

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## NATHAN ALAN DAVIS

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DIRECTOR OF MFA PLAYWRITING  
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### Education

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<b>Artist Diploma</b>	The Juilliard School, Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program	2016
<b>MFA</b>	Indiana University Bloomington, Theatre Arts (Playwriting)	2014
<b>BFA</b>	University of Illinois, Theatre Arts (Acting)	2005

### Awards (selected)

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**AUDELCO Award for Best Play** (THE REFUGE PLAYS) 2024

**Windham Campbell Prize** 2021  
“Nathan Alan Davis is an artist whose work fuses depth of feeling and love of language, balancing the profound, the prosaic, and an overwhelming desire to reach through the fourth wall and pull his audiences towards him.”

**Steinberg New Play Award** 2020

**Whiting Award in Drama** 2018  
“Nathan Alan Davis is a genuine poet of the theatre, charting new territory for lyrical drama. Play after play showcases his uncanny gift for allegory and language, boiling down the large narratives of the African-American past to the scale of individuals wrestling to express themselves. He exhibits unwavering command of styles and textures, from vaulted diction to teen slang. His verve, emotional intelligence, and ambition are outstanding.”

**Stavis Playwright Award** 2017

**Blue Ink Playwriting Award** (THE WIND AND THE BREEZE) 2016

**Steinberg/ATCA New Play Citation** (DONTRELL WHO KISSED THE SEA) 2015

**Lorraine Hansberry Award** (THE WIND AND THE BREEZE) 2013

### Theater Productions (Off-Broadway)

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#### THE REFUGE PLAYS

Roundabout Theatre /New York Theatre Workshop 2023

#### NAT TURNER IN JERUSALEM

New York Theatre Workshop 2016

## Theater Productions (Regional)

**ETERNAL LIFE PART 1.**

Wilma Theater	2023
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**THE HIGH GROUND**

Arena Stage	2023
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**ORIGIN STORY**

Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park	2023
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**DONTRELL, WHO KISSED THE SEA**

American Players Theatre (WI)	2026
West Side Show Room (IL)	2025
St. Louis Black Rep	2022
Aurora Fox Arts Center (CO)	2022
American Players Theatre (WI)	2021
Nebraska Repertory Theatre	2021
First Floor Theatre (Chicago)	2018
Theater Alliance (DC)	2015
Cleveland Public Theatre	2015
Oregon Contemporary Theatre	2015
Phoenix Theatre (IN)	2015
Skylight Theatre Company & Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble (LA)	2015
Source Festival (DC)	2015

**NAT TURNER IN JERUSALEM**

American Players Theatre (WI)	2024
Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre (MA)	2021
Oak Park Festival Theatre (IL)	2021
Playhouse on the Square (TN)	2021
Actors Shakespeare Project (Boston)	2019
Forum Theater (DC)	2018

**THE WIND AND THE BREEZE**

West Side Show Room (IL)	2022
Cygnnet Theatre (CA)	2018

## Screenwriting (TV Staffing)

**DEMASCUS, AMC / Gran Via, Season 1**

Executive Story Editor	2021
Episodes Written: "Establishing Episode" – Season 1, Ep. 2 (Release Date, 08/07/2025)	

Screenwriting (TV Staffing, cont.)

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<b>SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, Season 2, Facebook Watch / Big Beach</b>	2019
Staff Writer	
Episodes Written: “Drumroll, Please” – Season 2, Ep. 8. (Release Date: 11/05/2019)	
<b>AMERICAN SOUL, Season 1, BET / Jesse Collins Ent.</b>	2018
Staff Writer	
Episodes Written: “Fault Lines” – Season 1, Ep. 5 (Air Date 02/26/2019)	

Screenwriting (Development)

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<b>WE CAST A SHADOW (Episodic Drama Series)</b>	2022
HBO Max	
Writer/Executive Producer	
<b>A GREENWOOD STORY (Episodic Event Series)</b>	2021
Bassett Vance Productions/MTVE Studios/Paramount	
Writer/Executive Producer	
<b>UNTITLED NATHAN ALAN DAVIS SCRIPT (Feature Film)</b>	2021
Higher Ground Productions/Netflix	
Writer	

