

I started in technical theatre working on props and sets. Then, I fell in love with stage management during *SpongeBob the Musical*, my first show as an assistant. Throughout the show, I learned to stage manage under unique circumstances. I quickly picked up duties, such as blocking notation, line notes, and blocking notes, so the stage manager was able to assist the novice scenic team often. In addition to the typical tasks of a stage manager, I frequently stood in for an actor who had many last-minute conflicts. I then taught them their blocking and choreography. I also assisted with the responsibilities of a props technician outside of rehearsals, which lifted some of the heavy workload from others. By the end of the show, I was proud of my ability to adapt to all the different needs of the production. Many people appreciated my dedication to the show and going out of my way to help them individually.

I have always found pleasure in solving all types of logic puzzles and escape rooms. Solving puzzles has led me to analyze situations and preemptively identify issues. As a result, I am able to stay a step ahead. For me, stage management is a creative outlet. I enjoy finding unique ways to resolve issues, organize information, communicate and coordinate within teams, and lead rehearsal spaces. Overall, it is the most fulfilling role I have taken on. Regardless of the stressful nights and the rush-filled moments, the hard work I've put into a show always pays off. The different challenges and hardships that arise in each production are what make stage management exciting and satisfying to me.

By continuing my studies, I hope to grow even more confident in my skill set of stage management and expand my knowledge in every aspect of theatre. I want to learn as much as I can in the next four years. Learning the skills and responsibilities of each department broadens my perspective as a stage manager. The more well-versed I am, the more I will be respected by members of these departments. Hence, this extensive knowledge will make me more proficient as a stage manager.

Ultimately, I'd like my career to lead me to a dynamic future. I understand that in the beginning of my career, I will likely need to take on roles other than stage management. By taking these opportunities, I will meet and collaborate with new people. As I grow, I envision myself taking on more responsibilities as I work through the industry. As for long-term goals, I would love to stage manage all types of theatre, including regional, touring, Broadway, educational, opera, dance, and more. However, I'd like to primarily work on new play development. The chance to support a new piece of art with a fresh perspective and original concepts is a dream come true. I am extremely interested in working with new playwrights at Pegasus PlayLab. By studying with the University of Central Florida, I will meet my goals in a healthy environment with hands-on experience. I am eagerly looking forward to a future with the theatre department.