

Bess Kaye

Fight and Intimacy Director
thebesskayescenario.com

Professional Credits

*A Bright Room Called Day**, Nu Sass and Pinky Swear Productions, Dir. Aria Velz 2024

*A Midsummer Night's Dream**, PG County's Shakespeare in the Park, Dir. Randy Snight, July 2024

An Unbuilt Life, Washington Stage Guild, Dir. Steven Carpenter, May 2024

American Psycho, Monumental Theater, Dir. Michael Windsor, May 2024

*Coriolanus**, Avant Bard, Dir. Séamus Miller, March 2024

Victorian Ladies Detective Collective, Washington Stage Guild, Dir. Morgan Duncan, 2024

*As You Like It**, Sunday Night Shakespeare, Dir. Séamus Miller, 2024

*Two Gentlemen of Verona**, STC's Academy, Dir. Danny Crane, 2023

*Cymbeline**, STC's Academy, Dir. Alec Wild, 2023

Monstress, Flying V, Dir. Kelly Colburn, 2023

*Only Love: A Fresh Cut of Romeo & Juliet**, DC Capital Fringe Festival, Dir. Madeleine Smith 2023

*The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged (Revised) (Again)**, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Dir. Ian Gallanar 2023

*Pericles**, STC's Academy, Dir. Greg Strasser 2022

Romeo and Juliet, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Dir. Séamus Miller 2020

Macbeth, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Dir. Ian Gallanar. 2020

Be More Chill, Monumental Theater, Dir. Izzy Smelkinson 2019

Macbeth, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Dir. Séamus Miller 2019

Hamlet, STC's Academy, Dir. Dan Crane 2018

Assistant Fight Choreographer: *Lear*, The Shakespeare Theater, Dir. Simon Godwin 2023

Assistant Fight Choreographer: *Henry V*, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Dir. Alec Wild 2022

* Indicates Intimacy Director

Educational Credits

Les Miserable, Yorktown High School, Dir. Alani Kravitz, 2024

Les Miserable, Episcopal High School, Dir. Michael Windsor, 2024

The Curious Case of the Dog in the Nighttime, Dir. Omar Cruz, 2024

The Play that Goes Wrong, Yorktown High School, Dir. Alani Kravitz, 2023

Carrie, West Potomac High School, Dir. Omar Cruz, 2023

The Lightning Thief, South County High School, Dir. Molly Rumberger 2023

Legally Blonde, West Potomac High School, Dir. Omar Cruz 2023

Dracula, Lake Braddock High School, Dir. RL Mirabel 2023

The Play that Goes Wrong, Robinson Secondary School, Dir. Megan Thrift 2022

She Kills Monsters, South County High School, Dir. Molly Rumberger 2022

Be More Chill, West Potomac High School, Dir. Peelee Clark. 2022

Night of the Living Dead, dir. Peelee Clark 2021

Stage Combat Instructor

Fight Director for Fairfax County Public Schools: *Institute for the Arts, Stage Combat Instructor 2022-2024*

Taught classes of 12 to 16 high school aged students in 3 levels of combat: Unarmed, Broadsword, Rapier & Dagger with a focus on safety and story leading to performance over summer semester.

STC's Academy: *Teaching Assistant to Fight Master Robb Hunter and on-staff Intimacy Consultant 2018-present*

Assist teaching required moves for Unarmed, Rapier and Dagger, and Broadsword as dictated by the SAFD working towards final adjudication for class of 17 to 24 students over an academic year. Facilitate consent-forward conversations among each cohort and choreograph intimacy for in-class scene work and rep shows.

Noble Blades: *Teaching Assistant and Associate Instructor 2018-present*

Assisted Robb Hunter in 30-hour classes leading to adjudication and subsisted teaching classes solo: Unarmed, Sword and Shield, Single Sword, Broadsword.

Instructed master classes in Unarmed, Sword and Shield, and Broadsword.

Instructed master classes in Intro to Cinematic Blade Work for 10 to 18 year olds.

SAFD Workshop Experience

Brawl of America 2024

Three classes TBD

Tourist Trap 2024

Is it Real? The Safety and Story of Visceral Contact Technique: Open, Unarmed

It's All in the Text: How Shakespeare Informs the Fight: Open, Single Sword

Lonestar Smash 2022

Production Assistant

Training

Society of American Fight Directors: Advanced Actor Combatant

Recommended Pass: Staff (2023), Knife (2023), Sword and Shield (2023), Rapier and Dagger (2023), Broadsword (2022), Unarmed (2022), Single Sword (2022), Small Sword (2023)

Certified in Theatrical Firearms Safety 2021

Intimacy Directors and Coordinators: Consent Forward Artist Certified

IDC Training: Judi Lewis, Cessa Betancourt, Jenny Male, Ashley White, Dan Granke

Stage Combat Training: Robb Hunter, Casey Caleba, Jon Rubin, Alan Suddeth, Jenny Male

Fight Choreography Training: Tonya Lynn, Lisa Kopitsky, Jon Rubin, Lewis Shaw, David Brimmer, Robb Hunter, Casey Kaleba

MFA Classical Acting, STC's Academy at The George Washington University, 2018

BA Theatre Arts, College of William and Mary, 2009

References Available