Audio

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<b>SOOTHSAYERS (Audio Play)</b>	2026
Audible	

Publications

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<b>ETERNAL LIFE PART 1</b>	2026
Samuel French	
<b>ORIGIN STORY</b>	2025
Samuel French	
<b>THE REFUGE PLAYS</b>	2024
Samuel French	
<b>“The Gun Collector” Published in AFTER ORLANDO (Caridad Svich, Ed.)</b>	2024
NoPassport Press	

## Publications (cont.)

**NAT TURNER IN JERUSALEM**

Samuel French

2017

**DONTRELL, WHO KISSED THE SEA**

Samuel French

2017

## Theater Commissions (selected)

Beth Morrison Projects ( <i>The Slaying of Innocence</i> for Beth Morrison/Arts Emerson )	2025
True Love Productions	2020
BMG Music	2020
Seattle Repertory Theatre	2020
Audible	2020
Indiana Repertory Theatre / Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park	2020
The Public Theater (Gail Papp Commission)	2017
Arena Stage (Power Plays Initiative)	2016
Williamstown Theatre Festival	2016
McCarter Theatre (Princeton and Slavery Project)	2016

## Fellowships and Residencies

Venturous Fellowship	2021-22
Berlind Playwright-in-Residence, Princeton University	2019-22
SPACE on Ryder Farm	2021
Sundance Institute at Ucross	2019
Rita Goldberg Fellowship, The Lark	2018-19
Sallie B. Goodman Artists' Retreat, McCarter Theatre	2017
Georgetown University	2017
Seattle Repertory Theatre	2017
Lark Writers Retreat, Vassar College	2016
NYTW At Adelphi	2016
2050 Fellowship, New York Theatre Workshop	2015-16
New Harmony Project	2015
Baltimore Center Stage, Hot Desk Residency	2012
NNPN/ Kennedy Center MFA Playwrights Workshop	2012

## Teaching

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<b>Boston University, Director of MFA Playwriting, Associate Professor of the Practice</b>	2022-Present
Head of Boston University's Playwriting Program within the College of Arts & Sciences Teach three courses per year including writing seminars to graduate students and introductory playwriting courses to undergraduates.	
<b>Princeton University, Lecturer in Theater</b>	2016-2023
Theater Courses: Beginning Playwriting, Intermediate Playwriting English Courses: Black Dramatists in the English-Speaking World (devised this course) Humanities Courses: Arts in the Invisible City: Race, Policy, Performance Advising: Advise four Theater Certificate students on their Senior Projects (annually)	
<b>Sewanee Writers Conference</b>	2021, 2022, 2024, 2026
Playwriting Faculty	
<b>Roundabout Theatre</b>	2021
"Four Beginnings" (playwriting class/workshop)	
<b>The Juilliard School, Drama Faculty</b>	2017- 2018
Techniques in Playwriting	
<b>Saint Ann's School, Guest Artist</b>	2018
Playwriting workshops (Middle School and High School)	
<b>Laguardia Community College</b>	2015
Co-created <i>WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF</i> (devised ensemble piece) with students	
<b>McCarter Theatre/MCVTS School of the Arts, STEAM Play Project</b>	2015
Playwriting workshops (High School)	
<b>ArtsPlace, Rockford (IL) Area Arts Council</b>	2014, 2015
Teaching Artist, Drama and Performance Art	
<b>Indiana University Bloomington</b>	2011-2014
Introduction to Playwriting, Writing for the Screen	
<b>Young Playwrights in Process, Indiana Repertory Theatre</b>	2014
Playwriting 101, Techniques in Revision	
<b>Summer Conservatory, Indiana Repertory Theatre</b>	2013
Playwriting Intensive	

Essays and Other Writings

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“In Defense of Wonder” <i>Almanac Vol. 4, Playwrights Horizons</i>	2024
“Writing Nat Turner: The afterlives of first drafts” <i>The Yale Review, Winter Issue</i>	2021
“Two Playwrights on the Drama of Ambivalence: Nathan Alan Davis and Abe Koogler” <i>The Yale Review, Winter Issue</i>	2021
“On ‘The Brothers’ By Kathleen Collins” <i>Literary Ancestry Series, Roundabout Refocus Project</i>	2021
“For Love of the Ceremony: Thoughts on Audiences and New Play Festivals” <i>Audience (R)Evolution, TCG</i>	2016
“What Inspired You as a Writer This Season, Part 1” <i>The Dramatist, Vol. 17 No. 55, Season in Review</i>	2015

Interviews, Lectures, Etc.

