

Jessica Taylor

Theater

Stage actor with eight years of regional and off-Broadway credits, comfortable across contemporary drama, Shakespeare, and new-play development. Strong vocal training, dialect range, and movement background. Known for reliable tech weeks and generous scene partnering.

CONTACT INFORMATION



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EDUCATION

Bachelor's in Acting, University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater Training Program, 2017

Shakespeare & Company Month-Long Intensive, Lenox, MA, 2019

KEY SKILLS

- Classical text (Shakespeare, Restoration)
- Dialects: Received Pronunciation, Standard Irish, Southern American, Trans-Atlantic
- Stage combat: unarmed, single sword (recommended pass from national stage combat evaluation)
- Voice: mezzo-soprano, belt to E5
- Movement: Laban, Viewpoints, contact partnering
- Cold reading and self-tape production
- Motorcycle license, valid US passport
- Union: stage actors' union member in good standing

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LEAD ACTOR (BEATRICE) | RIVERWIND STAGE COMPANY, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 2023 – PRESENT

- Carried the title role in a 42-performance run of Much Ado About Nothing that averaged 89% house capacity across the season.
- Rehearsed six weeks with a first-time director and helped shape a modern-dress interpretation kept for the touring cut.
- Covered a secondary role during previews when a castmate was out for four shows, no dropped lines noted in stage-manager reports.
- Led two post-show talkbacks with subscribers and student groups.

ENSEMBLE / UNDERSTUDY | HARBOR LIGHT THEATRE, PROVIDENCE, RI 2020 – 2023

- Understudied three principal roles across the 2021-22 season and went on for 11 performances with under 48 hours notice on two occasions.
- Original cast member in a workshop production of a new play that later transferred off-Broadway.
- Trained in stage combat (unarmed and single sword) and executed nightly fight choreography with zero recorded injuries.
- Ran youth Saturday workshops in scene study and audition prep for roughly 20 teens per session.

ACTOR, VARIOUS ROLES | FREELANCE, REGIONAL AND OFF-OFF-BROADWAY 2017 – 2020

- Booked eight contracts across five states, including summer Shakespeare festivals and a national theater-for-young-audiences tour.
- Voiced supporting characters in three audio dramas released on major podcast platforms.
- Self-taped 60+ auditions per year and maintained callback rate near one in six.