

## Contact

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[www.visualjazzmedia.net](http://www.visualjazzmedia.net)

(Company)

[www.bowiestate.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-arts-and-sciences/departments/fine-and-performing-arts/undergraduate-programs/vcdma-major/](http://www.bowiestate.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-arts-and-sciences/departments/fine-and-performing-arts/undergraduate-programs/vcdma-major/)

(Company)

## Top Skills

New Media Consulting

Video Editing

Multimedia

## Languages

French (Limited Working)

## Honors-Awards

Ethiopia Study Abroad (Business and Trade in Africa) - Bowie State University

Artistic Blind Date: Nacirema

Hip-Hop Community Initiative Grant

Flashpoint Gallery DC Fellowship - Curator/Artist

Summer Faculty Fellows Research Grant

## Publications

Shango's Sun

# Tewodross "Teo" Melchishua Williams

Department Chairperson | Program Coordinator | Associate Professor | Creative Consultant | Filmmaker | Animator | Projection & Production Designer | Motion Graphics Designer | Artist

Washington DC-Baltimore Area

## Summary

Tewodross "Teo" Melchishua Williams (pronounced Teo-droze Mell-keshu-a)

Over fifteen years of combined experience in creative problem-solving in film, digital media, and transmedia production, motion graphics, video projection design, teaching, mentoring, and consulting in the Washington, DC area. Teo is an award-winning filmmaker, animator, creative consultant, projection designer, production designer, panelist, and presenter.

His background also includes experience as program director, educational consultant and professor teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the areas of cinematography and media production, visual communication, hip-hop studies, visual culture, digital media, design, animation and video editing. He also possesses significant and successful program development, assessment and managerial experience.

He has produced a variety of visual experiences and content in advertising, branding and promotion for corporate, theatrical, musical and live and performing including childrens' theater, arts events and venues such as the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Imagination Stage, Studio Theatre, Catholic University, The Atlas Center for the Performing Arts, Anacostia Performing Arts Center, Anacostia Playhouse, 1st Stage Theatre, The Theatre Project, Source Theatre, Mega Mind Media and others. Several of these productions were Helen Hayes nominated and or recommended. He has produced content for motion graphics as well as production design for productions that have aired on BET, BET+HER, TVOne and that have screened at festivals such as The American Black Film

Festival, BlackStar Film Festival, Urban Media Makers Film Festival, DC Black Film Festival and more.

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## Experience

### Bowie State University

18 years 11 months

#### Chairperson, Department of Fine and Performing Arts (DFPA)

July 2020 - Present (2 years)

Bowie, Maryland, United States

- maintains the mission, goals, and vision for the department (DFPA) as it relates to those of the College of Arts and Sciences, Provost, and University President
- administers and works collaboratively with faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts to provide excellence in higher education for undergraduate students in the visual and performing arts; close to 400 undergraduate students and over 50 full-time and adjunct faculty as well as staff and BSU Symphony of Soul marching band, BSU Gospel and University Choir
- manages the Fine and Performing Arts Center in terms of the various performance arts and visual arts spaces including the Main Stage Theater, Black Box Theater, Recital Hall, Movement Studio, Recording Studio, multimedia design, music computer labs, and art/performance, rehearsal studios, classrooms and more
- coordinate with event services for visual and performing arts events in the building for the DFPA, University President and with companies and organizations both on and off-campus
- provides leadership and maintains the department budget, schedules, curriculum for programs, courses, faculty, and more in Art (Studio), Music, Music Technology, Theatre Arts and Visual Communication and Digital Media Arts (VCDMA)
- responds to student, faculty, and departmental needs and also those of the Bowie State university administration and the campus community

- incorporates the focus on goals of enhancing curriculum and seeking accreditation for DFPA programs and develops new and innovative courses and programs with a focus on entrepreneurship, socially engaged arts, media, and design
- develops strategic partnerships, MOUs with local and global partners in the visual, media, and performing arts and more
- collaborates with other departments, USM and HBCU institutions to serve the needs of our students and graduates

Program Coordinator | Associate Professor, Visual Communication and Digital Media Arts (VCDMA)

August 2003 - Present (18 years 11 months)

Bowie, Maryland

- teaching undergraduate courses in visual communication, digital media, 2D animation, history of animation, motion graphics, digital cinematography, hip-hop studies, visual culture, contemporary art in Visual Communication & Digital Media Arts (VCDMA) program providing outstanding instruction and advisement to 200+ students.
- developed and introduced new major and degree (VCDMA) with new concentrations in advertising design, animation and motion graphics, digital media arts, digital cinema and time-based media and fashion design. Program successfully approved by the University of Maryland System and Maryland Higher Education Commission
- successfully introduced new courses in design, 2D/3D animation, motion graphics, self-promotion and marketing, internship, fashion design, illustration, African American cinema, hip-hop studies and visual culture
- successfully created Maryland's first and only minor in hip-hop studies and visual culture at Bowie State University, one of few in the entire country and the first at an HBCU
- effective management of program, adjunct and VCDMA faculty, student assistants, lab/facilities, internships and curriculum. Student enrollment increased to well over 200% as a result of this exciting, new major
- successfully served as chairperson of the university curriculum committee; chair of VCDMA faculty search committees, member of college of arts and

sciences, department curriculum committees; entrepreneurship academy steering committee, university technology committee and center for global engagement and annual spring arts festival

