ANNASE RAJI

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin – Austin, TX
MFA, Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities (Expected May 2027)

Bowling Green State University – Bowling Green, OH
MA, Media and Communication: International & Intercultural Communication (Aug 2023)

University of Jos – Plateau, Nigeria
BA, Theatre and Film Arts (Aug 2016)

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant – Theatre for Young Audience
University of Texas at Austin | June 2026 – Present

- Support students in exploring Theatre for Young Audiences through play analysis, class discussions, and reflection on identity and representation.
- Assist students with course projects, including performance responses, research presentations, and collaborative study guides.
- Manage course communication through Canvas, hold office hours, and assist with grading and feedback.

Graduate Teaching Assistant – Arts Integration for Multidisciplinary Connections (AIMC)
University of Texas at Austin | June 2026 – Present

- Support students in exploring how theatre, music, and visual art can be integrated into educational, community, and professional settings.
- Assist with class activities and provide feedback on creative projects, reflections, and arts-integrated lesson plans.
- Manage course communication through Canvas, respond to student questions, hold office hours, and assist with grading.

Graduate Teaching Assistant – Creative Drama
University of Texas at Austin | Jan 2026 – May 2026

- Support a cohort of 15 students in Creative Drama courses by answering questions, facilitating discussions, and fostering an engaging learning environment.

- Coordinate and supervise students' school observation placements, providing constructive feedback to support reflective practice and professional growth.
- Manage course communication through Canvas, hold regular office hours, and assist with grading and assessment.

- Assist with the delivery of an inclusive, arts-integrated curriculum that supports diverse learning styles and backgrounds.

Graduate Program Assistant – Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities
University of Texas at Austin | Jan 2026 – May 2026

- Coordinate recruitment activities, including schedules, applicant communications, housing, airport transfers, and welcome events for prospective students.
- Support guest artist visits and program events by managing communications, reserving spaces, organizing paperwork, and assisting with event logistics.
- Assist with symposium planning, research data analysis, and the organization of program records and graduate thesis archives.

Graduate Teaching Assistant – Introduction to Theatre
University of Texas at Austin | June 2025 – Dec 2025

- Support 300+ students in online synchronous classes, responding to questions and moderating discussions.
- Maintain Canvas communications, hold virtual office hours, and assist with grading.
- Contribute to inclusive curriculum delivery for diverse learners.

Graduate Teaching Assistant – Theatre for Dialogue
University of Texas at Austin | May 2025 – Dec 2025

- Co-develop and co-teach a new applied theatre course exploring loneliness and social connection.
- Assist with Canvas support, grading, performance logistics, and student project development.
- Serve as assistant director for a Spring 2026 participatory theatre production.

Facilitator
The Vortex, Austin, TX | Mar – Apr 2025

- Co-facilitated the Green New Theatre Youth Playwriting Residency focused on climate justice.
- Facilitate youth playwrights through a step-by-step creative process of playwrighting, centered on climate justice and empowering them to craft impactful narratives.

Assistant Teaching Artist
The Vortex, Austin, TX | Jan – Feb 2025

- Co-facilitated a spoken word poetry residency on justice, race, and gender.
- Provided performance coaching and led collaborative exercises for youth.

Refugee Student Mentor
Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Austin TX | Jan 2025 – Present

- Support immigrant middle school students with homework, academic skill-building, and classroom engagement
- Assist students in navigating extracurricular activities and social adjustment to foster confidence and belonging.

Volunteer Hausa Interpreter
African Advocacy Network (Remote) | Nov 2024 – Present

- Support African and Afro-Caribbean immigrants during legal and health-related consultations.
- Interpret and navigate cultural barriers to ensure client access to services.

Transitional Support Specialist
Harbor, Bowling Green, OH | Nov 2023 – Jul 2024

- Developed care plans addressing youth mental health and independent living skills.
- Delivered life-skills training and coordinated with therapists and educators.

People Manager & Site Director
Youthworks, Bayou La Batre, AL | May – Aug 2023

- Supervised 2 site coordinators, 100+ adult leaders, and 500+ youth volunteers in community organizing logistics, budgeting, and site-wide coordination.
- Liaised with participants and local nonprofit organizations setting the pace for a safe and Impactful volunteering experience for both parties.

Instructor of Record – Public Speaking
Bowling Green State University, OH | Aug 2022 – Apr 2023

- Designed and taught public speaking curriculum to 100+ students.
- Integrated intercultural perspectives and multimedia tools in course design.

Graduate Teaching Assistant – Media Production
School of Media & Communication, BGSU | Aug 2021 – May 2022

- Supported course development in video production and postproduction.
- Advised 60+ students and managed grading, records, and office hours.

People & Production Coordinator (Archivist)
Pound Road Media Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria | Jul 2018 – Aug 2021

- Coordinated all aspects of film production from scheduling to postproduction.
- Maintained contracts, legal compliance, and interdepartmental communication.
- Compiled production archives and supported HR in casting, payroll, and documentation.
- Created scripts, broadcast credits, and time-coded deliverables.

Community Based Educator
Voluntary Service Overseas, Kwara State, Nigeria | Feb – May 2018

- Led health advocacy and community organizing for underserved populations.
- Partnered with UK-based mentors to implement sustainable initiatives.

SKILLS

- **Languages**: Fluent in Hausa and English
- **Tools**: Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, SharePoint, HUB, Concur, Paycom

- **Core Strengths**: Youth engagement, intercultural communication, applied theatre, creative facilitation, curriculum design and lesson planning.