



2501 Harrison Street
Oakland, CA 94612
Phone: (510) 444-4755
Fax: (510) 444-4821

www.stagebridge.org

Home of the Performing Arts Training Institute

Try something new! – Visit our first week of classes for *free!*

CLASSES – WINTER 2011

Monday, January 10 – Friday, March 25

Spring classes will be from Monday, April 4, to Friday, June 17



ACTING (Beginning-Intermediate): MONDAY, 10 AM-12 PM

Instructor: Josiah Polhemus, Artistic Director – In this 10-week session (note: we will not meet on some of the holidays in February) we explore the work of W.S. Gilbert without Sullivan! Yes! We will take the rhyming librettist's lyrics and learn about acting without worrying about the singing! We will likely get in touch with our inner pirates working with the Pirates of Penzance! Arrgh Mateys! Do ye have the acting chops? Give it a try or walk the plank! Arrrrgh!

MUSICAL THEATRE – HAIR! The American Tribal Love - Rock Musical (All levels): MONDAY 1- 3 PM

Instructors: Ellen Robinson (singing) and Bruce Bierman (movement and direction) – CALLING ALL FLOWER CHILDREN. Join the Musical Theatre Class

winter/spring presentation of---HAIR: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical! Join the 'Tribe' and get ready to let down your hair for our winter/spring presentation of the musical that broke all the rules. Ellen Robinson (vocals) and Bruce Bierman (movement and acting) will gently guide and challenge your singing, movement and acting skills by focusing on several ensemble musical numbers, solos, scenes and personal stories from the 60's that will culminate in several staged performances in front of a live audience.



PLAYWRITING (All levels): MONDAY, 1- 3 PM (note: class will miss one week TBA)

***** NEW GUEST INSTRUCTOR!*** Anthony Clarvoe, award-winning playwright**

In an open forum discussion, students share writing samples each week, receiving friendly feedback from the instructor and fellow students. This class continues through spring and culminates with our 4th Annual Playwriting Showcase in June. Students will learn writing exercises and work towards full-length plays. Anthony is a veteran playwright and Bay Area native who recently, very happily, returned home to San Francisco. His plays include the award-winning *Pick Up Axe*, *The Living*, *Let's Play Two*, *The Brothers Karamazov*, *Ambition Facing West*, *Ctrl+Alt+Delete* and *The Art of Sacrifice* and are published by Broadway Play Publishing, Inc. He has received a dozen commissions from South Coast Repertory, the Mark Taper Forum, Playwrights' Horizons and others; fellowships from the Guggenheim, McKnight, Jerome and Irvine Foundations, National Endowment for the Arts, TCG/Pew Charitable Trusts and Kennedy Center/Fund for New American Plays; the Berrilla Kerr Award in recognition of his contributions to the American theater; and critics' awards from LA to New England.

SINGING CLASS (All levels): TUESDAY, 10 AM-12 PM

Instructor: Scrumby Koldewyn, Musical Director – For nonsingers and singers who want to broaden their singing experience. The class features vocal technique, group development and individual attention. Scrumby is a popular and well-known pianist, singer, performer and teacher and the composer for the wildly successful world premiere musical *Sylvia's Advice....* for Stagebridge.





IMPROVISATION with the *Antic Witties*: TUESDAY, 10 AM-12 PM

Director: Barbara Scott with Daniel Savio on piano – This is a touring company that performs and also leads workshops throughout the Bay Area. The emphasis is on performance-based improvisation along with music. In a tribute to the *Antiques Road Show* as seen on KQED, performers create appraisal characters. The troupe is by audition, which is at the discretion of Barbara Scott. **AUDITIONS:** The Antic Witties may need one or two more improvisers to join.

Check in with Barbara Scott to set up the time and date for an audition on the first day of class. Subject to need.

