



Uniting the generations since 1978

STAGEBRIDGE

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PERFORMING ARTS TRAINING INSTITUTE (PATI)

Beginning September 14, 2009 Stagebridge announces the creation of the Performing Arts Training Institute (PATI). The Institute is the nation's first professional performing arts training program for older adults. At the completion of a course of study students will receive a certificate that will enable them to eventually be certified by a local college or education authority. The program will collaborate with other theatre programs (Studio ACT, Theatre Department of California State East Bay, Drama Therapy Program of CIIS) to offer training and internship opportunities. The goals are to provide a sequential series of classes and training opportunities that:

- prepare older adults to be employed as actors, directors, storytellers, and teachers; audition and act in community/professional productions; teach and direct groups on their own;
- prepare professional artists to teach, direct and work with older adults in community settings;
- provide a wide array of classes for older adults who seek to improve their skills and may not necessarily be interested in certification or future employment;

PILOT YEAR 2009-10

During this first year, a limited program will be offered for a limited number of participants. Certificates will be offered in Theatre (with emphasis on Directing or Performance) and Storytelling (with emphasis on Leadership or *TimeSlips*). Students will be required to complete a number of courses, internships and periodically meet with program director and staff. During the pilot year, student input will be used to shape and adjust the programs for the following year.

STAFF:

Director: Josiah Polhemus (also Theatre Program Director)

Storytelling Program Directors: Kirk Waller (Stagebridge Storytelling Director) and, Liz Nichols (TimeSlips Director)

COST:

The first year, there will be no additional cost other than the cost of required classes and workshops.

THEATRE ARTS LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE

PREREQUISITE

One year (three terms) of acting classes at Stagebridge or equivalent experience with approval of Artistic Director

REQUIRED CLASSES

1. Weekly Class: (3 total, taken 1 per term)

- FALL – Acting (how to rehearse and perform scenes and monologues)
- WINTER – Advanced Acting (how to enhance character interpretation and live performance in scene work)
- SPRING – Advanced Acting or Playwriting (directing peers and students in scene work)

2. Required workshops and short term classes:

WORKSHOPS:

- Fall – Stage Management
- Winter – Auditioning
- Spring - Business of Acting

SHORT TERM CLASSES

- Fall: Voice plus Dialects or Movement (6 weeks)
- Winter: Set Design (at Russ Milligan Productions) – (4 weeks)
- Spring: Directing Scenes (4 weeks)

3. Training Electives (Choose ONE of the following):

- Teacher's Assistant (Assist one instructor)
- Assistant Director (Work with Director on Mainstage Production)
- Assistant Designer (Assist the designer (sets, lights, costumes, sound) on a Stagebridge production)
- Assistant Stage Manager (one of our shows like *Planet Denial*, *City Green*, etc.)

PRACTICUM (select one)

- Stagehand and crew experience on at least one production
- 2 Peer instruction classes
- Presentation of performance and production ideas for a particular play
 - Direct two scenes from chosen play
 - Present designing concept ideas for a play

OUTCOME GOALS:

- You will lead and teach one class at the Stagebridge Performing Arts Camp
- You will be qualified to teach a workshop or short term class during the following year
- You will perform at a senior facility or classroom in a PATI produced production
- You will audition for one production per month over 6 months outside Stagebridge

STORYTELLING LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE

PREREQUISITE

One year of Stagebridge Storytelling classes (or equivalent experience)

REQUIRED CLASSES

1. Weekly Class: (3 total, taken 1 per term) One class per week for three terms

Storytelling Performance & Leadership

- FALL- Storytelling in Schools (how to tell stories for assemblies & classroom visits)
- WINTER - Storytelling for Seniors (how to introduce storytelling and lead story circles at senior centers and residences)
- SPRING - Storytelling on Stage (prep for adult performance in Stagebridge showcase, feature at a swap, etc.)

2. Required Workshops/Observations:

- *Performing Arts Techniques 101*: (1-3 part workshop)
Stagecraft, Theatrical Lighting and Sound, Vocal technique and care
- Three or more observations of Stagebridge professional storytelling artists and veteran tellers in classroom, performance, and community settings

3. Training Electives (choose ONE of the following):

- Storybridge Mentor Training (October – November)
- Storytelling in Schools (Fall)
- *TimeSlips* one day training (Fall or Winter)

PRACTICUM (select one)

- Six session storytelling group leader internship with peer & faculty support. Options include:
 - "Storybridge Elder Mentor" residency in an elementary classroom in Alameda, Berkeley or San Lorenzo school districts
 - "Storytelling for Seniors" at one of our senior resident partners such as Satellite Housing
 - "*TimeSlips*" facilitator at one of our partner memory care facilities such as North Oakland Senior Center

OUTCOME GOALS

- You will perform as featured teller at a monthly swap in the Bay Area.
- You will be qualified to work for Stagebridge as a Storytelling Leader in schools, senior and community venues.