

Tavi Black

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VAIS Teaching Interest

I am interested in teaching writing and/or technical theater through Vashon Artists in Schools for the coming school year. I have recently published my debut novel with TouchPoint Press and have a contract for a second novel as well. Though my teaching experience at this point has been mainly concentrated in the field of dance, I have been a guest lecturer on writing in several schools, including Annie Wright in Tacoma and Chautauqua Elementary on Vashon.

My ultimate goal is to teach creative writing with a concentration in fiction, but I am happy to also teach lighting design. I began an earlier career in non-profit organizations working with the now-dissolved Vashon Youth Council wherein we guided teens in creating projects. We encouraged youth to come to us with an idea and we would find them a mentor and funds to complete the project. I feel quite comfortable working with young adults around creativity and communication.

I am completely flexible with my schedule and would love to speak to you about possible upcoming classes.

Education

2008	M.F.A. Creative Writing, Lesley University	Cambridge, MA
1990	B.S. Design for the Performing Arts, Skidmore College	Saratoga Springs, NY

Awards and Publications

- *Where Are We Tomorrow?* Finalist, Next Generation Indie Awards 2021
- “Dive”, Levee Magazine Issue 6, 2021
- “Crazy Happy”, The Zodiac Review, Fall 2020
- “The Runner”, Literary Mama, Nov/Dec 2020
- *Where Are We Tomorrow?* 1st Place Mainstream Novel Award, 2016 PNWA
- *Where Are We Tomorrow?* Finalist, Nicholas Schaffner Award for Music in Literature 2016
- “To Her”, Opium Magazine online 2012
- “Glasses, Gone”, Shortlist, Fish Publishing 2010 One Page Prize
- “Crazy Happy” and “Poison”, Commendations, Aesthetica Magazine 2009 Creative Works Competition
- “The Flame”, Finalist, *Alligator Juniper* 2009 National Fiction Contest
- “Notes from a Female Roadie”, Finalist, 4th Glass Woman Prize
- “South Philly, 1960”, 2nd Place, Halifax EMS 2009 Short Story Competition
- “Glasses, Gone”, Honorable Mention, Women On Writing Spring 2009 Flash Fiction Competition

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- “Empty House”, Semi-Finalist, Donald Barthelme 2009 Prize for Short Prose

Experience

2016-2019 Prabhu Music, Inc. London, England

Tour Manager, Deva Premal & Miten

Advance planning and execution of musical tours to venues worldwide.

2013-2016 Municipal League Foundation Seattle, WA

Deputy Director

Assisted Executive Director with all needs, including event production, bookkeeping, board management, and daily website and admin upkeep.

2011-2013 The Dove Project, *Ending Domestic Violence* Vashon, WA

Project Director

Built the program from scratch on contract with a small start-up grant from the Family Policy Council, putting together an advisory panel of fourteen, holding fundraisers and writing grants.

2006-2011 Vashon Island Youth Council Vashon, WA

Resource Administrator

Acted as bookkeeper and treasurer for a small on-island non-profit, eventually serving also as a project supervisor.

Experience (cont.)

1996-2009 Phish Tours, Phish, Inc. Burlington, VT

Production Assistant

Assisted the tour and production managers, assuring all areas of production, including lighting, sound, video, and catering received support. Handled direct requests of the artists.

2005-2008 Bonnaroo Festival, Lambda Productions Manchester, TN

Stage Manager

Coordinated load-ins and load-outs of fourteen to sixteen bands over two days of festival. Coordinated production details with all of the bands' management teams.

2000-2005 Norah Jones *Feels Like Home* & Joni Mitchell *Both Sides Now* Tours, Christie Lites

Head Electrician

Planned and coordinated daily load-in of lighting gear in venues across the country. Directed new crews of local stagehands daily.

1999-2002 Folklife Festival Seattle, WA

Site Coordinator

Ensured all acts and vendors had everything they needed. Safety compliance.

Artistic Activities

2012-Present Vashon Dance Academy Vashon, WA

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Set Designer/Painter Design and paint sets for annual show

1999-2004 Undermind Arts Collective Seattle, WA

Founder/Director Non-Profit Arts Organization

2001-2002 *Ode to Icarus* Performance Opera Seattle, WA

Producer/Artist

This event, which took place on Oct. 3rd, 2002 in Pioneer Square, included forty actors in elaborate costumes, a live orchestra, a set of eight 4' x 12' paintings, and was filmed for a documentary.

1996-2001 SHE/Touched Seattle, WA

Lead Vocalist Rock Bands

July 2001 Nico Gallery Seattle, WA

Group Show Oil Painting Exhibit

1998-1999 Parlour Room Studios Seattle, WA

Showing Artist: One private show, Paintings

May 1996 Art Bar Seattle, WA

Private Show Oil Painting Exhibit

1992-1994 Rhythym & Style Houston, TX

Owner/Manager Ballroom Dance Studio