2022 Recipient of the Distinguished Adjunct Faculty Teaching Award

Glenda Byars

The College of Charleston’s Distinguished Adjunct Faculty Award was established in 2014 and honors adjunct faculty members who are outstanding among the College’s many exceptional teachers. This year’s award recipient is Glenda Byars from the Department of Theatre and Dance.

Glenda joined the College in 2000 as an adjunct lecturer and more recently earned the title Senior Adjunct Lecturer. Her colleagues overwhelmingly value her many contributions to the department which include teaching a broad range of courses, training fellow adjuncts, attending regional conferences, directing plays, and participating in curriculum reform.

Glenda has taught both performance and design tracks as well as introductory courses. In 2019, Glenda took twelve students to Edinburgh, Scotland as part of the First-Year Experience Travel course “The Scottish Play and The Kingdom of Alba,” which focused on a dramaturgical study of Shakespeare’s Macbeth. In the last several years, Glenda has developed and taught three additional
courses for the First Year Experience students. Those courses are “Behind the Curtain, The Art and Craft of Theatre,” “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly; 20th Century Fashion” and most recently “Hollywood and History: Costume Design in Film.”

Glenda extends her talents beyond the classroom to direct plays and assist in productions. In Fall 2018, she directed the well-received production of The Wolves, a play about high school soccer players. Her passion to equip her students with the appropriate tools to be successful went as far as inviting a CofC soccer coach to rehearsal to learn soccer drills.

Each spring Glenda works individually with students to prepare them for attending regional conferences, coaching them through their audition and competition scenes. She has twice attended the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival conference as a faculty mentor, supporting students through their competitions.

Glenda is an outstanding teacher and has been a wonderful asset to our campus community. We are pleased to recognize Glenda Byars with the 2022 Distinguished Adjunct Faculty Teaching Award.