

# KATE BAUMGARTNER

[baumgartner/sites.grinnell.edu](http://baumgartner/sites.grinnell.edu)

(641) 269-4550 | [baumgar3@grinnell.edu](mailto:baumgar3@grinnell.edu)

---

## EDUCATION

### **Grinnell College**, BA in Theatre and Dance

2007- 2009 / 2014-2015

Emphasis on theatrical design and technology in a liberal arts curriculum.

---

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Assistant Technical Director**, Grinnell College Dept. of Theatre and Dance

2016-PRESENT

Teach student staff and practicum students regarding the construction, setup, implementation, and operation of technical elements (scenery, lights, sound, projection, livestream) for mainstage theatre and dance productions. Serve as an associate safety and compliance officer for TDPS productions, courses, and venues. Design and manage the department's publicity resources (website, social media, email list, photo archive). Provide technical guidance and support for department special projects and cross-disciplinary collaborations.

### **Makerspace Workshop Instructor**, Grinnell Area Arts Council

2022-2024

Planned and taught hands-on workshops on the use of a CNC laser, including instruction in vector drawing. The workshop files and resources I created continue to be used for programming and projects at the makerspace.

### **Technical Director**, Grinnell High School

2016-2022

Taught students regarding the construction, setup, implementation, and operation of technical elements (scenery, lights, sound, costumes, makeup) for plays and musicals. Designed scenery, lights, programs, and promotional materials. Collaborated across performing arts departments to share and maintain a state-of-the-art community performance venue.

### **Curtain Club and Thespian Troupe Sponsor**, Grinnell High School

2016-2022

Mentored the student leadership team that ran weekly Curtain Club meetings for 30+ students. Coached Troupe teams and coordinated participation in the annual State Thespian Festival. Tracked participation, presented Thespian Society awards, and inducted new Troupe members.

### **Scene Shop Staff**, Grinnell College Department of Theatre and Dance

2007-2009 / 2014-2015

Worked as a carpenter, electrician, and general labor for the Department of Theatre and Dance.

### **Arts Center and Volunteer Coordinator**, Grinnell Area Arts Council

2012-2013

Managed setup and support for events in the Arts Center facility. Managed facility upgrades, including the design and construction of a small theatrical venue. Coordinated volunteers for programs and special events.

**Head Carpenter and Repertory Crew**, Colorado Shakespeare Festival

SUMMER 2011

Constructed, welded, and crafted scenic elements. Managed scenic carpenters and mentored interns. Participated in repertory changeovers for deck and flying scenic elements.

**Trip Leader, Climbing Monitor, and Equipment Staff**, Grinnell Outdoor Recreation Program

2008-2010

Organized and led week-long wilderness canoe trips for incoming first-year students and a week-long student backpacking trip. Worked as a climbing area monitor and helped update protocols for a brand new indoor climbing and bouldering facility. Checked-out, checked-in, serviced, and taught the proper use of outdoor recreation equipment.

**Backpacking Leader, Outdoor Skills Specialist, Head Counselor**, Girl Scouts of Colorado

SUMMER 2010

At Tomahawk Ranch in Bailey, Colorado. Organized and led three-day backpacking trips for campers aged 12-14. Developed and taught an outdoor skills curriculum for campers age 7-14. Set weekly schedules for counselors and campers in my cabin/troupe. Mentored counselors-in-training and assisted camp leadership with special projects.

**Concert Hall Lighting Manager**, Grinnell College, Harris Center

2007-2009

Worked independently to assess event needs and update the light plot for concert hall events. Maintained and serviced the lighting system and inventory.

**Carpentry Intern, Repertory Crew, and Spotlight Operator**, Colorado Shakespeare Festival

SUMMER 2008

Constructed scenic elements. Participated in repertory changeovers for deck and flying scenic elements. Operated a spotlight for the run of one show.

---

**SERVICE****At-Large Representative**, Grinnell College Staff Council

2025-PRESENT

Advocate for staff concerns in monthly meetings with campus leadership. Attend triannual meetings with the Board of Trustees. Host monthly campus-wide sessions for all staff to receive important updates and ask questions. Review staff award nominations and select award recipients. Organize community-building events.

**Member**, Grinnell Area Arts Council Board of Directors

2026-PRESENT

Provide strategic guidance for the ongoing success of a non-profit arts umbrella organization serving the Grinnell community and surrounding area. Participate in strategic initiatives.