***** NEW CLASS *** THEATER APPRECIATION with Meryl Shaw: TUESDAY, 1-3 PM (Performance Matinees TBA)**



Instructor: Meryl Shaw + special guests -- Meryl Shaw, former Casting Director at A.C.T. and Stage Manager at A.C.T. and Berkeley Repertory Theater, takes students on a guided tour of how theater productions are created at top regional theaters in the Bay Area. Students will see two or three plays during the course, meet artists involved in those productions, and attend interviews by Meryl Shaw of several theater professionals. The latter will probably include a theater critic, playwright, director, designer and actors in the shows that we'll attend. The performances we plan to attend include: **The Dresser** at San Jose Repertory Theater, **Clybourne Park** at A.C.T., San Francisco, **Collapse** at Aurora Theater, Berkeley. We are currently arranging to have the following guests join us during the course, depending on schedules, and others are planned: San Francisco Chronicle senior theater critic **Robert Hurwitz**, from **The Dresser**, well-known local stage actors **James Carpenter** and **Ken Ruta** from **Clybourne Park**, a director or a designer **TBA**. Note: Tickets for matinees and transportation fees will be covered at the first class.



***** NEW *** PLAYBACK THEATRE: Tuesday, 3:15- 4:45 PM**

Instructor: Martin Holtz – Personal stories shared by audience members are instantly transformed by the ensemble into improvised theater pieces using movement, ritual, dramatic spoken word and music. In this class, different forms developed over 40 years by International Playback companies lend structure and allow the actors to improvise and discover the heart of each story. Participants will learn forms as they develop their listening and memory skills, confidence in taking artistic risks through improvisation, and ability to work with others in group creation. Fun, challenging and meaningful! Martin is the Associate Creative Director and founding

member of the Bay Area Playback Theatre. He has been a featured actor in Shakespeare festivals, cabaret and political street theater. He has written, directed and produced numerous shows, workshops and educational training events for performing arts centers, museums, libraries, schools and public and private organizations.

IMPROVISATION (Beginning/Intermediate): WEDNESDAY, 10-11:25 AM

Instructor: Barbara Scott with Daniel Savio on piano – **ALL SKILL LEVELS ARE WELCOME!** Learn the basics of improvisation with humor and fun in scene work and song work that emphasizes spontaneity, cooperation and storytelling with one of the Bay Area's best improv performer and teacher. A long-time member of San Francisco's BATS Company and founding member of *True Fiction Magazine* improv company.



***** NEW *** ADVANCED IMPROVISATION: WEDNESDAY, 11:35 AM-1 PM**

Instructor: Barbara Scott – Expanded scene and games work for people with more experience and skill in improvisation. By instructor approval.



*****Guest Artists!*** ACTING (Advanced): WEDNESDAY, 1:30 - 3:30 PM**

Instructors: Joan Mankin (Jan/Feb) and Julia Brothers (March) – Scene study will be used to achieve high-quality performance skills. Scenes will be chosen by the instructors. **Joan Mankin** has worked with A.C.T., Marin Shakespeare Company, Marin Theater Company, Theatreworks, and the Clown Conservatory. Joan has been a teaching artist for Stagebridge since 2009. She starred as Sylvia in Stagebridge’s production of *Sylvia’s Advice...* **Julia Brothers** - has performed stand-up in NYC and LA, getting her start with Lew Black at The West Bank Café. She performed at The West Bank Café’s Saturday Midnight Free Show

numerous times over a period of years. Other New York clubs include Stand-Up New York, Dangerfield’s, The Comic Strip, Comix, Village Gate and countless bars and restaurants that had comedy nights. In Los Angeles, Julia performed at The Improv (and “opened” for Jay Leno), and was also a joke writer for Alan Thicke. Outside of stand-up, Julia has been a professional actress for 30 years, making her living in the performing arts and commercials.



