

RHETT LUEDTKE

M.F.A. Director
www.rhettluedtke.com

EDUCATION

M.F.A. Directing	Illinois State University (Normal, IL)	2003
B.A. Theatre & English	Valparaiso University (Valparaiso, IN)	1995

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

- **Associate Professor & Director of Theatre:** Hope College, Holland, MI (2023 – present)
- **Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre:** Hope College, Holland, MI (2022 – 2023)
- **Artistic Director, The Big Bridge Theatre Consortium:** a consortium of university theatre departments across the country committed to developing new plays dedicated to peace and interfaith dialogue.
- **Tenured Professor of Theatre:** specializing in directing, acting, theatre history and general education at George Fox University (2003-2022).
- **Undergraduate Scholar & Researcher of the Year:** George Fox University, 2019.
- **Kennedy Center Gold Medallion for Excellence in Educational Theatre:** 2016.
- **Undergraduate Teacher of the Year:** George Fox University, 2010.
- **National Directing Fellow:** Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, 2010.
- **Professional, free-lance director:** directed over 50 plays in educational and professional settings.
- **Applied and Community Based Theatre Artist:** founder of Small Time Outreach Productions – a social service theatre serving Auburn, Alabama 1995-2000. Augusto Boal workshop leader. Devised ensemble leader for tours to schools, religious & civic organizations.
- **Director for Children:** twelve years directing and teaching children about Shakespeare through their own fully funded productions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016 - present	Artistic Director	Big Bridge Theatre Consortium	Holland, MI
2023 - present	Associate Professor	Hope College	Holland, MI
2023 – present	Director of Theatre	Hope College	Holland, MI
2022 – 2023	Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre	Hope College	Holland, MI
2003 – '22	Director of Theatre	George Fox University	Newberg, OR
2013 – '22	Professor of Theatre	George Fox University	Newberg, OR
2008 – '13	Associate Professor of Theatre	George Fox University	Newberg, OR
2003 – '08	Assistant Professor of Theatre	George Fox University	Newberg, OR
2006 – '16	Directing Coordinator	KCACTF – Region 7	KCACTF - 7
2000 – '02	Director for Shakespeare in Schools	Illinois Shakespeare Festival	Normal, IL
1998 – '99	Director for Camp Shakespeare	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	Montgomery, AL

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

* indicates plays that have won awards for direction

Big Bridge Theatre Consortium

<i>Havurah*</i> (CONNOLLY)	Big Bridge New Plays	BBTC	2023
<i>The Hijabis*</i> (MALIK)	Big Bridge New Plays	BBTC	2019-24
<i>The Shakers of Mt. Lebanon ...</i> (HUTTON)	Big Bridge New Plays	BBTC	2018-20

Professional Direction

<i>Myths and Hymns</i> (GUETTEL)	Hope Repertory Theatre	Holland, MI	2025
<i>The Last Five Years</i> (BROWN)	Hope Repertory Theatre	Holland, MI	2024
<i>Merchant of Stratford</i> (ZEFF)	Theatre 33	Salem, OR	2021
<i>The Mystery of Irma Vep</i> (LUDLAM)	Idaho Repertory Theatre	Moscow, ID	2013
<i>As You Like It</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Idaho Repertory Theatre	Moscow, ID	2010
<i>Unnecessary Farce</i> (SLADE-SMITH)	Idaho Repertory Theatre	Moscow, ID	2009
<i>Fat Pig</i> (LABUTE)	Salem Repertory Theatre	Salem, OR	2007
<i>A Fair Country*</i> (BAITZ)	Heartland Theatre	Bloomington, IL	2002

