RICHARD E. HARRIS

Columbia, MO | richardharris262@yahoo.com | (323) 633-1501 | Facebook: facebook.com/@richard.e.harris

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Up-and-coming playwright, actor, musician, sound engineer, and educator with decades of experience in television, film, theater, and music production.

Currently developing two theatrical works: a play about my grandmother, Dr. Opal Lee, and The King Club, based loosely on my life as a recording artist during the 80s and 90s.

Specializing in Meisner acting technique, audio mixing, and sound design for live and recorded performances. Passionate about storytelling, Black history, and community engagement through the arts.

EXPERIENCE

Theater Performer | The Saint Louis Black Rep (2025 - Present)

- Performing in Melda Beaty's Coconut Cake, part of the International Black Theatre Festival's Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin Rolling Premiere Award.
- Engaged in post-show discussions and community outreach programs.

Actor | The Lyceum Theatre, Arrow Rock, MO (2024 - 2025)

- Featured in A Christmas Carol (2024 Season), performing in a critically acclaimed holiday production.
- Contributed to immersive storytelling through character development and audience engagement.

Actor | Film & Television (Ongoing)

- Auditioned and booked roles in television and film, including Holiday Touchdown (Hallmark, 2024).
- Experienced in dramatic and comedic roles, voiceover, and on-screen performance.

Audio Mixer & Sound Designer | Freelance (2024 - Present)

- Providing professional sound mixing and boom operation for independent films and live productions.
- Specializing in high-quality audio capture and post-production sound design.

Adjunct Instructor | Stephens College, Columbia, MO (2024 - Present)

- Teaching Radio Drama, emphasizing voice acting, storytelling, and sound design.
- Guiding students through hands-on production of original audio narratives.

Founder & Writer | Black Columbia Monologues Project (2024 - Present)

- Developing a series of scripted monologues celebrating the lives of African American figures in Columbia, MO.
- Collaborating with historians, educators, and community leaders to preserve local Black history.

EDUCATION

Cedar Valley College - B.A. in Recording Technology

Howard University - Studied Music Education for three years before transitioning to professional pursuits.

Actors Workout Studio, North Hollywood - Studied Acting for four years with a focus on the Sandy Meisner Technique.

SKILLS

- Acting (Theater, Film, Television, Voiceover)
- Sound Design & Mixing (Live & Recorded)
- Music Production & Performance (Piano, R&B, Popular Music)
- Playwriting & Screenwriting

- Audio Editing & Post-Production
- Teaching & Workshop Facilitation
- Community Engagement & Historical Interpretation

SELECTED PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

- Tribute to Dr. Opal Lee The Grandmother of Juneteenth (2024)
 - Featured presenter for The John William Boone Foundation's Coffee & Conversation event.
- Sharp End District Revitalization
- Collaborating with local organizations to preserve the history and legacy of Columbia's Black business district.
- Juneteenth Annual Charity Golf Tournament (Upcoming Project)
- Planning a premier golf event to honor the national holiday and support community initiatives in the DFW area.

AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Minority Men's Network & Educational Foundation (Columbia, MO)
- Actors' Equity Association (AEA) Eligible for Membership
- Screen Actors Guild American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA)
- New Play Exchange (NPX) Member

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

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- Recognized for contributions to Black theater and community storytelling.
- Featured in Coconut Cake podcast interview with Lynn Venhaus.

CONTACT

Email: richardharris262@yahoo.com | Phone: (323) 633-1501 | Facebook: