

# ABBEY LYNN SMITH

151 S. 90<sup>th</sup> St. Apt. 213 | Lincoln, NE 68520  
(620) 381-0187  
[abbeylynsmith12@gmail.com](mailto:abbeylynsmith12@gmail.com)  
abbeylynsmith.com

*curriculum vitae*

## ARTIST STATEMENT

As a lighting designer, I think of lighting as a medium to create connection and understanding. It is my job to ensure that the audience is engaged--looking where they need to look and really hearing what the performance is saying--whether that is through lines of text, song, or dance. I find I focus a great deal on moments--making sure that each important moment is getting the attention it deserves. Even if the moment requires a very minor shift, it is in these moments that we find clarity of message. Lighting can establish tone, help with comedic timing, or transport us to a new world depending on how we choose to utilize it. Sometimes the most effective shifts are ones that go unnoticed by the audience. Lighting is all around us on a daily basis, and that is why it such a wonderful tool for connection. Most of us have had the experience of a sunset or a gloomy, rainy day and how the atmosphere feels different. We make associations between these aesthetics and emotions. It is my job to understand what these associations are so that I can recreate them and manipulate them to enhance the audience's experience. Connection is the reason I love what I do. I thoroughly enjoy the collaborative aspect of working in theater and problem solving together. There is something special about being part of the reason a room full of strangers are having a shared experience and leave having laughed, questioned, and/or explored something together.

## EDUCATION

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Master of Fine Arts | Stage Design, Emphasis: Lighting Design  
May 2023  
Thesis Project: Lighting Design for *Death of a Salesman*

### University of Kansas

Bachelor of Fine Arts | Theatre Design  
Bachelor of Arts | Theatre  
Program Completion | University Honors Program  
May 2018

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln

#### *Graduate Assistant*

**August 2020-May 2023**

- My assistantship at UNL was fulfilled in two ways—through time working in the light shop and teaching undergraduate courses. I spent a great deal of time working with undergraduates from various backgrounds in the light shop, teaching them new skills through applied practice—hanging, focusing, programming, and other various small projects.
- As an instructor, I have taught two courses—Lighting I and Principles of Design. Both courses are open to students outside of the design/technical theatre program, which meant varying levels of experience with the subject.
  - o In Lighting I, I taught the basics of being a theatrical electrician as well as the basics of lighting design. During the class we learned about electricity, color theory, and the different types of equipment and then went on to read two scripts to apply a short design process—from research to light plot. For their final, we collaborated with an acting class to design lights for short performances. By the end, each student had accomplished a realized lighting design on a small scale.
  - o Principles of Design is an introduction to basic design principles for students with varying levels of experience. The goal of this course is for students to leave with an understanding of basic design elements such as line, color, etc. and the ability to apply them to a project to get their message across. By the end of the course they will have applied each of these principles throughout multiple projects, including a project where they analyze a song and represent it through a custom design.

### PJ Library Book Club for Kids

#### *Jordan and the Dreadful Golem Costume Workshop*

**January 2021**

- Through a collaboration with Two River, I worked with PJ Library to create a virtual workshop to supplement the reading the kids did for the book club. I created outline drawings for each character in the book and after discussing a basic idea of costume design, the students took time to design costumes for the characters they read about.

### Two River Theater Company

#### *Backstage Teaching Artist*

**Summer 2020**

- For Two River Theater's Summer Intensives program, I taught multiple classes in 3 week long sessions alongside another teaching artist. The intensives cover all areas of design/technical theatre, though it came with challenges when we had to move to a virtual format due to COVID. At the end of each week, students put together their work—from both the performance and backstage sections—to present in a virtual show that we presented to their friends and family. Projects included virtual scenic design using SketchUp, scenic painting with supplies we sent to them, and lighting design using online visualizers.

# LIGHTING DESIGN

## Midwest Ballet Company | Lincoln, NE

*Nutcracker* (Associate LD) Dir: Shari True Lied Center December 2022  
LD: Michelle Harvey

## Peru State College | Peru, NE

*Proof* Dir: Laura Lippman Jindra Fine Arts Oct 2022

## Rider University High School Musical Theatre Intensive | Princeton, NJ

*Pippin* (Associate LD) Dir: Nathan Brewer Westminster Conservatory Aug 2022  
LD: Ethan Steimel

## Forestburgh Playhouse | Forestburgh, NY

*Pageant the Musical* Dir: Roque Berlanga Forestburgh Mainstage July 2022  
*Alice in Wonderland* Dir: Jessica Barkl Forestburgh Mainstage June-Aug 2022