Directing at Universities

<i>Richard III</i> (SHAKESPEARE) IN PROCESS	DeWitt Theatre	Hope College	2026
<i>You for Me for You</i> (CHUNG)	DeWitt Theatre	Hope College	2026
<i>Havurah*</i> (CONNOLLY)	DeWitt Theatre	Hope College	2025
<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> (HAMILL)	DeWitt Theatre	Hope College	2025
<i>The Hijabis*</i> (MALIK)	DeWitt Theatre	Hope College	2024
<i>John Proctor is the Villain</i> (BELFLOWER)	DeWitt Studio Theatre	Hope College	2024
<i>The Addams Family Musical</i> (LIPPA)	DeWitt Theatre	Hope College	2023
<i>Silent Sky</i> (GUNDERSON)*	DeWitt Theatre	Hope College	2022
<i>Godspell: 2012 Revised Ed</i> (SCHWARTZ)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2022
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> (SHAKESPEARE)*	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2021
<i>A Christmas Carol</i> (LOMBARDO)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2020
<i>Silent Sky</i> (GUNDERSON)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2020
<i>The Shakers of Mt Lebanon...*</i> (HUTTON)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2020
<i>A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder</i>	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2019
<i>Jane Eyre: The Musical*</i>	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2019
<i>The Government Inspector</i> (GOGOL)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2018
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2017
<i>Deus Ex Millennia*</i> (ENSEMBLE)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2017
<i>Sunday in the Park ...*</i> (SONDHEIM)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2017
<i>The Spitfire Grill</i> (VALCQ)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2016
<i>Tartuffe</i> (MOLIERE)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2015
<i>These Shining Lives*</i> (MARNICH)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2015
<i>Little Women</i> (KNEE, HOWLAND, DICKSTEIN)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2015
<i>The Games Afoot</i> (LUDWIG)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2014
<i>Parade</i> (BROWN & UHRY)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2014
<i>Enchanted April*</i> (BARBER)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2013
<i>Mrs. Packard</i> (MANN)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2013
<i>The Broken*</i> (ENSEMBLE & LUEDTKE)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2012
<i>She Loves Me*</i> (BOCK, & HARNICK)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2012

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE Continued

<i>Ion</i> (EURIPIDES)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2010
<i>A Grand Night for Singing</i> (R&H)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2010
<i>The Triumph of Love</i> (MARIVAUX)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2009
<i>As it is in Heaven</i> (HUTTON)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2008
<i>Whatever Kindles</i> (BROWN)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2007
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> (JORY)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2007
<i>The Secret Garden*</i> (NORMAN & SIMON)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2006
<i>Macbeth</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2006
<i>The Last Night of Ballyhoo</i> (UHRY)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2006
<i>Machinal*</i> (TREADWELL)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2005
<i>Smoke on the Mountain</i> (RAE)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2005
<i>Trojan Women*</i> (EURIPIDES)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2004
<i>A Shayna Maidel</i> (LEBOW)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2004
<i>Into the Woods</i> (SONDHEIM & LAPINE)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2004
<i>As You Like It*</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	University Theatre	George Fox Univ.	2003
<i>Pentecost*</i> (EDGAR)	Perf. Arts Center	Illinois State Univ.	2003
<i>The Beaux Stratagem*</i> (FARQUHAR)	Studio Theatre	Illinois State Univ.	2002
<i>The Cuchulain Cycle*</i> (YEATS)	Studio Theatre	Illinois State Univ.	2001
<i>Duet for One</i> (KEMPENSKI)	Allen Theatre	Illinois State Univ.	2001
<i>Y2K*</i> (KOPIT)	Free Stage	Illinois State Univ.	2001
<i>The Dumb Waiter*</i> (PINTER)	Free Stage	Illinois State Univ.	2000
<i>Danny and the Deep Blue Sea</i> (SHANLEY)	Underground Theatre	Valparaiso Univ.	1995
<i>Shakespeare Under the Stars</i>	Underground Theatre	Valparaiso Univ.	1995

Devised Work

<i>Deus Ex Millennia</i>	(devised – full length)	University Main Stage	GFU, 2017
<i>The Broken</i>	(devised – full length)	University Main Stage	GFU, 2012
<i>Snaps</i>	(devised - short)	University Players	GFU, 2010
<i>The Box</i>	(devised - short)	University Players	GFU, 2010
<i>Bounce</i>	(devised - short)	University Players	GFU, 2010
<i>The Toy Store</i>	(devised - short)	University Players	GFU, 2009
<i>Jump</i>	(devised - short)	University Players	GFU, 2009
<i>The Creed</i>	(devised - short)	University Players	GFU, 2009
<i>Hop in the Boat</i>	(devised - short)	University Players	GFU, 2009

