

Dylan Southard

dylansouthard@gmail.com • 510.541.8686
www.dylansouthard.com

*A teacher, dramaturg, producer and writer
with more than 15 years of experience in the
performing arts and entertainment industries*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute

2024—

Guest Faculty

- Teach courses in narrative history and text analysis for classes of between 8-20 students.
- Classes taught: "Playwright Spotlight: Tony Kushner & María Irene Fornés" | "History of Television" | "Script Analysis" | "Pulitzer Prize Plays".

The California State University

2020—2025

Lecturer, Department of Theatre & New Dance, Cal Poly Pomona (2022-2025)

Guest Artist, CSU Summer Arts (2021)

Lecturer, Department of Theatre Arts, CSU Long Beach (2020)

- Taught undergraduate courses in dramaturgy, film history and interactive VR storytelling for classes of between 20 and 115 students.
- Edited and evaluated rubrics used in grading for the department and college.
- Contributed in a variety of mentorship roles, including as judge for high school drama competitions hosted by the university and as interviewer in mock job interviews.

VR Playhouse *a start-up creative agency and production studio specializing in 360° video and XR content*

2014—2018

Senior Writer/Producer

- **Creative Direction:** Identified talent and sourced material; led editorial briefings and feedback sessions; wrote and edited scripts, briefs, decks and game-design documents; responded to RFPs; delivered pitch presentations.
- **Project Management:** Hired and managed cross-functional teams during pre-production, production and distribution; prepared and maintained project-planning documentation; and oversaw milestone reviews.
- **Mentorship:** Taught courses in storytelling for VR and 360° film to professional filmmakers and visual artists.

Needtheater *an award-winning non-profit theater company dedicated to new play development*

2008—2014

Artistic Director (2011—2014) Literary Manager (2008—2011)

- **Creative Development & Production:** Produced and directed world premiere productions; read and assessed submitted scripts; coordinated ongoing development of new work; built and maintained talent lists.
- **Business Management:** Led organizational planning; oversaw budgets; identified and maintained grants.

The Robey Theatre Company *dedicated to plays written about the Global Black Experience*

2006—2020

Writing Instructor

- Led company's Playwrights Lab, meeting weekly to provide editorial and creative support for emerging writers; designed lab's curriculum, including writing exercises, discussion topics and guided feedback.

Dramaturg *working with theater companies and artists to provide creative and editorial analysis*

2005—

- **New Work Development:** Evaluate scripts, lead workshops, and produce clear notes for writers and directors.
- **Text Analysis:** Facilitate public and internal discussions, including post-show talkbacks; write program notes.
- **Research Coordination:** Conduct research related to production themes, context and intentions.

credits on over fifty productions and developmental workshops; credit list available at dylansouthard.com/theater

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

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- **Speaking Engagements:** 2017 Youtube VR Creators Lab | Digital Hollywood, "VR: The Director's Cut," Los Angeles, 2017 | Open Innovations Forum, "AR/VR Tech: Fantasies Become Real," Moscow, 2016 | USC Marshall School of Business, "Storytelling, World-building & the Business Of Fun," Los Angeles, 2016.

EDUCATION

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- **Wesleyan University** *Bachelor of Arts* (2003)
 - **Internships:** Jersey Films (2002), Centerstage Baltimore (2003-2004), Tollin Robbins Productions (2005-2006)
 - Fluent in Italian, proficient in Spanish