



ACT Alumni



Austin Abshire

ACT Alumni: 2003-2011

Focus Area: Acting, but had comprehensive theatre education and exposure to all theatrical aspects

Education: King University; Pursuing Associates Degree, Seminole State College

Career Goals: Communications/Sociology

ACT's Impact: "ACT was one of the most profound, rewarding experiences of my life. To this day, I give credit to Stephanie Richards, and ACT for many of my successes and accomplishments. Teachers have the power to change lives, and Stephanie Richards changed mine. ACT gave me confidence, taught me to be empathetic, and work better with others."



Jordan Adkins

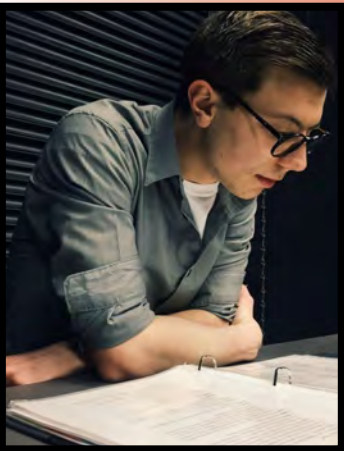
ACT Alumni: 2003-2014

Focus Area: Acting, Stage Management, Lighting Technician

Education: Masters in Artificial Intelligence, University of California—Berkeley

Career Goals: Video Game Intelligence Designer

ACT's Impact: "It is hard to put into words everything that ACT has done for me. It is more than a theatre company, it is a family and a community. It gave me a sense of purpose and taught me to always be the best me I could possibly achieve."



Treyton Blackburn

ACT Alumni: 2010-Present

Focus Area: Acting

Education: Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Theatre, University of Kentucky

Career Goals: Criminal Defense Attorney

ACT's Impact: "ACT is where I discovered my love and passion for theatre, which has continued into my career. I will forever be grateful for the opportunities, training, and love I found there."



Matthew Blair

ACT Alumni: 2012-2016

Focus Area: Acting, Set Design

Education: Associates in Applied Science in Industrial Maintenance Technologies, Bluegrass Community and Technical College

Career Goals: Electrical Engineer

ACT's Impact: "ACT taught me that creativity is not something you should lose as you grow older and proceed into adulthood; instead you should embrace it and never let your creative flame snuff out."



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Tara Buckley

ACT Alumni: 2011-Present

Focus Area: Acting, Educational Directing

Education: Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science, University of Kentucky

Career Goals: Medical Laboratory Scientist

ACT's Impact: "Being a part of ACT gave me confidence, not just in my performing abilities but in all aspects of my life. It gave me the outlet of expression I'd been craving from a young age."



Emily Chaney

ACT Alumni: 2008-Present

Focus Area: Acting, Sound/Lighting Technician

Education: Bachelor of Science, Morehead State University

Career Goals: Physician's Assistant

ACT's Impact: "ACT provided me with a platform of self-expression in a place where I knew I would never be judged. Not only was I given a place to grow and learn, but I was given a place to be my true self. This theatre taught me that I have no limits to the things I can accomplish, onstage or off."



Zachary Chaney

ACT Alumni: 2009-Present

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician

Education: Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Biology, University of Kentucky

Career Goals: Cardiothoracic Surgeon

ACT's Impact: "As a kid who was bullied growing up, ACT gave me a safe place where I could go and be myself. It gave me somewhere to escape from reality. I will forever be grateful to ACT for allowing me to be a part of the family."



Kristin Coleman


ACT Alumni: 2011-Present

Focus Area: Educational Director, Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician

Education: Bachelors in Nursing, University of Pikeville

Career Goals: Pediatric Nursing

ACT's Impact: "ACT gave me a voice I never knew I had, one that has helped me become a leader all my own. I'm forever thankful and blessed because of it."



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Keeli Collins

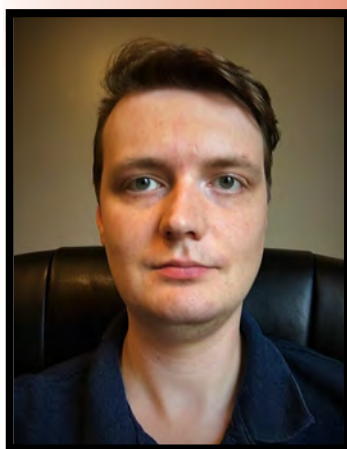
ACT Alumni: 2008-Present

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician

Education: Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Sciences Disorder and Theatre, University of Kentucky

Career Goals: Speech and Language Pathologist

ACT's Impact: "When I found ACT, I found a home. I found a place where being myself was both easy and fun. The theatre taught me to turn my struggles into my strengths, and the people I met there helped shape me into the young woman I am today."



Eric Fields

ACT Alumni: 2004-2014

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician, Set Design

Education: Bachelor of Arts in History & Master of Arts in Education, Georgetown College

Career Goals: Current social studies teacher at Betsy Layne High School

ACT's Impact: "Theatre showed me that being vulnerable requires strength, and that it is required in order to grow as a person."



Ashley Fleming

ACT Alumni: 2009-2016

Focus Area: Acting, Musical Theatre

Education: Bachelor of Arts, University of Pikeville

Career Goals: Small Business Owner

ACT's Impact: "I was raised in ACT and I feel over the top blessed to say that. Because of this I have always been a strong and confident woman. This self love wouldn't have developed without the love from those surrounding me in ACT. I found a family I will keep forever. A family that supports me and that I love dearly."



Ashley Fuller-Ratliff

ACT Alumni: 2003-Present

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician, Set Design

Education: Eastern Kentucky University

Career Goals: Independent Fashion Retailer and Small Business Owner

ACT's Impact: "ACT has made such a difference in my life. Knowing that I have a family to turn to when I need a laugh, or a shoulder to cry on, gives me peace and comfort through any situation. I know I can walk through those doors and "leave" the reality behind for a few hours, let my worries go, and come back out refreshed ready to face whatever awaits me."



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Sarah Haynes

ACT Alumni: 2003-2011

Focus Area: Acting, Educational Directing

Education: Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of Kentucky; Masters in Speech-Language Pathology, University of Louisville

Career Goals: Speech Language Pathologist

ACT's Impact: "Joining ACT gave me the opportunity to engage in a community that promotes leadership, adaptation, and diligence that has overflowed into all areas of my life."



Kaitlyn Howell

ACT Alumni: 2008-2016

Focus Area: Acting, Sound Technician

Education: American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City, New York

Career Goals: Actress, Producer

ACT's Impact: "I began acting at ACT at age 14 and through their support and guidance I was able to go on to begin a rewarding and award-winning acting career. I love theatre and will continue to act for as long as I live, and ACT gave me my start."



Jenn Nichols

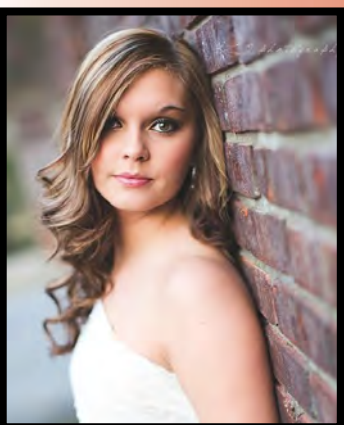
ACT Alumni: 2009-2013

Focus Area: Acting

Education: Pursuing a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies with a Minor in Creative Writing from Capital University

Career Goals: Public Librarian/Published Author

ACT's Impact: "ACT impacted my life by giving me the confidence to pursue my goals, no matter what they might be. ACT taught me that through hard work and perseverance, anything is possible. Through my time at ACT I learned skills in problem solving, teamwork, and communication that I will continue to use for the rest of my life."



Chelsey Potter

ACT Alumni: 2007-2012

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting Technician, Educational Directing

Education: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, University of Pikeville; currently pursuing Masters in Education

Career Goals: Teacher

ACT's Impact: "ACT cracked a shell I had molded around myself— one of insecurities and imbalance. ACT aided in plastering a new broach of confidence and solidarity that I proudly wear today."



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Katie Ratliff

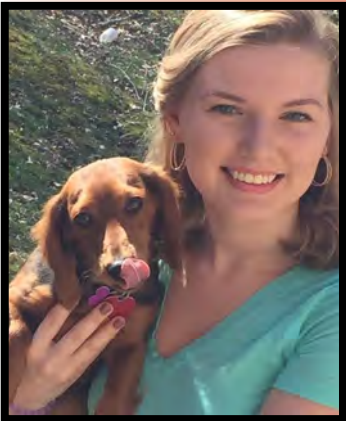
ACT Alumni: 2015-2017

Focus Area: Acting

Education: Bachelor of Science in Emergency Medical Care, Eastern Kentucky University

Career Goals: Physician

ACT's Impact: "ACT brought me closer to other people with minds and ideas like my own. It provided an environment of love and support where I was able to grow, both as a performer and as a young woman."



Allie SESCO-Chaney

ACT Alumni: 2007-2015

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician

Education: Pursuing Masters in Counseling Psychology

Career Goals: Mental Health Counselor

ACT's Impact: "ACT influenced my life in so many ways, from giving me more confidence in myself to helping me find the love of my life, who I am happily married to today. ACT literally created a second family for me and I am forever grateful."



Cody Sullivan

ACT Alumni: 2012-2015

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician

Education: Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Morehead State University

Career Goals: Pharmaceutical Scientist

ACT's Impact: "ACT allowed me to get out of my comfort zone and pursue goals that seemed unachievable."



Tyler Sullivan

ACT Alumni: 2012-2015

Focus Area: Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician

Education: Bachelor of Science in Physics, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Morehead State University

Career Goals: Civil Engineer

ACT's Impact: "ACT helped me come out of my shell and I've made memories that will last a lifetime. It was a pleasure working with some of the most talented, amazing people around."



ACT Alumni



Samantha West

ACT Alumni: 2008-Present

Focus Area: Current ACT Artistic Director; Acting, Directing, Lighting/Sound Technician, Scenic Design, Educational Director

Education: Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and English, University of Kentucky

Career Goals: To create a space in which all may learn, build confidence, create a community, and positively develop through theatre and art.

ACT's Impact: "At a young age, ACT gave me all the tools needed to succeed before I ever "left" to grow on my own. By gaining confidence, focus, and endless soft skills, I learned how to succeed in a variety of fields all with a smile and positive attitude."



Libby Wickman

ACT Alumni: 2013-2017

Focus Area: Acting

Education: Pursuing Bachelor of Fine Arts at Emory & Henry College

Career Goals: Professional Theatre

ACT's Impact: "ACT taught me to work better with people that I don't know and also helped me just to open my mind to other people's opinions and values. It also improved many of my acting skills as well as the way that I see the stage through my eyes, my characters' eyes, and other people's eyes."



Lauren Stewart Yaden

ACT Alumni: 2002-Present

Focus Area: Former ACT Artistic Director; Acting, Lighting/Sound Technician, Scenic Design

Education: Bachelor of Theatre Arts, University of Pennsylvania

Career Goals: Nursing

ACT's Impact: "As a founding member and former Artistic Director of ACT, I can hardly put into words the impact ACT has had on my life. It was more than a job, it was a family. ACT helped me grow into the person I am today and I couldn't begin to list the many life lessons I have learned along the way because of this theatre."