

Kimberly Busbee's bio (short form)

Kimberly Busbee, an award-winning actress, director, singer and filmmaker, has 20 plus years of international experience with hundreds of plays, musicals and films to her credit (including an appearance in *The Blues Brothers*) and over 250 commercials, industrials and TV/radio spots. Kimberly founded and served as Artistic Director for *Music/Theatre Artists*, an award-winning international touring theatre company, which played New York, Chicago and Las Vegas working with Janet Jackson, Debbie Reynolds, Red Foxx and many other stars. Kimberly also toured with the U.S.O. in the Caribbean Circuit.

Back in Iowa, Kimberly Co-Founded, directed and taught for *Shakespeare On The Loose*, the most requested Iowa Arts Council touring ensemble. She also taught at the Des Moines Playhouse and appeared in numerous plays, Actors on Tour and at The Ingersoll Dinner Theater, the Drama Workshop and Central Iowa Repertory Theatre. Kimberly won Best Actress at the 1994 Showcase Iowa Awards.

Kimberly is a free-lance casting director and acting coach who owns AriesWorks Entertainment www.ariesworks.com, a film/stage production/ casting company and acting school. She offers acting classes and private coaching for voice, stage and screen and teaches audition preparation and comedy improv. Kimberly also performs and teaches acting for the Iowa Arts Council, Metro Arts Alliance and Des Moines and West Des Moines Gifted and Talented Programs and has coached IHSSA Ensemble Acting.

As Co-Founder and Festival Director for the international *Wild Rose Independent Film Festival*, she has screened over 1,500 films and hosted industry pros for workshops and keynotes including: Lloyd Kaufman (Troma Pictures) actor Greg Alan Williams (*Remember the Titans*, *Be Cool*, *The Sopranos*), filmmaker Stu Pollard (*Nice Guys Sleep Alone*, *Keep Your Distance*), actor Ben Easter (*Holiday in the Sun*, *I'll Always Know What You Did Last Summer*), Hollywood icon Lew Hunter (former Exec of ABC, NBC, CBS, Disney and author of *Screenwriting 434*) and Jamie Rose (Casting Director/Acting Coach of JRose Studio in LA.) Kimberly also has hosted workshops by legendary casting director, Mike Fenton (*E.T.*, *The Godfather*), casting director/coach Mark Sikes and former casting director for *The Young and the Restless*, Meryl O'Loughlin.

As a busy Casting Director herself, Kimberly casts numerous films, plays, and many regional /national commercials and industrials. In LA, she cast at the Eclectic Company Theatre and won rave reviews from the critics (LA Times Critics Choice.) She cast, produced and/or directed 14 AriesWorks plays and six award-winning films and Co-Founded/Owned the Vaudeville Mews. Kimberly cast the SAG film, *Ash* and did Iowa and Extras Casting for 2 other SAG films shot in Iowa; *The Crazies* and *Dylan's Wake*.

Kimberly co-wrote, cast and produced the award-winning feature, *Haunting Villisca*, www.hauntingvillisca.com, inspired by the unsolved 1912 axe murders and paranormal investigation of the crime scene. *Haunting Villisca* features Hollywood actor, Greg Alan Williams, along with many other talented actors from the Midwest. *Haunting Villisca* had its European Premiere in Vienna, Austria in Jan. 2009 with Sneak Eye Pictures. It also is being distributed by Digital Shadow Films in LA.

Kimberly currently is working on writing, directing and producing the TV reality/documentary pilot, *Opened Doors*.