THE ART OF STORYTELLING (Intermediate-Advanced): THURSDAY, 10 AM-12 PM

Instructor: Kirk Waller, Storytelling Director, & Special Guest this session Storyteller Michael Katz

This winter we will push your storytelling to the next level. In addition to exploring advanced storytelling techniques, this session we will also explore how to tell difficult stories. Students may perform at the showcase at the end of the session and/or other Stagebridge venues. Students should have previous storytelling experience and/or taken previous storytelling courses.

For four weeks of this session nationally known storyteller Michael Katz will focus on **Vocal Rhythm, The Music within our Storytelling Voice**. In this class students can bring in any type of story they’re working on, and the focus of Michael’s coaching and instruction will be on becoming aware of our own unique vocal rhythm, playing with that rhythm and finding the right tempo and color for each moment of the story. We will look at inflection, speed, tempo, pauses, feeling tone and much more.



***** NEW CLASS*** WORD FOR WORD: THURSDAY, 1- 3 PM**

Guest Artist Instructor: Jeri Lynn Cohen - Read it. Jam it. Break it down. Read a short story and take it from the page to the stage the Word for Word way. We will play games and stage a short story in it’s entirety, playing all the characters and learning how to make the narrative part of the action. **Jeri Lynn Cohen** has been a Charter Member of Word for Word Performing Arts Company for 18 years, originating roles in over a dozen of their productions. She has appeared throughout the Bay Area at A.C.T., Aurora Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Campo Santo, Marin Theatre Company, Magic Theatre, San Jose Stage Company, and she has toured internationally with both the San Francisco Mime Troupe and Word for Word Performing Arts Company.

***** NEW*** CHOIR (Folk, R & B & More!): THURSDAY 3:30-5:30 PM**

Instructor: Terrance Kelly, Musical Director – Travel back to the days of perfect four part harmony. Learn to blend your soprano, alto, bass or baritone into sweet harmony. Join the sing-along and have a great time. **Terrance Kelly** is a performer, musical director and Emmy Award winner. He has performed in Washington, D.C. for President Carter, wrote and arranged much of the music for the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, where he has served as director since 1986. His credits include choral arrangements on albums by Linda Ronstadt and the Kronos Quartet and gospel arrangements of popular music for television and video soundtracks. He has twice received the Gospel Music Academy Award of Best Director. He also received a “Local Heroes” Award from KQED-TV for his directorship of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Youth Choir.



THE ART OF STORYTELLING (Beginning): FRIDAY, 10 AM-12 PM

Instructor: Jeanne Haynes, teacher/performer – Discover the immeasurable joy in sharing both traditional and personal stories that you choose to tell. And... the craft to tell them well. We will continue the theme of combining a traditional story that segues into a personal story. In the process, we will explore beginnings that engage, endings that satisfy and all the magic that happens in the middle, play with voices and gestures of characters and identify delicious details. Expect to surprise yourself, laugh a lot, shed an occasional tear in moving moments and forge new friendships. The class is especially designed for new tellers, but experienced tellers are also welcome.

***** NEW*** BODY MUSIC AND DANCE: FRIDAY, 1:30-3 PM**

Instructor: Greacian Goeke, Storybridge Director – We will continue exploring the magic of tuning into group rhythm and movement, redefining the nature of dance in later life. The class includes easy warm-ups, exploration of the Laban effort drives, body percussion play, time for reflection and opportunities to create short pieces for specific environments. Participants will also learn the useful Brain Dance sequence developed by Anne Green Gilbert of Creative Dance Center in Seattle. Become more rhythmically and kinesthetically attuned and develop your listening and response skills so that you can feel more confident in other areas of your life. Class is open to all abilities. No previous dance experience necessary.



NEVER TOO LATE – A Musical Review: FRIDAY, 1-3 PM

Instructors: Bruce Bierman with Scrumbly Koldewyn on piano – Join director/choreographer Bruce Bierman for our ongoing musical revue, *Never Too Late*. Learn songs, dances and skits plus develop monologues. The production tours to senior centers and residences, health fairs, community and special events.
BY AUDITION ONLY: Contact Bruce prior to class.

