



**Media contact: Terence Keane**  
510.647.2917, [tkeane@berkeleyrep.org](mailto:tkeane@berkeleyrep.org)

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## **BERKELEY REP WELCOMES 14 NEW INTERNS FOR 2006/07 SEASON**

### **Four of last year's interns also added to the staff at Tony Award-winning theatre**

JULY 19, 2006 - Today Berkeley Repertory Theatre welcomed 14 new interns for the 2006/07 Season, which begins on September 8 with the anti-war masterpiece *Mother Courage* and then soars into an audacious display of new work. The Tony Award-winning theatre also announced the appointment of four of last season's interns to its staff.

"Berkeley Rep takes our internship program extremely seriously," remarked **Susan Medak**, the Theatre's managing director. "These internships are designed to be transitional positions, helping young people make the leap from academic training in theatre to professional employment in our industry. We take great pride in hiring interns that we've trained whenever possible, and we're pleased that so many of our interns go on to work at major theatres throughout the country. I'm honored that such promising young people are joining us for the 2006/07 Season – the work we're doing ensures it will be a thrilling time to be part of the team at Berkeley Rep."

**Berkeley Rep's internship program** combines hands-on practical experience with educational seminars that provide insight into the operation and inner workings of a professional regional theatre. The program is one of the nation's most prestigious and certainly one of the most extensive, offering training in more than a dozen different disciplines. Interns work closely with an accomplished company of artists, administrators, directors, and designers. They make an 11-month commitment to the Theatre, generally starting work in August and concluding their residencies in June. Interns receive a stipend for their service, as well as housing. The partnership between Berkeley Rep and the intern is designed to fulfill the intern's career-building goals and provides invaluable professional contacts and experience.

Most internships at Berkeley Rep lead to careers in the industry. In fact, the Theatre has hired four of last year's interns onto the staff of the departments in which they worked: **Margo Chiless** has joined the development department as campaign assistant; **Margaretta Grazier** has joined the props shop as a properties artisan; **E.T. Hazzard** has joined the scene shop as a carpenter; and **Jessica Modrall** has joined the School of Theatre as school administrator.

The **team of interns** for the 2006/07 Season includes the following 14 young people:

- **Dina Beigelman**, a Colorado native and graduate of Case Western Reserve University, will work with Director of Development Lynn Eve Komaromi and the development department.
- **Stephanie Buchner**, a native of Foster City and graduate of UC Santa Cruz, will work with Master Electrician Fred Geffken and the electrics crew.
- **Lindsey Coates**, a Memphis native and graduate of the College of Charleston in South Carolina, will work with Director of Marketing and Communications Robert Sweibel and the marketing team.
- **Kristen Gilmore**, a native of North Carolina and graduate of the University of South Carolina, will work with Technical Director Jim Smith and the staff of Berkeley Rep's scene shop.

(MORE)

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## BERKELEY REP WELCOMES NEW STAFF & INTERNS / 2 OF 2

- **Sylvia Hathaway**, an Ohio native and graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, will work with Rachel Fink, director of the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, and the education team.
- **Miranda Hixson**, a native of Mill Valley and graduate of UC Santa Cruz, will work with General Manager Karen Racanelli in company management.
- **Harumi Ikeda**, a native of Peru and graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, will work with Production Manager Tom Aberger and the production team.
- **Rachel Motz**, a Los Angeles native and graduate of UC San Diego, will work with Production Stage Manager Michael Suenkel in stage management.
- **Alli Nash**, an Ohio native and graduate of Ohio University, will work with Art Director Cheshire Dave and the marketing department.
- **Matt O'Hare**, a native of Rhode Island and graduate of Boston College, will work with Sound Supervisor Heather Bradley in the sound department.
- **Cody Neal Pearson**, an Oregon native and graduate of the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts, will work with Properties Manager Ashley Dawn in the props shop.
- **Hannah Reich**, a native of North Dakota and graduate of Smith College, comes to Berkeley Rep from Florida Studio Theatre and will work with Costume Director Maggi Yule Oakley in the costume shop.
- **Kimberly Weisberg**, a Los Angeles native and graduate of UCLA, will work with Literary Manager Madeleine Oldham in the literary department.
- **Marissa Wolf**, a Connecticut native and graduate of Vassar College, has directed locally with *Fools Fury* and *Crowded Fire*. She will work with Artistic Director Tony Taccone and the artistic department.

**Berkeley Rep's 2006/07 Season includes seven captivating shows:** *Mother Courage*, David Hare's brilliant adaptation of Bertolt Brecht's anti-war masterpiece; *Passing Strange*, the world premiere of an exuberant stage show from the musician known as Stew; *All Wear Bowlers*, a hilarious vaudeville dream that's been a hit on four continents; *The Pillowman*, a darkly funny thriller from Oscar- and Tony-winner Martin McDonagh; *To the Lighthouse*, a world-premiere adaptation of Virginia Woolf's novel featuring music by Paul Dresher; *The Blue Door*, a breathtaking new play directed by Delroy Lindo; and *Oliver Twist*, an astonishing new adaptation of the Dickens classic from London's Neil Bartlett. **For more information**, call the box office at 510.647.2949 or toll-free at 1.888.4.BRT.Tix – or simply click [berkeleyrep.org](http://berkeleyrep.org).

Founded in 1968, the Tony Award-winning **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** has established a national reputation for its ambitious programming and dynamic productions. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tony Taccone and Managing Director Susan Medak, Berkeley Rep seeks to engage its audience in an ongoing dialogue of ideas. Through its bold choice of material and vivid style of production, Berkeley Rep reflects a commitment to diversity, excitement, and quality. The company is especially well known for its presentations of important new dramatic voices and its fresh adaptations of seldom-seen classics. In 2001, Berkeley Rep opened The Roda Theatre, a 600-seat proscenium theatre that complements the 400-seat Thrust Stage, and the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, housed in the Nevo Education Center. The addition of these two buildings has transformed what was once a single stage into a vital and versatile performing arts complex.

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