New Play Development

<i>Merchant of Stratford</i> (ZEFF)	Theatre 33	Salem, OR	2021
<i>Ion</i> (EURIPIDES)	New Translation by Streufert	George Fox Univ.	2010
<i>Whatever Kindles</i> (BROWN)	New Play Development	George Fox Univ.	2005
<i>Trojan Women</i> (EURIPIDES)	New Translation by Streufert	George Fox Univ.	2004

Professional Readings

<i>Fat Pig</i> (LABUTE)	Public House Theatre	Portland, OR	2011
<i>Cassius Sargent ...</i> (WYDHAM)	The Kennedy Center	National Festival, DC	2010

Professional Children's Theatre and Touring

<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Festival by the Marsh	Sackville, NB, Canada	2005
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DIRECTING EXPERIENCE Continued

<i>As You Like It</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Illinois Shakespeare Festival	Touring Show	2003
<i>Shakespeare A-la-carte</i> (LUEDTKE)	Illinois Shakespeare Festival	Touring Show	2001
<i>The Man From Navarre</i> (LUEDTKE)	Illinois Shakespeare Festival	Green Show	2001
<i>As You Like It</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	Camp Shakespeare	1999
<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	Camp Shakespeare	1998

Directing Community Actors, 1996-2000

<i>You're A Good ... C. Brown</i> (GESNER)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>Fools</i> (SIMON)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>Agnes of God</i> (PIELMEIER)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>The Cotton Patch Gospel</i> (CHAPIN)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>Faith Healer</i> (FRIEL)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>Eleemosynary</i> (BLESSING)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL

Directing Children (The Auburn Shakespeare Youth Project, 1996-2000)

<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>Macbeth</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>Twelfth Night</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>I Hate Hamlet</i> (RUDNICK)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL
<i>As You Like It</i> (SHAKESPEARE)	Small Time Outreach Productions	Auburn, AL

Directing Social Outreach Touring Productions

<i>The Weave</i> (DEVISED)	Papua New Guinea Ensemble	GFU, 2009
<i>Midas in America</i> (KELM)	Papua New Guinea Ensemble	GFU, 2009
<i>Somos Iguales</i> (PICK)	University Players	GFU, 2008-09
<i>Prodigals</i> (LUEDTKE)	University Players	GFU, 2008-09
<i>The Lighthouse</i> (LONG)	University Players	GFU, 2008-09
<i>Little Sparrow</i> (LUEDTKE)	University Players	GFU, 2008-09
<i>John, His Story</i> (CLIFT-GEORGE)	Touring Show	STOP, 1996-2000
<i>Annie's Party</i> (KEHRET & PAUL)	Touring Show	STOP, 1996-2000
<i>Locusts and Wild Honey</i> (PAUL)	Touring Show	STOP, 1996-2000

AWARDS AND HONORS

Significant Regional and National Awards

- **American College Theatre Festival Regional III Award** – *Havurah* by Margot Connnolly: invited production for 2006 festival in Madison, WI.
- **The Citizen Artist Award: A National American College Theatre Festival Award:** *Havurah* (2026)
- **Facilitation of a Brave Space Award: A National American College Theatre Festival Award:** *Havurah* (2026)
- **Direction of a New Work Award: A National American College Theatre Festival Commendation:** *Havurah* (2026)

AWARDS Continued

- **Additional National ACTF Commendations for *Havurah***
 - Performance Ensemble – *Havurah*
 - Student Centered Production – *Havurah*
 - Interfaith Collaboration – *Havurah*
 - Production of a New Work - *Havurah*
- **George Fox University Theatre Outstanding Service Award (2023)** In recognition of 19 years of outstanding vision, artistic integrity, and love that has inspired, challenged and shaped the University Theatre and the George Fox Community.
- **George Fox University Undergraduate Scholar/Researcher of the Year (2019)**
- **Kennedy Center Gold Medallion for Teaching Excellence (2016)**, Washington, D.C.
- **Undergraduate Teacher of the Year (2010)**, George Fox University
- **National Directing Fellow (2010)**, the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival
- **ATHE Leadership Institute Graduate (2011)**, Association of Theatre in Higher Education
- **Outstanding Direction: Evening of Scenes – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2018)** – “Color and Light” *Sunday in the Park with George*.