All Classes are at Arts First Oakland (in the First Congregational Church)
2501 Harrison St. (27th and Harrison in Oakland. Near BART - 19th Street station)
For more information please call: (510) 444-4755
Visit our Web site at: www.stagebridge.org

CLASS CALENDAR – Winter 2011

Monday, January 10 – Friday, March 25 (11 weeks)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Beg/Int Acting w/Josiah Polhemus \$95	Singing w/Scrumbly Koldewyn \$135 Antic Witties w/Barbara Scott \$135	10 a.m. START! Beginning-Intermediate Improvisation w/Barbara Scott & Daniel Savio \$115 11:35 a.m. START! Advanced Improv w/Barbara Scott \$115	Intermediate-Advanced Art of Storytelling w/Kirk Waller and Michael Katz \$125	Beginning Art of Storytelling w/Jeanne Haynes \$135
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.	Playwriting w/Anthony Clarvoe \$135 Musical Theatre Workshop w/Bruce Bierman and Ellen Robinson \$185	Theater Appreciation w/Meryl Shaw + special guests \$135 + Fee of \$100 For Tickets to 3 shows + special guests + transportation	1:30 p.m. START! Advanced Acting w/Joan Mankin Jan/Feb + Julia Brothers March \$135	Word For Word w/Jeri Lynn Cohen \$135	Never Too Late w/Bruce Bierman & Scrumbly Koldewyn \$135 DANCE w/Greacian Goeke 1:30 p.m. \$95
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.		Playback Theater w/Martin Holtz 3:15pm-4:45pm \$115		Folk, R & B & More! SINGING CLASS w/Terrance Kelley 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. \$135	

All Classes are at Arts First Oakland (in the First Congregational Church) except where noted.
2501 Harrison St. (27th and Harrison in Oakland. Near BART - 19th Street station)
For more information please call: (510) 444-4755
Visit our Web site at: www.stagebridge.org

The Performing Arts Training Institute is funded in part by grants from: The National Endowment for the Arts, The San Francisco Foundation, and the James Irvine Foundation

STAGEBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY

Voted "Best of East Bay" 2007 & 2008 –East Bay Express
Winner of American Society on Aging 2009 MetLife Mind Alert Award

The nationally acclaimed theatre company of older adults based in Oakland, California celebrates its 32nd season as the nation's premier senior theatre company. Since 1978, the company's mission has been to narrow the gap between the generations and to present positive images of older adults through the medium of theatre arts classes, workshops, healthy aging programs and public performances. The actors range in age from 50-90+ years. The non-profit, intergenerational company has performed over 30 original plays for more than 350,000 people in clubs, senior centers, hospitals, schools and theatres. A pioneer in the field of healthy aging, Stagebridge created the award winning **Healthy Aging Program** called "See Me!" to train medical professionals to see older adults as people. Stagebridge is also the only West Coast representative of the innovative **TimeSlips**™ a creative storytelling method that helps people with dementia. Another first is our summer **Performing Arts Camp** for adults 50+. The company's **Performing Arts Institute Training Institute** is the winner of the American Society on Aging **2009 MetLife MindAlert Award**. Stagebridge has been featured on ABC-TV, CNN, National Public Radio, in *Modern Maturity*, *Oakland Magazine*, *Storytelling Magazine* and at national and regional conferences.

FEE SCHEDULE – Winter 2011

Two Classes – Save 10% Three Classes – Save 15%

Classes with Stagebridge staff:

\$95/one class (\$95) (Less than \$9 per class!)

