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## Curriculum Vitae

### Professor David C. Pecoraro, M.F.A. Curriculum Vitae

[Email](#) | Updated: May, 2015



Prof. David C. Pecoraro

**BACKGROUND SUMMARY:** **Student Caring Co-Founder, Author, Podcaster, Public Speaker, Theatrical Production Manager, Expert Safety Witness, and Lighting Designer** with positions at higher educational institutions – Community College, Public University System, and Private Universities – combined with professional work and volunteer service.

### Professor

[Vanguard University of Southern California](#) | Costa Mesa, California | 2004 – Present

*Tenured full time faculty member in the NAST (National Association of Schools of Theatre) Accredited Theatre Department with the University of Higher Education*

- Chair, Faculty Development Committee. 2005 – 2012
- Head of NAST accreditation.
- Associate, department chair.
- Resident production manager and lighting designer.
- Manage the departments trips to the [Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival](#).
- Member, [WASC Accreditation Committee](#) | Special assignment, faculty assessment & development.

### Courses Taught

- Introduction to Theatre
- Introduction to the Arts
- Lighting Design
- Stage Management
- Theory and Criticism
- Producing and Management
- Career Directions and Your Daily Bread
- Theatre Internship
- Junior and Senior Projects

### Professional Activities

- Writer: [Event Safety Alliance](#)
- Presenter: [Global Center for Women & Justice](#) / Visiting Team from [University of Duhok](#) – June, 2011
- Mentor, [Newport Mesa High School](#).
- Creative Consultant, [Discovery Arts](#).

## Expert Safety Witness

Research, interview, inspect, write reports, attend depositions, mediations, and testify in cases involving accidents in the entertainment business.

- 2013 – 2014 / Injury of a dancer on cruise ship.
- 2012 / Injury of performer Bret Michaels during the 2009 Tony Awards.
- 1999 / Injury of an actor during a rehearsal.
- Writer: **Event Safety Guide**

## Co-Founder

[Student Caring – A New Way of Thinking About College](#) | Anaheim, California | 2011 – Present *A joint project with Dr. Daniel de Roulet of Irvine Valley College and Prof. David C. Pecoraro of Vanguard University. The project aims to encourage higher education to focus, first, on student caring.*

The Student Caring Project seeks to educate students by understanding their strengths and challenges and by then helping them to make the most of their college educations. We seek to clarify expectations about the goals of higher education for both professors and students, and we provide practical tools for faculty, students, and students' families that will increase student success.

- Community
- Co-Author
- Blogger & Podcaster

[iTunes](#) / [Amazon Author Page](#)

## Faculty Head of Graduate Stage Management | Production Manager [University](#)

[of California, Irvine](#) | Irvine, California | 1997 – 2004 *Highly rated international university with undergraduate and graduate programs in drama and the fine arts.* **Faculty Head of Graduate Stage Management**

- Wrote all curriculum for 12 quarters of study, including; The Digital Stage Manager, Networking, Theatre Safety, and People Skills Development.
- Taught all graduate stage management courses for the M.F.A. program, supervised undergraduate instructors.
- Developed the program to a level of national prominence.
- Led two successful reviews for [U/RTA](#) (University and Resident Theatre Association) for two successful reviews.
- Instructor for the course for crews, Drama-101. Assign students to stage crews production area shops; scenery, costumes, lighting, and audio.
- Team member with the formulation of all drama department program issues.
- Mentored student; scenic designers, costume designers, lighting designers, audio designers and stage managers.
- Provided all emergency preparedness and safety instruction including C.P.R. and First Aid. **Production Manager for the Claire**

### **Trevor School of the Arts**

- Responsible for the administration and management of all functions which support all performance activities for 250 public performances annually.
- Production Manager for the departments of Drama, Dance, and Music.
- Created calendars, deadlines, and budgets for all productions.
- Approved all financial transactions for payroll and production expenses – \$2,000,000., annually.
- Approved all scenic designs / drawings prior to the beginning of construction.
- Computerized and networked all production communications.
- Theatre consultant for the renovation of Claire Trevor Theatre, Little Theatre, Studio Theatre and Fine Arts Plaza amphitheater with designer, [Maya Lin](#). • Advertised, interviewed hired, and supervised a production staff of 12 career positions.
- Computerized and networked all production communications.

**Instructor | Production Manager** [Saddleback College](#) | Mission Viejo, California | 1980 – 1997 *Prominent community college with undergraduate programs in theatre and fine arts.*

### **Instructor**

- Wrote all curriculum and taught courses in theatre design and production.
- Developed relationships with all "feeder" high schools in the region.

