

Karen Brown-Larimore

Costume Designer

karenbrownlarimore@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Position: Costumer/ Costume Designer
Organization: Madison Opera

Duration: 1998 til Present

- Design and oversee construction of designed operas. Coordinate the rental and rental returns of larger operas.
- Coordinate fittings and alterations. Oversee the construction of new costumes and accessories as needed.
- Coordinate the building, renting and purchasing of costumes for smaller operas.
- Hire, assign and oversee costume crew.
- Original Designs including A Little Night Music, Florencia en el Amazonia, Abduction at the Seraglio, Little Women, Acis and Galatea, Galileo Galilei, Three Penny Opera, Turn of the Screw and Tenderlands.

Position: Costumer/ Costume Designer
Organization: Madison Ballet

Duration: 2006 til Present

- Coordinate the fittings and alterations of stock ballets,
- Design replacement costumes as needed. Purchase fabric, cut patterns and oversee construction of new ballets.
- Hire, assign and oversee professional costume crew as well as train and oversee a volunteer crew'
- Design new ballets including Up all Night, Nuato, Groovy and World Premier of Dracula

Position: Costume Designer
Organization: Opera for the Young

Duration: 2008 til Present

- Design costumes for small touring company to schools throughout Wisconsin including Super Storm, Rusalka, Beauty and the Beast, Cinderella, Hansel and Gretel, Pirates of Penzance, Elixir of Love.
- Cut and build triple cast shows as well as student chorus. Oversee the construction and alterations of costumes.
- Coordinate and pack costumes for three month tour in a van.

Position: Costume Designer

Duration: 2013 til Present

Organization: Northern Sky Theatre (Formally American Folk lore Theater), Door County

- Design costumes for new musicals each season as well as redesigning or pulling one to two other musicals.
- Buy, cut and build as needed.
- Organize all three shows for outdoor summer rep.
- Original Designs including We Like it Where?, Dairy Heirs, Boxcar, Naked Radio, Oklahoma in Wisconsin, Doctor Doctor, No Bones about it, When Butter churns to Gold, Packer Fans from Outer Space, Strings Attached, Windjammers, Muskie Love and Loose Lips Sink Ships.

Position: Costume Designer

Duration: 2018

Organization: Capital City Theater- Madison

Design: On the Town, Hunchback of Notre Dame

- Design costumes
- Build and purchase costumes as needed
- Train Wardrobe crew.

Position: Costume Designer

Duration: 2013

Organization: Skylight Music Theatre, Milwaukee

Design: Fidelio

- Design costumes the Production of Fidelio, set in India..
- Oversee construction of costumes in India and Milwaukee. Purchase of Jewelry and Shoes from India.
- Build Turbans.

Position: Costume Designer
Organization: Madison Savoyards

Duration:1985,1986,1989,1990,1998,2008,2009,2010

- Design costumes for summer productions including HMS Pinafore, The Mikado, Yeoman of the Guard and Iolanthe.
- Cut, build, alter or borrow costumes as needed. Oversee the construction and alterations of costumes.
- Oversee the run crew as needed.

Previous Costume Design includes Madison Rep, UW Opera, UW Theatre as well as the UW Sesquicentennial Gala.

Position: Costume Shop Supervisor
Organization: University of Wisconsin, Madison

Duration:1984-1986,1998-2000

- Shop management includes budgeting, organization and maintenance of stock costumes, equipment and sewing supplies.
- Supervision of costume construction and alterations for 10-11 annual productions.
- Supervision and instruction for 3 backstage labs, a makeup class and 3 levels of pattern drafting.
- Coordination of 3 teaching assistants. Organization and training of wardrobe crew for all University Theatre productions.

Position: Wardrobe Assistant
Organization: The Little Mermaid National Tour

Duration: 2017- till tour end.

- Responsibilities include the training of local wardrobe crew, organizing and overseeing laundry crew and stitchers.

Position: Wig/ Hair Technician
Organization: Phantom of the Opera National Tour

Duration: 1992-1996

- Responsibilities include the styling and maintenance of over 30 wigs, the running of 8 shows per week and the application of wigs on 7 actors and their under studies.

Position: Dresser/ Wardrobe Projects
Organization: Phantom of the Opera National Tour

Duration: 1991-1992

Position: Dresser
Organization: Les Miserable National Tour

Duration: 1988-1991

Position: Production Wardrobe Head
Organization: Columbia Artists tour of Dreamgirls

Duration: 1988

Position: Star Dresser
Organization: My One and Only National Tour

Duration: 1987

Position: Star Dresser
Organization: Dreamgirls National Tour

Duration: 1986-1987

Previous Professional Experience includes: 1984-Shop Supervisor, Shakespeare in Central Park , Louisville, KY, 1983- Seamstress, Louisville Ballet, 1981- Head Cutter, Penn State Summer Theatre, 1979- Cutter, Seamstress, George St. Playhouse, New Brunswick, NJ, 1978-1979-Costume Assistant/ Wardrobe, Light Opera of Manhattan, 1978- Assistant design/ Head Wardrobe, Big Bad Burlesque (Orpheum Theatre) NYC.

Related Experience: Buyer for Mallatt's Pharmacy and Costumes since 1997-1998, 2000 to present.

Original design, patterning and prototypes for The American Girls Collection for Pleasant Company including the four original costumes for Samantha, Molly and Kirsten.

Skills include: Pattern Drafting, Hand Sewing, Machine Sewing, Corset Construction, Costume Fitting and Alterations Makeup Design and Application, Wig Design and Styling, Costume Shop Organization, Wardrobe Organization and Crew Training.

Education: MFA in Costume Design, University of Wisconsin-Madison, BFA in Technical Theatre, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Professional Affiliations: Member, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Local 251, 1984-Present

References:

Katheryn Smith, General Director- Madison Opera (608) 238-8085 smith@madisonopera.org

Diane Garton Edie, Artistic Director- Opera for the Young, (608) 334-2030 dge@operafortheyoung.org

Kathleen Rock, Stage Manager- Northern Sky Theater (920) 493-3187 neenspoons@yahoo.com