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<i>A Dramaturgy of Aspiration</i> , Lecture, Sewanee Writers’ Conference	2024
Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (Q&A with Mark Bly)	2023
<i>For The Audience</i> , Lecture, Sewanee Writers’ Conference	2022
<i>Reactivating Memory Symposium</i> , Princeton University (Panelist)	2021
UW Oshkosh/PBS Wisconsin (Craft Lecture)	2019
Ball State University New Play Festival (Keynote)	2019
<i>Theatre, Poetry and the Language of the Church</i> , Brooklyn Book Festival (Panelist)	2018
Rock Valley College (Craft Lecture)	2017
Callaloo Conference/Georgetown University (Reading/Presentation)	2017
IUPUI Humanities (Q&A)	2015

## Service

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Judge, PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater Award Served on judges' panel for the 2026 PEN/Laura Pels Theater Award	2026
Search Committee, BU Creative Writing Program Served on search committee for the fulfillment of Andrew Mellon Professorship in the Humanities	2026
Search Committee, BU School of Theatre Served on search committee for the fulfillment of two faculty positions in Acting/Directing	2024
Core Apprentice Program Mentor, The Playwrights' Center Served as a mentor for an emerging playwright	2021-2022
Facilitator, Wednesday Evening Workshop Organized and facilitated a free writers' workshop for nine early career playwrights	2020
Member, NNPN Affiliated Artist Council (formerly "Alumni Playwrights Council") The council acts as liaison between NNPN and the hundreds of artists connected to the organization	2014-2019
Member, <i>The Dramatist</i> Publication Committee	2017-2019
Contributing Writer, <i>After Orlando: An International Theatre Action</i> , NoPassport Theatre and Missing Bolts Productions	2016
Co-Founder and Coordinator, Rockford (IL) New Play Festival Annual festival of staged readings of short plays by local and national writers	2014-2016
Script Reader, <i>Young Playwrights in Process</i> , Indiana Repertory Theatre	2012-2017
Heartland Bahá'í School (Decatur, IL) Sat on artist panel and conducted playwriting workshop	2015
O'Neill National Training Institute Discussion with NTI playwrights re: revision process and career paths	2015
Louhelen Bahá'í School (Davison, MI) Gave free playwriting master class to participants of an arts conference	2014
New South Young Playwrights Festival, Horizon Theatre (Atlanta) Mentored high school and undergraduate college playwrights	2012

## Professional Acting Experience (2005-2010)

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<b>Theatre</b>	<b>Play</b>	<b>Role</b>
Goodman Theatre	GAS FOR LESS (Dexter Bullard, dir.)	Benji
Steppenwolf Theatre	A PARELLOLOGRAM (Anna D. Shapiro, dir.)	JJ (u/s)
Raven Theatre	A FEW GOOD MEN (Michael Menendian, dir.)	Santiago
Lifeline Theatre	THE PIANO TUNER (Jonathan Berry, dir.)	Nok Lek
Collaboraction	STONEHNGE (Stephen Cone, dir.)	Travis
Pegasus Players	20 <sup>th</sup> and 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Young Playwrights Festival (Alex Levy, dir.)	Multiple Roles

## Administrative Experience

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Director of MFA Playwriting, Boston University	2022-Present
Coordinator, Rockford (IL) New Play Festival (Co-founder)	2014-2016
Graduate Assistant, Office of Audience Development, Indiana University Theatre	2011-2014
Manager, Bahá'í House of Worship Bookstore, Wilmette, Illinois	2006-2011

## Affiliations

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Writers Guild of America East	2018-Present
NYTW Usual Suspect	2016-Present
Dramatists Guild of America	2015-Present

*References available upon request.*