



Fact Sheet

About Berkeley Rep

- 43-year-old Tony Award-recognized theatre company
- Respected leader in the regional theatre movement
- Operates in a 3-building complex in the center of Downtown Berkeley
- Offers an eclectic 7-play season, plus 2-3 special events each year
- Catalyst in revitalization of downtown and creation of local Arts District

Our Work

- Intellectually courageous, bold, innovative work presented in an intimate setting
- Known for introducing important new voices and presenting fresh adaptations of seldom-seen classics
- Socially relevant theatre that provokes exhilarating dialogue amongst a broad spectrum of the community
- Risk-taking, challenging work that explores important social and historical issues
- Excellence reflects partnerships with interesting artists, renowned designers, and stellar craftspeople

Our Audience

- Serves 180,000 audience members, 20,000 students, and dozens of community groups each year
- Bucking national trends by increasing subscriber numbers, total attendance, and its young audience
- Draws from 9-county Bay Area, including 40% from San Francisco, Marin, & South Bay; 60% from East Bay
- In 4 decades, nearly 4 million people have enjoyed 300 shows at Berkeley Rep, including 55 world premieres

Our School of Theatre

- Largest school outreach program of any theatre in California
- On-site classes for children, teens, and adults from enthusiastic beginners to seasoned professionals
- Outreach programs such as Target® Story Builders serve 15,000 K-12 students in 90 local schools
- Student Matinee Series welcomes more than 3,000 middle- and high-school students every season
- Teen Council allows 200+ youth to participate in all aspects of the dramatic process
- Sunday Samplers provide free, interactive workshops for all ages

Our Staff

- Employs 440 artists, artisans, and administrators each season – and relies on more than 1,000 volunteers
- Unusually stable and sustained leadership, with current artistic and managing directors on staff for 20 years
- Artistic Directors: Tony Taccone (1997-present), Sharon Ott (1984-1997), Michael Leibert (1968-1983)
- Managing Directors: Susan Medak (1990-present), Mitzi Sales (1972-1990)

Our Finances

- \$11.6 million operating budget
- Funds earned through ticket sales and the like represent only 60% of total income
- Contributed income from individual donors, foundations, and corporations makes up the difference
- Spurs an estimated \$26 million in annual economic activity

Prominent Artists

- Playwrights such as Neal Bell, Bill Cain, David Edgar, Francesca Faridany, Amy Freed, Philip Kan Gotanda, Lillian Groag, Rinne Groff, Jordan Harrison, Naomi Iizuka, Lisa Kron, Tony Kushner, Charles Mee, Itamar Moses, José Rivera, and Sarah Ruhl – and unconventional writers like Lemony Snicket
- Directors such as Mark Brokaw, Gordon Edelstein, Oskar Eustis, Nicolas Kent, Michael Mayer, Lisa Peterson, Mark Rucker, Leigh Silverman, Tadashi Suzuki, Stephen Wadsworth, Mark Wing-Davey, George C. Wolfe, and Mary Zimmerman – as well as former Associate Artistic Director Les Waters
- Musicians such as Green Day, Paul Dresher, Jon Jang, Steve Mackey, Joshua Redman, Max Roach, Stew, Nathaniel Stookey, Matthew Sweet, and Tan Dun
- Writer/performers such as Mike Daisey, Rinde Eckert, Danny Hoch, Geoff Hoyle, Sarah Jones, John Leguizamo, Dael Orlandersmith, and Anna Deavere Smith
- Choreographers such as Karole Armitage, Joe Goode, and Steven Hoggett
- Other respected companies such as Culture Clash, Kneehigh, Mabou Mines, and Theatre de la Jeune Lune

Milestones

- 1968: Founded in a storefront on College Avenue
- 1980: Moves to current location and opens 400-seat Thrust Stage
- 1997: Wins the prestigious Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre
- 2001: Opens the 600-seat Roda Theatre and the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre
- 2010: Sends fifth show to Broadway in five years and second show to London; acquires new campus in West Berkeley to house scene shop, costume shop, prop shop, storage, and administrative offices under one roof