JEREMY KRUSE

Acting Instructor | *Artistic Director* | *Workshop Leader*

PROFILE

Acting teacher, director, and artistic director with extensive experience in method acting, comedic improvisation (Second City), and original content creation. Proven ability to train students of all ages and skill levels. Professional background spans stage, film, and television. Experienced in designing and leading workshops for educational institutions.

EDUCATION

New York University, Tisch School of the Arts — BFA, Drama
Training at The Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute

The Second City - Improvisation and Sketch Comedy Writing

PROFESSIONAL & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Gorton Drama Studio — Lake Forest, IL
Artistic Director | *2022 – 2026*

- Founded and grew acting program from 0 to 300 students annually (1,000+ total served).
- Designed curriculum (method acting, improvisation, musical theater, film acting).
- Led 25+ classes annually across 9 distinct program offerings.
- Produced and directed 4–7 productions annually in a black box and a 300+ seat theater.
- Wrote and directed original adaptations (*Peter Pan Now*, *Cinderella*, *Alice in Wonderland*). Regular collaborations with Matt Mueller on original songs for plays.
- Established partnerships with local schools and organizations, including Montessori School of Lake Forest, District 67, and The Winter Club.
- Managed and trained a team of 7 teaching artists and production staff.
- Prepared students for auditions, college programs, and professional work; adult students have secured representation and paid roles.
- Developed *Performance Training*, a workshop-based program applying acting techniques to real-world performance.

The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute — New York, NY
Teacher

- Taught Method Acting, Acting for Film & TV, Comedic Improvisation, and Sketch Comedy.
- Developed curriculum and guided students in creating original work.

Middle Tennessee State University, Department of Theatre
Guest Lecturer

CREATIVE WORK & COLLABORATION

- Writer/Director, *Lockers* (published; produced nationally and internationally).
- Collaborated on film projects with Vince Vaughn:
    - Acted in *Summer Stories*; taught directing and performance within production.

PUBLICATIONS & FILM

- *The Young Actor's Handbook* (Applause, 2017).
- Currently writing *The Young Actor's Technique* (forthcoming).
- Documentary: *Lee Strasberg's Method* (SOHO International Film Festival selection).
- Short Film: *Anti-narrative Number 4* ("Director's Choice" Award).

AFFILIATIONS

SAG-AFTRA • Actors' Equity Association.

WORKSHOP AREAS

Method Acting • Acting for Film & TV • Improvisation • Creating Original Work
Sketch Comedy • Directing • Filmmaking • Scene Study • Business of Acting • Role Performance Training (applied acting for real-world performance)

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

Nonprofit Finance: Toolkit for Leaders — Northwestern Kellogg School of Management (Spring 2026)