

# Crestcencia Ortiz-Barnett, MA, MFA, Ph.D.

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## EDUCATION

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### **Ph.D. in Education, University of Arizona Global Campus**

**Dissertation Title:** A phenomenological exploration of sense of belonging in First-Generation African American Female Students and its Influence on persistence to Graduation.

### **MFA in Theatre Directing, Arizona State University**

**Research Focus:** Belonging, Impostor Syndrome, and Community Building, and its Impact on Students of Color in Theatre.

### **MA in Theatre, University of Nevada Las Vegas**

**Thesis Title:** African American Student Theatre Organization Involvement and the College Experience at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

### **BA in Theater, University of Nevada Las Vegas**

## AWARDS

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GPSA JEDI Social Justice Spotlight Award	2024
ASU Gammage Fellowship	2023
GPSA JEDI Social Justice Spotlight Award	2023
Arizona State University Catalyst Award	2023
ASU Music Dance and Theatre Best Mentor	2023
ASU Music Dance and Theatre Best Mentor	2022
Presidential Graduate Assistant Scholarship	2021
UNLV alumni of Excellence Award	2018
Humanitarian Award from Delta Tau Lambda Sorority Inc.	2010
UNLV Roosevelt Fitzgerald Award	2011
UNLV Student Committed to Diversity Award	2010

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **2024 - Present**

**Assistant Professor of Theatre – Theatre Historian, North Carolina A&T State University**

Theatre History I & II

African American Drama I & II

**2021-2024****Teaching Associate, Department of Music Dance and Theatre, Arizona State University**

Introduction to Directing  
African American Theatre  
Acting Concentration

**2016-2017****Instructor, Department of English (Okinawa Japan) Central Texas College**

Beginning English for ESL learners  
Intermediate English for ESL learners  
Advanced English for ESL learners

**2012-2013****Instructor, Geumchon Middle School, Paju S. Korea**

Beginning English for ESL Learners  
Intermediate English for ESL Learners

**2011-2012****Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Theatre, University of Nevada Las Vegas**

Developed and delivered presentations once a week for Black Theatre and Performance Course.  
Graded exams and aided professor with research.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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**2023****Educational Outreach Student Services Intern****Supervisor: Dr. Cassandra Aska**

Develop and facilitate program activities for ASU's college readiness program, RISE, that celebrates and continues the legacy of Black and African American Sun Devils at Arizona State University.

**2022-Present****Founder and Artistic Director, ASU Black Theatre Organization****Advisor: Rachel Finley**

Weigh in on decisions made by the organization's board, organize the season selection committee, and solidify the year's productions.

**2022-2023****Directing Mentor, Department of Music Dance and Theatre, Arizona State University**

**Advisor: William Partlan**

One on one meetings with undergraduate directors working on student productions for advance directing classes.

**2021-2023**

**Play Selection Committee Member**

Weigh in on decisions regarding the theatre department's season selection of performances.

**2021-2022**

**Founder and President, ASU Black Theatre Organization**

**Advisor: Rachel Finley**

Mentored undergraduate students in the formation of a student theatre organization. Created additional opportunities in the form of Monologue competitions, directing opportunities, productions, workshops, and community building outings.

**2017-2021**

**Vice-President, Lady Ambassadors Softball Organization, (Armed Forced Dependents)**

Performed administrative support duties. Coordinated international softball tournaments. Coordinated fundraising events, Coordinated annual Veteran's Day Softball Tournaments. Administered estimates and contracts. Maintained records associated with assigned events.

**2009-2012**

**Founder, President & Artistic Director, African American Student Associate Theatre and Film**

**Advisor: Clarence Gilyard**

Created Organization with the aim to create more opportunities for students of color in theatre.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS / GUEST LECTURE**

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Ortiz-Barnett, C (2024, July). Black Theatre Network's Annual Convening, Centering Blackness: Nurturing the Creative Spirit. Winston-Salem, N.C.

Ortiz-Barnett, C (2024, June). Caribbean Philosophical Association, Decolonizing Epistemologies: Arizona State University's Black Theatre Organization and Belonging. Quintana Roo, Mexico

Ortiz-Barnett, C (2023, November). Black Excellence Experience Tour, Guest Speaker. Tempe AZ.

Ortiz-Barnett, C (2023, November). Black Acting Methods Workshop. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

Ortiz-Barnett, C (2023, October). Black Student Union Network AZ Conference Keynote Speaker. Tempe, AZ.

Ortiz-Barnett, C (2023, July). Transformative Myths: Arizona State University's Black Theatre Organization and Belonging, University of Ghana, Accra.

Ortiz-Barnett, C. (2018, July). College Success 101. Second Annual MCCS Summer College Conference, Okinawa, Japan.

