

# NICOLE POOLE

ARTIST & CULTURAL ADVOCATE

*Specializing in innovative initiatives for cultural dialogue and experience, powered by global creative experience, expansive social perspective and contemporary collaborative expertise.*

## EXPERIENCE

### BUSINESS OF CREATIVITY

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**CREATIVE CAREERS:** Partnering with Creative Oklahoma, Oklahoma Film + Music & Junior Achievement, I created a multi-platform career resource to drive labor into career paths in the Arts & Culture sector. Our pilot program in January, 2021, involving more than 20 film professionals, reached over 30,000 students. We are currently developing the project to cover more paths.

**CREATIVE CATALYST:** I am a facilitator for an innovative certificate program that complements artistic practice with 21st century skills-building to transform the ways artists approach creative challenges and translate their artistic skills to work in other fields. Each week I assist in curriculum development and presentation for over 40 students. Thomas Kenan Institute at UNCSEA (Oct. 2020-Present)

**THE O. GAIL POOLE COLLECTION:** I am the owner and curator of an enormous collection of original art by my late father. I promote Poole's legacy through advocacy, philanthropy, publications, lectures and exhibitions including solo shows at the Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art, Oklahoma Hall of Fame, Artspace at Untitled, Casa dell'Energia (Arezzo) and Galerie Arludik (Paris). (April 2013-Present).

**ART LUDIQUE LE MUSÉE:** I am the North American liaison for Art Ludique, an official museum of Paris dedicated to the art of entertainment. After working as an interpreter for the museum's first exhibit, *Pixar: 25 Years of Animation*, I assisted the museum's leaders in building their next exhibit, *The Art of Marvel Superheroes* and currently facilitate their acquisitions and exhibitions in the U.S. (2013-Present)

### CREATIVE EXPRESSION

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**WORDSMIFF405** is an ongoing public art project to spark connection during the pandemic. Featured in: *The Oklahoman*, *405 Magazine*, *Curbside Chronicles*, *Oklahoma Gazette*, News 9, KOKH, KOCO (2020-21)

**YOU ARE HERE** is a pop-up performance series originating through a grant by Downtown OKC Partnership and ULI Oklahoma. In its first iteration, 17 performing artists were paid to energize outdoor public spaces throughout Downtown OKC by performing for over 1000 individual audience members. Its subsequent iteration in Bricktown employed 10 performing artists, reaching 500 people. 2020-2021.

**SOUNDPAINTING** is the universal sign language for real-time composition created by composer Walter Thompson. I have worked closely with Thompson since 1997 and am a certified Soundpainting composer, performer and instructor (Multidisciplinary II). I have performed widely in NYC and throughout Europe, collaborating with composers and performers from over 35 countries. 1997 – Present

**KOLLECTI'F** is an international, multi-disciplinary collective of five women from 4 countries collaborating in provocative theatrical interventions; our inaugural "Cabaret Poetique" debuted in the Geneva, Switzerland school system during Human Rights Week in January, 2020. 2020-Present.

**NARRATOR:** I have narrated over 200 titles for the industry's major publishers and independent authors. My work has been recognized by *AudioFile*, *Publisher's Weekly*, the Association of Libraries and as a two-time finalist for the *Audie Awards*. (2007-Present)

## FORMAL PEDAGOGY

**PERFORMANCE:** Boston University; UCO Jazz Lab; University of Oklahoma; University of Georgia; Wichita State University; Vassar College;

**ARTIST LEADERSHIP, INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP:** University of North Carolina School of the Arts (2020-Present)

**ARTS/PHILOSOPHY:** Oklahoma City University (2018-2019) Working with the Department of Philosophy, I created curriculum and led interactive courses in Arts & Human Values, taking students from diverse cultural backgrounds through the evolution of the arts and their unique ability to tap into shared human experience.

## CONNECTIONS + SERVICE + AWARDS

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:** Actors Equity Association; Americans for the Arts; Oklahomans for the Arts; Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition; SAG-AFTRA; Theatre Communications Group; Union des Musiciens du Jazz (Paris)

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE:** Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre (Secretary) (2019-Present); Oklahoma Contemporary Performance Committee (2020-Present); Le Moulin de la Belle (Community Development/Outreach Council) 2021-Present; Oklahoma Latino Cultural Center Advisory Board (2018-2019); Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art Association (Secretary) (2015-2019); Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps. (2021-Present)

**AWARDS:** Audio Publisher's Association *Audie* Awards (2x finalist); Inspirational Influencer Award, Paseo Arts Association (Founding Recipient, 2021)

## EDUCATION

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS/KENAN INSTITUTE** Creative Catalyst Certificate Artist as Leader | Innovator | Entrepreneur 2019-2020

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA** BFA Theatre/Performance | 1991 - 1995

**ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE** French Language Studies | Paris; NYC | 2009 - 2013

**SOUNDPAINTING CERTIFICATION** Walter Thompson | Multidisciplinary Level I & II (1997-Present)

**ART STUDENTS LEAGUE** Mary Beth McKenzie, Painting | 2006 - 2009

# NICOLE POOLE

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Nicole Poole is a Multidisciplinary Artist and Culture Activist specializing in creative strategies and contemporary collaboration.

Nicole's synthesis of classical training and avant-garde forms has led to a vast range of experience, from the NY International Fringe Festival and the Tony Award-winning New Group (NYC) to the Royal Shakespeare Company (London), the SoundPainting Orchestra de l'Union des Musiciens de Jazz (Paris), and many fascinating points in between. She has worked with the late John Barton and Sir Peter Hall (*Tantalus*), contemporary composer Anthony Braxton (WTO/Irondale), Chevalier des Arts et Lettres François Jeanneau (*Parisian Jazz Chronicles/SPOUMJ*).

A core member of the Walter Thompson Orchestra, Nicole has worked directly with Thompson to develop Soundpainting, the universal sign language for live composition, since 1997. She is one of only a handful of theatre artists worldwide certified in its use and performs and teaches extensively, from Belgium to Vassar. She recently joined forces with artists from England, France, Spain, Switzerland to form [Kollecti'F](#), an international poetic cabaret performing in Geneva, Switzerland, during Human Rights Week, slated to return in 2022.

An accomplished national voice talent, Nicole's audiobook narration has been recognized through awards from *AudioFile*, *Publisher's Weekly*, the Association of Libraries and as a two-time finalist for the *Audie Awards*. She is a member of AEA, SAG-AFTRA and the UMJ (Paris).

Her managerial experience includes NYC's SoHo Rep (Managing Director), Ensemble Studio Theatre (Marketing Director), Strike Anywhere Performance Ensemble and Monkey Wrench Theatre (Fundraising) and OKC Repertory Theatre (Board Secretary/Grantwriter). She is also the owner and curator of The O. Gail Poole Collection, a vast collection of artwork by her late father. She has produced eponymous exhibits in Oklahoma (Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art; Oklahoma Hall of Fame), Paris (Galerie Arludik) and Arezzo (Casa dell'Energia).

Nicole spearheads dynamic initiatives for cultural advocacy, most recently with arts in education initiative [Creative Careers](#), and a series of site-specific performances tailored for a pandemic, [You Are Here](#). She is also a facilitator for the University of North Carolina School of the Arts' [Creative Catalyst](#) program, guiding artists through training in leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship. She is the founding recipient of the Paseo Arts Association's 2020 Inspirational Influencer Award.