

CAYLA BEREJIKIAN

TEACHING ARTIST & EDUCATION PROGRAM LEADER

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Arts and education program leader, filmmaker, director, performer, and teaching artist with experience developing and managing programs in schools. Extensive background developing and teaching creative arts programming, both in enrichment organizations and professional arts-training environments. Combines hands-on experience in film, theatre, acting, and youth arts education with program leadership - including staff supervision, budgeting, operations, partnerships, enrollment, and curriculum development.

CORE EXPERTISE

Program Leadership & Development • Curriculum Design • Staff Hiring, Training & Supervision • Program Strategy & Operations • Budgeting • Partnerships & Community Engagement • Enrollment & Participant Experience • Film & Theatre Education

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Auxiliary Programs | A. Fantis School | *Brooklyn, NY | Aug 2026-Present*

- Lead auxiliary programming within a school community, overseeing the development and administration of enrichment and extended-learning opportunities.
- Manage program planning, operations, staffing, partnerships, and participant experience across auxiliary offerings.
- Collaborate with school leadership, educators, program providers, and families to support high-quality programming and sustainable program growth.

Manager of Auxiliary Programs | The Brooklyn Waldorf School | *Brooklyn, NY | Sep 2023-Aug 2026*

- Led strategy, planning, and daily administration for after-school, break, and summer programming, with responsibility for staffing, curriculum, enrollment, operations, and program quality.
- Recruited, hired, onboarded, supervised, and supported teaching artists, enrichment instructors, and seasonal program staff.
- Built and managed program budgets and financial tracking, forecasting revenue and expenses and supporting long-term program sustainability.
- Developed program calendars, schedules, operational systems, and workflows spanning registration, billing, attendance, staffing, and family communication.
- Cultivated relationships with teaching artists, external vendors, and community partners to expand enrichment and creative program offerings.

Filmmaking & Screen Acting Instructor (After School) | The Brooklyn Waldorf School | *Brooklyn, NY | January 2025-May 2026*

- Designed semester-long programs integrating writing, directing, performance, and visual storytelling; guided students from concept through production and post-production.
- Produced student filmmaking and film-acting showcases and edited completed student film projects.

Drama Instructor (After School) | 2025-2026 | The Brooklyn Waldorf School | *Brooklyn, NY | January 2025-May 2026*

- Designed ensemble-based theatre programs centered on storytelling, improvisation, character development, and collaborative creation, culminating in original devised plays.

Acting Instructor, Kids & Teens | New York Film Academy | *New York, NY | Jul 2022-Dec 2023*

- Designed and taught acting curriculum for artists ages 10-18 in a professional arts-training environment, including Acting for Film, Scene Study, Monologue Preparation, Casting, and Business of Acting.
- Supervised production workshops, directed final performance and film projects, and facilitated constructive peer feedback.

Acting Instructor, Kids & Teens | Actors Technique NY | *New York, NY | Jul 2023-Jan 2024*

- Taught scene study, monologue preparation, and Meisner-based acting classes, supporting truthful character work, emotional connection, and performance confidence.

Substitute Teacher | Hunter College Campus Schools | *New York, NY | Nov 2021-Jun 2023*

- Acted as both lead and assistant teacher across K-12 classrooms. Implemented lesson plans across subjects, supporting students with various needs and abilities

Enrichment Instructor | New York Enrichment Group | *New York, NY | Jan 2022-Jan 2023*

- Developed and facilitated arts-based programming in theatre, improvisation, comedy, debate, and poetry.

Drama Instructor | Future Leaders Institute Charter School | *New York, NY | Sep-Dec 2021*

- Developed acting curriculum centered on ensemble building, character development, improvisation, and foundational performance techniques; prepared students for a final showcase.

Theater Specialist | Park Slope Day Camp | *New York, NY | Jun-Aug 2021*

- Developed and implemented eight weeks of theatre curriculum for ages 3-17, using storytelling, improvisation, rehearsal, and performance to foster collaboration and creative expression.

Associate Teacher | The IDEAL School of Manhattan | *New York, NY | Aug 2020-Jun 2021*

- Provided consistent 1:1 support to a student with special needs in an inclusion-model classroom; developed and implemented individualized goals, adapted lessons and materials to support curriculum access, collaborated with teachers and therapists, monitored progress, and communicated regularly with the student's family.

SELECTED ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE

FILM

- April - Short Film | Writer, Director & Editor | 2025 | Brooklyn Film Festival Official Selection, 2026
- We Need to Talk - Short Film | Writer & Editor | 2025
- The Hookup - Short Film | Writer | 2025

THEATRE DIRECTING

- Learning to Die - Full-Length Play | New York Theater Festival Summerfest | 2022
- Blood and Prayer - Full-Length Play | Imaginarium Theatre Company | 2021
- Asphodels - Full-Length Play | New York Theater Festival Winterfest | 2020
- Additional directing work presented through Emerging Artists Theatre, New York Theater Festival, Broke People Theatre Group, and other new-work programs.

PLAYWRITING

- Selected produced work includes Learning to Die (New York Theater Festival Summerfest, 2022), Waiting (Imaginarium Theatre Company, 2021), Don't Say I'm Not Real (Emerging Artists Theatre, 2019), Life or Not (New York New Works Theatre Festival / Emerging Artists Theatre, 2018), and End of April (New York Theater Festival Winterfest, 2018).

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

B.A., Psychology | New York University | *New York, NY*

Minors: Film Production; Child Development & Social Intervention

Hagen Teacher's Lab | HB Studio | *New York, NY* | August 2026

Brian Mulligan, Director • *Trudy Steibl, Acting Technique*

- Completed an intensive five-day professional teacher-training program exploring Uta Hagen's approach to acting and actor education through Exercises, Scene Study, acting practice, and the application of rigorous, discovery-based principles to classroom instruction.

Additional HB Studio Training: Scene Study - Josiah Bania (2024) • Acting - Francesca Ferrara (2023)

Drama Training | Tisch School of the Arts / Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute (2016-2017) | *New York, NY*

Method Acting • Voice • Speech • Improvisation • Dance • Movement

Additional Training: Screen Acting - Stonestreet Studios | NYU Tisch (2018)

Alexander Technique | The Barrow Group | *New York, NY*

Belinda Mello (2021)