

Clemson Little Theatre Board
May 19, 2024 Elections for the 2024-2026 Term
New Nominee Bios

Darren Linvill grew up taking part in plays through CAYT and CLT, first in Central and later in the Pendleton Playhouse. He went on to major in Theater at Wake Forest University, where he met his amazing wife, Claiborne, doing a scene from A. R. Gurney's *Sylvia*. Claiborne played the dog. Darren is a professor in the department of Communication at Clemson and co-director of the Watt Family Innovation Center Media Forensics Hub. His two talented daughters, Sylvia (14) and Amelia (11), are both involved in CAYT and appeared recently in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Marissa McFarland, originally from York, Pennsylvania, moved to the Clemson area fifteen years ago from Philadelphia. She is married to Ryan and has two children, Fynn (14) and Daniel (9), both heavily involved in community theater. Marissa was a nurse until she became a stay-at-home mom and writer. She has written several short stories, two novels, and is currently writing her third. Marissa can often be found sitting in the back of the theater or in the lobby tapping away at her computer or with her nose in a book while her kids are at rehearsals. She owes her children's personal growth and self-confidence to the theater and wants to give back by sharing her own creativity skills with the CLT board.

Shannon Nifong—a vibrant actor thriving in the scenic haven of Pendleton alongside her fiancé and their furry entourage. Ever the animal lover, Shannon sees her role as a magnet for strays not as a duty, but as a delightful dance orchestrated by the universe.

With a passion for storytelling that rivals her love for her four-legged companions, Shannon's journey in theater has been a whirlwind of excitement and growth. From tinkering behind the scenes to commanding the stage, she has embraced every aspect of the theatrical realm with infectious energy and a playful spirit.

For Shannon, the magic of theater lies in the connection it fosters. It's about sharing laughter, tears, and everything in between with audiences who become part of the journey. Whether she's cracking jokes or delving into the depths of character, Shannon approaches each performance, just as life, with a blend of sincerity, joy, and a sprinkle of her signature charm.

Current board members running for re-election:

Kris Hersom: 2nd Term

Latoya Young: 2nd Term

Cathy Applequist: 1st Term (has been fulfilling the remainder of Ralph Welsh's term)