

STAGEBRIDGE

March 13, 2017

Register for Spring 2017 Classes Today!



Spring classes meet April 3-7

We opened Spring registration on March 1, and classes are starting to fill up. **Singing with Scrumbly**, one of our most popular classes, still has a few spots open on Monday and Tuesday mornings. You can also still join

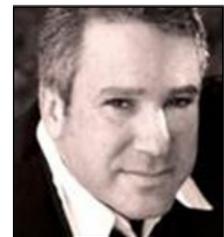
our **E.P.I.C. Storytelling** program in Mary Gay Ducey's Historical Storytelling Class on Thursday afternoons, or jump into **The Art of Storytelling** with Jeanne Haynes - spots in this class are filling fast, so sign up now! To view a full schedule and to register online, visit our website at www.stagebridge.org

New Class: The Director's Studio with Bruce Bierman \$179

Fridays, 10:00am-12:00pm

The joy of directing is in solving theatrical puzzles; diving deeply into the big ideas of our great playwrights while collaborating with fellow artists. This class will give students the opportunity to see their vision come alive on the stage!

The Director's Studio invites each unique voice of the student director to emerge through practice, encouragement, critical feedback, collaboration and more practice. Students will wear the hat of both director and actor in this studio--with a chance to both direct a scene and act in another director's project. Welcome to all who are willing to make big mistakes, ask questions, collaborate and get down to the very nature of what theater is capable of.



Like Stagebridge? Tell a friend! We need your help spreading the word about our classes and other programs. Here's what you can do:

- **Forward this email** or direct a friend to our website at www.stagebridge.org
- **Pick up a few schedules of spring classes** and bring them to your local library, community center, or coffee shop
- **Bring a friend or family member to check out our classes** the last week of Winter Session, March 20-24, and the first week of Spring Session, April 3-7.

**Lunchtime Storytelling with
Bill Zarchy and Eleanor
Clement-Glass**

Dance at Stagebridge!



Miyoko Sakatani at a past Lunchtime Storytelling

Spend your lunch break on Thursday, March 16 with Stagebridge storytellers! Our fourth annual Lunchtime Storytelling Series takes place at Stagebridge at the First Congregational Church Oakland in the Basement, located at 2501 Harrison Street. Enter from Harrison Street. Each free noontime hour-long event will feature two student storytellers with a variety of pieces-some funny, some poignant, and all of them heartfelt.



Photo: Theo Crazzolaro - Chocolate coins

Save the date for our Spring Fundraiser!

This Spring, there are lots of ways to help Stagebridge:

- **Give online during East Bay Gives on May 4, 2017.** Share the link via email and Facebook, and encourage friends and family to support Stagebridge with donations as small as \$20.
- **Attend our Spring Luncheon on June 2nd** and add \$5 to your ticket purchase! Or, invite at least one friend or family member to enjoy food, friends, and great performances.
- **Give any time online or in person between May 4 and June 2nd,** or tell at least one



Stagebridge offers a variety of great dance classes for all skill levels. Start your week off right with one of our tap classes - in spring we're offering **Tap with Lucia Fanelli on Mondays from 1:30-2:30** and **Beginning and Intermediate Tap with Sam Weber on Tuesdays from 1-2 and 2-3.** Sam and Lucia bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to this unique art form - try it today! If you want a great morning workout that incorporates dance styles from around the world for all skill levels, check out **Joy of Dance with Bruce Bierman on Tuesdays from 10-12.** More advanced dancers looking for a challenge will enjoy **Musical Theater with Ellen Robinson and AeJay Mitchell on Mondays 1-3,** focusing this session on Les Miserables, and **Dancing to Jazz with AeJay Mitchell on Wednesdays 2-4,** which offers an in depth look at various styles of Jazz Dance.

[To read more and register for dance classes at Stagebridge, CLICK HERE!](#)

STUDENT SHOWCASE FUND



Theater am Meer, Wilhelmshaven

What's a Performing Arts company without performances? One of our students says: "a fish without a bicycle?"

person in your life why Stagebridge matters to you! We'll keep you updated on our Spring campaign.

We were so inspired by the amazing generosity our community showed during our last fundraiser. We met and exceeded the matching goal set by Aroha Philanthropies, raising over \$55,000 from 158 donors. Because of our successful fundraiser, we were able to continue offering - and growing - all of our core programs: classes at our Performing Arts Institute, performances and workshops through Seniors Reaching Out, and storytelling workshops and assemblies for Bay Area elementary school students through our Storybridge program.

So why are we launching a Spring fundraiser? We still need your help to end our fiscal year in the black on June 30. **If we are able to raise an equal or greater amount to our fall fundraiser, we will qualify for new grants and funding opportunities, offer more programming in the coming year, and continue supporting our professional teaching artists.**

Support Stagebridge Instructors!