## TheaterWorksUSA | Forestburgh, NY

*El Otro Oz* Dir: Elena Araoz Forestburgh Mainstage June 2022

## Theatrix | Lincoln, NE

*Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons* Dir: Hannah Mason The Lab Theatre April 2022

## Opera Omaha | Omaha, NE

*Sweeney Todd* (Lighting Assistant) Dir: Susan Clement Orpheum Theatre Feb 2022  
ALD: Michael Rathbun LD: Pablo Santiago

## Nebraska Wesleyan University | Lincoln, NE

Upcoming: *Into the Woods* Dir: Anne McAlexander McDonald Theatre April 2023  
*25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee* Dir: Ryan Kathman McDonald Theatre Oct 2022  
*Seussical* Dir: Anne McAlexander McDonald Theatre April 2022  
*A Christmas Carol* (Assistant LD/Programmer) Dir: Ryan Kathman McDonald Theatre Dec 2021  
LD: Michelle Harvey

## Glenn Korff School of Music | Lincoln, NE

*Amahl and the Night Visitors* Dir: William Shomos Studio Theatre Dec 2022  
*Mozart's Magic Flute* Dir: William Shomos Kimball Recital Hall Nov 2021

## Nebraska Repertory Theatre | Lincoln, NE

*Death of a Salesman* Dir: Jacqueline Thompson Howell Memorial Theatre Nov 2022  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream* Dir: Christina Kirk Howell Memorial Theatre Oct 2021

## University of Nebraska-Lincoln | Lincoln, NE

*American College Dance Association* (Milwaukee, WI) Choreo: Lanie Allen Univ. of Wisc-Milwaukee Mar 2022  
*Senior Capstone Performances* Various Performers Studio Theatre Dec 2021  
*Student Dance Project* Various Choreographers Studio Theatre Dec 2021  
*Evening of Dance* Various Choreographers Lied Center May 2021  
*Senior Capstone Performances* Various Performers Studio Theatre Dec 2020  
*Student Dance Project* Various Choreographers Studio Theatre Dec 2020

## KU School of Music | Lawrence, KS

*Candide* (Assistant LD) Dir: Jerry Jay Cranford Crafton-Pryor Theatre Jan 2018  
LD: Nate Wheatley

## Interlochen Center for the Arts | Interlochen, MI

*Interlochen Dance Ensemble* Various Choreographers Upton-Morley Pavilion Aug 2017  
*Rock N Roll Showcase* Various Performers Kresge Auditorium July 2017  
*Capitol Steps* (Interlochen Tour Stop) Corson Auditorium July 2017

## KU University Theatre | Lawrence, KS

*Perfect Arrangement* Dir: James L. Dick William Inge Theatre April 2018  
*Seminar* Dir: Drew Haflling William Inge Theatre Feb 2017

## PROGRAMMING

<i>ShakesFEAR '22</i>	ETC Eos Classic	LD: Michelle Harvey, Francisco Hermosillo III, Kennedy Wilcher, Caroline Nowak	Nebraska Repertory Theatre	Oct 2022
<i>Traveling Shoes</i>	ETC Element 2	LD: Francisco Hermosillo III	Nebraska Repertory Theatre	Mar 2022
<i>ShakesFEAR '21</i>	ETC Element 2	LD: Michelle Harvey	Nebraska Repertory Theatre	Oct 2021
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	ETC Ion	LD: Caitlin Smith Rapoport	Two River Theatre Company	Jan 2020
<i>Belle of Amherst</i>	ETC Ion	LD: Andrew F. Griffin	Two River Theatre Company	May 2019
<i>Theo</i>	ETC Ion	LD: Yuki Nakase	Two River Theatre Company	Mar 2019
<i>Noises Off!</i>	ETC Ion	LD: Ken Billington	Two River Theatre Company	Jan 2019
<i>King Hedley II</i>	ETC Ion	LD: Kathy A. Perkins	Two River Theatre Company	Nov 2018

