

For photos, videos, interviews, etc. contact:
Voleine Amilcar, Director of Public Relations
(510) 647-2917, vamilcar@berkeleyrep.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**A WINTER WONDERLAND OF ACTIVITY
AT BERKELEY REP'S SCHOOL OF THEATRE**

Nonprofit's education arm welcomes students of all ages for a variety of theatre classes

DECEMBER 13, 2013 – Holiday cheer is in full swing with Berkeley Repertory Theatre's latest hit *Tristan & Yseult*, and in anticipation of Mikhail Baryshnikov's return with *Man in a Case* in January, Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre announces a new slate of classes for its 2013-14 winter session. January 6 marks the beginning of a new round of **47 exciting classes for students of all ages and skill levels**, all taught by the School's professional theatre artists. Prospective students can try a unique selection of classes from the winter line-up for free at **Sunday Sampler on December 15 from 1:00-3:00pm** at the School of Theatre.

"After experiencing our highest enrollment this fall, the makeup of our student body is more active and diverse than ever before. We look forward to building upon that energy and expanding our reach with new classes and programs," remarks **Rachel Fink**, director of the School of Theatre.

The winter session includes an array of classes for every age level from beginners to professionals. Adults can explore their acting range or learn to incorporate improv into their professional lives. Those looking to strengthen their craft can take advanced performance-based classes for actors, directors, and anyone looking to strengthen their craft. In classes from circus skills to rock-opera musical theatre, youth and teens will discover their inner artists while collaborating with peers.

The **10-week winter session**, which begins January 6 and runs through March, features the following activities:

- **Classes for kids** (grades K-5) include African Folk Tales: Anansi, Performance Workshop: Potter Plays, Star Wars Stories, and Performance Workshop: Gladiator Circus.
- **Classes for middle-schoolers** (grades 6-9) include Improvisation and Musical Theatre Scene Study based on the hit *Jesus Christ Superstar*, as well as private voice lessons.
- **Classes for teens** (grades 9-12) include Acting Violence: Theatrical Combatant Certification – Level 1 Broadsword and Level 2 Unarmed, and On-Camera Acting. Teens can also 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 Playing Comedy. Other classes include Scene Study with discovering the dialects and characters of *Downton* and Advanced Intensive for Directors & Actors: The Pearls and Thread. The School also offers a range of improvisation classes for adults: Beginning, Intermediate, a Performance Lab, and classes specifically designed for business professionals and therapists and health care providers.

(MORE)

A WINTER WONDERLAND OF ACTIVITY AT BERKELEY REP'S SCHOOL OF THEATRE / 2 OF 2

- **Movement and physical theatre classes for adults** include Acting Violence: Theatrical Combatant Certification – Level 1 Broadsword and Level 2 Unarmed; Contact Improv Fundamentals; Feldenkrais Method; Space, Time, Shape: Creating Physical Theatre; Butoh: Dance of Darkness; and Movement for the Stage: The Art of Partnering.
- **Other classes for adults** include Winter Warm-up: Introduction to Directing, as well as Adaptation, Playwriting, Voice for Performance, and Voice for Business Professionals. One-on-one audition coaching and private voice lessons are available as well.

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.

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. Courses in the winter 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.

###

ATTENTION, CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHO: Theatre lovers of all ages – from beginners to professionals
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, December 15, 2013, 1:00 - 3:00 PM
HOW MUCH: Free!
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/sundaysampler / school@berkeleyrep.org

###

WHO: Theatre lovers of all ages – from beginners to professionals
WHAT: **Winter session** featuring 47 classes for youth, teens, and adults
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
WHEN: Starting January 6, 2014
HOW MUCH: Varies by class; scholarships available
INFO: (510) 647-2972 / berkeleyrep.org/classes / school@berkeleyrep.org

###