



Fact Sheet

About Berkeley Rep

- 49-year-old Tony Award-winning theatre company
- Respected leader in the regional theatre movement
- Performs in a 3-building complex in the center of Downtown Berkeley, supported by a pre-production campus in West Berkeley
- Offers an eclectic 7-play season, plus up to 4 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 eminent artists, renowned designers, and stellar craftspeople

Our Audience

- Serves over 200,000 audience members, 21,000 students, and dozens of community groups each year
- Bucking national trends by increasing subscriber numbers (particularly young subscribers) and total attendance
- Draws from 9-county Bay Area, including 40% from San Francisco, Marin, & South Bay; 60% from East Bay
- In 4 decades, an estimated 4 million people have enjoyed nearly 400 shows at Berkeley Rep, including 77 world premieres

Our School of Theatre

- One of the largest arts education programs of any regional theatre in the nation
- On-site classes for children, teens, and adults from enthusiastic beginners to seasoned professionals
- Programs such as Story Builders serve 7,000 K-12 students in 80 local schools, libraries, & community centers
- Student Matinee Series welcomes 1,500-3,000 middle- and high-school students every season
- 500 youth participate in the Teen Council, a peer-led program that is a model for theatres nationwide
- Sunday Samplers provide free, interactive workshops for all ages

Our Staff

- Employs 470 artists, artisans, and administrators each season – and relies on more than 1,100 volunteers
- Unusually stable and sustained leadership, with current artistic and managing directors on staff for over 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)

Prominent Artists

- Playwrights such as Neal Bell, Bill Cain, David Edgar, Will Eno, Amy Freed, Marcus Gardley, Philip Kan Gotanda, Lillian Groag, Rinne Groff, Jordan Harrison, David Henry Hwang, Naomi Iizuka, Lisa Kron, Tony Kushner, Dan LeFranc, Craig Lucas, Tarell Alvin McCraney, Charles Mee, Itamar Moses, José Rivera, Sarah Ruhl, Lemony Snicket, and Lawrence Wright
- Directors such as Mark Brokaw, Gordon Edelstein, Oskar Eustis, Frank Galati, Nicolas Kent, Michael Mayer, Des McAnuff, Pam McKinnon, Lisa Peterson, Emma Rice, Mark Rucker, Joanna Settle, Leigh Silverman, Tadashi Suzuki, Stephen Wadsworth, Les Waters, Mark Wing-Davey, George C. Wolfe, Chay Yew, and Mary Zimmerman
- Musicians such as Green Day, Paul Dresher, Jon Jang, Steve Mackey, Joshua Redman, Max Roach, Stew, Nathaniel Stookey, Matthew Sweet, Marcus Shelby, and Tan Dun
- Writer/performers such as Mike Daisey, Rinde Eckert, Carrie Fisher, Danny Hoch, Geoff Hoyle, Sarah Jones, John Leguizamo, Rita Moreno, Dael Orlandersmith, Patrick Stewart, Ian McKellen, and Anna Deavere Smith
- Choreographers such as Karole Armitage, Joe Goode, Steven Hoggett, Lorin Latarro, and Sergio Trujillo
- Other respected companies such as Culture Clash, Kneehigh, and UNIVERSES

Milestones

- 1968: Born 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: Acquires new campus in West Berkeley to house scene shop, costume shop, prop shop, rehearsal halls, and offices under one roof
- 2012: Sends first show to Asia, two years after sending second show in its history to London, and launches The Ground Floor, a center for the development of new work
- 2013: Sends seventh show to Broadway in seven years and produces first show to emerge from The Ground Floor on the main stage
- 2016: Re-opened the newly renovated Peet's Theatre (previously named the Thrust Stage)

Our Finances

- \$16 million annual operating budget
- Funds earned through ticket sales and the like represent only about 65% of annual operating income
- Contributed income from individual donors, foundations, and corporations makes up the difference
- Spurs an estimated \$26 million in annual economic activity