

Joe Gill

Assistant Professor of Theatre, Technical Director / Designer of the LMU Theatre, and LMU Faculty Athletic Representative

Biography

Joe Gill is the Assistant Professor of Theater at Lincoln Memorial University, Technical Director / Designer of the LMU Theatre, and the LMU Faculty Athletic Representative. He is also the former Director of the Arts in the Gap. Born in New York and moved to Los Angeles, Gill has worked in theatre all over the country and now planted his roots in East Tennessee. He holds an MFA in Contemporary Performance from Naropa University and a Master Degree in Theatre (emphasis in Directing) from California State University Los Angeles where he also earned his Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts and Dance. Over the last 35 years he has directed, performed and produced in many Los Angeles, New York and Colorado venues. In Los Angeles, Gill co-founded Mijo Productions and is also a member of both Moving Arts Theatre Company and Shumka Dance/Theatre Company. Before moving to the Cumberland Gap, he worked with Curious Theatre in Denver, Colorado. Gill has studied Viewpoints with Mary Overlie, Theatre of the Oppressed with Augusto Boal as well as many theatre methodologies. Gill recently directed shows locally such as *A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE*, *CLUE: THE MUSICAL*, and *TWELVE ANGRY JURORS* to name a few as well as adapts the classic works of William Shakespeare to work in an Appalachian setting when directing for Appalachian Shakespeare Festival, a part of Arts in The Gap.

Teaching and Research Interests

At LMU, Gill teaches Fundamentals of speech and all the Theatre classes and still works with the Arts in the Gap as an advisor and teacher. He is on the Board of Directors for Middlesboro Little Theatre, Advisory Board for Claiborne County JAM (Junior Appalachian Musicians), the faculty advisor for SAAC -student athletes association and The LMU Players (theatre club) as well as the Vice President of the Faculty Senate.

Currently he has been working with DCOM and CVM instructing Theatre performance training to the Standardized Patience as well as Ducan School of Law in which he presents workshops on Emotional Intelligence. Joe has facilitated many theatre workshops focused on self-scripted performances: working with urban children in Los Angeles, Homeless women in downtown Los Angeles, and young men dealing with substance abuse in Boulder, CO. It was in Colorado where he devised work with his students called *GLIMPSES...THE RISING DAWN* at Community College of Aurora; created in response to the Aurora Shootings that affected that local population.

Joe Gill's research interests surround theatre's importance in community and self-expression. He explores how the theatre and performance influence community, establish self-esteem, and positively affect society. He is also intrigued with how ecology and landscapes influence practitioner's art and performances as well as the working with the philosophy of Dharma in art.