

# **Keith L. Davis**

## **Research Statement**

As a devoted educator, experienced filmmaker, and passionate storyteller, my research statement reflects the synergy between my extensive experience in the narrative arts and my educational ethos. My research is predicated on the exploration of storytelling as a dynamic and interactive medium, and the cultivation of this art form within the academic sphere.

### **Philosophical Underpinnings:**

My pedagogical approach is deeply rooted in my conviction that effective teaching mirrors the captivating art of performance. This stems from a philosophy where the audience's engagement—be it in a darkened theater or a bustling classroom—remains the cornerstone of any narrative endeavor. The performance of teaching commands an understanding of the audience's pulse, a principle that guides my curriculum development, pedagogical strategies, and research pursuits.

### **Research Objectives:**

#### **1. Cultivating Narrative Awareness in Education:**

My primary research objective is to develop educational methodologies that inculcate an acute narrative awareness among students. By fostering an environment where personal experiences become the bedrock of artistic endeavors, I aim to investigate how narrative understanding in students influences their engagement with the arts and their own creative processes.

#### **2. Interdisciplinary Storytelling:**

Building upon my diverse experiences in acting, filmmaking, and academic instruction, my research delves into the synthesis of these disciplines to create a holistic storytelling curriculum. This involves examining the pedagogical intersections between drama, narrative structure, and cinematic expression.

#### **3. Personal Narratives as Catalysts for Artistic Expression:**

Inspired by the poignancy of personal loss and societal events, my research also focuses on the transformative power of personal narratives. By analyzing the impact of personal experiences on artistic output, I seek to validate and empower the use of individual histories as a profound source of storytelling.

#### **4. Empowerment through Diverse Voices:**

I am committed to amplifying marginalized voices and exploring underrepresented narratives. My research investigates how storytelling can be a vehicle for social change and cultural reflection, challenging preconceived notions and fostering a more inclusive media landscape.

## **5. Technological Adaptation in Storytelling:**

In an era of rapid media evolution, understanding and adapting to new technologies is paramount. My research examines how technological advancements can be integrated into narrative practices, enhancing the storytelling experience without losing the essence of the human connection.

### **Methodology:**

My approach to research is both qualitative and experiential. Utilizing case studies, narrative analysis, and reflective practices, I delve into the interplay between storyteller and audience. My research methodologies also include practical workshops, peer-reviewed presentations, and the production of narrative works that serve as both research tools and educational models.

### **Impact and Contribution:**

The impact of my research is twofold: it advances the academic understanding of narrative arts as a critical facet of communication and provides a tangible framework for students to harness their storytelling abilities. By joining the Department, I intend to bridge the gap between theoretical narrative constructs and practical application, thus enriching the educational experience and preparing students for the multifaceted world of film, television, and social production.

In conclusion, my research stands at the confluence of educational theory, artistic practice, and narrative exploration. It is my goal to contribute to the academic community with innovative research, inspiring mentorship, and a commitment to the art of storytelling that resonates with the audience's heartbeat.

### **Contact and Portfolio:**

For a comprehensive overview of my works and philosophies in practice, please visit my portfolio at [www.keithldavis.com/academic](http://www.keithldavis.com/academic). I am readily available for further discussion on my research and its potential contributions to your esteemed institution.