

Rev. Cassandra A. Henderson

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SUMMARY:

Among many things, I am dedicated, reliable, hardworking and genuinely enthusiastic about the work I do. I am honored and humbled to have been called to the sacred space of ordained ministry. God's calling for me to ministry did not become clear until after over 20 years of working in various capacities in film, television, theatre, graphic and web design and over 14 years of managerial/organizational education and arts-related programming for youth and adults from diverse socio-economic, religious and ethnic backgrounds. Still, it is my most firm belief that God can and does allow "all things to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to God's purpose" (Romans 8:28). So, I have heard the call and continue to respond daily, with a resounding "here am I, send me" (Isaiah 6:8). I am confident that these experiences have not only developed in me a myriad of skills, a vast network of colleagues and friends, but also has equipped me "...for such a time as this" (Esther 4:14).

EDUCATION, TRAINING/PREPARATION:

Ordained in Ministry Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA American Baptist Churches, USA	2016
Master of Divinity Candidate (MDiv) Emory University, Atlanta, GA Candler School of Theology Concentration: Leadership in Church & Community Certificate: Black Church Studies	2015
Licensed in Ministry McGee Avenue Baptist Church, Berkeley, CA American Baptist Churches, USA	2010
Master of Fine Arts (MFA) Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA School of Film & Television Major: Film Production	2007
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Spelman College, Atlanta, GA Major: Drama & Theatre	2004

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP & MINISTRY EXPERIENCE:

Ebenezer Baptist Church
Atlanta, GA USA
February 2011-2016

Assistant Pastor (2015-2016)

- Under the leadership of the Executive Pastor and Senior Pastor, provide support in teaching, preaching, pastoral care and visitation, pastoral counseling, pre-marital counseling and officiate weddings.
- Total renovation/update to the church's Educational Building.
- Assist Worship & Arts Director as needed with worship planning
- Serve as pulpit support for Sunday services throughout the year as well as special events and additional weekly services, funerals, etc.

- Spearhead the Discipleship class (40-day cycle) for new members including curriculum creation and development, teacher training and tracking completion.
- Serve as approval/oversight for final bulletins, print and electronic newsletters, Social Media, and marketing support for the Executive Pastor.
- Create content and compile data from over 100 ministries for the annual report/church meeting.
- Work alongside the other Assistant Pastor and our community partner with the Center for Community Change to facilitate workshops, retreats, learning opportunities for the church's Social Justice Ministry locally, regionally and globally
- Participate on various panels as a liaison between the church and community.
- Prepared a model for leadership development for new ministers
- Monitor scheduling and milestone goals for interns and serve as staff liaison between the various seminaries and the church.

Pastor for Children's & Youth Ministries (2015-2016)

- Created necessary infrastructure for the Children's & Youth ministries to allow for more volunteers to serve and grow
- Managed ministry budgets and spending to support the church's mission and advance the overall effectiveness of the various Children's & Youth Ministries
- Provide pastoral counseling to children, youth and their families
- Spearheaded the renovations and designed the plan for updating the historic building to support the creation of a "Youth Zone"
- Partnered with local congregations as well as interfaith organizations/communities for on-going relationship-building with children, youth and volunteers from the various churches
- Developed a youth council to provide opportunities for leadership to high school youth.
- Developed an interactive, age-appropriate, Christ-centered and Christian Educational Sunday worship experience for Children (age 1 and walking – age 18) for Sunday worship.
- Created two age-appropriate worship spaces: one for Children (nursery/elementary) and one for youth (middle school/high school)

Co-Chair for the Youth & College Ministry (2011-2015)

- Under the leadership of the Associate Pastor for the Youth & College Ministries as well as the ministry chairperson, work to create the ministry format, theme, and annual calendar
- Prepare weekly lessons to co-teach the College & Young Adult Sunday School class (ages 18-30)
- Help to organize, setup, and break down monthly youth summit "Jericho Lounge" events
- Design/create brochure and websites for the Youth Ministry and College Ministry
- Spearhead the planning for the spring break college tour 2012
- Prepare weekly lessons to co-teach the College & Young Adult Sunday School class (ages 18-30)
- Help to organize, setup, and break down monthly youth summit "Jericho Lounge" events
- Design/create brochure and websites for the Youth Ministry and College Ministry
- Spearhead the planning for the spring break college tour 2012

