

CHRISTOPHER CHERRY is the performing arts program coordinator for the historic New Deal city of Greenbelt, Maryland, where he oversees performing arts classes and camps that culminate in two dozen public performance events every year. He is the proud recipient of a Mentor Man cape from participants in the annual Greenbelt Youth Musical, which he founded.

Chris is an active playwright, composer, lyricist and director. He is the creator of the full-length musicals *Homeward Bound*, *Perseus And The Gorgon*, *Secret Circus*, *Buried Treasure*, *The Joy Gods Return*, *The School For Super-Heroes Presents Orlando Furioso*, *The Musical* and *The School For Super-Heroes Returns In Theseus And The Monster In The Maze*. His one-act musicals include *Magic In The Attic*, *The Cookie Caper*, *Memory Quest In Central Park*, *Hercules and Hippolyta*, *Hidden Lands*, and *Message To Tomorrow*. He has directed more than one hundred productions of his original theater works.

Chris spearheaded an eighteen-month series of cultural events commemorating Greenbelt's 80th anniversary, for which he also created two musical retrospectives, *Here To Stay: The Music of the Greenbelt Pioneers* and *Time Will Tell: Teens And Tunes In Tugwell Town*. He is also the curator of a permanent exhibit at the Greenbelt Community Center titled *The Federal Theatre And Greenbelt*, which highlights the extraordinary New Deal theatre program and its influence on Greenbelt's first theatre group, the Greenbelt Players. Chris is profoundly grateful that Greenbelt has sustained the New Deal legacy of strong public support for the arts.

In addition to his artistic and mentoring work in Greenbelt, Chris is a charter faculty member of the Academy for Classical Acting, the graduate acting program established by Michael Kahn at the Shakespeare Theatre Company, recognized as "The nation's foremost Shakespeare company" by *The Wall Street Journal*. Helping to train the rising generation of American classical actors has been a continuing joy for Chris.

Chris is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was a member of the *Virginia Law Review* and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Law and Politics*. He served as a judicial law clerk to a U.S. District Court judge and later worked as a litigation attorney. He is admitted to the bar in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, and he is delighted not to practice law.