ELLIE MOONEY

ARTISTIC LEADER, PRODUCER & EDUCATOR

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Summary

Director, choreographer, educator, and producer passionate about building theatre communities where artists, students, and audiences learn, create, and grow together. More than thirty years of experience spans professional theatre, arts education, Theatre for Young Audiences, and community-based programming. Collaborative, imaginative leader known for creating dynamic artistic experiences while fostering meaningful relationships across organizations and communities.

Experience

WALNUT STREET THEATRE — Philadelphia, PA
Theatre & Live Events Director (Freelance) 2010 – Present

Provide artistic and operational leadership for theatre productions and live events within one of the nation's longest-running nonprofit theatres. Oversee a broad portfolio of programming including mainstage productions, galas, fundraising events, awards programming, Theatre for Young Audiences, and touring outreach initiatives.

- Led artistic vision, planning, and execution of stage productions and institutional events, delivering high-quality performances while staying within budget constraints.
- Directed casting and hiring across artistic, creative, and production departments, assembling collaborative teams that aligned with institutional values and boosted audience satisfaction.
- Managed budgets, contracts, and production timelines using Microsoft Office and analytical skills, ensuring responsible stewardship of resources and on-time delivery of events.
- Fostered collaborative, inclusive rehearsal environments that supported artists' well-being, professional growth, and collective ownership of the work.

FLORIDA STUDIO THEATRE — Sarasota, FL
Associate Artist 2019 – 2023

Served in full-time senior leadership role contributing to strategic planning and institutional decision-making guided by four core pillars: artistic excellence, company, stewardship, and equity and inclusion. Partnered with artistic, education, and administrative leadership to advance mission-driven programming and organizational growth.

- Led and facilitated programming that advanced diversity, equity, and inclusion across artistic and educational initiatives.
- Oversaw the apprentice and internship program-one of the region's largest pipelines for early-career theatre professionals-providing mentorship, supervision, and organizational structure.
- Spearheaded the development of a new arts education curriculum, increasing student enrollment by 15% within the first year and strengthening community engagement.

PROFESSIONAL REGIONAL THEATRE
(Project-Based Leadership) 2002 – Present

Provide artistic and producing leadership for theatre productions and live events in partnership with nonprofit and regional theatres nationwide. Collaborate with artistic directors, executive leadership, and production teams to deliver mission-aligned programming that balances artistic excellence, fiscal responsibility, and audience engagement.

- Direct and choreograph theatrical productions and special events, collaborating with artistic staff and design teams to deliver cohesive creative visions that attracted larger audiences and received positive feedback.
- Lead casting, hiring, and team-building efforts, aligning talent selection with organizational goals and strengthening production capabilities.
- Oversee event and production budgets and negotiated contracts, ensuring fiscal responsibility and keeping costs within approved limits.

Selected National Partners: *Gretna Theatre (PA) · Flat Rock Playhouse (NC) · Mainstage Music Theatre (ME) · Musical Theatre West (CA) · Fulton Theatre (PA) · Florida Stage (FL) · Westchester Broadway Theatre (NY) · Trinity Repertory Company (RI) · Portland Center Stage (OR) · City Repertory Theatre (KS) · The Denver Center (CO) · Riverside Theatre (FL) · Boothbay Opera House (ME) · Theatre Exile (PA) · Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre (VA)*

BROADWAY & NATIONAL TOURS / OFF BROADWAY & NYC

Project-Based Leadership 2002 – 2012

Provided artistic leadership for Broadway, Off-Broadway, and nationally touring productions, as well as high-profile live events. Entrusted with directing, choreography, movement leadership, and company oversight across commercial and nonprofit contexts. Provided artistic leadership for Broadway, Off-Broadway, and nationally touring productions, as well as high-profile live events. Entrusted with directing, choreography, movement leadership, and company oversight across commercial and nonprofit contexts.

Featured projects include: A Kid's Life! (National Tour; and Off Broadway/York Theatre), I Love a Piano (3 National Tours; Original Broadway OOT), Chitty Chitty Bang Bang! (Broadway First National Tour), A Christmas Carol, The Secret Garden, Babes in Toyland (National Tours), and civic events including the U.S. Open Opening Ceremonies and Glamour Magazine Women of the Year Awards.

OVERLAND ENTERTAINMENT — New York, NY
Associate Director of Entertainment (Freelance) 2002–2010

Artistic and producing leader for large-scale civic, cultural, and public-facing events, collaborating with national organizations to create work that balanced artistry, community visibility, and institutional values.

