

JOHN GRIMMETT

CURRICULUM VITAE

I. SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Nationally recognized composer-lyricist and librettist whose works have been produced internationally, Off-Broadway, and regionally. Veteran arts educator with a diverse background in writing, directing, and designing for the theatre, opera, and the American musical theatre tradition.

II. EDUCATION

Tisch School of the Arts - New York University, New York, NY, 2011-2013

Master of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre Writing

Thesis: *Rain Down The Ruin* (music by John Grimmnett, words by Jason Carlson)

Advisors: Sarah Schlesinger, Fred Carl, Donna DiNovelli

Moore School of Music - University of Houston, Houston, TX, 2006-2011

Bachelors of Music with Elective Studies in Teaching Certification, Summa Cum Laude

Thesis: *The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber* (music and words by John Grimmnett)

Advisors: Andrew Davis, Ted Estess, David Bertman

III. ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Molloy College, New York, NY, 2014, Certification in Non-Profit Management

TExES Teaching Certification in Music (EC-12), Theatre (EC-12), Art (EC-12), and ELA/Reading (7-12)

Instructional Leadership certification coursework completed (examinations pending)

IV. PROFESSIONAL WRITING EXPERIENCE

2023 Playwright, MY FRIEND, THE OCTOPUS. UIL One Act Play Competition (Commerce High School, Commerce, TX). March 2023.

2022 Playwright, MY FRIEND, THE OCTOPUS. UIL One Act Play Competition (Dawson High School, Pearland, TX). March 2022.

Librettist, THE STATE OF JEFFERSON. Music by Kenneth Froelich. Produced by the Fresno State Opera Theatre, Fresno, CA. Anthony Radford, director. Expected premiere 2022.

2021 Arranger, 33 VARIATIONS. Music by Beethoven. Incidental music for UIL One Act Play Competition (Dawson High School, Pearland, TX). March 2021.

2020 Playwright/film composer, HAMLET. Adaptation and incidental music for feature-length film (Dawson High School, Pearland, TX). December 2021.

Composer, EVERYBODY. Incidental music for UIL One Act Play Competition (Dawson High School, Pearland, TX). March 2019.

- 2019 Librettist/director, NOW. Music by Avner Dorman. Produced by Houston Grand Opera, Houston, TX. Finalist, July 2019.
- Composer, THE MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT. Incidental music for UIL One Act Play Competition (Dawson High School, Pearland, TX). March 2019.
- 2018 Composer-librettist, REGRETS ONLY (song cycle for soprano and cello). Performed by Ann Moss (soprano) and Emil Miland (cello). Swedenborgian Church, San Francisco, CA. October 14, 2018.
- Composer, MACBETH. Incidental music for UIL One Act Play Competition (Dawson High School, Pearland, TX). March 2018.
- Composer, A LETTER FROM A MOTHER TO HER SON (art song for soprano and orchestra). Words by Jason Carlson. Commissioned by the Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra, Stafford, TX. February 18, 2018.
- 2017 Librettist, NOTHING IN THE NOTHINGNESS (chamber opera). Music by Daniel Zajicek. Nautilus Music Theatre, St. Paul, MN. December 12, 2017.
- Composer, FANFARE FOR NOBODY (brass quintet). Commissioned by the University of Houston Honors College, Houston, TX, November 3, 2017.
- Poet, ELEPHANT IN THE DARK (choral work). Music by Joel Love. Commissioned by Panoramic Voices, Austin, TX. August 12, 2017
- Composer-librettist, ENOUGH (song cycle for bass-baritone and piano). Performed by Nathaniel Mattingly (bass-baritone), Fort Worth, TX. May 11, 2017.
- Librettist, NOTHING IN THE NOTHINGNESS (chamber opera). Music by Daniel Zajicek. Fort Worth Opera, Fort Worth, TX. May 4, 2017.
- Composer, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. Incidental music for UIL One Act Play Competition (Pearland Junior High East, Pearland, TX). April 2017.
- Composer-librettist, REGRETS ONLY (song cycle for soprano and cello). Performed by Ann Moss (soprano) and Emil Miland (cello). Lou Harrison House, Joshua Tree, CA. April 22, 2017.
- Composer-librettist, REGRETS ONLY (song cycle for soprano and cello). Performed by Kelli Estes (soprano) and Patrick Moore (cello). Houston Tuesday Musical Club, Houston, TX. April 11, 2017.
- Librettist, FINITE DIFFERENCES (song cycle for soprano and string quartet). Music by Kenneth Froelich. Performed by Ann Moss (soprano) and the Hausmann Quartet at San Diego State University, San Diego, CA. April 2, 2017.
- Composer-librettist, HENRY THE STEINWAY (chamber opera). Performed by singers from the Peabody Institute at the MTNA 2017 National Conference. Baltimore, MD. March 20, 2017.

