

VITA

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EDUCATION:

Certificate in Film Production, Rockport International Film Institute, Rockport, ME, 1992
Concentrations: Pre-Production Budgeting, Cinematography, Script Development

Certificate in Music Video Production, Image Film and Video Center, Atlanta, GA, 1993
Concentrations: Budgeting, Project Development, Post-Production

B.S. in Speech Communication and Theater, Tennessee State University, Nashville, 1990
Major Emphasis: Theater
Minor: Radio and Television Production
Honors: Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Freelance Artist, Nashville, TN.

Professional Actor and Writer. Perform at various regional theater companies throughout the United States; Write Plays and other dramatic presentations; Perform original and established works at various venues. Co-Host of the popular local radio roundtable, *Freestyle*, airing weekly on WFSK 88.1 FM (1993-Present).

Founding Artistic Director, Amun Ra Theatre, Nashville, TN.

Responsible for strategic planning, Board development, and administrative functions of professional, non-profit theatre company focusing on the exploration of universal themes of humanity as experienced through the worldview of African-American Drama, Music, Dance, and the Spoken Word; Create and distribute marketing materials; Supervise creative and technical staff for theatrical productions. (Present).

Consultant, Producer, and Weaver of Dreams, The Media Scientist, Nashville, TN.

Consultant and Producer for media projects; Consult with and instruct individuals and groups in the areas of theatre, acting, public speaking, communications, writing, goal-setting, and producing. Write for various publications; Produce radio and television projects; Conduct Leadership training for non-profit organizations; Develop Rites-Of-Passage Programs for community organizations; Conduct theatrical presentations, workshops, and training; Teach media protocol to individuals to develop interviewing and presentational skills. (1998-Present).

Regular Roundtable Commentator, National Public Radio, Los Angeles, CA/New York, NY.

Provide weekly insights on current issues on live, nationally aired radio program *News and Notes with Ed Gordon*. In addition, formerly provided regular commentaries for the NPR program *The Tavis Smiley Show (2004)*. Currently serve in rotation with other national leaders from the media, entertainment, education, and arts communities who offer their perspectives on the issues of the day (Present).

Community Organizer and Leadership Trainer, Neighborhoods Resource Center, Nashville, TN.

Responsible for organizing neighborhoods in inner-city communities into cohesive, active neighborhood associations; instructed residents in communications skills, how to conduct meetings, working with elected officials, and other areas of leadership; Conducted Leadership Training Institute quarterly with neighborhood and community leaders. (1999-2000).

Executive Producer, Third Eye Communications, Nashville, TN.

Coordinated company's work in Film, Video, Radio, and Television production; Wrote, produced, and directed projects in all areas; Marketed and promoted projects produced by the company; Solicited work and built relationships with Record Labels, Corporations, and Community Organizations in need of media production; Coordinated schedules, directed programming, and scheduled guests for various radio programs. In addition, served as Editor of monthly community news journal, *The Third Eye*, circulation 10,000; Wrote multiple articles and editorials on various local, national, and international issues; Coordinated staff of writers and contributors; Supervised advertising sales; Designed and laid out publication (1990-1998).

Assistant Director of Community Services, Edgehill Center, Inc., Nashville, TN.

Wrote Press Releases and articles for local media, promoting the agency's mission and objectives; Coordinated alcohol/drug prevention programs for disadvantaged youth ages 10-21; Assisted in writing, securing and administering grant-funded programs; Wrote and implemented a nationally replicated Rites-Of-Passage program for young males and females; Directed TENN-CAN productions, teaching youth expressiveness through film, video and radio productions; Recruited participants for programs by speaking at local schools, churches, and after-school programs. (1991-1993).

Radio Talk Show Host, WQQK/WVOL Radio, Nashville, TN.

Created, produced and hosted "Straight Talk," a weekly two-hour live talk radio show that explored topics of education, politics, history, religion, and current events; Created, produced and hosted "Let's Talk," a nightly two-hour program with the same format as previous show; Interviewed local leaders, politicians, and public figures, as well as nationally and internationally known personalities. (1990-1993).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Interim Lead Drama Instructor, Nashville School of The Arts, Nashville, TN

Wrote and implemented lesson plans for instruction in the following sub-disciplines: Drama History, Beginning Acting, Advanced Acting, Technical Theatre; Directed one-act play with students from program; Attended strategy meetings and contributed to overall curriculum design (Fall Semester, 1996).