- Directed and produced high-profile public performances and civic events in partnership with organizational leadership, sponsors, and community stakeholders.
- Managed budgets, timelines, and production teams for complex, multi-departmental projects in major venues, ensuring accountability and clarity across all phases of production.
- Translated institutional goals and values into compelling live experiences designed to engage diverse audiences.
- Navigated high-stakes environments with professionalism, diplomacy, and attention to public trust.

MAXIMUM ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTIONS — New York, NY
Associate Director of Entertainment (Freelance) | 2002–2010

Provided artistic leadership and producing oversight for theatre productions serving broad and diverse audiences across Broadway, national touring, and Off-Broadway contexts. Guided projects from development through performance with a focus on artistic integrity, audience engagement, and responsible stewardship of resources.

- Led the artistic vision and execution of theatre productions in collaboration with producers, designers, and presenting organizations, balancing creative ambition with operational realities.
- Oversaw production planning, staffing, schedules, and budgets, ensuring fiscally responsible use of resources while maintaining high artistic standards.
- Partnered with presenters and institutions to adapt productions for touring and community contexts, expanding access and reach while preserving artistic intent.

UNIVERSITY & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

Rutgers University (3 years) – Adjunct Faculty

- Dance & Musical Theatre
- Direction & Choreography for Departmental Productions

Walnut Street Theatre School (12 years) — Teaching Artist

- Dance, Acting, & Audition Technique, "Business of the Business"

Florida Studio Theatre School (3 years) — Teaching Artist

- Professional training curriculum development; dance & acting instruction

NYC Professional Studios (1999–2011) — Teaching Artist

- Broadway Dance Center • Steps on Broadway • New Dance Group • Nola Studios
- Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Musical Theatre (beginner–advanced professional levels)

Education

University of The Arts

BFA Direction and Theatre Managment
summa cum laude

Awards

Trustees Award

Excellence in the Arts
2020-2024

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Expertise

Acting & Direction:	Theatre, Musical Theatre, TYA, Improvisation, Devised Work
Dance & Choreography:	Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Contemporary, Ballroom, Partnering, Advanced Lifts
Consent-Based Drama:	Theatrical Intimacy & Violence Direction and Choreography / Blood Violence Coordinator
Aerial & Circus Arts:	FOY/ZFX, Cirque-Inspired & Non-Traditional Aerial / Movement Choreography
Puppetry Performance:	Live Hand, Single/Double Rod, Mummenschanz, Devised & Non-Traditional Forms

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Broadway / National Tours

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!	Assistant Choreographer | Broadway First National Tour
A Kid's Life! TYA	Director and Choreographer | Echo Productions, National Tour
I Love a Piano	Dance Captain, Original Cast | Broadway OOTT, Denver Center
I Love a Piano	Associate Director/Choreographer | Maximum Enterainment (3) National Tours
Angels: The Musical	Dance & Flight Captain, Original Cast | Broadway OOTT, Strand Theatre
Open Road	Dance Captain, Original Cast | Broadway Lab with Paul Scott Goodman
A Christmas Carol TYA	Assistant Choreographer / Dance & Flight Captain | TWUSA National Tour
The Secret Garden TYA	Assistant Choreographer / Dance & Stunt Captain | TWUSA National Tour
Babes in Toyland TYA	Assistant Choreographer / Dance Captain | National TWUSA National Tour

Off Broadway & NYC

A Kid's Life! TYA	Director and Choreographer | York Theatre
This Functional Family	Director *(Premiere)* | NYC One Act Play Festival
Spector	Director, Producer | Polaris North Theatre Company
The Lurker	Director, Producer | Polaris North Theatre Company
Rosamund and Her Murderer	Director, Producer | Polaris North Theatre Company
News Corp Holiday Events	Director of Entertainment | Overland Entertainment
Adventures of Hansel & Gretel	Associate Director | Common Thread Theatre Company
Glamour Magazine's Awards	Associate Director | Overland Entertainment | Carnegie Hall
U.S. Open Ceremonies	Associate Director of Entertainment | Arthur Ashe Stadium (4 years)
Silent Laughter	Dance & Stunt Captain *(Premiere)* | Lambs Theatre
Shake That Thing!	Choreographer / Dance Captain *(Premiere)* | Marriott Marquis
Flute Player Song TYA	Consent Based Choreographer *(Premiere)* | NY Musical Theatre Festival
Anti-Gone! TYA	Consent Based Choreographer *(Premiere)* | NY Fringe Festival
The Fabulist TYA	Consent Based Choreographer *(Premiere)* | York Theatre
Have a Heart TYA	Consent Based Choreographer | York Theatre
Nights of Annabel Lee TYA	Consent Based Choreographer *(Premiere)* | Meisner Theatre

