Children’s Theater | Dallas, TX | Summer 2017**

- Worked weekly camps leading groups of children ages 6-10 in theatrical activities including dance, music, and creating their own play resulting in a final performance at the end of the week
- Weeks working with ages 13-16 included assistant directing and stage managing for *A Year With Frog and Toad*. Rehearsals were over the course of two weeks

**Conservatory Coordinator Intern | WaterTower Theatre | Addison, TX | June 2016**

- Assisted directed, supervised, and taught 30 kids ages 8-13 from 9am-5pm for two weeks at WaterTower Theatre for their children’s theatre production of *HONK! Jr.*

**Children’s Theatre Director | Squee Productions | Plano, Texas | 2014-2018**

- Director of a North Texas children’s theater that provided 5-7 summer children’s theatre camps for ages 5-18 ranging from 10-50 campers for each production
- Past directing projects include: *Annie KIDS*, *The Lion King KIDS*, *High School Musical 2 Jr.*, *Shrek: The Musical Jr.*, *Aladdin KIDS.*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *Rabbit Hole*, *The Glass Menagerie*, and *Ruthless*

**Assistant | OCU Theatre Costume Shop | Oklahoma City University | 2016-2017**

- Assisted and completed costume pieces for the University’s School of Theatre MainStage productions through crafting, sewing buttons, serging fabric, cutting out patterns, constructing corsets, stitching name tags, organizing paperwork, seam ripping trim or lace, interfacing fabric, gathering, adding zippers, constructing mock-ups, etc
- OCU Theatre Costume Shop designs and constructs costumes for 5-6 productions a semester

**INVOLVEMENT and LEADERSHIP**

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Phi Eta Sigma, Honor Society: President, 2016 – 2018

Alpha Chi, Honor Society, 2017 – Present

National Honor Society of Leadership and Success, 2015 – Present

Alpha Psi Omega, Theatre Fraternity, 2016 – Present