# **AMANDA HARRIS**

B.A (Hons), A.L.A.M DOB: 19/10/1968

#### **Education**

1994-1997

**University College of Ripon & York St John** 2:1 Communication Arts: Studies in Media & Performance B.A (Hons)

Dissertation study in Milan, Italy (Commedia dell'arte) final year, 4 months

1993-1994 **Bradford College** 

**Certificate for Mature Students** English Literature, Media, Sociology, Law, Psychology

1991

London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (ALAM) **Associate Diploma** 

1985-1990

**London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art Acting Medals** Grade 6-Bronze Grade 7-Silver Grade 8-Gold

1981-1985 **Belle Vue Girls Upper School** GCE and 16+

Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, English Literature, English Language, Geography, History

#### **Interests**

My work, walking, gardening, cooking, reading, swimming spending time with my family.

### **Computer Skills**

Excellent IT skills, proficient in Microsoft Office 2007-Word, Excel, Publisher, PowerPoint & Access. Web design (for own website) using the Joomla management system. Problem solving.

#### Reference

Mrs. Marguerite Jennings 23 Byards Park Knaresborough **HG5 9BB** (01423) 797714 jenningsmarguerite@yahoo.co.uk

Marguerite is a long term associate who founded Bradford Youth Players. A personal reference is also available.

### Additional Information

Full clean driving licence, non-smoker.

## Relevant Work Experience

2002 - Present Drama Teacher, Director & Producer Applause Theatre School-Baildon, Birkenshaw & Clayton

Applause is my own small business which I have been running for 14 years. I have 5 members of staff. Classes run part time during term time (evenings & weekends) for ages 5-18 years.

Incorporating dance - street, cheerleading, musical theatre, singing, role play, characterisation, improvisation, audition & performance techniques, reading, writing and listening skills. Presentation & confidence building activities. Performing arts, dance, drama, singing, script work, annual area show. LAMDA & Guildhall external examinations. School Scene, Summer school, mini Summer School, costume hire.

I run all the administration for Applause - marketing, design of simple posters, programmes & tickets, updating, changing, adding information to my own website, management of staff, wages etc, liaising with many companies regarding costumes/properties.

I also teach drama and direct/produce all shows/arrange all playlist & sound effects and run these during the performances. Pupil numbers 100+ which involves dealing with many issues/questions/queries on the many levels that young people and their parents have.



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## **Relevant Work Experience**

2012 to 2015 - Rock Challenge Judge

Rock Challenge (not-for-profit initiative of Global Rock Challenge presented by Be Your Best Foundation, UK): Bradford Heat

Voluntary position. Drama content and production judge for 14 groups from local schools over two evenings in April at St Georges Hall, Bradford and the West Yorkshire Playhouse. Working with two other judges who oversaw other aspects of the productions. Each school presented an eight minute piece based on various subjects incorporating music and dance.

Position involved very quick thinking as had to speak to the whole auditorium after several of the schools had performed. Lots of notes made under extreme pressure, during the performances, while ensuring that what was said and written was seen only in a positive or constructive manner. Discussion with other judges re calibre of content and the way it had been portrayed before final decisions were made and places awarded. (www.rockchallenge.co.uk).

# 2000 to 2008 - Leader in Charge, Director, Producer & Artistic Coordinator Bradford Youth Players - Bradford

Ran the Junior section, involved planning, monitoring, prioritising, evaluating. As a director needed to be creative, enthusiastic, organised. Needed to administrate and liaise with staff - musical director, choreographer, ancillary workers, volunteers and parents, other youth leaders. A youth club specialising in musical theatre.

I constantly had to encourage, educate, give assurance, empower and participate at all levels to enhance the development of the group and ensure it's continuing success. Produced approximately 20 shows from Bradford Youth Players.

For 2 years I was also the Artistic Coordinator for BYP- duties involved monitoring all associated groups- Juniors, Seniors & Intermediates. Occasionally bringing all groups together (over 80 young people) for performances & social events, managing a staff of 8. Both positions involved fund raising activities to enable the following month/years events to occur. (www.bradfordyouthplayers.co.uk).

#### 2007 to 2008 Regional Youth Representative

#### **NODA North East (National Operatic & Dramatic Association- North East)**

Voluntary position, involved liaising with youth groups and groups associated to amateur dramatic groups in the North East area. Support, advice giving regarding types of shows, suitability for youths and helping with any problems or issues regarding child protection or youth legislation and the Children's Act. (www.noda.org.uk/Regions/North-East)

# 2003 to 2005 Part time Drama Lecturer Adult Education Bradford College

Wrote syllabus for part time course, lasted 24 weeks. Maintained registers, facilitate learning & taught drama effectively to inexperienced, interested adults. Used a variety of teaching methods and role play. Had to monitor and evaluate course performance and students progress. Students encouraged to write and devise own end of course performance. (www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk)

### 2000 & 2002 Spring Drama Workshop Leader

NODA - Sheffield & Rotherham

Drama & improvisation workshops using scripts, for aged 12-17 years







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### **Relevant Work Experience**

1998 to 2002 Drama Teacher

**Debut Theatre School - Shipley & Headingley** 

Taught children aged 5-7, 8-11,12-14, & 15-18 years. Covering subjects: mime, improvisation, play writing, script work, story telling, devised performance, festival and competition work. (www.debuttheatreschool.co.uk)

# 1998 (Sept to Dec) Drama Workshop Leader Fagley Community Centre - Bradford

Led workshops in drama, music and movement for children aged 7-12 years

#### 1997 to 2002 Implementation Specialist (Team Leader)

**O2 Small and Medium Business - Leeds** 

Responsible for the implementation of new business within the corporate sector of O2 at team leader level. Management and implementation for new clients to streamline their transfer from other mobile phone companies. Client relationship building, problem solving, management of mobile phone company network, customer services, ordering, client budgeting/credit limits, databases, use of Microsoft Office, liaison with users and specific contact, client visits for new business.

# 1995 & 1996 Drama Counsellor Camp Weekela - Maine, USA

Summer camp for children aged 7-16 years. Residential for 9 weeks during July and August. Music, dance, drama classes and games for children culminating in an end of summer performance. Organised/planned daytime and evening activities. After camp had finished for the summer, travelled America visiting many places and on a very restricted budget. (www.campwekeela.com)