- Mentor for stage management, design, and production students.

#### Courses Taught

- Lighting Design & Advanced Lighting Design
- Stage Management
- Theatre Production

#### Production Manager

- Responsible for the planning and execution of over 60 events annually in the McKinney and Studio Theaters.
- Managed all production and performance for the Saddleback College Civic Light Opera.
- Produced the highly successful, Mission Viejo – Halloween Haunt Night on the Hill.

### Graduate Teaching Assistant [Temple University](#) | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania | 1976 – 1980 *M.F.A. Graduate*

*Program in theatre design and technology. Instructor*

- Teach student crews of up to 70 for shop calls.
- Design, fabricate and realize designs for scenery, costumes and lighting.

### Technical Director | Resident Stage Manager [Fullerton Civic Light Opera](#) | Fullerton, California |

1974 – 1976 *Musical theatre production company with a season of six musicals per year.*

- Set deadlines for all the completion of all scenic elements.
- Hire and supervise all personnel for the scene shop and show operation crews.
- Design and fabricate all properties.
- Supervise the companies rental department.

## Education

**M.F.A., Theatre Design and Technology** | [Temple University](#), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1980

- Radio City Music Hall, New York, New York, Theatre Technology Studies, 1979
- Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Lighting Design Apprenticeship, 1979

**B.A., Theatre Design and Technology** | [California State University](#), Fullerton, 1997

- California State University, San Diego, California, Theatre Courses, 1976

**A.A., Degree in Theatre**, Fullerton College, Fullerton, California, 1975

#### Continuing Education | Courses | Seminars | Certifications

- The Art and Craft of Discussion Leadership, Louis Barnes, Harvard, 2003
- Regulating Proximate Fireworks, Los Angeles Fire Authority, 2001
- Certified Mediator, State of California, 1999
- Executive Coaching, tom Champoux, 1999

## Digital Technology | New Media

- Apple IOS – expert, certified software developer, iWork & iLife Suite
- Internet start up entrepreneur, podcaster, blogger
- Expert with the Adobe Creative Suite, Dreamweaver, WordPress, Vectorworks (Spotlight, Renderworks), Painter

## Affiliations

- National Association for Schools of Theatre [\[N.A.S.T.\]](#)
- Association for Theatre in Higher Education [\[A.T.H.E.\]](#)
- University / Regional Theatre Association [\[U.R.T.A.\]](#)
- Theatre Communications Group [\[T.C.G.\]](#)
- International Association of Venue Managers [\[I.A.V.M.\]](#)
- [Temple University – Alumni Association](#)
- [California State University, Fullerton – Alumni Association](#)

## Professional Work

### Executive Producer [Suburban Showgirl](#) | Summer, 2013

- Produced the one-woman show in the NoHo Arts Center in North Hollywood, California

### Pyrotechnician [Pyrospectaculars](#) / [The City of Irvine, California](#) | July, 2013

- Worked on the crew to load, wire, and fire the 4th of July fireworks show.

### **Instructor** George Washington University / The Event Management Certificate Program | June, 1999

- Instructor for the two-day seminar, "Corporate Event Management" for the University's Extension Program at San Diego University. The seminar is a required course towards the student's certificate as a Certified Special Events Manager.

### **Producer | President** DP Productions, Anaheim, California | 1993 – 1995

- The special event production company produced the 1994, Fashion Island – Newport Beach, Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Two years of development work for the yet to be realized, "Biblical Arts Masterworks" production. Volunteer work for causes.

### **Producer** The City of Calgary, Canada | 1989

- Produced the Grand Opening and Gala Fundraiser for the Cities new Center. Winner of the best International Special Event, 1989 – MAXXI Award.

### **Special Effects Designer | Stage Manager** The City of Jacksonville, Florida | 1989

- Balloon release (80,000) and management for the One Hour Live Television Special Celebration – Grand Opening Celebration, Jacksonville Landing & Labor Day Tribute.

### **Lighting Designer** Rivercenter Christmas Pageant | 1988 – Ongoing

- The annual "Los Pasados" River Parade – Christmas Pageant performing to over 150,000 each year.

### **Event Manager | Stage Manager** White House, Republican National Convention / Superdome, New Orleans, Louisiana | 1988

- Responsible for President Ronald Reagan's entrance onto the Convention floors and related entertainment.

### **Event Manager | Special Effects Designer | Pyrotechnic Designer** New Orleans Center Grand Opening Celebrations | 1988 – Present

- Managed all events related to the grand opening.
- Designed a balloon drop (15,000), indoor pyrotechnics and aerial display pyrotechnics.