Youth Advisor/Arts & Worship Team Co-Leader (2011-2013)

- Serve as the logistics coordinator for the annual youth fashion show
- Serve as vendor coordinator for the annual Back to School Block Party by reaching out to various local organizations and institutions that provide services that benefit members of the surrounding community
- Chaperone, with other youth advisors and leadership, and supervise field trips and outings

Women's Ministry (2011-2014) *additional support (2015-2016)

- Assisted with setup and break down for the annual Women's Day prayer breakfast
- Served as part of the pulpit staff for Women's Day and gave the responsive reading

Member (2011-2016)

- Chairing the efforts to plan the National Day of Prayer services for May 2012
- Led devotional lessons and prayers, as requested for the Intercessory Prayer Ministry
- Sing soprano in the Young Adult Choir "Radical Praise" every second Sunday, and special events as needed

A Christian Ministry in the National Parks
Grand Canyon South Rim, Arizona CA USA
Summer 2013

Team Leader

- Ensured leadership and coverage for evening and weekend worship services (scheduled service/worship teams)
- Provided pastoral support for team members
- Created a weekly women's Bible Study
- Co-Created the Harambee Choir for Sunday worship at the local Community Church
- Served as worship leader in the absence of the Pastor
- Provided guidance, prayer and support for members of the wider community
- Facilitated fellowship opportunities throughout the summer

McGee Avenue Baptist Church
Berkeley, CA USA
2007-2010

Children's Church

- Under the direction of the youth minister, I led worship & praise, tithing, and age-appropriate lessons for children ages 6-18
- Taught songs, helped youth readapt today's music with their own "Christian" lyrics
- Assisted in relating Biblical text to the lives of today's youth
- Taught Sunday School for the seasoned/elderly (as needed)

Youth Ministry

- Organized "Youth Professional Expo" to prepare first-time workers for entering the work-field
- Outreached to caravan churches and surrounding communities
- Collaborated with a team of volunteers to lead workshops for youth, provide food, panels, and activities/giveaways
- Led 2-week Teen Vacation Bible Study daily lessons and activities
- Assisted with all-aged activities for youth and teens during vacation Bible Study

Stewardship Team

- Created promotional video for all ministries of the church to highlight areas of service for new members
- Helped organize and create the annual "Ministries Fair" for all members and members of the community
- Led meetings, church-wide learning sessions for all members as needed
- Attended monthly meetings, helped to plan special events, annual budget and fundraisers

Coordinator for Arts in Ministry

- Planned and implemented church-wide/all aged Sunday school “From the Star to the Stable” lesson and arts project

Minister in Training

- Went through a year-long weekly/bi-weekly training with my Pastor in exegesis of several texts in preparation for my trial sermon
- Assisted in the pulpit on Sundays as support to the Pastor and Ministerial staff
- Received my license as a Baptist Minister 10/10/10

Young Adult Ministry

- Served as MC/Holy Ghost Hype Woman for Fat Tuesday service, revival, and other events
- Assisted in planning study series lessons for special study sessions

First A.M.E. Church
Los Angeles, CA USA
2004-2007

Member

- Assisted with weekly food pantry ministry for the hungry
- Women’s Ministry participant
- Attended mid-week Bible Study

Turner Chapel A.M.E Church
Marietta, GA USA
1987-2004

Member

- YPD participant
- Drama Ministry workshop facilitator
- Sunbeam Choir Youth Director (served under the leadership of the adult choir director to contact members, schedule rehearsals, and direct the choir during Sunday songs)
- Teen Sunday School Class Youth Leader
- HBCU College Tour Participant (3 years)
- Fashion Show Participant
- Youth Pulpit leader/ “mini-messenger”
- Drama Ministry playwright
- Performed (acting/Christian comedy) on behalf of the church at community and church events
- Regularly attended and participated in Bible Study, Sunday School, Vacation Bible Study, and other church at study classes/sessions