- Librettist, *TO BELONG*. Music by Clint Borzoni. Musica Marin and the Merola Opera Program, San Francisco, CA. February 4, 2017.
- 2016 Playwright/director, *23 DECEMBERS* (play). Produced by the Red Door Theatre Company, Pasadena, TX. December 2, 3, 9, and 10, 2016.
- Composer-librettist, *FREEDOM SONGS* (song cycle for soprano and piano). Performed by Ann Moss (soprano) and Cheryl Cellon Lindquist (piano). University of Incarnate Word, San Antonio, TX. December 1, 2016.
- Librettist, *FINITE DIFFERENCES* (song cycle for soprano and string quartet). Music by Kenneth Froelich. Commissioned by CMASH. Performed by Ann Moss (soprano) and the Hausmann Quartet at California State University-Fresno, Fresno, CA. October 25-26, 2016.
- Composer-librettist, *REGRETS ONLY* (song cycle for soprano and cello). Performed by Ann Moss (soprano) and Emil Miland (cello). Bear Valley Music Festival, Bear Valley, CA. July 24, 2016.
- Composer, *TRAILBLAZER OVERTURE* (wind ensemble). Commissioned by the Alvin Jr. High Symphonic Band, Kyle Norman, director. May 17, 2016.
- Composer, *PYGMALION*. Incidental music for UIL One Act Play Competition (Pearland Junior High East, Pearland, TX). March 2016.
- Composer-librettist, *REGRETS ONLY* (song cycle for soprano and cello). Commissioned by Ann Moss, soprano, and Emil Miland, cello. CMASH (Chamber Music Art Song Hybrid), Brisbane, CA. February 27, 2016.
- Librettist/director, *NOTHING IN THE NOTHINGNESS* (chamber opera). Music by Daniel Zajicek. Commissioned by the Phil Kramer Artists' Recital Series, New Hope Lutheran Church, Missouri City, TX. February 5, 2016.
- 2015 Arranger, *I'VE JUST SEEN A FACE*. Music and lyrics by John Lennon and Paul McCartney. Commissioned by Ann Moss, soprano, and Chanticleer. Recorded on the album, *Love Life* (Angels Share Records) at Skywalker Sound. June 2015.
- Composer, *RAIN DOWN THE RUIN* (musical). Book and lyrics by Jason Carlson. Produced by the University Players, Department of Theater - Indiana University. Josiah Brown, director. April 2015.
- Librettist, *AND JILL CAME TUMBLING AFTER* (chamber opera). Music by Charles Halka. Fort Worth Opera, Fort Worth, TX. May 7, 2015.
- 2014 Composer, *RAIN DOWN THE RUIN* (musical). Book and lyrics by Jason Carlson. Robert Heller and John Grimmett, co-directors. CDP Workshop Production, New York University. July 19-21, 2014.
- 2013 Librettist, *HIGH AND LOW* (song). Performed in a song cycle by composer Liam Wade. CMASH (Chamber Music Art Song Hybrid), San Antonio, TX. November 22, 2013
- Composer, *BENEATH THE ROSES* (dance). Choreography by Meghann Bronson. Peridance Capezio Center, New York, NY. September 2013.

Librettist, AND JILL CAME TUMBLING AFTER (chamber opera). Music by Charles Halka. The Baltic Chamber Opera Theatre (*Baltijos kamerinis operos teatras*), Vilnius, Lithuania. September 13, 2013.

Composer, BENEATH THE ROSES (dance). Choreography by Meghann Bronson. Suite Summer Festival presented by In-Sight Dance Company, New York, NY. August 30-31, 2013.

Composer, RAIN DOWN THE RUIN (musical). Book and lyrics by Jason Carlson. Developed at the Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program. Giovanna Sardelli, director. April 23, 2013.

Librettist, HIGH AND LOW (song). Performed in a song cycle by composer Liam Wade. CMASH, San Antonio, TX. April 7, 2013.

2012 Librettist, PART OF THE ACT (chamber opera). Music by Liam Wade. American Opera Initiative, Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C. Anne Manson, conductor. November 19, 2012.

