



## Department of Theatre

### **Kristi Papailler**

#### **Assistant Professor of Acting and Directing and Theatre for Social Change**



KRISTI PAPAILLER

Kristi Papailler, Assistant Professor of Acting and Directing and Theatre for Social Change, received her MFA in Theatre Performance and Graduate Certificate in African American Theatre from the University of Louisville. She has the distinction of being one of fewer than 50 scholars of African American Theatre to hold a certification in the genre from the African American Theatre Program at the University of Louisville. Kristi received training in Viewpoints and Suzuki from the Siti Company, Inc.

Ms. Papailler has taught for the University of Louisville, Spalding University, The Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, and The Youth Performing Arts School and was Chairperson of the Drama Faculty at Sacred Heart School for the Arts. She is the co-founder of Juneteenth Legacy Theatre and served as a producer and theatre educator with the company throughout its 13 seasons. She has management positions with Actor's Theatre of Louisville and The Kentucky Center for the Arts. She is an associate editor with the International Dialects of English Archive. She has presented research and workshops at The Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed Conference, The Southeastern Theatre Conference and The Black Theatre Network Conference.

Her directing credits include: Juneteenth Legacy Theatre, University of Louisville, University of Louisville Studio Theatre, Spalding University and Sacred Heart School for the Arts. Ms. Papailler's acting experience includes; The Kentucky Repertory Theatre, The National Black Theatre Festival, Stage One Children's Theatre, Juneteenth Legacy Theatre, Blue Apple Players, Pleiades Theatre Company for Women and Pandora Productions. Most recently she appeared in the University of

Louisville's African American Theatre Program's production of *Gem of the Ocean* as Black Mary directed by Clinton Turner Davis. She has also appeared in film, commercial and television.

Ms. Papailler specializes in Theatre for Social Change and African American Theatre. Her social change theatre pieces have been presented in coalition with The Kentucky Alliance Against Racism and Political Oppression, Jobs with Justice, Women in Transition, Nativity Academy at St. Boniface, Sacred Heart School for the Arts and Juneteenth Legacy Theatre. International research and creative work includes a field study on Afro-Cuban culture and performance and assistant direction of the international premiere of *The Orphan's Revenge* in Singapore, Singapore.

Kristi's research interests include qi gong and tai chi for actors and has completed a field study of the tai chi for actors and Chinese performance in Beijing, Luoyang and Xian China in May 2015, theatre of the African diaspora, theatre for social change and global performance styles. She is the creator of Healing Heart qi gong for actors and Drama Change Exchange. She teaches social justice theatre, acting, global performance styles, tai chi and qi gong for actors and theatrical heritage.