Greater Centennial A.M.E. Zion Church
Mount Vernon, NY USA
1982-1987

Member

- Was baptized in this church as a child/baby
- Sang on the children’s choir
- Participated in youth events and activities

PROGRAMMING/TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Emory University, Candler School of Theology
Atlanta, GA

2015, 2016

Guest Speaker/Panelist

- Created multi-media presentation re: Intersectionality of the Palestinian Occupation and Black Lives Matter Movement
- Facilitated discussion
- Presented testimonies, and platform for education, empowerment and further exploration of the two issues and the need to rally support and expand awareness

Columbia Theological Seminary

Atlanta, GA

November 2016

Guest Lecturer

- Facilitated class discussion on sermon
- Created lecture on prophetic preaching, sermon-prep, and the cost of speaking truth to power

The N.E.W. Summer Camp

Atlanta, GA

Summer 2014, 2015

Founder/Camp Director

- Hired Staff and provided for their certifications and training (CPR, Child Abuse, Leadership)
- Created comprehensive Christian-based summer camp program
- Secured Funding to support summer activities, field trips, etc.
- Updated facilities to ensure participant safety
- Developed strategic partnerships to ensure literacy program and intercultural exchange through Passport, Inc.
- Oversaw budget

The Dream Giver series

Lee Arrendale State Prison

Alto, GA

January 2013-April 2013

Study Facilitator

- Created lesson plans & assignments
- Secured clearance for donated books & supplies
- Provided weekly feedback for participants
- Led group sessions and facilitated discussion.
- Served as professional actor talent for play presentations

Each One Reach One

San Francisco Juvenile Justice Facility

San Francisco, CA

January 2010-December 2010

Mentor & Actor

- Worked with youth inmates to create metaphoric characters, situations, and stories through playwriting
- Collaborated with other mentors to evaluate progress, gain insight and exchange helpful tactics to approach
- Provided creative support/encouragement for youth inmate during mentoring sessions
- Encouraged creativity, honesty and artistic integrity

- Served as professional actor talent for play presentations

United Roots, Oakland (Green Youth Arts & Media Center)
Oakland, CA USA
Spring 2010-Fall 2010

Video Instructor & Hip Hop Theatre Co-Instructor

- Created class curriculum & learning objectives for youth ages 13-18
- Facilitated class sessions, and performed participant evaluations
- Taught video production and editing including using Adobe Suite software, Photoshop, Illustrator, video editing and graphics software Final Cut Pro, LiveType, Motions, DVD Studio Pro
- Co-created interactive and intergenerational curriculum for theatre/hip hop theatre for child-adult/senior participants ages 2-75

Cobb County Parks, Recreation & Culture Affairs Division
Fair Oaks Recreation Center
Marietta, GA USA
Summers 2001-2004

Summer Camp Director

- Planned, structured and oversaw the basic running of all camp activities as well as weekly schedules and special events including Summer Camp County-wide Olympics, Talent Show, Camp Oscars, Boss for the Day, Teen Camp events including overnight lock-in, Bring a Friend to Camp events, End-of-Summer Dance
- Created summer curriculum and overall program
- Assisted in staff hiring and selection and continued performance evaluations for staff, counselors, junior counselors
- Created and maintained communication procedures for parent-camper-camp relations
- Orchestrated and chaperoned all field trips (2-4 weekly)
- Tracked payments & fees ensuring all accounts remained current
- Served on the county-wide planning committee for inter-camp activities, trips, and events
- Developed and implemented successful camp behavioral management strategies
- Designed weekly newsletter and other pertinent informational documents

Girl Scout Council of Northwest Georgia
Outreach Development
Atlanta, GA
2001-2004

