



2501 Harrison Street  
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Uniting the generations since 1978

# STAGEBRIDGE

www.stagebridge.org

Spring Classes: April 2 – June 15 - Performing Arts Camp: July 16 - 20

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

## CLASSES – WINTER 2012

Monday, January 9 – Friday, March 23

JOAN MANKIN stars in JOAN HOLDEN'S WORLD PREMIERE COMEDY COUNTER ATTACK Feb.3 – March 4



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

**Note: Classes will not meet on 1/16 and 2/20 Holidays.**

**Instructor: Josiah Polhemus, Artistic Director** – In this 11 Week class students will work monologues and scenes from contemporary American playwrights. Monologues and scenes will be selected from upcoming plays

**MUSICAL THEATRE – GREASE! (All levels): MONDAY, 1- 3 PM**

**Instructors: Ellen Robinson (singing) and Benjamin Pither (movement and acting)** – Go Greased Lightning!!! Join the Musical Theatre Class Winter/Spring presentation of GREASE and bring Summer Loving to the Winter! Remember: Grease is the word! Ellen Robinson (vocals) and returning Guest Artist Benjamin Pither (movement and acting) will gently guide and challenge your singing, movement and acting skills by focusing on ensemble musical numbers, solos, scenes and personal stories that will culminate in several staged performances in front of a live audience.



**PLAYWRITING (All levels): MONDAY, 12:30pm – 3:15pm**

**Instructor: Anthony Clarvoe, award-winning playwright** NOTE: Classes will not meet 1/16 or 2/20 for Holidays. Make up class on Monday March 26<sup>th</sup>.

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. **NOTE: This class is limited to a maximum of 16 students.**

**RHYTHM AND MOVES (All levels): Monday 3:00 – 4:30 pm**

**Instructor: Greacian Goeke** NOTE: Classes may NOT meet 1/16 & 2/20 Holidays

This spirited improvisation class will continue cultivating the joy of movement and dance in later life. We will explore the building blocks of movement: space, time, energy, shape, line, composition and the connection of movement, rhythm and voice. Participants will have the opportunity to expand and deepen their own body movement repertoire, working individually, in pairs and in groups. We will find opportunities to create short pieces inspired by poetry and visual art. The class includes easy warm ups, introduction to various movement theories, body percussion and drumming. Participants will also learn the useful Brain Dance sequence developed by Anne Green Gilbert of Creative Dance Center in Seattle. Class is open to all abilities. No previous dance experience necessary





### **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. **NOTE: This class is limited to 15.**

### **STORYTELLING (Advanced):**

**TUESDAY, 1pm - 3 PM**

**Instructor: Kirk Waller, Storytelling Director**

This new class for advanced storytellers will focus solely on developing stories in a workshop setting. We will dive right in and focus on you – and take your story and your storytelling to the next level.

**ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED.** Students must obtain approval from instructor prior to enrolling.



### **TAP DANCE with Sam Weber: TUESDAY, 1pm - 3 PM**

An introduction to the sounds and routines of tap popularized by Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Ann Miller, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, Shirley Temple, Gregory Hines and others. **The beginning class (2-3 PM)** introduces students to the basics of tap technique, weight transfer, relaxation, coordination of arms and basic steps and rhythms. **In the intermediate class (1-2 PM)**, we'll learn how to add sounds to the basic steps, to create faster, more intricate rhythms. Both classes will work on a choreography that they'll perform at the end of our Spring session in the Stagebridge Spring Showcase! **Sam Weber**, tap dancer, works internationally as a performer, master teacher and choreographer. A protégé of San Francisco tap master Stan Kahn, Sam is the winner of numerous awards, including the New York Dance Critics' "Bessie."

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

**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.

### **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.



### **ACTING (Advanced): An Actor's Tool Kit WEDNESDAY, 1:30 - 3:30 PM**

**Instructors: Charles Shaw Robinson** – An opportunity for students to broaden their "tool kit" by applying a wide range of techniques to solve the challenges of scene study. Charles Shaw Robinson is a veteran of the Bay Area theatre scene, where his work includes *EQUIVOCATION* for the Marin Theatre Company, *EURYDICE* for the Berkeley Repertory Theatre, and *THE GOAT* for ACT. He studied at Juilliard with the legendary John Houseman.

## **STORYTELLING (Intermediate): THURSDAY, 10 AM-12 PM**

**Instructor: Kirk Waller, Storytelling Director**

This session we will explore creating original stories (personal, pourquoi, folktales, fairytales etc.). We will continue to explore principles in storytelling such as presentation, gesture, voice, characterization etc. Students may perform at showcases and/or other Stagebridge venues. Students should have previous storytelling/performance experience and/or taken previous storytelling courses.



## **SINGING CLASS (All levels): THURSDAY, 10:30 AM-12 PM**

**Instructor: Scrumby Koldewyn, Musical Director** – This class is limited to 10 and will meet at Mr. Koldewyn's studio. Read the Tuesday description for details about this class.

## **THEATRE APPRECIATION: THURSDAY, 1-3 PM**

**Instructor: Meryl Shaw** – 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 theaters in the Bay Area. Students will see three to four plays during the course, preparing by reading the scripts, and followed by meeting artists involved in those productions. Among the performances under consideration to attend are: **Counter Attack** (of course!) at Ashby Stage featuring our own Stagebridge company; **Broadway Bound** at the Masquers Playhouse in Pt. Richmond; **Body Awareness** at Aurora Theatre, **Ghost Light** at Berkeley Repertory Theatre; and **Blue/Orange** at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre in S.F. Note: Tickets for matinees and transportation fees will be covered at the first class. Payment for tickets will be collected shortly thereafter



## **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**

What better way to invest in yourself than to relish a Friday morning sharpening your storytelling skills. Wit and wisdom will be our theme for both traditional and personal tales. Tell your own, be entertained by others and receive coaching in a supportive joyful environment. Experience your growth as a teller while we explore the fascinating craft of story structure, beginnings that engage, the arch in the middle, a variety of endings, delicious details, and the many faceted characters who people our stories - their voices, dialogue and gestures which enliven our tales.