- served on Middle States accreditation committee (university was successfully reinstated)
- successfully co-founded the university and department's student group of AIGA (DC Chapter) and reinvigorated the student art organization the Artist Guild
- successful maintenance of film/video equipment, computer labs, printing, fashion design studios, green screen studio, research center and more

### Visual Jazz Media, LLC.

14 years 6 months

Video Content Producer | Projection Designer | Production Designer | Motion Graphics Designer

May 2008 - Present (14 years 2 months)

Mt. Rainier, MD

- Opening title sequence design, video mashup for BET+HER presents "The Couch" for "Everything Is Fine" and "Baby Blue" and ALL IN that aired on BET (MegaMind Media)
- production design, props for the film "The Available Wife" (MegaMind Media)
- motion graphics for the film "As Above" by Sewra Kidane (LA Fashion Film Festival & Croatia Fashion Film Festival)
- designed innovative video projections, live VJ, motion graphics, digital imaging, film production and photography for clients and live theatrical, musical events
- video projection design received positive reviews in the Washington Post and DC Theatre
- produced intro animation for the theatrical project featuring comedic duo Joyce Scott and Kay Lawal directed by Rain Pryor, daughter of Richard Pryor.

Clients/Productions:

- MegaMind Media
- All About the Drama, Driving Miss Daisy, Anacostia Playhouse (DC)
- Convergence Theatre, Guerilla Theatre Works 3: New Nation, Anacostia Arts Center (DC)
- All About the Drama, Record Store 24 & Happy Ending, Anacostia Playhouse (DC)
- Sole Defined: Big Easy, The Dance Place & Atlas Performing Arts Center (DC)
- The Freshest Snow Whyte, Imagination Stage, Bethesda, MD
- Hip-Hop in the Pocket, One Mic Hip-Hop Worldwide Festival, The Kennedy Center (DC)
- Cinderella the Remix, Imagination Stage, Bethesda, MD
- Earth Matters, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution (DC)
- Club Liv, WONDERFULL - A Tribute to Stevie Wonder ft. Stevie Wonder & DJ Spinna (DC)
- The Pitmen Painters, 1st Stage Theatre, Tysons Corner, VA
- Caesar and Dada, WSC Avant Bard, Callan Theatre, Catholic University of America (DC)
- Liner Notes & Paige In Full: A B-Girl's Visual Mixtape, B-Fly Entertainment (DC)
- Galactic Ritual: A Hip-Hop Theatre Experience feat. SA-ROC & Sol Messiahh (DC)
- Shaolin Jazz - the 37th Chamber project; a mixtape of Wu-Tang Clan with other Blue Note Jazz (PA)
- Intersections: New America Play Festival and The DC Hip-Hop Theatre Festival (DC)

Filmmaker | Animator | Editor | Designer

January 2008 - Present (14 years 6 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

- produced short form film/video production, visual marketing, creative collateral projects, video content for a variety of clients
- director/cinematographer for independent film "Edge of the Pier" written by D. Amari Jackson
- innovated digital films, video mash-ups, branding for wine label, lifestyle and promotions companies.

- developed scripts, treatments, storyboard for film/video projects and responsible for all phases of pre-production, production and post-production.
- responsible for editing, color correction, motion graphics and music supervision
- produced informative interviews with recording artists Angie Stone, B.O.B, E.P.M.D., Brand Nubian, Bilal, Dead Prez and local artists in DC area for online web series and interviews.
- illustrated childrens' book "Shango's Son" written by Dr. Winmilawe, that is positively reviewed on Amazon
- art direction and production of cover art/photography for "Like A Tree Without Roots" written by Teresa Ann Willis; a successful book for teenagers and selected as a finalist for the Phillis Wheatley Book Awards (Harlem Book Club).

#### University of Maryland Global Campus

External Reviewer

April 2020 - May 2020 (2 months)

External reviewer for the Digital Media and Web Technology Bachelor's Degree program.

#### MegaMind Media

Production Designer & Motion Graphics Designer

2019 - 2020 (1 year)

Washington DC-Baltimore Area

Opening title sequence design, video mashup for BET+HER presents "The Waiting Room" for "The Party" and "and "The Couch short films/episodes; ALL IN that aired on BET, BET + HER. These productions streaming on Amazon Prime, All Black, and Tubi.