Composer, ODETTE (music-theatre). Libretto by Jason Carlson. Developed at the Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program. Performed at The New York Avant Garde Arts Festival (finalist) sponsored by the Variations Theatre Group, New York, NY. June 3-24, 2012.

Composer, TYRANNY'S BED (musical). Words by Sarah Rebell. Developed and performed in a professional staged reading at the Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program. Lori Steinberg, director. May 17, 2012.

Composer, *Le côté de sombre de l'expérience*. Choreography by Meghann Bronson and Hiroki Ichinose. NYU Tisch Choreographers, Composers, & Designer's Workshop Performance. April 27-29, 2012.

Composer-lyricist, SLEEPING BEAUTY: THE DREAM (musical). Book by Josh Jordan. Clear Lake High School, Houston, TX. January 28-February 6, 2012.

2011 Playwright, LIL' MISS LOVELADY (play). The Red Door Theatre Company, Pasadena, TX. Josh Jordan, director. June 3-19, 2011.

V. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Head Theatre Director, *Alvin High School*

2022 - present

Lead Theatre Teacher, Alvin ISD

- Assists in leading a district teaching team of teachers at four high schools and eight junior high schools
- Directly oversees the Alvin-Manvel HS and JH feeder patterns
- Teaches 250+ students involved in multi-tiered courses of study, including Technical Theatre
- Directs and co-directs six different mainstage productions annually, including a musical, two plays, a pop show, and a film festival
- Serves as technical director and/or lead designer for all productions
- Participates annually in UIL One Act Play Contest and UIL Theatrical Design
- Oversees season planning, budget management, marketing campaigns, fundraising initiatives, curriculum development, and student recruitment
- Collaborates frequently with choral, instrumental music, visual arts, and dance department heads
- Directs contracted staff, including orchestra managers, costume designers, and scenic artists
- Student Success
 - 7 National Qualifiers at Texas Thespian Festival (2022)
 - Alvin ISD - one of nine school districts in Texas named a Texas Thespians Premier Community for Theatre Education
 - Alvin ISD - one of three school districts in the United States named an Educational Theatre Association Premier Community for Theatre Education (2022-2025)

Adjunct Professor, *San Jacinto College Central*

2021 - present

- Teaches Stagecraft to both majors and non-majors

Head Theatre Director, *Dawson High School - Pearland ISD*

2017 - 2022

- Taught 250+ students involved in multi-tiered courses of study, including Technical Theatre
- Directed and co-directed six different mainstage productions annually, including two musicals, two plays, two cabaret/pop shows, as well as a new works festival
- Served as technical director and/or lead designer for all productions
- Participated annually in UIL One Act Play Contest and UIL Theatrical Design
- Oversaw season planning, budget management, marketing campaigns, fundraising initiatives, curriculum development, and student recruitment
- Collaborated frequently with choral, instrumental music, visual arts, and dance department heads
- Directed contracted staff, including orchestra managers, costume designers, and scenic artists
- Student Success
 - Lauren Hale, first UIL Theatrical Design State Qualifier in school's history (2019)
 - 7 National Qualifiers at Texas Thespian Festival (2019)
 - 9 National Qualifiers at Texas Thespian Festival (2020)
 - 12 National Qualifiers at Texas Thespian Festival (2021)
 - Amber Huchton, Texas Thespians Scholarship Winner (2020)
 - Paige Miller and Zaccai Campos, Texas Thespians Scholarship Winners (2021)
 - State Finalist, UIL OAP 6A State Meet (2021)
 - Regional Finalist, UIL OAP Region III-6A Meet (2022)

Director, *Pearland Junior High East - Pearland ISD*

2015 - 2017

- Taught 250+ students involved in three tiered courses of study and three different mainstage productions annually
- Student Success
 - Winner, 2016 UIL Jr. High One Act Play Competition (*Pygmalion* by Shaw)
 - Winner, 2017 UIL Jr. High One Act Play Competition
(*A Midsummer Night's Dream* by Shakespeare)

Teaching Artist, *The Red Door Theatre Company*

2011 - 2017

- Taught classes in Improvisation, Scene Study, Musical Theatre, and Playwriting
- Directed one show per season
- Assisted in curriculum development for company's course offerings

VI. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

LOCAL

Dawson HS Performing Arts Center Manager (2017-2022)

District 23-6A UIL OAP Chair (2018-2022)

Pearland ISD UIL Jr. High OAP Coordinator (2016-2022)

Pearland ISD Theatre Curriculum Committee Chair (2019-2022)

