

Denisse Chavez

Lighting Designer

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Design Experience

Show	Organization	Director	Year
<i>What the Constitution Means to me</i>	The Reparatory Theatre of St. Louis	Nancy Bell	2026
<i>Romeo and Zooliet</i>	Saint Louis Shakespeare	Tom Ridgley	2026
<i>The Black Feminist Guide to the Human Body</i>	The Black Rep	Kathryn Ervin	2025
<i>Hamlet</i>	Saint Louis Shakespeare	Michael Sexton	2025
<i>Ride the Cyclone</i>	Saint Louis University	Nancy Bell	2025
<i>Cabaret</i>	The New Jewish Theatre	Rebekah Scallet	2025
<i>As You Like It</i>	Saint Louis Shakespeare	Nancy Bell	2024
<i>All my Sons</i>	New Jewish Theatre	Gary Barker	2024
<i>Mojada</i>	Indianapolis Shakespeare	Maria Souza	2023

Technical Experience

Position	Organization	Year
Head Electrician	American Players Theatre	2022
Design Coordinator	Purdue Contemporary Dance Company	2019-2021
Lighting Technician	SeaWorld San Antonio	2017- 2019

Educational Experience

Position	Organization	Year
Assistant Professor	Saint Louis University	2022-Present
Instructor of Record	Purdue University	2019-2021

Education

MFA in Lighting Design	Purdue University	Lafayette, Indiana	2019- 2022
BA in Theatre Arts	Univ. of the Incarnate Word	San Antonio, Texas	2011- 2015
BA in Music	Univ. of the Incarnate Word	San Antonio, Texas	2011- 2015

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

ETC console certified, proficient in programming Ion Xe and Hog4 consoles

Intermediate knowledge of Lightwright and VectorWorks

Able to load in, focus, and program events for third party clients

Oversee daily operation such as lighting console operation and programming, spotlight operation, and lighting package maintenance of performance space

Preparation of production documentation including Lightwright paperwork, network maps,

spotlight cue sheets, focus charts and photos, and standard operation procedures of performance venue

Proficient in repairing Vari-Lite 3500 Spot and VL 3500 Wash moving lights

Able to lift 50 pounds and work at heights of 100 feet

Able to safely operate forklifts, scissor lifts, and boom lifts reaching 120 feet

Fluent in Spanish

Honors and Awards

Outstanding Achievement Lighting Design in a Musical for *Cabaret*, STL Circle Award 2026

Barbizon Lighting Company Jonathan Resnick Lighting Design Award 2022

Department of Theatre Excellence in Teaching Award, Purdue University 2021

References

Michael McNamara	Associate Professor of Theatre	mmcnamara@purdue.edu	765.496.2386
Vianey Salazar	Lighting Supervisor	vianey.r.salazar@gmail.com	682.561.7032
Joe Stafford	Technical Director	joseph.stafford@slu.edu	309.453.6792