

ANDREA AMBAM

curriculum vitae

www.andreaambam.com

EDUCATION

2020 NEW YORK UNIVERSITY MASTER OF ARTS IN ART & PUBLIC POLICY

performing narratives with anna deavere smith
play story analysis: shakespeare, politics, and contemporary drama with oskar eustis
advanced playwriting with judy tate
creative response: performance matters with karen finley

2019 WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY

scholar of the college

TEACHING/WORK EXPERIENCE

NOW BROADWAY ADVOCACY COALITION facilitator for reimagining equitable productions working Broadway & National Tour Companies

2015-NOW PUBLIC SPEAKING COACH + SPEECHWRITER speech and debate coach (1 national champion, 5 national finalists) + speechwriter for Angela Rye's "Rye Rants"

2020-2021 GIRLS WRITE NOW curating, hosting, & producing arts-education workshops, salons and special events

2020 ANNA DEAVERE SMITH: ONE PERSON SHOWS artist-in-residence, NYU class

2020 CREATIVE DISRUPTORS teaching artist, TischRepresents community class

2020 NYU PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM teaching artist, ethnodrama workshop

2019-2020 TED CONFERENCES, LLC curation intern for Ted Talks (art + current affairs)

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

DARE I USE THE WORD nyu verbatim performance lab, virtual, 2021

Actor. Performance on first amendment + cancel culture. In partnership with NYU Brademas Center. Created by Keith Huff, Joe Salvatore, & Tammie Swopes.

REHEARSING JUSTICE broadway advocacy coalition— the fellowship hall, nyc, 2021

Creator, Writer, Performer. Debut One-Woman Show following a time-traveling Ida B. Wells on 21st century anti-lynching crusade, developed under 6-month activism fellowship with [Broadway Advocacy Coalition](#). Premiered virtually in May of 2021.

R(ESTORATION) I(N) P(ROGRESS)* provincetown playhouse, nyc, 2021

Playwright. Full-length play following an estranged mother and son seeking justice for husband/father after a deadly police interaction. *Commissioned for a week of development culminating to a public reading under NYU Steinhardt's New Plays for Young Audiences Initiative. *Semi-finalist for Ashland New Plays Festival.*

ICONS: HARLEM RENAISSANCE IN MOTION classical theatre of harlem/playbill, nyc, 2021

Writer commissioned to create original monologues based on figures from the Harlem Renaissance for the ICON series. Published in [Playbill](#).

REWRITING THE DECLARATION free street theater (chicago) & nyu steinhardt, virtual, 2020

Actor/Ensemble Member. [Devised show](#) catalyzed by the movement Directed by Quenna Lene Barrett.

YOU CAN'T UNRING THE BELL nyu verbatim performance lab, virtual, 2020

Actor. [Special performance](#) on the history of voting rights in America. In partnership with NYU Brademas Center, NYU Votes, and NYU Government Affairs. Created by Keith Huff, Joe Salvatore, & Tammie Swopes.

MAKING GAY HISTORY: BEFORE STONEWALL provincetown playhouse, nyc, 2020

Actor. Adapted from the [Making Gay History Podcast](#). Directed by Joe Salvatore. Collaboration with Eric Marcus.

THE DEMOCRATIC VOICES PROJECT nyu verbatim performance lab, nyc, 2020

Actor. [Guess the Candidate](#): verbatim performance of Democratic candidates' policy statements with race and gender swaps. Live and Online. Directed by Joe Salvatore.

DIVIDED WE STAND: STAGED READING centre for social innovation, nyc, 2020

Actor. Women interviewed about their experiences surrounding the 2016 election. Directed by Carmen Miller.

BANG BANG GUN AMOK III abron's arts center, nyc, 2019

Actor. A [24-hour performance filibuster](#) to end gun violence. Performance of "If Black Girls Could Speak" Hosted by George Emilio Sanchez.

PUBLICATIONS

Andrea Ambam. (2020, August 30). [How Breonna Taylor's death reaffirmed my commitment to finding justice in abolition](#). gal-dem.

MENTIONED

[We Were the Last of The Nice Negro Girls by Anna Deavere Smith/The Atlantic \(2021\)](#). "Andrea Ambam, an excellent recent graduate of mine..."

