



SIMONE COTTRELL

Phone: 918.716.6335
E-mail: sdcottrell@gmail.com
Websites: simonecottrell.com
www.linkedin.com/in/simone-cottrell

CREATIVE, CHANGEMAKER & ARTS + ARTISTS ADVOCATE

Multidisciplinary theatre-maker, social justice theatre liaison, and arts advocate with leadership and facilitation experience centering on anti-oppression, social practice, devising, and youth theatre with disinvested communities.

SKILLS

Public Speaking (panels, moderating) | Creative Writing (short stories, poetry, scripts) | Directing (social practice theatre & youth theatre) | Budgets | Grant Writing & Review (panelist) | Publicity and Marketing (PSAs, press releases, print & social media design) | Independent Study of Non-Profits

EXPERIENCE

SOCIAL JUSTICE THEATRE LIAISON

Start By Talking (September 2021 - June 2022) | Atlanta, GA

- Contracted position with anti-oppression group Start by Talking led by Wanda Swan
- Co-develop anti-oppressive arts administration and theatre strategies with SbT and non-profit Atlanta-based theatre company
- Guide SbT research team with nonprofit and theatre/arts knowledge

ARTS RESOURCE DESK MANAGER

CACHE (2020 - 2021) | Northwest Arkansas

- Served 592 artists + creatives + nonprofits during the first & second years of the start-up nonprofit during a pandemic
- Led the first NWA arts & culture comprehensive survey + co-created the report & brochure format
- Co-developed CACHE grants and CACHE-affiliated grants such as the Bridge Fund Grants, Jones Center RFQs, and Artists 3 60
- Created six resource programs to assist NWA arts & creative community

OUTREACH DIRECTOR

The Artist's Laboratory Theatre (2017 - 2019) | Fayetteville, AR

- Developed theatre curriculum with partners & communities
- Facilitated over 14 programs, regionally & statewide
- Directed final performances with communities
- Wrote grants to support outreach programs

ACADEMY MANAGER

Trike Theatre (2016 - 2017) | Bentonville, AR

- Developed and lead taught theatre curriculum quarterly + policies & procedures for ages 5 - 17; directed final workshop performances
- Maintained registration and budget sheets
- Supervised interns, teaching, artists & volunteers; direct contact for parents/guardians
- Key liaison and project manager for Bentonville Film Fest + Samsung youth film competition

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.

Mississippi State University - CA&S (2010 - 2016)

- Edited & reviewed grant proposals & budgets for 17 depts (avg \$23million/FY; NSF, NIH, NEH, USDA, etc.)
- Reviewed & edited graduate students' theses & dissertations
- Controlled flow of all business, hiring, and pay paperwork
- Directed and planned college events

MULTIDISCIPLINARY
THEATRE-MAKER**Lotus Rising Theatre (2019 - Present) | Northwest Arkansas**

- Artistically support NWA Southeast Asian narratives through dance, theatre, and cultural practices.
- Work with co-ethnic and multigenerational SEAsians to create original theatre pieces originating from narratives
- Develop cultural agreements to pace progress of art while respecting literal and figurative spaces

Dia de Muertos (Fall 2017) | Springdale, AR

- Artistically support NWA Latinx immigrant poultry workers
- Utilized movement, music, and theatre of the oppressed to develop a 20-minute performance piece about the immigration experience and work within a poultry factory.
- Performance was the central focus for the Dia de Muertos event led by Workers Justice Center.

Bwebwenato (2017 - 2019) | Springdale, AR

- Contracted with Marshallese Educational Initiative to develop original professional youth theatre based on the Marshallese oral traditions of bwebwenato.
- Developed & co-led cultural agreement with MEI
- Researched and co-wrote the script with MEI and youth
- Directed four young adults for public performances of Bwebwenato. All actors were paid equitably.

The Veterans Project (2016 - 2019) | Fayetteville, AR

- Contracted with Veterans Healthcare System of the Ozarks to develop original professional theatre performance
- Partnered with Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art for the visual art portion of project
- Researched and worked within the VA in-patient mental health ward, out-patient and substance abuse departments, and with nurses, psychologists, and healthcare administration to develop process.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Innovation & Interchange Grants Recipient, 2019 | Artists 3 60 Grant Recipient, 2019 | Planetree Global Person-Centered Healthcare Award, 2019 | PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story for Emerging Writers Nomination, 2016

EDUCATION

BA
COMMUNICATION - THEATRE

Mississippi State University (2003 - 2008)

Summa cum laude

GRAD LEVEL COURSES
ENGLISH - CREATIVE WRITING

Mississippi State University (2010 - 2015)

TRAINING

Interchange Grant Fellow (2019)
Artist INC Fellow (2019)
Sojourn Theatre (2018)
Lexington Children's Theatre (2008 - 2009)
Martha's Vineyard Creative Writing Institute (2015)