Director **Ellen Robinson** and the Anything Goes Chorus present their 36th Annual Concert, with pianist Alan Steger. This performance will take place on Saturday, March 18th at 7:30pm at the 1st Unitarian Church of Oakland, 685 14th Street. Ellen teaches Stagebridge's fantastic Musical Theater and Jazz &

Although Stagebridge does its best to keep registration fees low so that our community can benefit from classes, workshops, camp and other activities, tuition alone doesn't come close to covering Stagebridge's operating costs. We make up the shortfall with grants and other funding, but we have no dedicated funding for off-site performances - this is where fundraising comes in.

Due to the loss of several grants over the years, Stagebridge has had to greatly scale back on off-site showcases. However, **a generous student donor has offered to seed a special fund dedicated to helping offset the numerous costs of putting on these showcase events.** In order to help finance these off-site showcases, Stagebridge students are invited to consider making a special donation to the **Stagebridge Showcase Fund** in order to create an ongoing source of funding for future performance opportunities.



Grandparent's Tales in Full Swing!

If you know of a young person or a classroom that would like to participate in our **Grandparent's Tales Writing Contest**, it's not too late! Individual stories can be sent to Stagebridge, c/o Barbara Johnson, 2501 Harrison St. Oakland, CA 94612. If you are a teacher and would like to participate, please [email Barbara Johnson](mailto:barbara.johnson@stagebridge.org), or visit our [website](http://www.stagebridge.org) for more information. The deadline for submissions is April 1, 2017.

We are also now accepting children's books as prizes for students who enter the contest. Over 20 classrooms enter the contest each year, and we want to be able to give the gift of reading to our Grandparent's Tales Participants. Drop off or mail your favorite new children's books to Stagebridge through May 30. And **if you want to volunteer** (and read some fantastically touching stories in the process) we are looking for judges and book-wrappers. We will be reading stories the first week of April. If you'd like to participate, [email Barbara Johnson](mailto:barbara.johnson@stagebridge.org).

Broadway Harmony Chorus classes.



Storytelling Instructor **Jeanne Haynes** is pleased to announce the arrival of www.jeannehaynes.com - her first website. *"Presented in words, photos and videos - covering 20 years and months in the making - it is exciting at last to see on the world wide web, my story of being a teller, teacher and performer,"* Haynes says. The website includes more information on her Spring Art of Storytelling Friday morning class, "How to Grow a Story."



GenerationTheater is producing the final play in Marcel Pagnol's Trilogy. **Stagebridgers Tom Bacchetti, Karen Sellinger, and Ket Watters are in the cast.**

Tickets are \$32, but use the code NORINE to buy Senior discount tickets for \$18. Fort Mason is handling ticketing, so they also charge a small fee themselves.

After MARIUS and FANNY, Generation Theater presents CÉSAR, the conclusion of Marcel Pagnol's Marseille Trilogy. Opening on Thursday, March 16th, at San Francisco's Southside Theatre, and running through Sunday, March 26th. [For information and tickets, please click here.](#)

And finally, mark your calendars for Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 1:00pm. **We'll be hosting a reading by winners of our Grandparent's Tales contest** at Books Inc., 1344 Park Street in Alameda, CA. Books Inc. will be generously donating a percentage of all book sales the afternoon of the reading to Stagebridge, so buy the perfect gift for your favorite bookworm!



Parking Reminders!

Thank you to everyone who uses their Stagebridge parking permit when parking on church property! If you need to pick up a Winter 2017 parking permit, simply stop by our office or [email us](#).

If you park in the turnaround in front of the building, please remember a few simple rules:

- Park with two wheels on the sidewalk and two wheels on the road.
- If you are parking behind or in front of someone, please pull up closely so that we can maximize the use of this space!

If you would like to host or join a carpool, please [email us](#) with your name, where you're coming from, when you're leaving and returning, and how many people your car can fit.

Finally, we've noticed that occasionally people park on Harrison Street - there are no parking spots on Harrison between Hamilton and 27th; you are parking in a lane of traffic! Your car is likely to be rear-ended or towed by the city.

Quick Links

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We are supported by Aroha Philanthropies, Banks Family Foundation, Bernard Osher Foundation, California Arts Council, City of Oakland Cultural Funding Program, Clorox Company Foundation, Dean & Margaret Leshar Foundation, East Bay Community Foundation, May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust, Moca Foundation, San Francisco Foundation, the Alameda County Arts Commission, The Lowell Berry Foundation, West Davis Bergard Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and donations from individuals like you!



Stagebridger Miyoko Sakatani will be appearing in three films in three film festivals in March and April. The short film **"With Children,"** will premiere at the Cinequest Film Festival, March 8-12. The feature film **"A Hundred Blocks"** will be premiering at the Oakland International Film Festival at the Grand Lake Theatre on April 6. Miyoko will also appear in the feature film

"East Side Sushi" (filmmaker Vicki Wong is Stagebridge's Marketing Coordinator!) at the Albany Film Festival on March 22. Read more below:

<https://www.withchildrenmovie.com/>

<http://www.oiff.org/a-hundred-blocks/>

<http://albanyfilmfestival.org>

Join Our Mailing List!

Stagebridge was founded in 1978 by Dr. Stuart Kandell.