[WKU Forensics Team's Andrea Ambam tops in the nation \(2019\)](#). "Andrea Ambam is the most successful speech competitor in America today -- and the most successful in WKU's history."

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- **ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE**- brooklyn arts exchange, 2021-22
- **INAUGURAL ARTIVISM FELLOW**- broadway advocacy coalition, 2020-21
- **EMERGENYC FELLOW**- hemispheric institute of performance and politics, 2020
- **OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD FOR BUILDING BRIDGES**- new york university, 2020
- **TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP**- new york university, 2020
- **FLETCHER FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP**- new york university, 2019
- **TOP SPEAKER IN THE NATION**- national forensics association, 2019
- **TOP SPEAKER IN THE NATION**-american forensics association, 2019
- **SCHOLARS IN SERVICE GRANT**- wku center for citizenship and social justice, 2018
- **OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN CRIMINOLOGY**- western kentucky university, 2018
- **TOP SPEAKER IN THE NATION**-american forensics association, 2018
- **TOP SPEAKER IN THE NATION RUNNER UP**- national forensics association, 2018
- **TOP SPEAKER IN THE STATE**- kentucky forensics association, 2018 & 2017
- **TOP SPEAKER IN THE NATION FINALIST**- american forensics association, 2017
- **TOP SPEAKER IN THE NATION FINALIST**- national forensics association, 2017
- **OUTSTANDING FIRST YEAR STUDENT**- western kentucky university forensics, 2016

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PERFORMANCES & ORATIONS

From 2015-2019, I traveled across the country giving original orations and interpretative performances on a variety of topics/themes as a speech and debate competitor at Western Kentucky University— one of the best speech and debate teams in the country.

“THE PHYSICAL TOLL OF ACTIVISM” performance using poetry, drama, and articles, 2019

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, University of Alabama
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, Santa Ana, California

“THE CULTURAL APPROPRIATION OF PROTEST” poetry performance, 2019

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, University of Alabama
National Forensics Association National tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, Santa Ana, California

“BLUE BELLOW” BY DR. ALEXIS PAULINE GUMBS prose performance, 2019

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Finalist (Top 6)**, University of Alabama
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Finalist (Top 6)**, Santa Ana, California

“THE WEAPONIZATION OF HUMOR: AN ANALYSIS OF OFFENSE” original oration, 2019

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, University of Alabama
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Champion (1st)**, Santa Ana, California

“LET’S TALK ABOUT PRISON ABOLITION” original oration, 2019

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, University of Alabama
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Champion (1st)**, Santa Ana, California

“LSU FOOTBALL, JUDGES, AND JUVENILES” original oration, 2019

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Finalist (Top 6)**, University of Alabama
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, Santa Ana, California

“THE INTERROGATION OF SANDRA BLAND” BY MOJISOLA ADEBAYO duet performance, 2018

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, Colorado College
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Champion (1st)**, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

“UNDER THE UDALA TREES” BY CHINELO OKPARANTA prose performance, 2018

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Finalist (Top 6)**, Colorado College

“NOT YOUR MULE” performance using poetry, drama, and articles, 2018

National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, University of Wisconsin- Oshkosh

“FROM THE BLACK GIRL ON THE FRONT LINES” original oration, 2018

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Champion (1st)**, Colorado College
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Champion (1st)**, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

“TRAVELING WHILE BLACK” original oration, 2018

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Runner Up(2nd)**, Colorado College
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

“TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION IN AMERICA” original oration, 2018

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, Colorado College
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

“AINT I A WOMAN? WHITE LADY FEMINISM” original oration, 2017

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, Bradley University
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Champion (1st)**, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

“CLINICAL TRIALS SO WHITE” original oration, 2017

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, Bradley University
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

“BLACK BULLET” poetry performance, 2017

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, Bradley University
National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

“POST SLAVERY SILENCE SYNDROME” performance using poetry, drama, and articles, 2017

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, Bradley University

“TUNDE V. TYRONE” multi-genre duet performance, 2016

National Forensics Association National Tournament, **Runner Up (2nd)**, Ball State University

“DON’T SHAME MY EBT” performance using poetry, drama, and articles, 2016

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Semifinalist (Top 12)**, University of Florida

“STRUGGLES OF AN AFRICAN IMMIGRANT” original oration, 2016

American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Finalist (Top 6)**, University of Florida
American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament, **Finalist (Top 6)** Ball State University