Site Coordinator

- Oversaw operations and programming for all nontraditional troop levels Daisies, Brownies, Cadets, Junior, and Senior level girl scouts at University Homes
- Ensured volunteers were trained, prepared, and supported in leading troop levels
- Organized and tracked purchases on cookie sales for the site
- Collaborated with community leaders to use facilities for meetings and programming
- Evaluated progress of each troop level to make sure activities fell in line with mission of organization, and accomplished tasks needed to provide girls with badges and skill-development
- Purchased all necessary supplies for activities
- Communicated consistently with volunteers, parents/guardians, and council.
- Planned/organized transportation for events
- Served in fund-raising efforts to secure uniforms, materials, and funding for troop (non-traditional scouting)

Volunteer Recruiter/Campus Coordinator

- Served in outreaching to college campus organizations and volunteer offices to recruit troop leader volunteers as well as special event volunteers
- Worked with over 200 campus volunteers to ensure each troop had leader coverage and that events were adequately supervised
- Prepared volunteer feedback sessions and evaluations for improvement and monitoring

Troop Leader

- Custom-designed and executed programming to better suite the demographic of girls in the Outreach Development troops to ensure compliance with badge requirements as well as relevance to participants' lives
- Received training in First Aid/CPR, platform tent camping, outdoor cooking, arts & crafts, leadership development, group facilitation, site coordination, executive leadership development

Ft. Valley State University
Fine Arts Media Experience (FAME)
Summer 2008

Instructor for Drama & Dance (DRAMA)

- Taught two acting classes for youth participants grades 7-12
- Created course curriculum focusing on "Acting for the Stage" and "Acting for the Screen"
- Wrote and directed final choral reading/15-min. short play "Generation Next" for parents and sponsor exhibition
- Conducted informal evaluations and feedback sessions for participants

Spelman College
Atlanta, GA USA
Fall 2003-Spring 2004

Teacher's Assistant

- Presented mini-lectures as guided by class instructor
- Lead, moderated and facilitated class discussion in professor's absence
- Served as proctor for written exams

Little General's Playhouse
Marietta, GA USA
Summer 2000

Theatre Camp Instructor

- Team-lead and created summer curriculum
- Conducted auditions for summer performers
- Participated in weekly staff and program evaluations
- Directed scenes for youth productions
- Painted and designed scenery for short plays/performances
- Developed and executed daily exercises and warm-ups with participants

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE:

School of Film & Television Office of External Affairs (OEA)
Loyola Marymount University
Fall 2005-Spring 2007

Graduate Assistant for Film Festival Specialist

- Managed OEA Festival department intake and output correspondences

- Manager of Special Events including: Film Festival Strategies Workshop, Film Outside the Frame Student Film Festival, and the annual Alumni event
- Created and implemented student intake procedure for submissions, office visits, scheduling, and inner and outer office communication
- Coordinator for festival partnerships and submissions
- Festival Intern at the Palm Springs International Shorts Festival
- Volunteer Staff and planning committee member of the Giffoni-Hollywood International Film Festival
- School of Film & Television press representative at the Sundance International Film Festival 2006

Giffoni Hollywood International Film Festival
Hollywood, California USA
Spring 2005-Spring 2007

Volunteer Coordinator & Planning Committee Member

- Facilitated leader/chaperone meetings (nightly)
- Organized and managed national and international leader/chaperones
- Under extreme deadlines and time constraints, quickly created and executed alternative plans to ensure the continued success of the festival and overall enjoyment for youth participants and adult chaperones alike
- Served as Q&A moderator between audience and filmmakers after films
- Collaborated with other volunteers to serve as a chaperone of youth participants
- Actively contributed in the planning stages of the festival (events, giveaways, rules)

Disney • ABC Television Group
Talent Development & Diversity Department
Burbank, California USA
Spring 2007

