

# JAMES GRUESSING

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*Theatrical Management – Executive Director – Artistic Leadership – Theatrical Direction*

An experienced **Theatrical Operations Executive** with over 25 years of hands-on experience, I possess strong qualifications in directing, stage management, and executive leadership. With my extensive knowledge of technical/production/operations aspects of theatre, I am able to work well under pressure and deliver quality productions while ensuring that policies and standards are met. My strong communication skills, both written and oral, enable me to develop business plans and pitch concepts effectively. I am committed to providing general management, creative leadership, professional protocol, and fiscal competencies, and maintaining an efficient work environment.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### THE PRICE IS RIGHT LIVE ON TOUR!

2018 – PRESENT

#### *SHOW PRODUCER AND ANNOUNCER*

- Management and announcer of a touring version of The Price is Right – Game Show.
- Responsible for talent, show quality, rules and regulations, prize budgeting, writing scripts, show flow and overall show look.
- Lead a team of 11 touring personnel, playing approximately 150 shows at 120 venues per year through the US and Canada.

### THE NORRIS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

2004 - 2016

#### *Executive Director (2010 – 2016)*

- Management of non-profit performing arts center with a \$3 million annual budget. The center features a professional series, a full-time education center and rental facilities.
- Managed 9 Full Time Staff and 15 Part Time Staff, and oversee the management of 135 contractors, directors and volunteers.
- In charge of season selection, hiring, casting, union and non-union contracts administration and negotiation, HR, and overall center management.

#### *Artistic Director (2005 to 2010)*

- Oversee all main stage professional productions and concerts including, hiring, contract negotiation, casting and production management.
- Successfully created an annual donor support group for the development of professional productions. Since inception the program has raised over \$500,000.00 in private funding for the Norris 3 Play Series.
- Set-up all current practices, procedures and producing facilities for the company.

### THE HUNTINGTON BEACH PLAYHOUSE

2002-2005

#### *Executive Producer (2004-2005)*

- Responsible for play selection, hiring and management of all directors, actors and show personnel.
- Worked with directors on show casting and contract negotiations.
- Initiated new business practices to streamline events and procedures to save money.

#### *Technical Director (2002-2004)*

- Oversaw the maintenance and use of the technical facilities, responsible for the design and creation of sets and props
- Responsible for the hiring and management of the technical crew for every main stage production for the company.

**LIST OF REFERENCES, REVIEWS AND PRESS CLIPPINGS UPON REQUEST.**