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<http://www.berkeleyrep.org/press/presskit-shows.asp>

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BERKELEY REP'S SCHOOL OF THEATRE OFFERS EXCITING SUMMER CLASSES**

**Nonprofit's education branch offers an array of engaging courses for all ages**

May 21, 2015 – Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre is excited to announce a new slate of classes for its summer session. Classes start as early as June 15, but many start in July. The summer session features **over 20 engaging classes for students of all ages and skill levels**, all taught by the School's professional theatre artists. Registration for all classes is now open online or by calling (510) 647-2996.

"We're excited to celebrate our 15th summer of offering engaging, fun, theatrical training at Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre," says **MaryBeth Cavanaugh**, the School's associate director. "In addition to our extensive acting and improv classes, new courses include a performance-driven workshop in which students will uncover the secrets of character and action through Shakespeare's language, and an opportunity to study with one of the creators of *The Laramie Project* and *The People's Temple*. To top it off, as usual we will offer our popular summer programs for youth and teens."

The summer session includes a variety of classes for every age and experience level from beginners to professionals. Adults can broaden their acting range or express their creativity through playwriting. Those looking to strengthen their craft can take advanced performance-based classes for actors, improvisers, and voice artists. Through these diverse summer courses, youth, teens, and adults will discover their inner artists while collaborating with peers or studying one-on-one with professional coaches.

The **eight-week summer session**, running at various points from June 15 through August 10, 2015, features the following engaging courses:

- **Classes for kids** (grades K-8) include Funny Bone Fun, Clowns Gone Wild, Improvisation, and Summer Theatre Intensive.
- **Classes for teens** (grades 9-12) include Filmmaking & Acting Intensive, Summer Theatre Intensive, Private Voice, and One-on-One Audition Coaching.
- **Performance classes for adults** include Acting (beginner through advanced), Theatre of the Oppressed, Theatre of the Oppressed/Playback Theatre: The Mirror & the Hammer, On-Camera Acting, Shakespeare Performance Intensive: Scenes. Songs. Sonnets., Acting: Eugene O'Neill, Advanced Voice-over Acting, One-on-One Audition Coaching, Beginning/Intermediate Improvisation, Advanced Improvisation: Four Favorite Genres, Alexander Technique and Linklater Voice, Voice for Professionals, Private Voice, Solo Performance: The Art of Juggling the Truth, Summer Playwriting Workshop, and a special workshop on adapting stories to the stage taught by Greg Pierotti, a co-creator of *The Laramie Project* and *The People's Temple*.

(MORE)

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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](mailto:school@berkeleyrep.org), or visit [berkeleyrep.org/school](http://berkeleyrep.org/school). The School is also on social media – visit [facebook.com/berkeleyrepschool](https://facebook.com/berkeleyrepschool) or follow @BerkRepSchool. Courses in the summer 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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- WHO: Theatre lovers of all ages – from beginners to professionals
- WHAT: **Summer session** featuring over 20 classes for youth, teens, and adults
- WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre, 2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA
- WHEN: June 15, 2015 through August 10, 2015
- HOW MUCH: Varies by class; financial aid and payment plans available
- INFO: (510) 647-2972 / [berkeleyrep.org/classes](http://berkeleyrep.org/classes) / [school@berkeleyrep.org](mailto:school@berkeleyrep.org)

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