

# NICHOLAS SMITH LIGHTING DESIGN



Phone: (812) 306 8465  
[Nicholassmithlighting@gmail.com](mailto:Nicholassmithlighting@gmail.com)  
Nicholassmithlighting.com

5331 Grafton Ave,  
Cincinnati OH, 45237

## EDUCATION

---

- |            |  |           |
|------------|--|-----------|
| <b>MFA</b> | University of Cincinnati, CCM, Lighting Design and Technology<br>Thesis: "Guys and Dolls, Lighting Design"<br>Advisor: James H. Gage | June 2019 |
| <b>BS</b>  | University of Southern Indiana, Theatre Arts (Lighting Design)<br>Graduated Magna Cum Laude<br>Dean's List                           | May 2017  |

## HONORS AND AWARDS

---

- |   |   |           |
|---|---|-----------|
| <b>Graduate Assistant Scholarship</b>                                 | Assistantship scholarship awarded to selected Graduate Students.  | 2018-2019 |
| <b>KCACTF Region III National Design Finalist for Lighting Design</b> | Awarded by KCACTF Region III in recognition of excellence for lighting design of <i>All Who Are Left</i> .                      | 2017      |
| <b>Endeavor Award for Research and Creativity</b>                     | Scholarly Grant awarded for research and development of a lighting pixelmap workshop presented at KCACTF Region III Convention. | 2017      |
| <b>Performing Arts Talent Scholarship</b>                             | Awarded to students who showed and maintained excellence in theatre arts.   | 2017      |
| <b>Walter H Ohlrogge Scholarship</b>                                  | Awarded to theatre students who maintained excellence in grades and theatre arts.   | 2017      |
| <b>Rob &amp; Susan Baker Theatre Scholarship</b>                      | Awarded to outstanding junior or senior theatre students.   | 2017      |
| <b>Harpole Theatre Scholarship</b>                                    | Awarded to theatre students who maintained excellence in grades and theatre arts.   | 2017      |

- KCACTF Region III National Design Finalist for Lighting Design** 2017  
Awarded by KCACTF Region III in recognition of excellence for lighting design of *All Who Are Left*.
- Performing Arts Talent Scholarship** 2016  
Awarded to students who showed and maintained excellence in theatre arts.
- Walter H Ohlrogge Scholarship** 2016  
Awarded to theatre students who maintained excellence in grades and theatre arts.
- KCACTF Region III SILV Award for Lighting Design** 2016  
Awarded by the Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas for excellence in lighting design of *Richard III*.
- KCACTF Region III Regional Design Award for Lighting Design** 2016  
Awarded by KCACTF Region III for excellence in lighting design of *Richard III*.
- Performing Arts Talent Scholarship** 2015  
Awarded to students who showed and maintained excellence in theatre arts.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

---

### **Classes Taught:**

- University of Cincinnati CCM, Cincinnati OH** **Jan 2021- April 2021**  
Adjunct Professor, Moving Light Programming II
- Created syllabus and curriculum for class.
  - Gave students working understanding of Hog 4 Consoles, and held seminars/masters' classes for media server integration (Disguise and Touch Designer).
  - Educated students in proper techniques in lighting programming (syntax, efficiency, design aesthetic, etc.).
  - Created virtual lighting rigs, with which each student programmed to multiple songs, demonstrating their skills on each console, and provided feedback.
  - Led students through creating their own working show files for each console, to travel between shows.
  - Coordinated a yearly event called BAMM in which student program on a large scale live lighting rig (This year: 75 moving fixtures, 90 LED fixtures). They are each given a previsualization file with which to prep as well as limited hours on the console and in the space to simulate a real world concert/corporate setting. The projects are then presented live utilizing timecode and mild busking (2021 utilized a live camera feed instead of a live audience in the space).
- University of Cincinnati CCM, Cincinnati OH** **Aug 2020-Dec 2020**  
Adjunct Professor, Moving Light Programming I
- Created syllabus and curriculum for class.
  - Gave students working understanding of Eos Consoles, and GrandMA2 consoles.

