

# **JESSICA LEVITY**

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### **EDUCATION**

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin -- BA: Sociology, Philosophy; Gender Studies (Certificate) -- 2008

#### **ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE**

<u>CREATOR/MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, ALCHEMIST THEATRE, RENO, NV—DEC 2014 - PRESENT</u> Alchemist Theatre is a monthly theatrical "service" which incorporates uplifting music and talks, centered around a theme, at Good Luck Macbeth theater in Midtown. It's poignant, it's flamboyant, and most importantly, it's theatre that moves you. Admission is free, and donations are used to pay our band, and any additional money is donated to GLM. The Alchemists are: Mark Emerson (music director), Chris Daniels (speaker), and myself. Our goal is to start the #alchemistmovement, which asks the question: "How do you transform fear?" Historically, alchemists transformed base metals into gold, and now we're here to transform fear.

# PRODUCER/HOST/STORYTELLER, CINCINNATI, NV; RENO, NV-MARCH 2014 - PRESENT

Local artist and fellow Ohio-native, Steve Emmerich (Executive Producer, Fresh Bakin') and I have combined forces to create a new storytelling series called "Cincinnati, NV". Our first production featured a live storytelling show at the National Automobile Museum, which was hosted and directed by Kevin Allison of *Risk!*, and starred 5 local storytellers (including ourselves) as selected via audition by Allison. The ensuing podcast, which can be streamed or downloaded from www.risk-show.com, resulted in thousands of downloads from all over the world. Since then we have produced smaller shows with more local talent, and have encouraged new people to step into the spotlight and tell a story.

# CREATOR/WRITER/DIRECTOR/HOST, THE GAME SHOW SHOW; RENO, NV— FEB 2014-PRESENT

The Game Show Show is an original work that I produce in collaboration with Good Luck Macbeth Theatre Company every year; it serves as a fundraiser for this wonderful local organization, as well as an official production in their season lineup. This four-week extravaganza stars The Utility Players, and features other fantastic local talent of all ages, in parodies of classic game shows. This two-year-old show has raised over \$7,000 for the theater, and is one of the most successful original works in GLM history.

# ON-AIR, PRODUCTION, PSA DIRECTOR, WILKS BROADCAST GROUP; RENO, NV— MAY 2012-PRESENT I'm a personality on-air during middays on 100.1 The X (KTHX, AAA); I love being 'live' and growing with my on-air sound. I also enjoy copywriting and production, and have a substantial creative production demo. I created, produced, and voiced KTHX's first radio dramedy, *Lovelock and Key*, and host a 30-minute talk radio show, PSA Today, which airs weekly on all 3 Wilks Broadcast stations in Reno.

EXEC.PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/HOST, THE UTILITY PLAYERS; RENO, NV — JANUARY 2009-PRESENT I created, produce, and host Reno-Tahoe's "Best Bet" for comedy. Our show features 90 minutes of hard-hitting, short form improv comedy. We're currently in our 6th year, playing weekly inside our very own Jester's Theater at Sands Regency for two 12-week seasons per year. We are currently developing new classes and workshops for kids, improvisors, and business managers seeking to improve communication and artistic skills.

# WRITER/PERFORMER, *METACOMEDY & THE ART OF COMING OUT*; RENO, NV — NOVEMBER 2008, ARTOWN 2009

My first one-woman show, the *Metacomedy*, is an entertaining and uplifting PowerPoint presentation about my spiritual origins, the importance of self-discovery, and, the meaning of life. This show synthesizes my skills as a storyteller, a philosopher, a standup comedian, and a master of vulnerability for the sake of comedic pathos.

#### OWNER AND EXEC. PRODUCER, HOMESLICE PRODUCTIONS; RENO, NV - 2009-PRESENT

Homeslice Productions is the umbrella company under which I play with my imagination. The secret to my success is my resources; more than anything I love collaboration, including: radio soap operas, improv comedy shows, creative marketing campaigns, live game shows, storytelling, and more. As a solo artist, I enjoy stage time as a professional emcee and storyteller, and air-time with voiceover work, radio and production.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- February 2015: *The Utility Players* -- "...the most popular homegrown comedic act in the area." [Reno Gazette Journal]
- December 2013: *The Utility Players--* "The best night out on any stage in Reno, hands down!" [Reno Tahoe Tonight Magazine]
- September 14, 2014: *The Utility Players* -- Accepted into and performed at the 10th Annual San Francisco Improv Festival
- September 2014: *The Utility Players* -- show was picked up by Sands Regency, and turned into a weekly show, which runs for 12 weeks, twice a year.
- May 23 May 26, 2014: Cincinnati, NV -- accepted into Lightning In A Bottle Music and Art Festival (Bradley, CA); Produced, Directed, and Hosted by Steve Emmerich and Jessica Levity.
- January 2013: "Reno's Utility Players are Making It Up As They Go" -- Cover Article, Reno-Tahoe "Best Bets" [RGJ]
- 2010: The Utility Players voted "Reno's Best Comedy Troupe"; Reno News and Review
- 2009-2014: I have produced, directed, and starred in several original productions annually for Artown in Reno, including "Improv: The Musical", improv workshops, The Utility Players Improv Comedy Show, "Big Kids" -- Improv for the Whole Family, and "Metacomedy and The Art of Coming Out"