**Member / Co-Chair**, Grinnell Community Theatre

2013-PRESENT / 2024-PRESENT

As a member: Contribute heavily as a creative collaborator on GCT productions, as needed. Encourage and train newcomers regarding their roles and participation. Participate in season planning discussions. Lead a subcommittee in projects to maintain and upgrade GCT's home facility and technical inventory. As a Co-Chair, in addition to member duties: Liaise with the Arts Council staff and Board of Directors to ensure GCT meets its programmatic and financial obligations. Examine and revise practices to align with organizational objectives.

**Member**, Stew Makerspace Committee

2023-PRESENT

Provide strategic guidance for the ongoing success of a creative makerspace, including the recent acquisition of adjacent property to expand the program. Organize and host a popular annual fundraising event.

**Tech Challenge Coordinator**, Iowa Thespian State Board

2018-2020

Organize and host 60+ Thespian students in an educational competition of technical theatre prowess across multiple backstage skills areas. Collaborate with host staff to acquire equipment and adjudicators. Solicit annual sponsorship from ETC (Electronic Theatre Controls) for prizes. Award top performers in a ceremony at the State Thespian Festival.

---

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT and CERTIFICATIONS**

**Fire Marshal Support Services**, Trained Crowd Manager Certificate

2018-PRESENT

Complete a biennial online certification for best practices and compliance regarding safety in public assembly. The program is written in accordance with NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, NFPA 1 Fire Code, and International Fire Code (IFC).

**Center for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment at Grinnell College**, Workshops Participant

2022-2025

"What Does AI Mean to Our Community?" (2025)

"Identifying the Hidden Curriculum" (2022)

"Designing Digital Assignments" (2022)

"Restorative Practices" (2020)

**United States Institute for Theatre Technology**, Conference Attendee

2023 / 2024 / 2026 (ANTICIPATED)

Attend dozens of workshops regarding theatrical design, production, technology, pedagogy, accessibility, safety, and best practices.

**Southeastern Theatre Conference**, Conference Attendee

2022

Attended several workshops regarding theatrical design, production, technology, pedagogy, accessibility, safety, and best practices .

**Vectorworks**, Seminar Participant

2020

"Spotlight Essentials Seminar"

"Hidden Treasures Essentials Seminar"