- Educated students in proper techniques in lighting programming (syntax, efficiency, design aesthetic, etc.).
- Created virtual lighting rigs, with which each student programmed to multiple songs, demonstrating their skills on each console, and provided feedback.
- Led students through creating their own working show files for each console, to travel between shows.
- Presented a live rig on which students practiced their live busking skills on the GrandMA2.

**University of Cincinnati CCM, Cincinnati OH**

**Aug 2020-Dec 2020**

Adjunct Professor, Digital Portfolios

- Created syllabus and curriculum for class.
- Lectures on following topics (Cover letter, resumes, business cards, websites, virtual/hard copy portfolios, invoices, contracts, logos, etc.)
- Graded and provided feedback on all materials submitted by students. (Business cards, portfolios, resumes, cover letters, websites, etc.)
- Created and facilitated virtual student showcase of all class materials.

**University of Cincinnati CCM, Cincinnati OH**

**Jan 2019-May 2019**

Teaching Assistant, Vectorworks for the Theatre

- Assisted Professor Mark Williams during spring semester.
- Gave lectures on topics such as 2D and 3D modeling, class and layer structure, and Spotlight tools/usage.
- Graded and provided feedback on all materials submitted by students.

**University of Cincinnati CCM, Cincinnati OH**

**Aug 2018-Dec 2018**

Teaching Assistant, Digital Portfolio

- Assisted Professor Mark Williams during fall semester.
- Gave lectures on topics such as resumes, websites, etc.
- Graded and provided feedback on all materials submitted by students. (Business cards, portfolios, resumes, cover letters, websites, etc.)
- Assisted in set up and execution of student showcase.

**University of Southern Indiana, Evansville IN**

**Aug 2016- Dec 2016**

Teaching Assistant, Lighting Technology

- Taught class both hands-on via on site with lighting technology, and in traditional classroom setting via lecture.
- Presented students with a basic understanding of electricity and the inner workings of the technology used in the entertainment industry.
- Assisted with basic paper project to develop skills in preparing and understanding lighting paperwork.

**Castle Middle School, Newburgh IN** **Jan 2015-April 2015**  
Concert Choir, Assistant Director

- Led warm up and sight reading exercises and taught vocal parts to students.
- Conducted and led rehearsals of concert repertoire.

**North High School, Evansville IN** **Aug 2012-May 2013**  
Chemistry I & II, Teaching Assistant

- Assisted in preparing lesson plans with instructor.
- Led the set up and preparation for experiments and labs (creating chemicals, organizing equipment, proper PPE, etc.).
- Offered assistance to students during labs and homework assignments as needed.

**North High School, Evansville IN** **Aug 2011-May 2013**  
Concert Choir/Intermediate Choir, Teaching Assistant

- Led warm up and sight reading exercises and taught vocal parts to students.
- Conducted and led rehearsals of concert repertoire.
- Led full rehearsals when instructor was absent or away.

**Additional Positions:**

**University of Cincinnati CCM, Cincinnati OH** **Aug 2018- May 2019**  
**Lighting Shop Supervisor**

- Led students in maintenance and repair of lighting inventory.
- Taught students the inner workings of intelligent and moving fixtures.
- Maintained a safe and clean working environment for all students/faculty.

**University of Southern Indiana, Evansville IN** **Aug 2015- May 2017**  
**Lighting Lab Supervisor**

- Led students in all show load ins and strikes.
- Taught students how to read and understand lighting paperwork for the implementation of a design.
- Demonstrated proper hang, cable, and focus techniques for lighting fixtures.
- Mentored students to become Master Electricians, and all duties assigned to the position.
- Led students in maintenance and repair of lighting inventory.
- Taught students the inner workings of intelligent and moving fixtures.

**EXPERIENCE**

---

**Freelance Designer** **Aug 2010-Present**

- Provides lighting design services for theatre, corporate, concerts, architecture, film, dance, and other events across the country.
- Assists and creates designs with other lighting designers in a variety of lighting disciplines.
- Serves as technical lighting support when needed, such as drafting, programming, etc.

- List of credits provided on page 8.