## **RADIO PLAYERS LIVE! FRIDAY 10:30AM – 12PM**

**Instructor: Josiah Polhemus, Artistic Director**

In this 14 week class **RADIO PLAYS**, students will work on creating a live radio play. The class will create sound effects and use the format of old radio dramas/ mysteries and variety shows. Think *War of the Worlds*, Jack Benny, etc. Class will hold at least one live performance and will record shows. No memorization necessary!

## **NEVER TOO LATE – A Musical Review: FRIDAY, 1-3 PM (By Audition Only)**

**Instructor: Scrumby Koldewyn on piano** – Join director Joanne Grimm and Musical Director Scrumby Koldewyn 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 Office prior to class.**



**NEW FREEBIE FRIDAYS AT THE BRIDGE! FRIDAYS 12pm - 1pm**  
**Instructors: Various TBA**

# CLASS CALENDAR – Winter 2012

Monday, January 9 – Friday, March 23 (11 weeks)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	<p>Beg/Int <b>Acting</b> w/Josiah Polhemus \$105</p> <p><b>Playwriting</b> w/ Anthony Clarvoe <b>12:30pm</b> \$170</p>	<p><b>Singing</b> w/Scrubly Koldewyn \$140</p>	<p>Beginning- Intermediate <b>Improvisation</b> w/Barbara Scott &amp; Daniel Savio \$120</p> <p><b>11:35 a.m.</b> Advanced Improv w/Barbara Scott \$120</p>	<p>Intermediate <b>Storytelling</b> w/Kirk Waller \$105</p> <p><b>Singing</b> w/Scrubly Koldewyn 10:30 am – 12 pm \$140</p>	<p>Beginning <b>Art of Storytelling</b> w/Jeanne Haynes \$140</p> <p><b>RADIO PLAYERS!</b> w/ Josiah Polhemus \$105</p>
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.	<p><b>Musical Theatre Workshop</b> w/Benjamin Pither and Ellen Robinson \$200</p>	<p><b>Tap Dance</b> Instructor Sam Weber \$140</p> <p>Advanced <b>Storytelling</b> w/Kirk Waller \$105</p>	<p><b>1:30 p.m.</b> Advanced <b>Acting</b> w/Charles Shaw Robinson \$140</p>	<p><b>Theater Appreciation</b> w/Meryl Shaw \$150</p>	<p><b>Never Too Late</b> w/ Scrumbly Koldewyn-Directed by Joanne Grimm \$140</p> <p><b>Note: This class is by Audition Only</b></p>
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<p><b>Rhythm and Moves</b> w/Greacian Goeke \$105</p>	<p><b>Playback Theater</b> w/Martin Holtz 3:15pm \$130</p>		<p><b>Music for the Soul! SINGING CLASS</b> w/Terrance Kelly 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. \$140</p>	

All Classes are at 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](http://www.stagebridge.org)

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# 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 2012

*Two Classes or More – Save 10%*

### Classes with Stagebridge staff:

\$105/one class (Less than \$10 per class)

### Classes with Guest Instructors:

\$140 - \$175/one class (\$12 - \$16/per class)

### **Musical Theatre Class:**

\$200 Covers cost of two guest instructors

## 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 2012 CLASSES

## STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM

STAGEBRIDGE



FOR TEACHER'S USE

Payment by check

Payment by cash

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

### Classes you are enrolling in:

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday, 10 am–12 pm (Beg. Acting)

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday, 12:30pm–3 pm (Playwriting) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday, 1 pm–3 pm (Musical Theater) ##

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday, 3:30–5:30 pm (Rhythm & Moves)

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, 10 am–12 pm (Singing) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, 1 pm–3 pm (Tap Dance) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, 1 pm–3 pm (Adv. Storytelling)

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, 3 pm–4:30 pm (Playback Theater)#

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, 10 am–11:25 pm (Improv.)#

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, 11:35 am–1 pm (Adv. Improv.) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, 1:30–3:30 pm (Adv. Acting) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, 10 am–12 pm (Int. Storytelling)

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, 10:30 am–12 pm (Singing) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, 1–3 pm (Theatre Appreciation)

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, 3:30–5:30 pm (Choir) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday, 10 am–12 pm (Art of Storytelling-Beg.) #

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday, 10:30 am–12 p (Radio Players Live)

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday, 1–3 pm (Never Too Late) # \*

# Class taught by Guest Instructor \*By Audition Only

### Registration fee: (please check one)

\$105 for one STAGEBRIDGE STAFF class

\$140 for one GUEST INSTRUCTOR class

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ & \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for two classes minus 10% = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_, & \$ \_\_\_\_\_ & \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 3 classes -15% = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$200 for **Musical Theater Class**

\$170 for **Playwriting**

\$120 for **Beg/Int Improv. Class**

\$120 for **Adv. Improv. Class**

\$130 for **Playback Theatre**

\$150 for **Theatre Appreciation**

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?

Friend  Received Stagebridge flyer  Saw announcement posted  
 Heard radio announcement  Read newspaper announcement: *Which one?* \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for helping us!**