Alvin ISD Theatre District of Distinction, Coordinator (2022)

Lead Theatre Teacher (East), Alvin ISD (2023-present)

STATE

TxETA K-12 Committee, High School Member At-Large (2021 & 2022)

TxETA K-12 Committee, Chair-Elect (2023 & 2024)

TxETA K-12 Committee, Chair (2025 & 2026)

TxETA Board of Directors, K-12 Chair (2025 & 2026)

TxETA K-12 Committee, Past-Chair (2027 & 2028)

TxETA DesignFest Chair (2021 & 2023)

Texas Thespians Advocacy Network Committee (2021)

VII. DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

LIVING OUT	March 2023	Alvin ISD
INTO THE WOODS	January 2023	Alvin ISD
AND THEN THERE WERE NONE	October 2022	Alvin ISD
MY FRIEND, THE OCTOPUS	March 2022	Pearland ISD
THE SOUND OF MUSIC	January 2022	Pearland ISD
CHICAGO	September 2021	Pearland ISD
33 VARIATIONS	March 2021	Pearland ISD
THIS GIRL LAUGHS, THIS GIRL CRIES,		
THIS GIRL DOES NOTHING	February 2021	Pearland ISD
HAMLET	December 2020	Pearland ISD
EVERYBODY	March 2020	Pearland ISD
HELLO, DOLLY!	January 2020	Pearland ISD
IN THE HEIGHTS	September 2019	Pearland ISD
THE MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT	March 2019	Pearland ISD
NOW	February 2019	Houston Grand Opera
RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA	January 2019	Pearland ISD
JAMES & THE GIANT PEACH	October 2018	Pearland ISD
THE PAJAMA GAME	August 2018	Pearland ISD
MACBETH	March 2018	Pearland ISD
RAGTIME	January 2018	Pearland ISD
GODSPELL	September 2017	Pearland ISD
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM	April 2017	Pearland ISD
NOTHING IN THE NOTHINGNESS	February 2017	
23 DECEMBERS	December 2016	Red Door Theatre Co.
RHINOCEROS	November 2016	Pearland ISD
PYGMALION	March 2016	Pearland ISD
SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL	November 2015	Pearland ISD
RAIN DOWN THE RUIN	June 2014	New York University
ODETTE	June 2012	New York University
PORTRAIT - TV - MAN	April 2010	Rice University

VIII. TEACHING AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Pearland ISD Aspiring Administrators Academy (2018-2019)
Dawson HS Teacher of the Year (2019-2020)
Pearland ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year (2019-2020)
Region 4 Teacher of the Year Finalist (2019-2020)
CEDFA Outstanding Educator (2021)
Texas Thespians Green Apple Award Recipient (2021)

IX. WRITING COMMISSIONS & AWARDS

2019	Fresno State Opera Theater, commission Houston Grand Opera, commission Semi-Finalist, Just4Shorts Film & Screenplay Competition (Los Angeles, CA) Opening Night Premiere, 2019 Houston QFest Film Festival (Houston, TX) 2019 Sardinia Queer Short Film Festival Screening (Cagliari, Italy)
2017	Fort Worth Opera, Frontiers Showcase Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra, commission (funded by the NEA) Musica Marin and Merola Opera program, commission
2016	The Red Door Theatre Company, commission Alvin ISD, commission for wind ensemble CMASH, commission with composer Kenneth Froelich New Hope Lutheran Church, commission with composer Daniel Zajicek
2015	Runner-up, The American Prize in Composition - Opera, Theater and Film CMASH, commission for Ann Moss and Chanticleer for the album, <i>Love Life</i> Fort Worth Opera, Frontiers Showcase
2014	Festival Award in Opera, 2014 Boston-International Contempo Festival
2013	The Baltic Chamber Opera Theatre, commission Participant, ASCAP Marvin Hamlisch Broadway Conductors Workshop
2012	Washington National Opera, American Opera Initiative (inaugural participant) Recipient, ASCAP Foundation Max Dreyfus Award Finalist, New York Avant-Garde Arts Festival
2011	Clear Lake High School, commission The Red Door Theatre Company, commission Outstanding Honors Thesis Award

X. RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Pollack, Howard. *Samuel Barber: His Life and Legacy*. University of Illinois Press, 2023.

Pollack, Howard. *The Ballad of John Latouche: An American Lyricist's Life and Work*. Oxford University Press, 2017.

Heggie, Jake. Preservation of handwritten manuscripts for the Library of Congress. June-August 2015.