### **Event Manager | Production Stage Manager** Neil Sedaka Live ! / MGM Grand Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada | 1988

- Managed the event with Neil Sedaka as the talent.

### **Event Manager | Production Stage Manager** United Way of America Centennial Celebration / Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C. | 1987

- Managed the event including the participation of Vice President Bush and the U.S. Armed Forces at the Lincoln Memorial and Kennedy Center.
- Decorated the Washington D.C. Mall reflection pond with 400 American flags.

### **Event Manager | Production Stage Manager** Pope John Paul II / Papal Visit / Super Dome, New Orleans, Louisiana | 1987

- Organized 12,000 Volunteers for the realization of a card stunt at the Papal Youth Rally.

### **Event Manager | Production Stage Manager** Bayside / Miami, Florida | 1987

- Grand Opening Celebration Event for the City of Miami.

### **Special Effects Designer** "The Great American Boardwalk Electric Light & Magic Show," Caesars Palace, Atlantic City, New Jersey | 1987

- Designed unique properties for the casino show.

### **Production Stage Manager** Disneyland, Anaheim, California | 1987

- Responsible for various productions on the River Stage Venue. Featured performances, The Pointer Sisters and Lou Rawls.

### **Event Manager** United States Olympic Committee | 1987 • Fundraiser Dinner for the Los Angeles Summer Olympic Games.

### **Event Manager** The City of Los Angeles – Family Film Festival, Hollywood Bowl, Hollywood California | 1987

### **Parade Stage Manager** Tournament of Roses Parade, United Way of America / Rose Parade, Pasadena, California | 1986

- Managed the opening parade unit consisting of 12 floats, a marching band of 400 and drill team of 1000 for the United Ways Centennial Year kick off.

**Lighting Design Consultant** Star Tours Grand Opening, Disneyland, Anaheim, California | 1986

**Lighting & Audio Designer** The California's Night ~ Governors Ball. San Diego, California | 1985

**Event Management Consultant** XXIII Los Angeles Olympic Games, Los Angeles, California | 1985

- Original concept, design work for the opening and closing ceremonies.

**Event Manager | Stage Manager** Super Bowl XVII / Rose Bowl, Pasadena, California | 1983

- Managed the halftime show – “KaledaSUPERscope” for the National Football League.

**Creative Development | Production Stage Manager** “The Glory of Christmas” / Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, California | 1981 – 1983

- Assisted with the creative development of the ‘Christmas Pageant’ production for its premier and run. Coordinated all aspects of the show including all coordination and management for the design and technical staff, casting, volunteers, costuming, props, scenery, flying, and camels! ‘Called’ the shows for the 3,000 seat cathedral. The show ran from 1981 to 2009 and grossed over \$4.5 Million annually. Event Producer, Robert F. Jani.

**Lighting & Special Effects Designer** Six Flags, Sea World / San Diego, California | 1983

- Designed the lighting and atmospheric visual special effects for the “Penguin Polar Exhibit.”

**Lighting Designer** XIII Winter Olympic Games, Lake Placid, New York | 1980

- Designed lighting for nightly awards ceremonies and “Victory Celebration.” Created special effects for the U.S. Hockey Team and Eric Heiden. Event producer, Tommy Walker.

**Lighting Designer** Disneyland Entertainment, Disneyland, Anaheim, California | 1980

- Designed special Sky-Lighting Effects for the New Years Eve Party.

**Production Stage Manager | Lighting Designer** Knott's Berry Farm, Buena Park, California | 1975 – 1976

- Production Stage Manager for various live stage presentations and “Headliners” in the 1,500 seat (John Wayne) theater including, The Everly Brothers, The Smothers Brothers, Debbi Reynolds, Willie Nelson, etc...

**Lighting Designer** Japanese Village and Deer Park, Buena Park, California | 1974

- Guest Artists & Summer Spectacular Production.

## Publishing

- Published: I Can't Imagine Producing Masterworks Without The Internet. UPI, Dove' Magazine, Internet, 1985
- Published: Creating a Water Sparkle Effect Theater Crafts Magazine, October, 1980
- Published: Student Caring, A New Way of Thinking About College (With Daniel de Roulet)

## Volunteer & Community Outreach

- Producer: [Discover Arts Outreach](#) / Jonathan Jaques Foundation, memorial Hospital, Long Beach, California, 1993 – 1999 Produced, pro-bono, an annual special event – performance/experience for children with cancer and their families.