Regional Theatre Musicals

Come From Away	Choreographer, TIC | Walnut Street Theatre
Come From Away	The Fulton Theatre *(upcoming)*
She Loves Me	Director, TIC | Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre
Something Rotten	Director, Choreographer, TIC | Florida Studio Theatre
Jerry's Girls	Director, Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre

I Love a Piano	Director, Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre / Gretna Theatre
The Drowsy Chaperone	Choreographer, TIC | Flat Rock Playhouse
Little Women	Choreographer | Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre
The Taffetas	Director, Choreographer | Boothbay Opera House Theatre
The Marvelous Wonderettes	Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
Bright Star	Choreographer, TIC | Florida Studio Theatre
The Prom	Theatrical Intimacy Choreographer | Broadway Theatre of Pittman
Holiday Inn	Theatrical Intimacy Choreographer | Broadway Theatre of Pittman
Hunchback of Notre Dame	Theatrical Intimacy & Violence Choreographer | Haddenfield Play and Players
Barnum	Associate Director, Choreographer | Westchester Broadway Theatre
I Love a Piano	Associate Director, Choreographer | Florida Stage / Musical Theatre West

Regional Theatre Plays

Mary Shelley's Frankenstein	Director, Producer, Theatrical Intimacy & Blood/Violence Coordinator | Center City Stage
Popcorn Falls	Director & Theatrical Intimacy Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre
Network	Theatrical Intimacy & Violence Choreographer *(Regional Premiere)* Florida Studio Theatre
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf	Theatrical Intimacy & Violence Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre
Maytag Virgin	Theatrical Intimacy Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
Disassociation	Choreographer | Theatre Exile/Philadelphia Fringe Festival
Smoke & Mirrors	Theatrical Intimacy & Violence Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
Visit Joe Whitefeather	Theatrical Intimacy Choreographer *(Premiere)* | Florida Studio Theatre
The Last Match	Movement and Theatrical Intimacy Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
Hay Fever	Theatrical Intimacy Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre
Rise and Fall of Little Voice	Associate Director | Walnut Street Theatre
Red	Associate Director | Walnut Street Theatre
The Other Place	Associate Director | Walnut Street Theatre

Educational Theatre: University & Professinoal Training Programs *[selection]*

The Spitfire Grill	Director, Consent-Based Drama Instructor | Rutgers University
Avenue Q	Director, Choreographer, Consent-Based Drama Instructor | Rutgers University
Spelling Bee	Director, Choreographer, Consent-Based Drama Instructor| Rutgers University
Mary Shelley's Frankenstein	Choreographer | Rutgers University
Charlotte's Web	Director, Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
Pinkalicious	Director | Walnut Street Theatre
Fancy Nancy	Director, Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre
A Christmas Carol	Director, Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre *[3 seasons]*
Junie B. Jones	Director, Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre
Once Upon a Mattress	Director, Choreographer | The Aronoff Center
Mulan Jr.	Choreographer, Consent-Based Drama Instructor | Ohana Arts
A Funny Thing Happened…	Choreographer & CBDI | Performing Arts Institute
Les Misérables Jr.	Director (Ages 12–18) Performing Arts Institute
Mean Girls (Touring Outreach)	Director, Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre
The Last Acorn	Director, Choreographer | Young Playwrights Festival, Florida Studio Theatre
Playmakers (Touring Outreach)	Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre

Cabaret Theatre *[selection]*

My Way	(The Music of Frank Sinatra) Choreographer | Walnut Street Theatre
Reel Music	(Academy Award–Winning Songs) Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
The 70s: More Than a Decade	Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
His Eye Is on the Sparrow	Choreographer | Florida Studio Theatre
Better Off Together	Director, Writer, Co-Producer | Act II Playhouse
For The Record:	(A Celebration of Famous Women) Director, Co-Producer | Walnut Street Theatre Development
First Drafts	(A New Voices Cabaret) Director, Co-Producer | Florida Studio Theatre Education (3 years)