

# Denzel Belin

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## CAREER OBJECTIVE

To acquire the position of a writer and bring my perspective and representation of queer and Black communities that I belong to while working in tandem with teams of people to develop and create smart and comedic work for the screen.

## EDUCATION

B.A. Theater (Distinction)	St. Olaf College	Minneapolis, MN
Sketch Writing	The Second City	Chicago, IL via online
Character Writing	Squirrel Theater	New York City, NY via online
Sketch Comedy/ Stand-Up	Devil's Daughter	Chicago, IL via online
Pilot Writing	Madalyn Baldanzi	Chicago, IL via online
Improvisation Performance	HUGE Theater	Minneapolis, MN
Improvisation Performance	Annoyance Theater	Chicago, IL

## EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

### **Script Writer**

Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus January 2022 – current

- Developed and scripted a Broadway revue title, "Avenue Queer," incorporating music, monologues, and original content. Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus (TCGMC) is a volunteer community chorus whose mission is Gay Men Building Community Through Music.

### **Writer and Cast Member**

The Brave New Workshop October 2016 – current

- Over 10 shows of experience of developing a satirical sketch revue from idea to execution.

### **Writer and Performer**

Blackness Is... Festival March 2021 – May 2021

- Devised, scripted, performed, filmed, and edit a collection of storytelling and sketches titled, "With Love, From Washington". The Blackness Is... Festival is a diverse showcase of theater, music, dance, poetry and spoken word to honor the rich history and legacy of Black theater in the Twin Cities.

### **Script Writer**

Fearless Comedy Productions September 2019 – February 2022

- Developed three short plays for annual Fearless Five showcase of new work. Fearless Comedy Productions' Fearless Five shows are an evening of one act plays in which an ensemble of actors performs 5 original short plays, written by five different playwrights, and directed by five different directors.

### **Script Writer**

Pillsbury House and Theater May 2020 – June 2021

- Developed three short plays for Chicago Avenue Project. The Chicago Avenue Project has brought local youth together with the Twin Cities' best adult playwrights, actors, and directors to create and produce original plays.

### **Staff Writer**

AWF Magazine April 2019 – current

- Pitches and creates satirical news articles for the first satire website dedicated to the LGBTQ+ experience – my work is in the link: <http://awfmag.com/author/denzel-belin/>

### **Staff Writer**

The Nordly April 2019 – current

- Pitches and creates satirical news articles for satire website dedicated to Minnesota-based event – my work is in the link: <https://www.thenordly.com/nordly/author/denzelbelin/>

## **ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **Newsroom Coordinator**

Minnesota Public Radio

April 2018 – current

- Provides direct support to various MPR News editorial and production staff and facilitates daily physical plant operations of MPR News.

### **Artistic Directing Intern**

Mixed Blood Theater

May 2015 – August 2015

- Assisted the Artistic Director and the Producer-in-Residence with a variety of tasks from upkeep to attending and contributing at Board meetings. Projects included creating a video for the lobby use and assisted with auditions and readings.

### **St. Olaf College Library**

Research Tutor

May 2013 – May 2015

- Works in tandem with the Research Librarians in order to provide assistance to students, professors, genealogists, and community patrons. Participated in committee to plan library events for the freshman orientation week.

### **St. Olaf College Theater Department**

Teaching Assistant

August 2013 – May 2015

- Preps with professor before class and leads students through various warm-up activities. Assists with scene work outside of class and works in collaboration with the professor to assign scene work and monologues. (Acting for Non-Majors (Fall 2013), Intro to Theater (Spring 2014 & Spring 2015), Oral Interpretation (Fall 2014))

## **LEADERSHIP & DIVERSITY EXPERIENCE/ AFFILIATION**

### **MPR News SAG-AFTRA Union – Shop Steward**

- Serves as a labor union official who represents and defends the interests of members of the MPR News union in contract negotiations and grievances.

### **MPR Queer Employee Resource Group – Co-Chair (2018-2022)**

### **Rainier Scholars**

Summer 2004 – Present

*Program Graduate (Cohort 3)*

- An 11-year academic and leadership enrichment program for talented and motivated students of color; Completed a demanding 14-month academic program and 5 extensive retreats that focused on how to be an active leader and a strong contributor