Certificates of Merit – KCACTF

- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2025)** – outstanding ensemble acting for *Sense and Sensibility* by Kate Hamill.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2024)** – outstanding artistic direction of Big Bridge Theatre Consortium, and direction of *The Hijabis* by Rohina Malik.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2024)** – outstanding ensemble acting for *John Proctor is the Villain* by Kimberly Belflower.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2022)** – outstanding direction of *Silent Sky* by Lauren Gunderson.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2021)** – outstanding direction of *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2020)** – outstanding direction of *The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will hold a Peace Conference This Month* by Arlene Hutton.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2019)** – outstanding direction of *Jane Eyre: The Musical*.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2017)** – outstanding direction of “Deus Ex Millennia” by GFU Theatre Ensemble.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2015)** – outstanding direction of Melanie Marnich’s *These Shining Lives*.
- **Outstanding Direction: Evening of Scenes – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2014)** – *Mrs. Packard* by Emily Mann.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2013)** – outstanding direction of Matthew Barber’s *Enchanted April*.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (2012)** – outstanding direction of “The Broken” – a full-length devised piece of theatre.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center, American College Theatre Festival (2012)** – outstanding direction of Bock and Harnick’s *She Loves Me*.

AWARDS Continued

- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center, American College Theatre Festival (2006)** – outstanding direction of Norman and Simon's *The Secret Garden*.
- **Certificate of Merit – Kennedy Center, American College Theatre Festival (2003)** – outstanding direction of William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*.
- ***Machinal* – Second Alternate - Kennedy Center, American College Theatre Festival, Region 7 (2005)** – *Machinal* was honored as one of the top six plays in Region 7 during 2005.

Graduate and Undergraduate Awards

- **The Alvin Goldfarb Award – Best Director, 2003** for *Pentecost* by David Edgar – best director for the 2002-03 season of plays at Illinois State University.
- **The Alvin Goldfarb Award – Best Production of the Season, 2003** for *Pentecost* by David Edgar – best production of the 2002-03 season of plays at Illinois State University.
- **Semi-Finalist for the Outstanding Graduate Student at Illinois State University, 2003.** An honor bestowed on graduate students by the Graduate School of Illinois State University.
- **The Jean Scharfenberg Award, 2002** – Given by the directing faculty of Illinois State University in recognition of continued excellence in directing in the School of Theatre at ISU.
- **The Alvin Goldfarb Award – Best Studio Production, 2002** for *The Beaux Stratagem* by George Farquhar – best Studio Production of the 2001-02 season at Illinois State University
- **University Distinguished Director, 2001** – Given by the faculty and student body of Illinois State University Theatre to the top graduate director for excellence in directing and leadership
- **The Alvin Goldfarb Award – Best M.F.A. Production, 2001** for *Y2K*, by Arthur Kopit - best MFA Production at Illinois State University Theatre during the 2000-2001 season
- **The Alvin Goldfarb Rookie of the Year Award, 2001** – A special ALVIN GOLDFARB AWARD given to the best new student to arrive at Illinois State University Theatre during the 2000-2001 school year. An award determined by the student body of the School of Theatre
- **Civitan International Citizen of the Year – Lee County, AL, 1997** – A special award given by Civitan International for distinguished humanitarian service, leadership and dedication in the City of Auburn, Alabama. I was given this award for my work with children and the arts in the development of Small Time Outreach Productions, Inc. (STOP)
- **Summa Cum Laude, 1995** – Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana.
- **President, Alpha Psi Omega, 1994-5** – Valparaiso University. The Theatre Departments Academic Fraternity – producer of the student Underground Theatre
- **Distinguished Senior Award, 1995** – Given by the faculty of the Department of Theatre and Television Arts at Valparaiso University to the top graduating senior for excellence on the stage and in the classroom.
- **University Theatre Award, 1994** – Given by the faculty of Valparaiso University's Department of Theatre to the top student in the department for academic and artistic excellence and leadership.