Intern

- Created & maintained national contact databases for Diversity Outreach Events
- Collaborate with department heads for preliminary planning of Annual Creative Workshop
- Developed tracking system for Writing Fellow employment
- Aided in creating visual presentation aids for upcoming events
- Organized marketing material for Writing Fellow
- Tracked former Fellow progress
- Reviewed and provided feedback on Directing Fellow submissions
- Sorted and tracked fellowship submissions
- Interfaced with several national collaborators via phone and e-mail
- Provided technical and administrative support for staff and department heads including answering phones, scheduling, arranging mail delivery and pick-up, copying, faxing and technical support for software use including Excel, PowerPoint, Word, and Outlook
- Conducted extensive internet research for database building and maintaining

Harris Tulchin & Associates
Los Angeles, California USA
Summer-Fall 2006

Intern

- Manage & Rebuild Contact Database
- Rolled calls

- Reviewed and provided coverage on submitted feature projects
- Provide administrative support to staff including answering and rolling calls, tracking phone activity, scheduling, filing and data entry

Palm Springs International Shorts Film Festival
Palm Springs, California USA
Fall 2005

Festival Intern

- Served as a liaison between festival coordinators/staff and filmmakers
- Hosted networking sessions for filmmaker VIP lounge
- Facilitated and moderated post-screening Q & A sessions

FILM/TV, THEATRE PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE (AVAILABE UPON REQUEST):

GRAPHIC & WEB DESIGN EXPERIENCE:

Emory University, Candler School of Theology (Cannon Chapel)
Decatur, Georgia USA
Fall 2013-Spring 2016

Media & Graphic Specialist

- Created graphic design, text, for worship broadcast
- Redesigned and revamped Office of Worship website
- Worked collaboratively with team to upgrade Cannon Chapel's technology
- Provided weekly support for worship teams and support for services

Ebenezer Baptist Church
Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Fall 2013-Spring 2015

Ministerial Intern for Media, Web & Graphic Design

- Created marketing materials and branding strategy for Ebenezer Events
- Produced brochures, flyers, literature (online and print) for church-wide release
- Oversaw all media ministries of the church (video, photography, web, print newsletter)
- Managed social media platforms to create larger following and increase global network
- Created online html-based emails/newsletters "PastorSpeak"

GRAPHIC DESIGN CLIENTS:

- Bibleway Ministries (2014)
- Emanuel Missions School (2013)
- B & G Bakery (2013)
- Streetmade Music, Inc. (2012-Present)
- Martin Luther King, Sr. Community Resources Collaborative (2013-Present)
- Images International (2013-Present)
- FroFashion Week (2012-Present)
- Fresh Rain Ministries, Atlanta, GA (2012-Present)
- RPAQ Solutions, Atlanta, GA | Boston, MA (2012)
- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA (2011-present)
- Community Church of God, Atlanta, GA (2011-present)
- Mount Welcome Missionary Baptist Church, Decatur, GA (2012)
- Metamorphosis Ministries, Atlanta, GA (2012)
- Richard Lankford Campaign, Atlanta, GA (2012)

- Wellness Enhanced Therapy Treatment, Atlanta, GA (2012)
- CEO Kids, Atlanta, GA (2012)
- Georgians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, Atlanta, GA (2012)
- Amnesty International, Atlanta, GA (2012)
- The Kendrick Academy (2011)
- Sisters In Spirit, Alpharetta, GA (2011)
- United Roots, Oakland, CA (2009-2011)
- Colored Ink, Oakland, CA (2009-2011)
- Bliss & Feet, Fort Valley, GA (2008)
- University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA (2007-2010)
- Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA (2004-2007)
- ABC • Disney Talent Development & Diversity, Burbank, CA (2006-2007)
- Harris Tulchin & Associates, Marina Del Rey, CA (2006)
- Taylormade Films, Los Angeles, CA (2005-2006)
- Spelman College, Atlanta, GA (2001-2004, 2011)
- Girl Scout Council of Northwest Georgia (2001-2004)
- Cobb County Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Division, Marietta, GA (2001-2005)

WEB DESIGN CLIENTS:

