

PRESS CONTACT

Voleine Amilcar, Director of Public Relations
(510) 647-2917, vamilcar@berkeleyrep.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRING FORWARD WITH A CLASS AT BERKELEY REP**Classes available for all theatre enthusiasts at Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre**

MARCH 13, 2014 – This spring, as Berkeley Repertory Theatre announces five captivating shows for its upcoming 2014-15 subscription season, Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre announces a new slate of spring classes for students of all ages and levels of experience. Beginning March 31, the school will offer over 40 dynamic classes ranging from classical acting to street performance to script analysis. Prospective students can preview the wide array of youth, teen, and adult classes from the spring session for free at the **Sunday Sampler on March 16 from 1:00-3:00pm** at the School of Theatre.

"We are committed to creating a learning space where members of our community can deeply engage with their imaginations," says Rachel Fink, director of the School of Theatre. "Our students' creativity is infectious, which is why this spring, we are excited to expand our class options to provide more opportunities for individuals to develop skills on their own terms."

From novices to the experienced, the spring session encompasses a range of classes for every age level. Young actors are introduced to the pantheon of Greek gods and goddesses in **Mythological Adventures** and a play creation class inspired by the classic Dahl tale. Middle and high schoolers will have the opportunity to stroll through the underworld of 1930s New York City in **Musical Theatre Scene Study: *Guys and Dolls***. Students also can choose to learn a variety of Beatles songs and then create characters and a story that ties all the music together in **Musical Theatre Performance Ensemble: Beatles**. Adults can participate in a collection of games, techniques, and exercises for using theatre as a vehicle for personal and social transformation in the special workshop, **Theatre of the Oppressed**. In addition, a rich selection of acting, improv, devising, movement, voice, playwriting, and more classes are offered for adults.

The 10-week spring session, which begins on March 31, offers the following classes:

- **Classes for youth** (grades K-5) include Mythological Adventures, Performance Workshop: Potter Plays - The Series Continues, Play Creation: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, and Afterschool Circus.
- **Classes for middle and high school students** (grades 6-12) include Musical Theatre Scene Study: *Guys and Dolls*, Musical Theatre Performance Ensemble: Beatles, and Acting Violence: Theatrical Combatant Certification – Level 1 Rapier/Dagger. Prospective students can also take On-Camera Acting, Improvisation, and arrange private voice lessons or one-on-one audition coaching.
- **Performance classes for adults** include Acting (beginning through advanced), Acting Shakespeare, as well as both On-Camera and Voice-over. Other classes include Scene Study with discovering the dialects and characters of *Downton Abbey*, and A Physical Approach to Acting. The School also offers a range of improvisation classes for adults from beginning to advanced and Improv Performance Lab.

(MORE)

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- **Movement and physical theatre classes for adults** include Feldenkrais Method: Access Your Creativity, Beginning Mime: The Art of Body Language, Alexander Technique: Stand Tall and Speak with Presence, Acting Violence: Theatrical Combatant Certification – Level 1 Rapier/Dagger, and Movement for the Stage: The Art of Partnering.
- **Devising classes for adults** include Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration in the Professional Theatre, Solo Performance: The Art of Juggling the Truth, Taking it to the Street: Ancient Art in a Modern World, and Viewpoints: Creating Physical Theatre.
- **Additional adult courses** include Spring Training, Adaptation, Playwriting, Script Analysis, Voice for Performance, and Theatre of the Oppressed workshop. One-on-one audition coaching and private voice lessons are also available.

Theatre lovers entering grades 6-12 can now register for upcoming summer programs, including **Summer Theatre Intensive** and **Teen Actors Studio**.

In addition to theatre training for individuals, the **Berkeley Rep School of Theatre** is committed to working with local schools and community members to reinforce arts education as a community value. By providing access and opportunities for participation in the arts, Berkeley Rep uses theatre as a means to challenge, thrill, and galvanize what is best in the human spirit. Major support for the School of Theatre's education programs is provided by Target Corporation and The Woodlawn Foundation.

For more information about classes at Berkeley Rep – or affordable outreach programs for local schools – call (510) 647-2972, e-mail school@berkeleyrep.org, or visit berkeleyrep.org/school. The School is also on social media – visit twitter.com/berkrepschool or follow [@BerkRepSchool](https://twitter.com/BerkRepSchool). Courses in the spring session are offered at Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, next door to the Thrust Stage, at 2071 Addison Street in downtown Berkeley. Financial aid is available for youth and teens under 18.

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ATTENTION, CALENDAR EDITORS

WHO: Theatre lovers of all ages and skill levels
WHAT: **Free Sunday Sampler** – try out our classes for free!
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
WHEN: Sunday, March 16, 2014, 1:00 - 3:00 PM
HOW MUCH: Free!
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/school / school@berkeleyrep.org

WHO: Theatre lovers of all ages and skill levels
WHAT: **Spring session** – featuring over 40 classes for youth, teens, and adults
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
WHEN: Starting March 31, 2014
HOW MUCH: Varies by class; financial aid available
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/classes / school@berkeleyrep.org

WHO: Theatre lovers entering grades 6-12
WHAT: **Summer Theatre Intensive** – registration now open!
Session 1 • Jun 16–Jul 11, entering grades 6-8
Session 2 • Jul 14–Aug 8, entering grades 9-12
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
WHEN: Starting June 16, 2014
HOW MUCH: \$1200-1300; financial aid available
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/summerintensive / school@berkeleyrep.org

WHO: Theatre lovers entering 9-12 by audition only
WHAT: **Teen Actors Studio** – registration now open!
Jun 23–Jul 5, entering grades 9-12
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
WHEN: Starting June 23, 2014
HOW MUCH: \$800; financial aid available
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/teenactors / school@berkeleyrep.org

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