Ortiz, C. (2012, May) Latino Heritage Commencement Speaker, Las Vegas, NV

Ortiz, C. (2011, July). A Roadmap to Student Success & Financial Preparedness. Multicultural Youth Leadership Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Ortiz, C. (2010, May). African American Heritage Commencement Speaker. Las Vegas, NV.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Directors Gather

Delta Tau Lambda Sorority Inc.

Arizona State University Black Alumni Association

University of Nevada Las Vegas Alumni Association

## **RECENT DIRECTING EXPERIENCE**

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*Detroit '67* by Dominique Morisseau

*Pipeline* by Dominique Morisseau

*NEAT* by Charlayne Woodard

*Who Made Robert Dinero King* by Jason Katmis

*Miss Evers' Boys* by David Feldshuh

*For Colored Girls...* by Ntozake Shange

*Instructions on How to Love a Black Girl* by J. Rich

*Aladdin Jr.* by Chad Beguelin

Arizona State University

Black Theatre Organization

Black Theatre Organization

Arizona State University

UNLV Student Theatre

UNLV Student Theatre

UNLV Student Theatre

Shreveport Little Theatre

## **RECENT ASSISTANT DIRECTING EXPERIENCE**

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*Bright Star* by Steve Martin & Edie Brickell

*Everybody* by Branden Jacobs Jenkins

*Seven Guitars* by August Wilson

*A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams

*The Mystery of Irma Vep* by Charles Ludlum

*Blues for Mr. Charlie* by James Baldwin

Arizona State University

Arizona State University

Nevada Conservatory Theatre

Nevada Conservatory Theatre

Auburn University Theatre

Auburn University Theatre

## **DRAMATURGY EXPERIENCE**

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*Detroit '67* by Dominique Morisseau  
*Kill Move Paradise* by James IJames  
*Pipeline* by Dominique Morisseau  
*Neat* by Charlayne Woodard  
*Everybody* by Branden Jacobs -Jenkins

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AND FUNDING**

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ASU Culture and Access	\$2,000	<b>2024</b>
Hayden Library Grant	\$1,000	<b>2024</b>
GPSA Jump-Start Grant	\$750	<b>2024</b>
Applied Project Grant	\$800	<b>2024</b>
Dean's Creative Council Grant	\$2,000	<b>2024</b>
ASU Gammage Herberger Scholarship	\$2,000	<b>2023-2024</b>
ASU Talent Award	\$4,000	<b>2023-2024</b>
Career Development Award	\$500	<b>2023</b>
Education Outreach Grant	\$500	<b>2023</b>
ASU Talent Award	\$4,000	<b>2022-2023</b>
Presidential Development Award	\$500	<b>2022</b>
Music Dance and Theatre Grant	\$500	<b>2022</b>
Presidential Graduate Assistantship	\$150,000.00	<b>2021-2024</b>

## **EVENTS & PRODUCTIONS PRODUCED**

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University wide Motown Block Party  
Arizona State University

Undergraduate Monologue Competition  
Arizona State University

Poetry Slam  
Arizona State University

*PIPELINE* by Dominique Morisseau  
Arizona State University

*NEAT* by Charlayne Woodard  
Arizona State University

Alumni Celebration and viewing of *Miss Evers' Boys* by David Feldshuh  
University of Nevada Las Vegas

*For Colored Girls who Considered Suicide when the Rainbow was Enuf* by Ntozake Shange  
University of Nevada Las Vegas

Roast of Michael Tylo at  
University of Nevada Las Vegas

## **UNIVERSITY LEVEL COURSES TAUGHT**

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Acting Concentration	SPRING 2024
African American Theatre	SPRING 2024
Acting Concentration	FALL 2023
Intro to Directing	FALL 2023
African American Theatre	SPRING 2023
Intro to Directing	SPRING 2023
Acting Concentration	FALL 2022
Intro to Directing	FALL 2022
African American Theatre	SPRING 2022
Intro to Directing	SPRING 2022
English as a Second Language	SPRING 2017
English as a Second Language	FALL 2016

## REFERENCES

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William Partlan  
Associate Professor of Directing  
[William.Partlan@asu.edu](mailto:William.Partlan@asu.edu)

Dr. Karen Jean Martinson  
Assistant Professor  
[Karen.jean.Martinson@asu.edu](mailto:Karen.jean.Martinson@asu.edu)

Kristin Hunt  
Asst. Director of Theatre  
Associate Professor  
[Kmhunt7@asu.edu](mailto:Kmhunt7@asu.edu)

Colleen Jennings-Roggensack  
Vice president for Cultural Affairs &  
Executive Director of ASU Gammage  
[cjr@asu.edu](mailto:cjr@asu.edu)

Michael Reed  
Senior Director of Programs and Organizational Initiatives  
ASU Gammage  
[Mreed@asu.edu](mailto:Mreed@asu.edu)