---

### **ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Association for Theatre in Higher Education

United States Institute for Theatre Technology

---

## PRODUCTION HISTORY

2025

**Dance Showcase**, Grinnell College: Lighting Des.

**Henry V**, Grinnell College: ATD

**A Body of Water**, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD

**Fun Home** (staged concert reading), Grinnell College: ATD

**At Hotel MacGuffin**, Grinnell College: ATD

**Wayang Listrik: Kala Rau** (Balinese shadow dance), Grinnell College: ATD

**A Rebours** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: ATD

**Rumors**, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Scenic Des.

**day/dream** (devised image-based perf.), Grinnell College: ATD

**The Edgar Allan Poe Afterlife Radio Show**, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD

2024

**Pity**, Grinnell College: ATD

**Leaving Iowa**, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Prod. Man.

**The Lightning Thief** (staged concert reading), Grinnell College: ATD

**Gamelan Pawisik** (Balinese dance), Grinnell College: ATD

**Folokoto** (devised dance.), Grinnell College: ATD

**Songs of the Scarlet and Wayback** (devised play with music), Grinnell College: ATD

2023

**It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play**, Grinnell Community Theatre: Director, Prod. Des.

**Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood**, Grinnell High School: Director, Scenic Des.

**Frankenstein**, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Sound Des.

**Everybody**, Grinnell College: ATD

**HELP! A Trio of Comedic One Acts**, Grinnell Community Theatre: Lighting Des., Actor

**Alumni Drag Show**, Grinnell College: Lighting Des.

**Edges** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: ATD

**Food for Thought**, TEDx GrinnellCollege:TD

**Arbor Falls**, Grinnell College: ATD

2022

**House of Desires**, Grinnell College: ATD

**blur** (devised image-based perf.), Grinnell College: ATD

**Harbingers of Transformation** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: ATD

**Honk!**, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des.

**Rabbit Hole**, Grinnell College: ATD

2021

**Do You Feel Anger?**, Grinnell College: ATD

**Sense and Sensibility**, Grinnell High School: Prod. Manager, Scenic Des.

**Arcadia**, Grinnell College: ATD

**Project X\*** (devised spoken word perf.), Grinnell College: ATD

**The Boor/The Proposal\***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des., Costume Des.

2020

**Eurydice\***, Grinnell College: ATD and Sound Des.

**Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors\***, Grinnell High School: TD, Sound Des.

**The Radio Play Disaster\***, Grinnell High School: TD

**Infinity\*** (devised image-based perf.), Grinnell College: ATD

**Red Velvet**, Grinnell College: ATD

***The Addams Family***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des.  
2019  
***Hey, Lilith!*** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: ATD  
***The Misanthrope***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des.  
***The Burial at Thebes***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***Little Shop of Horrors***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Scenic Des., Props Des.  
***Salt Marsh Suite*** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: ATD  
***Twelfth Night***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead***, Grinnell High School: Director  
2018  
***Love and Information***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***Turn on the Light***, TEDx GrinnellCollege: Prod. Des.  
***Noises Off***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des.  
***Soft Lights for Sleepless Nights***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***Stranger in a Strange Land*** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: ATD  
***The Little Mermaid***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des.  
***When First I Walked on the Moon*** (devised image-based perf.), Grinnell College: ATD  
2017  
***Image of an Unknown Young Woman***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***The Skin of Our Teeth***, Grinnell High School: Director, Costume Des.  
***Nice Fish***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***The Music Man***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Scenic Des.  
***Staying with the Trouble*** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: ATD  
***The Caucasian Chalk Circle***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des., Lighting Des.  
***The Playboy of the Western World***, Grinnell College: ATD  
2016  
***Fall Forward*** (dance showcase), Grinnell College: Lighting Des.  
***Constellations***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***Bursting the Bubble***, TEDx GrinnellCollege: Prod. Des.  
***Twelfth Night***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des., Lighting Des.  
***The Laramie Project***, Grinnell College: ATD  
***Once Upon a Mattress***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des.  
***Dear Elizabeth***, Grinnell Community Theatre: Director, Prod. Des.  
2015  
***Translations***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician  
***The Boy Who Fell From the Roof***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician  
***Seussical the Musical***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Scenic Des.  
***Snow White Retracted*** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: Light Board Op.  
***The Arsonists***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Scenic Des., Actor  
2014  
***Copenhagen***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician  
***Anna Christie***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician  
***Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike***, Grinnell Community Theatre: Lighting Des.  
***Beauty and the Beast***, Grinnell High School: Scenic Artist  
2013  
***War of the Worlds Radio Play***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Prod. Des.  
***Peter Pan***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Scenic Des., Lighting Des.  
***A Fox on the Fairway***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Scenic Des., Lighting Des.

2012

***A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Prod. Design

***Brighton Beach Memoirs***, Grinnell High School: TD, Scenic Des., Lighting Des.

***Annie***, Grinnell Community Theatre: Associate-TD, Lighting Des.

***How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying***, Grinnell High School: Lighting Des.

2011

***It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play***, Grinnell Community Theatre: TD, Prod. Des.

***Waiting for Godot***, Grinnell Community Theatre: Lighting Des.

***Clean Start*** (devised one-woman show), Chicago Fringe Festival: Prod. Des.

***The Little Prince***, Colorado Shakespeare Festival: Head Carpenter, Rep. Crew

***The Inspector General***, Colorado Shakespeare Festival: Head Carpenter, Rep. Crew

***Comedy of Errors***, Colorado Shakespeare Festival: Head Carpenter, Rep. Crew

***Romeo and Juliet***, Colorado Shakespeare Festival: Head Carpenter, Rep. Crew

***Arrivals and Departures*** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: Stage Manager

2010

***The Contingency Plan***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician, Sound Des.

***Student Drag Show***, Grinnell College: Lighting Des.

***Clean Start*** (devised one-woman capstone show), Grinnell College: Prod. Des.

***Guys and Dolls***, Grinnell High School: Lighting Des.

2009

***Student Drag Show***, Grinnell College: Lighting Des.

***As You Like It***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician

***The Ties That Bind*** (devised dance perf.), Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician

***100 Nights' Dreams*** (devised image-based perf.), Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician

2008

***Galileo***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician

***Testing the Echo***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician, Stage Manager

***Macbeth***, Colorado Shakespeare Festival: Carpenter, Rep. Crew

***Love's Labour's Lost***, Colorado Shakespeare Fest: Carpentry Intern, Rep. Crew

***The Three Musketeers***, Colorado Shakespeare Fest: Carpentry Intern, Rep. Crew

***Henry VIII***, Colorado Shakespeare Fest: Carpentry Intern, Rep. Crew

***Woody Guthrie's American Song***, Colorado Shakespeare Fest: Carpentry Intern, Spot Op.

***Vanishing Marion***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician

2007

***Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician

***The Visit***, Grinnell High School: Festival Tour Hand

***A Midsummer Night's Dream***, Grinnell College: Carpenter, Electrician, Assist. Scenic Des.

\*Indicates a performance that was produced and supported remotely.