Pollack, Howard. *Marc Blitzstein: His Life, His Work, His World*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Davis, Andrew C. *Il trittico, Turandot, and Puccini's late style*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010.

XI. CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND LECTURES

- "Advocacy 101." TxETA SummerFest Presenter. June 2023.
- "Devising New Work with Your Students." TxETA TheatreFest Master Teacher Presenter. Sept. 2022.
- "The New Director's Notebook." TxETA SummerFest Presenter. June 2022.
- "Score Reading for Directors Who Can't Read Music." Texas Thespians Educators Conference. January 2022.
- "The Director-Designer's Toolkit." TxETA TheatreFest Master Teacher Presenter. September 2021.
- "The New Director's Notebook." TxETA SummerFest Presenter. July 2021.
- "Creating a Musical Production Team." TxETA SummerFest Presenter. July 2021.
- Featured Teacher, CEDFA Texas Fine Arts Summit 22: Leading Resilience & Recovery through Fine Arts, June-August 2021.
- "Rehearsal Techniques." Professional Development Seminar, Dawson High School. June 2021.
- "Beyond the Smoke & Mirrors: Techniques for Cohesive and Conceptual Storytelling." TxETA TheatreFest Master Teacher Presenter. September 2020.
- Playwriting Workshop. Greater Houston Puppetry Guild. August 2020.
- Guest, Minor Wisdom Podcast. July 2020.
- Playwriting Workshop for Educators. Two Chairs and a Lightbulb. June 2020.
- "Careers in Composition: Freshman Seminar." University of Houston. October 2019.
- "Careers in Composition: Freshman Seminar." University of Houston. October 2018.
- Scene to Song Podcast, Episode 7: The Opera Libretto vs. the Book in Musical Theater. Sept. 2018.
- "Careers in Composition: Freshman Seminar." University of Houston. November 2017.
- Guest artist and speaker. MTNA National Conference, Baltimore, MD. March 2017.
- Master class for student composers. University of Houston. February 2017.
- Keynote speaker, Moores Society Gala. January 2017.
- "Are Your Students Ready for High School Theatre?" TxETA TheatreFest. January 2017.
- Master class with Jake Heggie. University of Houston. December 2016.
- "Remembering Edward Albee." University of Houston. November 2016.
- "Careers in Composition: Freshman Seminar." University of Houston. November 2016.
- "Creating Original Music for UIL One Act Play." TxETA TheatreFest. January 2016.
- "Careers in Composition: Freshman Seminar." University of Houston. December 2015.
- Master class for MFA Playwriting students. Indiana University. April 2015.
- Master class for BFA Musical Theatre students. Indiana University. April 2015.
- "Entrepreneurship and the artist." New York University. May 2014.
- Student Speaker, NYU Tisch School of the Arts Commencement. May 2013.
- "Odette and social responsibility in art." The City College of New York. May 2012.
- "A conversation with Edward Albee." New York University. March 2012.

XII. PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Dramatists Guild of America
Educational Theatre Association
Texas Educational Theatre Association
Texas Thespians Advocacy Network

XIII. BIOGRAPHY

JOHN GRIMMETT (he/him/his) is a composer, writer, producer, designer, and director.

His work has been performed internationally by the Washington National Opera, Fort Worth Opera, Nautilus Music Theater, and Houston Grand Opera as well as at universities and conservatory training programs at the University of Houston, New York University, and Indiana University, among others. An author of musical theatre, opera, and art songs, Mr. Grimmiett has collaborated with some of the most interesting contemporary voices writing and composing for the American theatre today, including Jason Carlson, Avner Dorman, Kenneth Froelich, Charles Halka, Joey Love, Evan Mack, Till Meyn, Liam Wade, and Daniel Zajicek. Additionally, he has collaborated with renowned performers in the creation of new works, including Ann Moss, Lucia Lucas, Emil Miland, Chanticleer, and the Hausmann Quartet, to name a few.

Mr. Grimmiett's mentors include Edward Albee, Mark Campbell, Erik Haagenzen, Jake Heggie, Howard Pollack, and David Ashley White. A graduate of the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston, he also studied at the Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program at New York University, where he was a recipient of the Max Dreyfus Scholarship from the ASCAP Foundation in recognition of his talent as a musical theatre composer.

Mr. Grimmiett is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild of America, Texas Educational Theatre Association (TxETA), and the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA).

Please visit Mr. Grimmiett's website for more information (www.johngrimmiett.com).