**Lighting and Stage Director**

**Sept 2019-Present**

**Crossroads Church, Mason OH.**

- Creates Lighting and Rig Design for each service series.
- Acts as Master Electrician, planning all hanging, cabling, and addressing of fixtures.
- Maintains lighting inventory and makes necessary repairs and replacements.
- Manages lighting budget, purchase of new equipment, and installations.
- Programs lighting weekly for every service.
- Hangs and inspects all rigging equipment for the site.
- Manages a team of both staff and volunteers for each load-in and strike.
- Consults with outside organizations for use of auditorium and equipment.
- Drafts and creates 3D representations of venues, rigs, and layout for multiple sites.
- Manages balance of lighting for camera broadcast to other sites and online viewers, as well as IMAG

**Lighting Contractor Crossroads Church**

**Jan 2019-Sept 2019**

**Crossroads Church, National Office Mason OH**

- Created Lighting and Rig Design for each service series and altered designs to work for eight different venues.
- Drafted and created 3D representations of venues, rigs, and layout for multiple sites.
- Led repair of lighting inventory for all sites.
- Assisted with lighting load-ins and strikes.

**Event Technician Lead**

**May 2019-Sept 2019**

**Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation, Cincinnati OH**

- Designed and programmed for local events at multiple venues through the city.
- Assisted with load-ins and strikes for events.
- Occasionally ran sound/video equipment when necessary.

**Graduate Assistant**

**Aug 2017-June 2019**

**University of Cincinnati, CCM**

- Assisted Resident Master Electrician in weekly maintenance of lighting equipment and venues.
- Provided support for show load-ins and strikes for each venue.
- Supervised and led undergraduate students in show processes, including design, technology, load-ins, and strikes.
- Assisted lighting professors as needed to guest lecture during classes, led students in class projects, and show assignments.

**Assistant Resident Lighting Designer**

**Aug 2018-May 2019**

**University of Cincinnati, CCM, Cincinnati OH**

- Drafted and updated repertory plots for all venues at CCM.
- Designed plots and created inventories for each venue at CCM.
- Focused repertory lighting after each show strike.

- Assisted students with needs and questions for each venue and designs at CCM.

**Architectural Lighting Consultant (Freelance)  
St. Peter in Chains Cathedral, Cincinnati OH**

**Nov 2018-Feb 2019**

- Conducted thorough site visit and lighting measurements for renovation.
- Designed plots for all rooms in the venue outlining plans for new lighting.
- Produced a budget based on lighting needs, and lighting fixtures recommended.

**Assistant Lighting Designer (Freelance)  
Gorilla Exhibit Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati OH**

**Nov 2018-Jan 2019**

- Conducted site visits, and measurements for lighting focus.
- Updated lighting paperwork and plots.
- Assisted in hang and focus of fixtures on site.

**Assistant Lighting Designer  
Cincinnati Opera, Cincinnati OH**

**May 2018-Aug 2018**

- Drafted and created paperwork for each of five shows throughout the season.
- Assisted with load-ins and strikes for events, including focus work, and programming.
- Led recreation of a world premiere based on notes and videos provided by original lighting designer.
- Assisted lighting designer and associate designer in daily processes: submitting and tracking quotes and purchase orders, communicating design choices to other departments and crew, leading focus calls for shows, etc.

**Assistant Master Electrician  
Maine State Music Theatre, Brunswick ME**

**May 2017-Aug 2017**

- Created all electrician paperwork and plans for executing lighting designs.
- Led and created all practical lighting fixtures from marquee signs, to LED light boxes.
- Led lighting crew during load-ins and strikes.
- Assisted in the management of budgets, purchases, and rentals for the season.
- Responsible for the maintenance and troubleshooting of all lighting fixtures.

**Gaffer  
Independent Film, *It Came From the Stars***

**Apr 2017-Jun 2017**

- Generated/programmed all lighting effects and practical lighting for the film.
- Assisted Director in setting design aesthetics for each scene.
- Led on site set up, focus, and implementation of lighting.

**Event Technician  
University of Southern Indiana**

**Aug 2016-May 2017**

- Designed and programmed for outside theatre companies, philanthropies, political events, and ceremonies.