#### National Endowment for the Arts

Juror, Grants Reviewer

April 2019 - June 2019 (3 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Juror, Media Arts Panel

#### MegaMind Media

Production Designer

April 2019 - May 2019 (2 months)

#### Washington D.C. Metro Area

- Designed visuals, art, production and sets for the film “The Available Wife” by Tressa Smallwood and directed by Jamal Hill, featuring KJ Smith, Terayle Hill, Roger Guenvere Smith, Clinton Powell, Thaddeus Street, Angel Love, Raheem DeVaughn, and Anwan Glover which will premiere at The American Black Film Festival
- Provided props management, production design, art direction and other support as needed for the film
- Provided and supervised student interns from the VCDMA program and others from Bowie State University

#### Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council

Juror, Grants Reviewer

November 2014 - November 2018 (4 years 1 month)

Juror, Media Arts, Arts in Education

#### Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance

Juror, Grants Reviewer

December 2014 - January 2015 (2 months)

Baltimore, Maryland

Juror, Ruby's Artists Project Grants, Media and Performing Arts

#### MarketStar

Sony Specialist (PT)

September 2013 - June 2014 (10 months)

Waldorf, MD

- implemented innovative sales techniques, strategies and promotion of Sony products
- provided support and training to sales representatives of Costco and Bestbuy with technical information about Sony Home Entertainment products, including 4K (Ultra HD) & HD Televisions, soundbars, cameras; audio receivers, apps, bluray players and others.
- maintained product displays, set-up of Home Entertainment

- coordinated with Sony Retail Sales Manager with inventory, display and provided customer and metrics on sales as well as customer feedback information regarding products and competition.
- assisted and empowered customers with knowledge about Sony products, technology and information on 4K and smart TVs especially.

### Joe's Movement Emporium

Digital Media Instructor (PT)

October 2013 - April 2014 (7 months)

Mt. Rainier, MD

- provided mentoring and training to high school students from Prince George's County Public Schools through the Theatre Tech Program (TTP) in the areas of digital imaging, technology, media arts; film/video production, digital photography, visual communication and visual design for theatre.
- instructed students in developing concepts and narratives for digital short films, screenwriting; use of DSLR cameras, sound, lighting equipment and video projection design for theatre and video editing.
- assisted students in the production of digital shorts, blogs and developing portfolios for future including college, and future employment.

### Howard University

Lecturer | Animation | Design | Multimedia | Electronic Studio (FT/PT)

August 2000 - May 2013 (12 years 10 months)

- instructed and advised undergraduate/graduate students in courses in visual communication, motion graphics, animation, digital video, web and eBook design.
- Juror, Paul Robeson Awards for undergraduate and graduate films, School of Radio, Television and Film
- participated in graduate thesis committees
- created an innovative course in digital video storytelling, filmmaking and editing
- received Academic Excellence Grant and was selected as featured Instructor for Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

- over 85% of students taught/alumnus are working in their respective fields and industry

### Indie5 Films/Shye Time Productions

Cinematographer | Camera Operator

October 2011 - March 2012 (6 months)

Ft. Washington, Maryland

- provided cinematography and camera support for independent film, “You Never Know.”
- consulted and collaborated with director with production and locations for dramatic film.

### Sundjada Productions

Associate Producer | Motion Graphics Designer

2008 - 2011 (3 years)

- provided superior technical, lighting assistance, production support, motion graphics and green screen for independent and feature-length films, “Lorenzo & Monica” and “Dead.Money” and “Torn”
- “Lorenzo & Monica” is now distributed through Wal-Mart, Redbox and is featured on IMDB.

### House of Culture Productions

Motion Graphics Designer

2006 - 2008 (2 years)

- supervised script, character development and revisions for independent, and feature-length film, “Painted Smiles” directed by Scott Rainey.
- contacted and organized musicians for soundtrack for film
- created opening and closing graphics/titles, branding, identity, press kit & marketing materials

### Prince George's Community College

Adjunct Professor | Visual Communication

2000 - 2005 (5 years)

Largo, MD

- provided instruction in computer graphics, multimedia, design and animation.

Prince George's County Public Schools  
Art & Computer Graphics Teacher  
August 1994 - May 2000 (5 years 10 months)  
Surrattsville High School

- taught courses and skills in visual art, design, and computer graphics as well as infused diversity, social justice and cultural studies into design projects
- mentored and motivated high school students and especially those with special needs and from challenging background
- sponsored Multicultural Club, Future Black Leaders Club (male achievement and mentoring) at school
- developed computer graphics curriculum for high school students for Prince George's County Public School System
- developed and introduced curriculum for high school, art students titled, "Bringing the Lessons Home" as part of a grant and partnership with the U.S. Holocaust Museum
- traveled to Israel to conduct research on Holocaust history, Nazi propaganda and the connection to art, design, film and media studies

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## Education

University of Maryland Baltimore County  
MFA, Imaging and Digital Arts · (1996 - 2000)

Morgan State University  
BA, Photographic Media · (1987 - 1992)

Manhattan Edit Workshop  
Certificate, DSLR, Editing, Production · (2012 - 2012)

Future Media Concepts  
(Master classes and training), Motion Graphics, Web Design, HTML, CSS, Flash (multimedia) · (2004 - 2011)

Largo High School  
· (1984 - 1987)