Program Coordinator/Instructor, Samaritan Ministries/Project SEE, Nashville, TN
Created curriculum for after-school and Summer program for youth in public housing; Taught both African-American History and Drama; Monitored youths' progress in public school system via site visits and individual follow-ups (Summer, 1999).

Instructor, Edgehill Center Summer Enrichment Program, Nashville, TN
Responsible for Lesson Planning and teaching in self-contained African-American History and Drama Classes (Summer, 1991).

PUBLICATIONS:

Carr, J. (2001), *African-Americans in Nashville: What Now?* Nashville: An American Self-Portrait (John Egerton, Ed., Beaten Biscuit Press, 2001).

Carr, J. (2000), *Should We Kill the Preachers? How Negro Ministers Destroy the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Make a Mockery of Jesus, The Christ, The Black World Today* (Charles Tolbert, Ed., www.tbwt.com, 2000).

Carr, J. (1999), *The Game of My Life*, Wordsmith: A Guide to College Writing (Pamela Arlov, Ed., Simon & Schuster, New York, NY).

Carr, J. (1998), Black Stuff: Poetry and Essays on the Afrikan-American Experience, Third Eye Press, Nashville, TN/New York, NY.

Carr, J. (1997), "The Game of My Life," *Essence Magazine*, Johnson Publications, New York, NY.

MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES:

Actor's Equity Association
Black Filmmakers Foundation
Onyx Film Circle
Theta Alpha Phi Theatrical Honors Society
Family Empowerment Services, Board of Directors
Black Taffeta and Burlap Theatre Company, Past Board Member
Hotep International Dance Company, Past Board Member
PEAKS Program for African-American Males, 1995-97
Guest Lecturer, Middle TN State University Psychology Dept, 1992-94
Association for the Study of Classical Afrikan Civilizations

PRESENTATIONS:

- Carr, J. O., (October, 2005). "*The Actor's One-Week Intensive.*" Instructor.
The Media Scientist LLC, Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J.O. (June, 2005). "*The One-Week African-American Drama Intensive Workshop,*" An Artist's workshop presented at Amun Ra Theatre, Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J.O. (May, 2005). "*Why I Sing My Blues,*" Presentation at the African-American Postal League United for Success National Convention, New Orleans, LA.
- Carr, J. O., (April, 2005). "*And Just Who is My Neighbor?*" Guest Speaker.
Men's Gathering, London Bridge Baptist Church, Norfolk, VA.
- Carr, J. O., (March, 2005). "*Dramatic Jazz: The Process of Writing.*" Guest lecture.
Inside-Out of The Lunchbox Series, Tennessee Performing Arts Center,
Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J.O./Neal, Sherri (June, 2004). "*Preconceived Notions: Diversity in the Workplace.*"
Presented to the Diversity Council of the Gap Corporation, Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J.O. (May, 2004). "*Who Are You? And Who are You Called To Be?.*" Commencement
Address to the Class of 2004, Stratford High School, Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J.O. (March, 2003). "*Living Your Dreams and Dreaming a Living: The Ins and
Outs, Ups and Downs of Crafting an Artist's Career,*" Master Class for students,
faculty, and administration of Texas A&M University Department of Theatre, College
Station, TX.
- Carr, J.O. (November, 2002). "*From the Page to the Stage: The Modern Spoken Word
Movement and how its popularity can be utilized to hook young people on poetry,*"
Presented at the National Council of Teachers of English National Convention,
Atlanta, GA.
- Carr, J.O. (December, 2001). "*The Meaning of Kwanzaa,*" Presented at Hull-Jackson
Montessori School, Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J. O. (August, 2001). "*The Inner Journey into Self,*" Presented at Kayne Avenue
Missionary Association Annual Luncheon, Loew's Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel,
Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J. O. (July, 2001). "*Ma Dear and Aging in the Black Community,*" Presented at National
Medical Association, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J.O. (July, 2001). "*Ma Dear: It's Hard Growing Old Alone,*" Presented to the National
Football League Mother's Association, Adelphia Coliseum, Nashville, TN.
- Carr, J.O. (April, 2001). "*Our Temples for Tomorrow: The Legacy You Create,*" Presented at
The CAT Financial, Metropolitan Public Schools Annual Writer's Awards Ceremony,

Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN.

Carr, J.O. (May, 2001). “*Making the Best of Your Choices*,” Presented to The Literary Assembly of Hunters Lane High School, Nashville, TN.

Carr, J.O. (April, 2001). “*Black Stuff: An Artistic Exploration*,” Presented at the Literary Showcase, Rap and Race Conference, Fisk University Race Relations Institute, Nashville, TN.

Carr, J.O. (April, 2001). “*Know Thyself: Growing Up in a New Age*,” Presented at the Youth in Action for Christ “Keepin’ it Real” Conference, Nashville, TN.

Carr, J.O. (February, 2001). “*Working Within the Vision*,” Presented at the Great Debate Honor Society Banquet, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN.

Carr, J.O. (February, 2001). “*Black Stuff: Seeing Who We Are*,” Presented at the Annual Tennessee Black Caucus of Legislators’ African-American History Program, Nashville, TN.

Carr, J.O. (May, 2000). “*Why I Sing My Blues: Let’s All Learn From Each Other*,” Presented to the Kindergarten classes at Evoline C. West Elementary School, Fairburn, GA.

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Top 40 Leaders Under 40, *Nashville Tennessean* Newspaper
Featured Playwright, 2004 Provincetown Festival of New Works, New York
Best Actor, 2003 Tennie Awards, *Nashville Tennessean* Newspaper
Mayor’s Award for Poetic Excellence
Tennessee Black Caucus Of State Legislators’ Leadership Award
Rontillion Manhood Award
Sinking Creek Independent Film Festival Music Video Showcase Selection
National Student Leadership Conference Leadership Award
NAACP Business Recognition Award
Edgehill Center South Nashville Leadership Award
NAACP President’s Award for Community Activism and Leadership
Tennessee State University Presidential Leadership Award
Association of Tennessee Alpha Men Brother of the Year
Interdenominational Services Organization of America Recognition Award
Fisk University Mini-College Certificate of Recognition
All-Star Cast, National Association for Dramatic and Speech Arts

PLAYS (Authored):

Before The People Came?(2004), Amun Ra Theatre & Nashville Children's Theatre, NCT's Cooney Playhouse, February, 2004

How Blak Kin Eye Bee?(2001), Amun Ra Theatre & Fisk University Stagecrafters, Fisk University Memorial Chapel, Spring, 2001.

Rabbit, The Pear Tree, and The Maheeheehah (2000),Fisk University Children's Theater, Fisk University Memorial Chapel, Spring 2000.

The Unforgettable Visit: A Kwanzaa Tale(1997), Black Taffeta/Mockingbird Public Theater, Jackson Hall, Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Fall,1998.

Like It Was The Last Day (1999). Yet to be produced.

Don't Believe in Dying (1997). Yet to be produced.

PRODUCTION CREDITS:

TELEVISION:

The TSU Coach's Show, News Channel 5 Plus, Nashville, TN, Big Blue Sports Network, Producer.

Da House Of Hip, Viacom Viewers Network, Nashville, TN, Producer/Director.

INDUSTRIAL:

Reggie White's All-Pro Workout, Parabody Sports, Inc., Writer/Producer.

Universal Printers Does It All, Universal Printers, Writer/Producer.

RADIO:

News and Notes with Ed Gordon, Roundtable Member, National Public Radio (Present).

The Tavis Smiley Show, Guest Commentator, National Public Radio (2004).

Freestyle, WFSK Radio, Nashville, TN, Panelist/Co-Host (Present)

The Third Eye Radio Program, WFSK Radio, Nashville, TN, Producer/Host (1998-2001).

TSU Tiger Talk, News Channel 5 Radio, Nashville, TN, Big Blue Sports Network, Producer/Host (2000-01).

Habari Gani? (What's the News?), WFSK Radio, Nashville, TN, Producer/Host (1994-96).

Let's Talk, WVOL Radio, Nashville, TN, Producer/Host (1992-93).

Straight Talk, WVOL Radio, Nashville, TN, Producer/Host (1990-93).

MUSIC VIDEO:

Shout, Rev. Milton Brunson & The Thompson Community Singers, Word Records, Producer.

Pass it On, Mike E., BDR Records, Producer/Director.

Back In The Day, Mike E., BDR Records, Producer/Director.

Rap 'N Read, Young Warriors For The Cause, BDR Records, Producer/Director.

Parte', Corey Harris, SYBE Records, Producer/Director.

THEATRE:

Black Nativity, Amun Ra Theatre, Director

Jar the Floor, Fisk University Spring Arts Festival, Scene Design/Tech Director

The Old Settler, Fisk University Stagecrafters, Technical Director.

Balcony Scene, Pearl-Cohn Arts Magnet High School, Director.

ACTING CREDITS:

THEATRE:

The Piano Lesson, Lymon, Tennessee Repertory Theatre, Nashville, TN.

The Wrestling Season, Referee, Nashville Children's Theatre, Nashville, TN.

Harlem Voices, Ensemble, American Negro Playwright Theatre, Nashville, TN.

How Blak Kin Eye Bee?, One-Man Ensemble, Ryman Auditorium, Nashville, TN.

Lily's Purple Plastic Purse, Mr. Slinger, Nashville Children's Theatre, Nashville, TN.

Sir Gawain and The Green Knight, Sir Gawain, Nashville Children's Theatre, Nashville, TN.

The House at Pooh Corner, Tigger, Nashville Children's Theatre, Nashville, TN.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters, Storyteller/King, Nashville Children's Theatre, Nashville, TN.

Fences, Lyons, American Negro Playwright Theatre, Nashville, TN.

How Blak Kin Eye Bee?, Actor, Amun Ra Theatre, Nashville, TN.

The Old Settler, Husband, Portland Center Stage Company, Portland, OR.

A Sunbeam, Melvin McDaniels, Bristol Riverside Theater, Bristol, PA.

The Taming of The Shrew, Lucentio, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Montgomery, AL.

Measure for Measure, Pompey, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Montgomery, AL.

Vernon Early, Elreese/Solomon, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Montgomery, AL.

Tapestry, Jeff, Tennessee Repertory Theatre, Nashville, TN.

To Kill a Mockingbird, Rev. Sykes, Tennessee Repertory Theatre, Nashville, TN.

Lizard, Sammy/Ricardo, 1996 Olympic Arts Festival, Atlanta, GA.

Black Nativity, Jesus, Black Taffeta and Burlap Theater, Nashville, TN.

Ain't Got Long to Stay Here, Ensemble, Tennessee Repertory Theatre/Columbia Artists, Nashville, TN/New York, NY.

Home For the Holidays, Jason Masterson, Tennessee Repertory Theatre, Nashville, TN.

Harlem Voices, Ensemble, American Negro Playwright Theatre, Nashville, TN.

A Raisin In the Sun, Joseph Asagai, American Negro Playwright Theatre, Nashville, TN.

FILM:

The Second Chance, Jake Sanders, Cedar Partners/Sony Pictures, Steve Taylor, Director, Nashville, TN.

Panther, Denzil Dowell, Mario Van Peebles, Director, Los Angeles, CA.

TELEVISION:

America's Dumbest Criminals, Multiple Roles, Scene Three Productions, Nashville, TN.

VOICEOVERS:

KFC Specials with CJ (Multiples), J& A Associates.

INROADS/Wealth Starters CD-ROM, Audio Productions.

House of Blues Presents 112, Audio Productions.

United Methodist Relief Fund, Narration, Sandman Creative Group.

Anansi: Tales From Africa, Wood 'n Strings Puppet Theater.

Georgia Senate Race, Audio Productions.

So You Got Her, Access MedPlus.

Louisiana House Election, Audio Productions.

Rescue Health Care, Committee of Twelve.

The X Fest, African-American Cultural Alliance.

CONSULTING AND SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Nashville Responds Hurricane Katrina Benefit, *Organizer*, Nashville, TN.

National Conference for Community and Justice, Nashville Region, Human Relations Awards Dinner, *Consultant/Associate Producer*, Nashville, TN.

1st Annual Carlton Moss Film Festival, Fisk University, *Chair and Lead Consultant*, Nashville, TN.

PRESENTATIONS OF “HOW BLAK KIN EYE BEE?”:

- Tennessee State University
- Purdue University
- University of Missouri
- Middle Tennessee State University
- Texas A&M University
- Fisk University
- Missouri State Legislative Black Caucus
- University of Tennessee Knoxville

REFERENCES AND REELS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST