SONNY KELLY

www.sonnykelly.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)
- 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 Organizational Communication*, UNC Chapel Hill (2016)
- 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

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (cont'd)

- Trauma-Informed Performance-Based Intervention for Marginalized Youth, 2018 NCA Annual Convention (Training and Development Division)
- The Talk performance at the 2018 NCA Annual Convention (African American Communication and Culture Division)
- Aspiring Beyond the Achievement Gap: An Analytic Transformation in Education, 2018 NCA Annual Convention (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Unit) *Top Paper Award
- Reframing "The Talk": Aesthetics of Resisting Negative Biotropes of Black Youth, 2018 NCA Convention (Scholar to Scholar Unit)
- Pipelines to Pathways: Empowering Marginalized Youth of Color Through **Embodied Performance** at the Black Communities: A Conference for Collaboration, Duke University, April, 2018
- From Sidekicks to Superheroes: The Importance of Positive Black Protagonists in the Development of Self-Concept for Youth of Color NC State University's African American Cultural Center, 2018
- Pipelines to Pathways: Empowering Marginalized Youth of Color Through Embodied Performance at the Black Communities: A Conference for Collaboration, Duke University, 2018
- The Power of Words: Storytelling for Non-Profits at Action Pathways Annual Second Harvest Food Bank Partner Training, Fayetteville, NC, October, 2015
- Winning the Dope Game: A Youth Workers' Guide to Combating the Draw of Sex, **Drugs and Technology Among Teens** at the North Carolina Juvenile Services Agency Conference, Carolina Beach, NC. March 11, 2015

PUBLICATIONS

- "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" published in the Fall 2019 special issue of Southern Cultures, themed "Left/Right" in celebration of the journal's 25th anniversary.
- "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.

RECOGNITIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Fayetteville Urban Ministry, Find-A-Friend Advisory Council since Aug. 2016
- National Communication Association (Black Caucus) 2015 present

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- National Institute for Staff & Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award, 2022
- UNC Chapel Hill, Department of Communication, Sherrill-Pence Award for Applied/ Engaged Communication, 2019
- UNC Chapel Hill College of Arts & Sciences Lampley Graduate Fellowship, 2018-2019
- UNC Chapel Hill Initiative for Minority Excellence, Chancellor's Doctoral Candidacy Award, 2018
- UNC Chapel Hill Tanner Teaching Assistants Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2018

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS (Cont'd)

- UNC Chapel Hill Department of Communication Martha Nell Hardy Award for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching, 208
- UNC Chapel Hill Student Undergraduate Teaching and Staff Award for Undergrad Teaching, 2017
- UNC Chapel Hill The Maynard Adams Fellowship for Public Humanities Fellow, 2017-2018
- UNC Chapel Hill Carolina Center for Public Service Community Engagement Fellow, 2017
- UNC Chapel Hill Institute of African Amer. Research Grad Student Summer Research Grant, 2017
- UNC Chapel Hill Graduate Certificate in Participatory Research Seed Grant, summer 2016
- Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County Regional Artist Project Grant, 2016
- FTCC Foundation, Inc. Award for community performances 2016
- UNC Chapel Hill Performing Arts Special Activity Grant- community performance, 2015 2016
- UNC Chapel Hill North Carolina Excellence Fellowship, 2015 2016

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

Primary Investigator, My Life Matters Participatory Action Research Project (2016 – 2020)

- Facilitated six-week performance-based self-expression project for 30 50 youths
- Collaborated with youths in Photovoice, ethnography, and performance projects

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 through performance, lecture, and facilitated discussions

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