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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AT BERKELEY REP'S SCHOOL OF THEATRE, STUDENTS TAKE CENTER STAGE
Summer Theatre Intensive and Teen Actors Studio Give Local Youth the Summer Spotlight

MARCH 13, 2013 – As it opens Lawrence Wright's *Fallaci*, its 65th world premiere, Berkeley Repertory Theatre also announces open registration for its Summer Theatre Intensive and Teen Actors Studio programs. These summer camps provide middle- and high-school students a rigorous and rewarding training program with full access to the creativity and operations of the Tony Award-winning nonprofit. Throughout June and July, local youth will adapt and mount their own performances on one of the Theatre's renowned stages.

"We are thrilled to offer fully realized original plays created by professional playwrights, directors, and our middle- and high-school students this summer," says **Rachel Fink**, director of the School of Theatre. "During sessions tailor-made for each age group, local teens will develop their craft and share their unique vision with an ensemble of peers, culminating in a performance onstage at Berkeley Rep."

The **Summer Theatre Intensive** provides a fun-filled, enriching, affordable camp for teens – right here in Berkeley. Participants work with theatre artists from all over the country to learn theatrical performance techniques in daily classes that cover everything from acting to design. In a process that mirrors the professional method that Berkeley Rep applies to create new plays, students work with professional playwrights to adapt their own original work based on classic tales. Those shows are performed for an invited audience of family and friends onstage at Berkeley Rep.

With different sessions for different ages, the Summer Theatre Intensive offers a rare opportunity for youth to open their imaginations:

- The first session, for students entering grades 6-8, takes place on weekdays from June 17 through July 12.
- The second session, for teens in grades 9-12, is held July 16 through August 9.

Tuition is \$1,150 for session 1 and \$1,250 for session 2. Limited financial aid is available. The only requirements are an open mind, an imagination, and a desire to collaborate, work hard, and, of course, have fun.

Additionally, teens can take advantage of the second installment of the **Teen Actors Studio**. Advanced high-school students will work with international director **Jeffrey Bihl** and mount an original performance piece compiled from comedic and dramatic scenes, movement, and music. Students will explore the work of Tennessee Williams, Samuel Beckett, William Butler Yeats, Henrik Ibsen, David Mamet, and Sarah Ruhl, among others. Admission is by audition, and tuition is \$800. To schedule an audition, please call (510) 647-2972. Don't miss this terrific course for talented teens, which runs from June 24 through July 6.

Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre provides a wide array of programming for individuals of all ages. In addition to classes for youth and adults, the School offers Story Builders, a drama workshop for elementary-school classrooms; the Student Matinee Series for middle- and high-

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school students; in-school residencies; teacher training; and a variety of outreach programs that encourage lifelong learning through hands-on, cross-curricular, in-class workshops. The School also hosts the Teen Council, which allows more than 500 local youth to participate in all aspects of the dramatic process: on stage, backstage, and in front of the stage.

For more information on any of these activities, or to register, call (510) 647-2972, e-mail school@berkeleyrep.org, or visit berkeleyrep.org/summerintensive.

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ATTENTION, CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHO: Students entering grades 6-12
WHAT: Summer Theatre Intensive
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
WHEN: Session 1 (grades 6-8): June 17 – July 12, 9 AM – 3 PM
Session 2 (grades 9-12): July 16 – August 9, 9 AM – 4 PM
HOW MUCH: \$1,150 for Session 1 / \$1,250 for Session 2 / financial aid available
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/summerintensive / school@berkeleyrep.org

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WHO: Students entering grades 9-12
WHAT: Teen Actors Studio
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
WHEN: June 24 – July 6
HOW MUCH: \$800 / financial aid available
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/teenactors / school@berkeleyrep.org

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