

# Martha Wade Steketee

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## EMPLOYMENT + EXPERIENCE

**2004-current. INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT**, Chicago, IL, Philadelphia, PA, New York, NY.

Theater and social science projects in Washington DC, Chicago, Philadelphia, New York City and nationwide.

### Theater

- **2011-current. Editorial + Research Consulting.** *Additional detail available upon request.*
  - **2019. Researcher.** “Simply Halston” six-episode Netflix series, Sharr White, Executive Producer. Writers room research on culture, personalities, social and professional events in life of designer Halston.
  - **2015. Video Interviewer.** Primary Stages Off Broadway Oral History Project celebrating “the visionaries who created New York’s vibrant Off- and Off-Off-Broadway Theatre.” <http://www.primarystagesoffcenter.org/>
  - **2012-2015. Editor and Contributor.** *Chance* theatrical design magazine. Editor-in-chief for five issues; author of monographs on Ben Edwards, Boris Aronson, and Ming Cho Lee, and essays on the Lake Lucille Chekhov Project and Origin Architect’s 77 Theatre in Beijing. <http://chance-magazine.com/>
  - **2011-2012. Consultant Researcher.** Primary Stages Theatre Company. Horton Foote programming, July-October 2012. Researched materials to augment Horton and Daisy Foote stage productions in Fall 2012.
- **2006-current. Arts Publications (features, critical essays, interviews).** Recent outlets: *HowlRound*, *TDF Stages*, *The Clyde Fitch Report*, *Theater Pizzazz*, *Broad Street Review*, *Exeunt*, *Brooklyn Rail*. Personal site: [urbanexcavations.com](http://urbanexcavations.com). Clips: <http://marthawadesteketee.pressfolios.com/>
- **2006-current. Dramaturgical Consultant.** Script reading and feedback to individual client playwrights on works in progress. *Detail available upon request.*
- **2004-current. Script Reader and Judge.** ATCA New Play Committee (2015-current), O’Neill National Playwrights Conference Artistic Council (2014-current). **Past:** Goodman Theatre (2007-2009), Harvardwood Playwriting Competition (2010-2019), Northlight Theatre (2007-2009), PlayPenn (2010-2020), Playscripts, Inc. (2004-2005), Public Theater Emerging Writers Group (2010-2017), Steppenwolf Theatre Company (2006), Sundance Theatre Lab (2011-2013), Young Playwrights, Inc. (2010-2013).
- **2011-2012. Teaching Artist.** Young Playwrights Urban Retreat (dramaturgy: 2011-2012), Primary Stages Primary Voices (criticism: 2011) <http://psprimaryvoices.wordpress.com/>.
- **2007-2013. Production Dramaturg and Resident Dramaturg.** Philadelphia Dramatists Center (2009-2010: “Critics in Conversation” series, “Dramaturg’s Blog” and script consultation); Rivendell Theatre Ensemble (2008-2009: *These Shining Lives*, *The Walls*); Writers Theatre (2007: *Othello*, *The Puppetmaster of Lodz*, *The MLK Project: The Fight for Civil Rights*); Young Playwrights Inc. (2012-2013: National Conference).
- **2007-2009. Founding Project Mentor.** *Cindy Bandle Young Critics*. Goodman + AWJ project (2007-2017) with local critics, arts writers, AWJ members, and 10th-12th grade Chicago area girls to develop theater criticism skills throughout the Goodman Theatre season. As of 2017, Goodman assumed sole leadership. <https://www.goodmantheatre.org/engage-learn/for-youth/cindy-bandle-cultural-critics/>

### Social Research

- **2019-current. Founding Member.** *Counting Together* coalition of theater studies comprised of national and regional data projects. Initially convened by Todd London (Dramatists Guild) and Luis Castro (American Theatre Wing), the initiative’s evolving mission addressing evidence of systemic exclusion in the theater is to convene the member groups to report findings collectively and to identify pathways to greater equity and inclusion through narratives in their multiple data reports. <https://countingtogether.org/>
- **2013-current. Lead Author.** *Women Count* report series on hiring woman and nonbinary playwrights, directors, designers, and other staff in Off-Broadway theaters. <https://urbanexcavations.com/women-count-report-series/>
- **2015. Evaluation Consultant.** Manhattan Theatre Club, New York, NY. Evaluation plan developed with John Jay College Research and Evaluation Center to assess Stargate Theatre Company for justice-involved youth.
- **2013. Project Consultant.** Children’s Aid Society, New York, NY. Disconnected Youth Services, Efforts to Outcomes Project. Data management and reporting.
- **2007-2008. Project Consultant.** Justice Management Institute and Arizona Criminal Justice Association privacy policy development, funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Department of Homeland Security.
- **2006-2008. Evaluation Consultant.** National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Office on Violence Against Women, ABA Commission on Domestic Violence bench card on best practice in custody and visitation.
- **2005-2006. Evaluation Consultant.** Music Theater Workshop, Chicago, IL. Evaluation plan for “Fabulous Females” creative writing and theater program at the Illinois Youth Center in Warrenville, IL.
- **2005-2006. Research Consultant.** National Center for State Courts. “Providing Technical Assistance Regarding Domestic Violence and Child Custody” for OVAW grantees, subcontract from University of Southern Maine Muskie School for Public Policy; “Evaluation of a Multi-Site Demonstration of Collaborations to Address Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment;” and other projects.