## RELATED EXPERIENCE

<b>Forestburgh Playhouse</b>   Forestburgh, NY	<b>Head Electrician/ALD</b>	May-Aug 2022
<i>Constellations, Kinky Boots, Something Rotten, Mamma Mia!, Pageant the Musical, Celebrating Sondheim, Fully Committed</i>		
<b>EKO Crewing</b>   Boise, ID	<b>Down Rigging Crew</b>	April 2022
<i>Eric Church Tour Stop</i>		
<b>Nebraska Repertory Theatre</b>   Lincoln, NE	<b>Production/Head Electrician</b>	Aug 2020-May 2023
<i>Stop Kiss (Assistant Production Electrician)</i> <i>The Way to the Way, Dracula: Mina's Quest</i>		
<b>Nebraska Repertory Theatre</b>   Lincoln, NE	<b>Electrician</b>	Aug 2020-May 2023
<i>ShakesFEAR '22; Traveling Shoes; ShakesFEAR '21; Our Town; Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea</i>		
<b>Two River Theater</b>   Red Bank, NJ	<b>Lighting &amp; Sound Assistant</b>	
<i>Radio Golf</i>	Q-Lab Operator & Electrician	March 2020
<i>A Little Shakespeare: Twelfth Night</i>	House Technician	Feb 2020
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Programmer & Electrician	Jan 2020
<i>Love in Hate Nation</i>	Spot Operator & Electrician	Nov 2019
<i>Cyrano</i>	Q-Lab Operator & Electrician	Oct 2019
<i>Oo-Bla-Dee</i>	Spot Operator & Electrician	June 2019
<i>The Belle of Amherst</i>	Programmer & Electrician	April 2019
<i>Theo</i>	Programmer & Electrician	March 2019
<i>Noises Off</i>	Programmer & Electrician	Jan 2019
<i>King Hedley II</i>	Programmer & Electrician	Nov 2018
<i>Pamela's First Musical</i>	Spot Operator & Electrician	Sept 2018
<b>Shawnee Mission Theater in the Park</b>   Shawnee, KS	<b>Painter</b>	Summer 2018
<i>High School Musical, The Addams Family, Into the Woods, South Pacific, The Little Mermaid</i>		
<b>Atlantic Theatre Company</b>   New York City, NY	<b>Scenic Painter</b>	Dec 2017
<i>The Homecoming Queen</i>		
<b>Interlochen Center for the Arts</b>   Interlochen, MI	<b>Lighting Technician</b>	Summer 2017
<i>Diana Ross</i>	Spot Operator & Electrician	
<i>Trace Adkins</i>	Spot Operator & Electrician	
<i>Chris Janson with Davison Brothers</i>	Spot Operator & Electrician	
<i>Michael McDonald &amp; Boz Scaggs</i>	Spot Operator & Electrician	
<i>Gavin DeGraw</i>	Electrician	
<i>Salt N Pepa</i>	Electrician	
<i>Paul Shaffer &amp; Valerie Simpson</i>	Electrician	
<i>Amos Lee</i>	Electrician	
<i>Nagata Shachu</i>	Electrician	
<i>Shen Wei Dance</i>	Electrician	
<i>King Lear</i>	Electrician	

<b>University of Kansas   Lawrence, KS</b> <i>Spring Awakening, Perfect Arrangement,  When the Rain Stops Falling, She Kills Monsters,  Rhinoceros, ...And Jesus Moonwalks the Mississippi,  Metamorphoses, Don Giovanni, Anon(ymous),  Company, Seminar, R.U.R.,  Pooter McGraw Is Not Dead Party, Picnic</i>	<b>Scene Shop Assistant</b>	2016-2018
<b>Kansas Repertory Theatre   Lawrence, KS</b> <i>Harvey  Angel Street</i>	<b>Technical Assistant</b> Carpenter & Q-Lab Operator Carpenter & Light Board Operator	Summer 2016
<b>Lied Center of Kansas   Lawrence, KS</b> <i>The Acting Company: Julius Caesar &amp; X  Russian Ballet  Still Falling  ClarinetFest  Miss Maria's/Susan Byrd Dance Recital  Popovich Pet Theatre  John Mellencamp  Moscow Ballet  Mamma Mia! National Tour Stop  Thodos Dance Chicago  Joseph...Dreamcoat Tour Stop (Manhattan, KS)  Joseph...Dreamcoat Tour Stop</i>	<b>Stage Hand</b> Electrician Carpenter Stage Hand Electrician/Stage Hand Lighting Designer/Board Op Spot Operator Wardrobe Wardrobe Carpenter/Run Crew Electrician Carpenter Electrician	Aug 2015-May 2018 2017 2017 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2015 2015 2015 2015
<b>University of Kansas   Lawrence, KS</b> <i>Don Giovanni  Flora, the Red Menace  A Raisin in the Sun</i>	<b>Student Run Crew</b> Assistant Stage Manager Costume Crew Costume Crew	2017 2015 2015

## SPECIALIZED SKILLS

### Certifications:

OSHA 30 General Industry, ETC Eos Family Consoles (Essentials, Advanced), Adult First Aid/CPR/AED

### Lighting Specific:

ETC Eos programming, Augment3D previsualization, drafting, wiring/soldering, network problem solving, genie lift comfortable, basic rigging, can read music, photography, experience with LED tape & LED pixels

### Computer:

Mac/PC, Microsoft Office, ETC eos Nomad, ETC Augment3D, Vectorworks, Lightwright, Q-Lab, RC4 Commander