Classes with Guest Instructors:

\$135/one class (\$135) (\$12.27/per class)

Musical Theatre Class:

\$135 + \$50 materials fee (covers cost of music and extra instruction) = \$185

Enrollment Policy

We are committed to:

- ✓ Providing the highest possible level of instruction with top notch professional artists;
- ✓ Keeping the classroom experience intimate so that each student has time to work and get feedback;
- ✓ Offering reasonable fees with an awareness of those of you on fixed incomes who want to fully participate in class offerings;
- ✓ Continuing to expand our programs by covering the cost of instruction through class fees.

1. **Maximum class size will be at Instructor's discretion. Minimum class size will be 7.** Registration will be on a first come, first serve basis. You are still most welcome to attend any first class for free to check it out.

2. **Classes taught by guest artists cost more than classes taught by Stagebridge staff.** In the past when classes had enrollments lower than 15/class we lost money. We had grant support to make up the difference between the cost of instruction and student fees. We can no longer afford to do that. Classes have to pay for themselves. Classes with higher enrollments will help subsidize classes with lower enrollments. Our fees are still significantly less expensive than most Bay Area performing arts programs. For example, A.C.T., Berkeley Rep and Bay Area Theatre Sports (BATS) charge \$45-\$54/class compared to our average of \$10.64/class.

3. **We offer partial scholarships to the extent of our grant funds.** Talk with Jim in the office or let your instructor know if you are in need of scholarship support. We will also actively seek new grants to make more scholarships available. Scholarship students are required to volunteer in some capacity in return for financial aid.

WINTER 2011 CLASSES

STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM



STAGEBRIDGE

FOR TEACHER'S USE

Payment by check

Payment by cash

Total \$ _____

Name _____ Today's date _____

Street _____ City _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

Classes you are enrolling in:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday, 10 am–12 pm (Beg. Acting) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, 11:35 am–1 pm (Adv. Improv.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday, 1–3 pm (Playwriting) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, 1:30–3:30 pm (Adv. Acting) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday, 1–3 pm (Musical Theater) | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, 10 am–12 pm (Art of Storytelling-Int/Adv) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, 10 am–12 pm (Singing) | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, 1–3 pm (Word for Word) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, 10 am–12 pm (Antic Witties)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, 3:30–5:30 pm (Singing/Choir) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, 1–3 pm (Theater Appreciation) | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 10 am–12 pm (Art of Storytelling-Beginning) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, 3:30–5:30 pm (Playback Theater) | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 1–3 pm ("Never Too Late" Musical Revue)* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, 10 am–11:25 pm (Improv.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 1:30–3 pm (Body Music) |

* By Audition Only

Classes with STAGEBRIDGE Staff: Single class fee: \$95 one class

Classes with Guest Instructors: \$135 for one class

Registration fee: (please check one)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$95 for one STAGEBRIDGE STAFF class | <input type="checkbox"/> \$185 (\$135 +\$50 materials fee) for Musical Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$135 for one GUEST INSTRUCTOR class | Class | <input type="checkbox"/> \$115 for Beg/Int Improv. Class |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ & \$_____ for two classes minus 10% = \$_____ | | <input type="checkbox"/> \$115 for Adv. Improv. Class |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____, & \$_____ & \$_____ for three classes minus 15% = \$_____ | | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 for Int./Adv. Storytelling |

If you are taking more than three classes, please see Jim in the office for special pricing.

If you are a first-time Stagebridge student, please complete these questions:

Age: Under 50 50–59 60–69 70–79 80–89 90+

Are you enrolling in classes for the first time? Yes No

Previous acting experience: High School College
 Community theatre Professional theatre Other _____

Have you ever attended a Stagebridge production? Yes No

Would you be interested in volunteering with Stagebridge?
(such as ushering, backstage work, promotion, storytelling, etc.) Yes No Maybe

If so, what skills do you have that might be useful? _____

How did you hear about this class?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Received Stagebridge flyer | <input type="checkbox"/> Saw announcement posted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heard radio announcement | | <input type="checkbox"/> Read newspaper announcement: <i>Which one?</i> _____ |

Thank you for helping us!