**1999-2005. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE**, National Center for State Courts, Arlington, VA. Selected projects:

“Public Access Initiative” on access to court case records (2000-2005); “Evaluation of a Multi-Site Demonstration of Collaborations to Address Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment (2000-2005); and ABA / NCJFCJ / NCSC project on workload outcome measurement for dependency courts (2001-2004).

**1997-1999. RESEARCH ANALYST**, Child Trends, Washington, DC. Analysis and reporting of child and family welfare indicators and technical assistance to the Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT project state grantees.

**1991-1997. PROJECT ASSOCIATE**, University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development Policy and Evaluation Project, Pittsburgh, PA. Project Director, Child and Family Welfare Indicators Project; Research Associate, Pennsylvania KIDS COUNT Partnership; Project Associate, Pittsburgh Starting Points Initiative.

#### **PUBLICATIONS + RESEARCH REPORTS + MONOGRAPHS + PRESENTATIONS**

- **1990-current. Reports, Monographs, Articles, Books.** Research and writing as critic and production dramaturg. In addition, articles on child welfare, juvenile justice, indicators of child well-being, specialized court case processing strategies, court records, and privacy and public access policies. *Detail available upon request.*
- **1993-current. Presentations.** Presentations and guest lectures on dramaturgy, women in the theater, and forging theatrical partnerships. In addition, presentations since 1987 (primarily 1993-2009) on authored social science reports, monographs, articles, and books. *Detail available upon request.*

#### **OTHER THEATER AND ARTS EXPERIENCE [INCLUDING BOARDS + COMMITTEES]**

- **2021-current. Leadership team**, LMDA's Dramaturging the Phoenix project developed in early 2020 to address needs of dramaturgs in initial stages of the pandemic. Project imagines dramaturgy of the future through regular zoom seminars and essays capturing reactions to this era. <https://lmda.org/dramaturging-phoenix>
- **2020-current. Steering Committee, American Theatre Archive Project**, <https://www.americantheatrearchiveproject.org/about/steering-committee/>
- **2019-current. Founding member, Counting Together coalition.** <https://countingtogether.org/about>
- **2017-current. Henry Hewes Design Awards Committee**, <http://hewesawards.org/committee.shtml>
- **2012-2014, 2017-current. Nominating Committee, Drama Desk Awards.** Media professionals honoring Broadway, Off-Broadway, and Off-Off Broadway since 1949. **Chair: 2018-current.** <http://www.dramadesk.org/>
- **2016-2018. VP for Advocacy, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.** Building interorganizational relationships and promoting dramaturgy. <http://www.lmda.org/boardandexecutive>
- **2015-2021. Executive Committee, American Theatre Critics Association**, the only national association of professional theater critics. **Chair: 2019-2021.** <http://americantheatre critics.org/leadership-and-committees/>
- **2014-2016. Regional Representative, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas – Metro NYC.** LMDA rep for NYC, one of the largest membership regions. <http://www.lmda.org/region/metro-new-york-city>
- **2014. Fellow, National Critics Institute, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center.** Two-week "boot camp" founded in 1968 as an intensive writing program for working critics. <https://www.theoneill.org/nci>
- **2012-2013. Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the America Grants and Awards Committee.** Review and select recipients for LMDA award programs. <http://www.lmda.org/grants>
- **2010-2012. Co-Chair, New York City Project Team, American Theatre Archive Project.** American Society for Theatre Research and LMDA. <http://www.americantheatrearchiveproject.org/>
- **2008-2009. Committee Member, Joseph Jefferson Awards Committee.** Annual awards founded in 1969 to honor excellence in Chicago-area theater productions. [www.jeffawards.org/](http://www.jeffawards.org/)

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- **American Theatre Critics Association**, 2012-current. <http://americantheatre critics.org/>
- **Association of Women Journalists Chicago**, 2006-2010. <http://www.awj-chicago.org/cpages/home>
- **Drama Desk** (voting member), 2012-2014, 2016-current. <http://www.dramadesk.org/>
- **Global Justice Privacy and Information Quality Working Group**, 2002-2012. <https://it.ojp.gov/global/working-groups/gpiqwq>
- **Harvardwood, NYC Chapter** (Harvard alumni arts organization), 2009-current. <http://www.harvardwood.org/>
- **Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas**, 2004-current. <http://www.lmda.org/>
- **Philadelphia Dramatists Center**, 2009-2010.
- **Society of Professional Journalists**, 2019-current. <https://www.spj.org/>
- **Theatre Communications Group** (individual member), 2005-current. <https://www.tcg.org>

#### **EDUCATION**

- 1985-90** *fellowships, internships, doctoral course work*, Social Work and Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 1985** **Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)**, Child Welfare Policy, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
- 1981** **Bachelor of Arts (A.B.)**, *cum laude*, English and American Literature and Language, Harvard College, Cambridge, MA