

Preston Crowder

336 Chauncey Street, Apt 1D
Brooklyn, New York 11233
preston.crowder12@gmail.com :: (615) 674-6154

TRAINING

Masters of Fine Arts – Playwriting – The New School of Drama – May 2022

Bachelor of Arts – Theater - Oberlin College - 2016

PRODUCTION HISTORY

“Don’t Look Black” (Tennessee Playwrights Studio, Darkhorse Theater) – August 2022

“Bocking” (Obsidian Theater Festival, Ghostlight Theater) – June 2022

“worlds melt” (The New School of Drama, Bank Street Theater) – 2021

“Friendsgiving” (The New School of Drama) – 2019

“Break Your Chains” (Juilliard School) – 2018

“Love Ghosts” (University School of Nashville) – 2017

“Flames” (University School of Nashville) – 2016

“The Monsters Underneath” (Oberlin College) – 2015

“The Body Sacred” (Oberlin College) - 2014

WRITING EXPERIENCE

Tennessee Playwrights Studio, Playwriting Fellow (2019-2021)

- One of six fellows chosen to develop a new, full-length script and have a staged reading.

#WeirdMYAH, Writers Room (2017-2018)

- **#WeirdMYAH** is an original comedy series by Myah Naomi Lipscomb that follows a young, Black HBCU student as she navigates how the world sees her and how she sees herself. The show is currently in the pitch process to television networks.
- Read, notated, and helped to revise potential scripts for the full-length series.
- Collaborated in a writer's room to build future episodes and the season arc for the full-length series.
- Served as Assistant Director for the full length, award winning "**#photobomb**" episode.

“Break Your Chains,” Juilliard, Contributing Writer (2018)

- An ode to the history and struggles of Black people in the United States, "Break Your Chains" is an opera that uses music and lyrics to examine issues such as racism, identity, and the power of healing.
- Collaborated with other Black writers to help structure and create poetic, prose, and dramatic pieces for the book of the opera.

“Flames,” University School of Nashville - Playwright (2016)

- "Flames" follows the story of a young Black man as he battles with his father, who happens to be an officer, during a race riot in Nashville, TN.
- Commissioned by the head of theater at University School of Nashville.
- Paired in conjunction with the Mayor's office of Nashville to create a community dialogue about the effects of police brutality within the city.
- Created a panel that was held after performances to allow audience members give feedback to district attorneys about policing in their communities.

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ACTING EXPERIENCE

SCOTCH	"IS GOD IS"	THE NEW SCHOOL (2022)
XAVIER	"NIGHT INTO MORNING"	SHORT FILM (2021)
FIGURE 4	"MAIDENS"	TENNESSEE PLAYWRIGHTS' STUDIO (2019)
CHRIS	"SWEAT"	HUMANITY THEATER PROJECT (2019)
JULIAN/PASCAL	"IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE"	HUMANITY THEATER PROJECT (2018)
ALBERT/KEVIN	"CLYBOURNE PARK"	CIRCLE PLAYERS (2017)

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

"Night Into Morning", Short Film – Director (2021)

- Completed pre-production material including writing the script, developing the storyboard and shot list, and securing locations.
- Directed the actors within the film as well as helped the director of photography visually capture the story.
- Organized a small production team to help complete the project which included completing casting for the project as well.
- Edited the film after shooting was complete through the program software Adobe Premiere Pro.
- The film has garnered an audience of 50,000+ within a year of its release to the social video platform Youtube.

"Detroit '67," Karamu House - Assistant Director (2016)

- Assisted with casting the main actors of the show.
- Completed dramaturgical work to help bring the world of Detroit in 1967 to life.
- Contributed to the blocking and staging of the production during rehearsals.
- Developed and helped publish online promotional tools for the production.

AWARDS

- Obsidian Theater Festival Semi-finalist (2022)
- 2018 "Best TV Pilot" for #WeirdMYAH: #photobomb" - National Black Film Festival (Houston, TX)
- Served as Assistant Director
- Best Featured Actor, "Clybourne Park", Circle Players Awards, 2017