- The NEW Summer Camp, Atlanta, GA (2015)
- Martin Luther King, Sr. Community Resources Collaborative, Atlanta, GA (2014)
- Hymns & Hip Hop Conference, Atlanta, GA (2014)
- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Youth & College Ministry, Atlanta, GA (2011)
- Ebenezer Baptist Church Young Adult Ministry, Atlanta, GA (2012)
- Wind Spirit Soul Prophetic Online School, Atlanta, GA (2011-2012)
- Biological Education Through Research, Minneapolis, MN (2011-2012)
- The Urban Healing Tour, Oakland, CA (2010)
- McGee Avenue Baptist Church (2009-2010)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/OUTREACH:

- Interfaith Children's Movement, Board of Directors (2015-present)
- Heartland Initiative Issue Immersion Delegation to Palestine (2015)
- Interfaith Children's Movement, Youth Alliance Executive Chair (2015-present)
- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Various Ministries (2011-present)
- Georgians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, Membership Team (2011-2012)
- Amnesty International, Write for Rights (2011)
- United Roots Oakland's Green Youth Arts & Media Center, Board Member (2010-present)
- Minister (licensed), McGee Avenue Baptist Church (2010-present)
- Arts in Ministry (Coordinator), McGee Avenue Baptist Church (2009-present)
- Media Arts Instructor, Oakland Green Youth Media Arts Center (2009-present)
- Youth Professional Expo, Coordinator (2009)
- San Leandro Juvenile Justice Center, Impact Through the Arts (Performer/Director) (2009)
- Stewardship Team, McGee Avenue Baptist Church (2008-present)
- Black Repertory Group Theatre, Volunteer (2008-2009)
- Skid Row Food Donations, Director (2006-2007)
- Summer Creative Workshop Collaborative w/ Crenshaw High School (2006-2007)
- First A.M.E. Church of Los Angeles Food Drive (2005-2007)

- Giffoni Hollywood Film Festival (2005-2007)
- First Baptist Church of Atlanta, SAT prep Tutor (2003-2004)
- Temple Zaban Night Shelter for Couples (2002)
- MUST Ministries/Elizabeth Inn Homeless Shelter & Transitional Housing (2001-2005)
- NFL Youth Education Town (YET), Tutor & Cheerleading Coach (2001-2002)
- Girl Scout Council of Northwest Georgia, Outreach Development Girl Scouts (2000-present)
- AIDS Walk (2000-present)
- Hands on Atlanta (2000-2004)
- Dean Rusk Elementary School, After School Tutor (2000-2001)
- Support for Teen Mothers, Mentor/Advocate (1996-2000)
- Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (G-CAPP), Youth Advocate & Spokesperson (1996-1998)
- Pride S.T.A.R.S (Students Through Arts Reaching Students) (1995-1998)
- Turner Chapel AME Church, Sunbeam Youth Choir Asst. Director (1994-1997)

HONORS & AWARDS:

- John W. Rustin Award for Preaching
- Berta & James T. Laney Award for Ministry
- Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award
- Who' Who Among College & Universities
- Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society
- Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society
- Spanish Honor Society
- National Society for Collegiate Scholars
- Leadership Award (Girl Scout Council, NWSGA)
- Bonner Scholar Foundation, Recognition of Outstanding Service to the Community (2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004)
- Honor Thespian
- Mortar Board Inductee
- Golden Key National Honor Society

HIGHLIGHTS & ADDITIONAL COMPETENCIES:

Journalism Skills

- Interviewing
- Writing
- Live Reporting

Language Skills in both Spanish and English

- Writing and reading
- Conversational speaking
- Presentation/public speaking

Computer Skills

- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Works
- Excel
- Internet Researching
- PowerPoint
- FrontPage/Website Building
- Pages
- Keynote
- iCal
- Final Cut
- Outlook & iCal scheduling
- Avid Express Pro
- Final Draft & Final Draft AV
- Adobe Creative Suite
 - Illustrator
 - Photoshop
 - InDesign
 - Premiere
 - After Effects
 - Acrobat Pro
- Constant Contact
- HTML/basic web code
- Motions
- LiveType
- Movie Magic Scheduling & Budgeting