

SONNY E. KELLY
www.legacyheirsproductions.com

EDUCATION

PhD, UNC Chapel Hill, North Carolina May 2020

Communication (Performance Studies), Advised by Renée Alexander Craft, PhD
Dissertation: *Pipelines to Pathways: Reframing & Reclaiming Black Youth Identities through Performance*

MA, St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas, May 2008

Communication Studies, Advised by Alan Cirlin, PhD

BA, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, June 1998

International Relations Major/Economics Minor. Latin American Development

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Instructor: *Intro to Interpersonal Communication, Intercultural Communication, and Public Speaking*, Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) (2020 to present)
- Instructor for Cumberland County's Arts Council *Artists in Schools* (2017 to present)
- Graduate Instructor: *Intro to Performance of Culture* (2019), *Intro to Performance* (2018), *Intro to Performing Literature* (2018), UNC Chapel Hill
- Teaching Assistant, *Intro to Interpersonal Communication*, UNC Chapel Hill (2017)
- Teaching Assistant, *Performing African American History*, UNC Chapel Hill (2017)
- Teaching Assistant, *Introduction to Performance*, UNC Chapel Hill (2017)
- Teaching Assistant, *Intro to Media Production*, UNC Chapel Hill (2016)
- Facilitator of Self-Expression Workshops and Public Performances for youth, Boomerang Youth, Inc., Chapel Hill, NC & Find-A-Friend, Fayetteville, NC (2015 – 2019)
- Facilitator of Interactive Theater, *Theater Delta*, Durham, NC (2015 - present)
- Adjunct Instructor, *Public Speaking*, Robeson Community College, NC (2015 – 2016)
- Adjunct Instructor, *Public Speaking*, FTCC (Aug., 2015 – 2016)
- Adjunct Instructor, *Fundamentals of Speech & Communication*, Northeast Lakeview College, San Antonio, TX (Aug., 2008 - Dec.2011)
- Teaching Assistant, *Business and Professional Communication* (2005), *Fundamentals of Oral Communication* (Fall, 2006), St. Mary's University, TX
- Adjunct Instructor, *English as a Second Language*, FTCC Continuing Educ. (2003-2004)
- Adjunct Instructor, *Success & Study Skills*, FTCC (2003-2004)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- *Personally Connected Pedagogy*, National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD), North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) First Generation Symposium, & The Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Growth, Understanding, Inclusion, Diversity, & Equity (G.U.I.D.E.) Conference, 2021
- *Institute for Personally Connected Pedagogy*, FTCC (2021-2022)
- *Meeting Students Where They Are*, Carolina Communication Association (2021)
- *1770 to 2020: Race, Revolt & Resistance*, Carolina K-12
- *Storytelling for Resilience*, Franklin County Schools, April 2020
- *Storytelling for Social Impact*, Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs, Oct 2019
- *Autoethnographic Engagements: Surviving with/in Scholarship* (panelist), 2019, NCA
- *Performatively Unpacking the Race Talk*, 2021 UNC Greensboro Free Speech Conference

PUBLICATIONS

- **“Mental Health During COVID-19: Community-Based Arts Addressing African American Experiences”** by Marie A. Garlock, Eunice N. Sahle, Sonny E. Kelly, Michael S. Williams, and Stacey L. Kirby, in *African Public Interest Journal* (Volume 1, Spring 2023)
- **"SEL in History Class: Social and Emotional Learning in Context"** by Terrence McAllister & Sonny Kelly, in *The Journal of Social & Emotional Learning* (February 2022, Vol. 3, Issue 8)
- **“All Things Work Together”**, in *Be Encouraged by Black Men* (Ed. Jerrica Stovall) (2020)
- **“The Talk: Crucial Conversations for Contemporary Kids of Color in the New South”** for publication in the Fall 2019 special issue of *Southern Cultures*
- **“Mike Wiley is A Multi-Faceted Artist on a Mission for Social Change”** (November 2018), in *The Routledge Companion to African American Theatre and Performance*. Edited by Kathy A. Perkins, Sandra L. Richards, Renée Alexander Craft and Thomas F. DeFrantz.

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- National Institute for Staff & Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award, 2022
- UNC Chapel Hill *Tanner Teaching Assistants Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching*, 2018
- UNC Chapel Hill Department of Communication *Martha Nell Hardy Award for Teaching*, 2018

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Communication Instructor, Fayetteville Technical Community College (March 2020 – present)

- Teach Interpersonal Communication, Intercultural Communication, & Public Speaking
- Head of curriculum enhancement for Interpersonal Communication course

Actor, Writer, Director, Storyteller, Public Speaker & Facilitator (1990 - present)

- Producer, writer, and facilitator of community/school/youth workshops and performances

Director of Operations & Programs, Fayetteville Urban Ministry (July 2012 -July 2015)

- Public speaker, advocate, and translator for non-profit industry and clients
- Trained, coached, and managed a staff of 13 employees and a budget of \$950,000

Director, Find-A-Friend, Fayetteville Urban Ministry (January 2012 – July 2012)

- Facilitated discussions, workshops and programming for marginalized youth
- Recruited and trained adult volunteers to become mentors and youth workers

Director, Children & Youth Council, New Creation Christian Fellowship (Sep 2009 –Dec 2011)

- Taught large groups of youth and young adults in character development and leadership
- Developed and implemented a plan to serve 400 K-12 youth with moral and emotional support

Healthcare Representative, Pfizer, Inc. (February 2006 – September 2009)

- Consistent excellent performance, recognized internationally for outstanding performance

Admissions Counselor, St. Mary’s University, TX (May 2005 – February 2006)

- Conducted recruitment and orientation campaigns in Mexico, TX, LA and GA

Coordinator, Governor’s One-on-One, Fayetteville Urban (January 2003 – June 2004)

- Recruited, trained, equipped, and supervised over 40 volunteers to mentor at-risk youth

Air Force Intelligence Officer (August, 1998 - December, 2002)

- Instructed over 1,000 military personnel in safety, threats and current affairs
- Managed multiple personnel and research projects to enhance war fighters’ awareness