- Served as lighting consultation for all outside groups using the auditorium and lighting equipment.
- Acted as Master Electrician for all outside events and uses of the performance spaces.

**Lighting Technician/Warehouse Hand**

**May 2016-Aug 2016**

**4 Wall Lighting, Nashville TN**

- Responsible for maintenance of gear before and after rental.
- Tested and repaired lighting fixtures and consoles.
- Fabricated cabling and solutions for specific needs during events.
- Assisted in the checking and quality control of rigging motors.

**Lighting Technician**

**May 2015-Aug 2015**

**New Harmony Theatre, New Harmony IN**

- Assisted with load-in, focus, and strike for each show during the season.
- Repaired and maintained lighting equipment.
- Programmed and operated console for shows.
- Ran spotlight for the final show of the season.

**Lighting and Sound Director (Freelance Contractor)**

**Aug 2013-Aug 2015**

**EVSC School System, Evansville IN**

- Designed, programmed, and ran events, shows, and concerts for schools throughout the EVSC School System.
- Consulted with schools and administration on equipment and installation for multiple venues.
- Led installation of new sound and lighting systems with help of students in the school system.

**LIGHTING DESIGN CREDITS****\*DENOTES ASSISTANT OR ASSOCIATE DESIGN**

<b>Year:</b>	<b>Show:</b>	<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Director/Designer:</b>
2020	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*	Xavier University	Stephen Skiles
2020	Becoming Frida*	Dutch National Ballet	Annabelle Lopez Ochoa
2020	LoCash Tour*	LoCash	Erik McCandless
2019	Ring of Fire	Memorial Hall	Leslie Goddard
2019	Phantom Dances	Dayton Ballet	Karen Burke, Penny Saunders Amy Selwert, Nicole Haskins
2019	Dead Can Dance	Exhale Dance Tribe	Missy Lay Zimmer
2019	Making Moves	Dayton Dance Initiative	Josie Green
2019	Yeast Nation	CCM, University of Cincinnati	Vincent DeGeorge
2019	Lady of the Camellias*	Kansas City Ballet	Trad Burns
2019	This is Not the Little Prince*	Whim W'him, Seattle WA	Olivier Wevers
2019	Guys and Dolls	CCM, University of Cincinnati	Diane Lala
2019	Motherhood Out Loud	Carnegie Theatre	Jodie Meyn
2018	The Coronation of Poppea*	Cincinnati Opera	Thomas Hase
2018	Another Brick in the Wall* (World Premiere)	Cincinnati Opera	Anne-Catherine Simard- Deraspe
2018	La Traviata*	Cincinnati Opera	Thomas Hase
2018	The Flying Dutchman*	Cincinnati Opera	Thomas Hase
2018	Choreographers' Showcase	CCM, University of Cincinnati	Andre Megerdichian
2018	Directors' Cut*	Cincinnati Ballet	Michael Mazzola, Les Dickert
2017	Romeo and Juliet*	Cincinnati Ballet	Trad Burns
2017	Candide*	CCM, University of Cincinnati	Oliver Littleton
2017	Sondheim on Sondheim	CCM, University of Cincinnati	Aubrey Berg
2017	Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play	University of Southern Indiana	Eric Altheide
2017	In the Red and Brown Water	University of Southern Indiana	Enjoli Drake
2016	All Who are Left (World Premiere)	University of Southern Indiana	Raul Hernandez
2016	The Motherfucker With the Hat*	T. Schreiber Studio	Eric Cope
2016	The Phantom of the Opera	North High School	Andrea Drury
2016	Paul Robeson	Black Rep Theatre, St. Louis MO	Ron Himes
2016	The Last Five Years	Jacob Ball Foundation	Tiffany Schreiber
2015	Les Mis	Jacob Ball Foundation	Sue Schreiber
2015	Don Quixote	Children's Center for Dance	Deena Laska-Lewis
2014	Nutcracker	Indiana Ballet	Kerri Lambert

**LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY CREDITS**

<b>Role:</b>	<b>Show:</b>	<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Designer:</b>
Master Electrician	Music Man Jr.	Maysville Theatre	David Bratcher
Ass. Master Electrician	Newsies	Maine State Music Theatre	Dan Efras
Ass. Master Electrician	Grease	Maine State Music Theatre	Jessie Klug
Ass. Master Electrician	Guys and Dolls	Maine State Music Theatre	Anne Duga
Ass. Master Electrician	Always...Patsy Cline	Maine State Music Theatre	Matt Demascolo
Ass. Master Electrician	Hank Band	Maine State Music Theatre	Erik McCandless
Electrician	Mr. Burns a Post-Electric Play	University of Southern Indiana	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	Crumbs from the Table of Joy	University of Southern Indiana	Eric Cope
Electrician	In the Red and Brown Water	University of Southern Indiana	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	Glass Menagerie	University of Southern Indiana	Rachel Thomas
Master Electrician	Swan's Love	New Voices Opera	David Kote
Master Electrician	The Forest of Dreams	New Voices Opera	David Kote
Master Electrician	Tartuffe	University of Southern Indiana	Eric Cope
Master Electrician	Paul Robeson	Black Rep Theatre, St. Louis	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	Grapes of Wrath	University of Southern Indiana	Nicholas Smith



Master Electrician	All Who Are Left	University of Southern Indiana	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	The Phantom of the Opera	North High School	Nicholas Smith
Electrician	Outside Mullingar	New Harmony Theatre	Eric Cope
Electrician/Spot Op	The Full Monty	New Harmony Theatre	Eric Cope
Electrician	On Golden Pond	New Harmony Theatre	Eric Cope
Electrician	Spring Awakening	University of Southern Indiana	Erik McCandless
Electrician/Board Op	Picnic	University of Southern Indiana	Eric Cope
Electrician	Arcadia	University of Southern Indiana	Nicholas Smith
Electrician	25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee	University of Southern Indiana	Rachel Thomas
Electrician	Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play	University of Southern Indiana	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	The Last Five Years	Jacob Ball Foundation	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	Les Mis	Jacob Ball Foundation	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	Don Quixote	Children's Center for Dance	Nicholas Smith
Master Electrician	Nutcracker	Indiana Ballet	Nicholas Smith

### SOUND DESIGN CREDITS

<b>Year:</b>	<b>Show:</b>	<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Director:</b>
2016	The Phantom of the Opera	North High School	Andrea Drury
2015	Ragtime	North High School	Andrea Drury

### PROJECTION DESIGN CREDITS

<b>Year:</b>	<b>Show:</b>	<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Director:</b>
2015	Crumbs From the Table of Joy	University of Southern Indiana	Elliot Wasserman

### LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY CREDITS

<b>Role:</b>	<b>Show:</b>	<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Director:</b>
Gaffer	It Came From the Stars	Forbidden Circle Production Co.	Troy Davis

### RELATED SKILLS

Proficiency in GrandMA consoles, High End Hog console family, ETC Eos console series, and Strand console series.

Moving Light Programming, Vectorworks, Beamwright, Lightwright, ESP Vision, MA3D, Light Converse, AutoCAD, Qlab 4, Computer Networking, Photoshop, Live Audio Mixing, Soldering, Fixture Maintenance and Repair, Green Hippo Visualization, Theatre Education, Scenic Carpentry, MS Office.

### CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

Valid Class-C Driver's License  
 CPR, First Aid, AED Certification  
 Dante, Level 3 Certification  
 Forklift Operator's License  
 Telehandler Operator's License

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

SETC  
 USITT

## REFERENCES

---

**James H. Gage**

Visions in Light

Lighting Designer

Phone: (513) 265-7740

Email: [gagejh@vilcreations.com](mailto:gagejh@vilcreations.com)

**Thomas Hase**

Cincinnati Opera

Resident Lighting Designer

Phone: (513) 768-5500

Email: [hase@haseltd.com](mailto:hase@haseltd.com)

**Trad Burns**

Point 9 Design Group

Lighting Designer

Phone: (216) 849-4878

Email: [trad@point9group.com](mailto:trad@point9group.com)

**Dan Efros**

Freelance Contractor

Lighting Designer

Phone: (801) 718-4741

Email: [dan@danefros.com](mailto:dan@danefros.com)