



Ja'Quan Malik Jones

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An initiative-driven practitioner and advocate with over five years of committed experience across arts education, nonprofit leadership, and creative production. As a founder, producer, and educator, I am enthusiastic about amplifying Afro-diasporic voices through innovative storytelling and community-driven projects. My work centers on fostering artist development, building sustainable creative networks, and executing pipeline programs in the entertainment industry.

Skill

- Microsoft Office Suite
- Adobe Creative Cloud
- Bazaart
- Zoom
- Dropbox
- Google Workplace
- Creating Pitch Decks
- Writing
- Social Media Proficient
- Curriculum Development
- Exceptional Communication
- Grant Writing
- Team Leadership
- Public Speaking
- Collaboration
- Problem Solving
- Producing
- Mentorship
- Sales Rep Experience
- Project Management
- Scheduling
- Tech Proficient
- Memorization
- DEI + Anti-Racism training
- Adaptability
- Customer Service
- Organization
- Editing
- Branding

Education

Brown University

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Studies

Providence, RI

May 2024

Norfolk State University

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Drama

Norfolk, VA

May 2020

Career Experience

SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT

Actor's Fellow | Culver City, California

JULY- AUGUST 2024

- Selected as one of ten actors for the highly competitive (*4,800 applicants*) Sony Pictures Television Diverse Actors Program.
- Participated in six weeks of intensive training, including panels and workshops with industry professionals such as casting directors, producers, directors, and showrunners.
- Gained in-depth knowledge of the entertainment industry while filming, training, and performing in an industry showcase enhancing craft and professional insight.

THE BILLIARDS CANVAS INC

Founder/Director | Virginia

JULY 2021- PRESENT

- Established a nonprofit arts educational-based production company emphasizing advancing creative advocacy and artist development, particularly for underrepresented voices in Virginia.
- Leads a core team of eight creative change advocates to create curriculum and design educational pathways in film, TV, and theatre, driving both cultural impact and communal engagement.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE

Resident Artist | Boston, Massachusetts

JUNE 2022- DECEMBER 2023

- Co-developed *The Fatherhood Mixtape*, an exploration of contemporary Black Fatherhood through collaborative performance and in-depth artistic and analytical research.

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BILLIARDS VMSOA LLC

Producer, Documentarian, Writer | Norfolk, Virginia | Providence, Rhode Island

DECEMBER 2020- JULY 2021

- Produced *Billiards*, a short film, overseeing creative direction, budget management, and successful grant writing securing a Brown Arts Initiative grant.
- Directed and produced *Straight Razor: The Story of the Smith Street Barbers*, a documentary highlighting a famous community barbershop during the COVID-19 pandemic. I received funding through the Brown Arts Initiative grant, marking my second time as a recipient.

UPWARD BOUND, NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

Drama Instructor/ Mentor | Norfolk, Virginia

2019

- Mentored high school seniors in theatre arts, leading them in creating an original theatrical work that centered their voices and stories, while exploring arts education as a pathway to practicing good mental health.

VIRGINIA PUBLIC WORKS

Intern, Teaching Artist | Virginia Beach, Virginia

2019

- Facilitated and co-led an arts education program for youth experiencing adversity in partnership with Virginia Beach Municipal Courts System, focusing on self-expression and identity through creative arts.

EGGLESTON SERVICES

Teaching Artist | Norfolk, Virginia

2017-2018

- Developed inclusive lesson plans for neurodiverse youth and adults, fostering engagement, communication skills, and personal growth through arts education.

VIRGINIA STAGE COMPANY, ARTS INCLUSION COMPANY, NORFOLK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Teaching Artist | Norfolk, Virginia

2017-2018

- Led arts education programs for public school teachers and neurodiverse students, using performance as a tool for learning and inclusion within the classroom.

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST