

For the first part of the summer, I will be taking part in Summer Circle Theatre at MSU. I will be performing as Character A in *Show I* and Character B in *Show II*, and will intimacy direct *Show III*. Once Summer Circle is concluded, I will be continuing my certification to become an Intimacy Director through Intimacy Directors & Coordinators. I will also be completing and submitting for publication my article *Navigating Authenticity: Using Intimacy Direction to Make the Rehearsal Space more Equitable for Neurodiverse Actors*

I have written the following abstract for my article.

“This article explores the transformative impact of intimacy direction in the realm of neurodivergent actors, shedding light on the intersection of neurodiversity and the performing arts. Focused on cultivating a safe and supportive environment, intimacy direction has proven instrumental in empowering neurodivergent actors to navigate scenes requiring emotional vulnerability and interpersonal connections. By delving into case studies and collaborative experiences, we unveil the nuanced considerations essential for effective direction, addressing the unique challenges neurodivergent individuals may encounter in portraying intimate moments authentically.

The discussion emphasizes the significance of informed consent, clear communication, and sensory-aware practices in fostering a conducive atmosphere for neurodivergent actors. As the entertainment industry evolves towards inclusivity, understanding the role of intimacy direction in accommodating diverse perspectives becomes imperative. This presentation advocates for a paradigm shift in performance arts, encouraging practitioners to embrace intimacy direction as a powerful tool for enhancing the creative process and ensuring neurodivergent actors feel seen, heard, and authentically represented on stage, screen, and in the classroom.”