

Trish Clark (Director of Training and Education) - educator and actress, Trish received her Master of Arts degree in Acting and Directing from the University of Kentucky in 1983. While studying under the direction of such professors as Joe Ferrell and Dr. James Rodgers, who would continue to support her career throughout the next 24 years, Trish had the opportunity to play in *A Tale of Two Cities* (Madam DeFage), *A Little Night Music* (Desiree), *Crimes of the Heart* (Maggie), *Sweeney Todd* (The Beggar Woman), *Chicago* (Velma), and *A Comedy of Errors* (Adriana).

After finishing her graduate work at UK, Trish went on to become one of the founding teachers at the School for the Creative and Performing Arts, where her two daughters, Emily and Ellie, also were among the first students to study. She later taught Theatre classes at Tates Creek High School before being invited to open the new state of the art theater venue and establish a Theatre Department at the newly constructed Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in 1991.

Her stage career also continued, as Trish worked with theatre groups in the community. She performed in the world premiere of Charles Pogue's *Who Dunnit Darlin* with Studio Players, *Bullshot Crummond* for Theatre DownUnder, *Dancing at Lughnasa*(Maggie), *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (Martha), and *The Glass Menagerie* (Amanda) for Phoenix Group Theatre, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Big Mamma) for Actor's Guild of Lexington, and *Agnes of God* (Dr. Martha Livingston), a special production featuring the collaborative effort of UK and the Lexington Shakespeare Festival. Trish also performed in *Much Ado about Nothing*, *All the King's Men*, and *The Taming of the Shrew* with the Lexington Shakespeare Festival.

As an educator, Trish has directed and produced over 100 plays for high school students from across Fayette County. Her students have received many awards for their hard work and dedication, including several wins at the Kentucky Theatre Association State Drama Festival. Her production of Ntozake Shange's *for colored girls who have considered suicide when the rainbow is enuf* was featured in special presentation at UK's Singletary Center for the Arts. Trish traveled many times with her award winning students to perform in the annual Southeastern Theatre Conference.

In 1998, Trish was named Fayette County Teacher of the Year and the National Society for Arts and Letters Educator of the Year. Immediately following, Tony Haigh, Theatre professor at Centre College, nominated the Theatre Department at Dunbar High School to be featured by the American High School Theatre Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. As part of the globally recognized Edinburgh International Fringe Festival, Dunbar's students were the first Kentucky school to represent the United States at the prestigious event in 2000. After continued success, Trish's students again received a nomination to attend in 2006. Both performances were made possible by support from Lucille Little and Lee and Patsy Todd, thanks to whom the kids of Lexington can be seen as a vital part of our "Pride of the Bluegrass!"

As for her community efforts, Trish served on the Board of Directors for the Lexington Shakespeare Festival before being named Artistic Director in 1996. In 2003, Trish chartered the Lexington Shakespeare Institute, a collaborative effort with the support of UK and Lee and Patsy Todd. Designed as an intense training ground for students in grades 9-12, the Lexington Shakespeare Institute combined Trish's experience with that of other educators to ensure the future of Lexington's artistic talent. With the rare opportunity to work with experienced performers from across the nation under a well rounded curriculum, students from Central Kentucky thrived amongst peers who shared their same goals. For Trish, the next step is attracting interest from the community to nurture this vision and to have KCTC fulfill a dream for every young artist.