

TENNESSEE THESPIAN CONFERENCE

January 18 & 19, 2008

LESLIE BARKER - C, D, E, F Directing Debut ~ This workshop will provide an overview of the responsibilities of the director.

Leslie Barker is a second year MFA Directing student at the University of Memphis. Some of her favorite directing credits include Love Hurts, The Outsiders, Two Rooms, and The Little Prince.

GLORIA BAXTER - A, B Creating Narrative Theater ~ Workshop in creating and staging narrative theater.

A professor at the University of Memphis, Gloria has created over 30 original stage adaptations and received a number of awards for her work in narrative theater.

ALICE BERRY - A, B Narrative Theater Performance ~ Tips for performing narrative theatre.

Alice earned her BFA in Theatre Performance in 1994 from the U of M. In 1995 she co-founded Voices of the South and currently serves as the University's Director of Publicity and Promotions.

FRANK BLUESTEIN - E (with Eric Brannen and Allison Rogers) Thespian Sponsor Annual Meeting: Updates on Thespian Activities Nationally and Statewide (Sponsors Only) ~ International Leadership Coach Eric Brannen will be the featured speaker as participants get details on all that is happening with ITS and TEETA.

Frank Bluestein is the chairman of the Germantown High School Fine Arts Department in Germantown, TN. He is the founder and director of the school's theatre, the Poplar Pike Playhouse, and also serves as executive producer for the school's educational television facility, GHS-TV

ERIC BRANNEN - E (with Frank Bluestein and Allison Rogers) Thespian Sponsor Annual Meeting: Updates on Thespian Activities Nationally and Statewide (Sponsors Only)

Eric received his MA in Theatre from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt. Eric was elected national president of the Educational Theatre Association in 1994. In 2004, he was inducted into the Educational Theatre Association National Hall of Fame.

REGINALD BROWN - C, D, E, F The Pursuit of Objective ~ Explore the relationship of subtext to text and examine how it relates to the pursuit of objectives.

Reggie received his MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2005. That same year he joined the U of M Department of Theatre & Dance as a member of the BFA Performance Faculty with teaching specialties in the areas of acting and African American theatre.

SARAH BROWN - C, D Laugh for 50 Minutes ~ Explore basic elements of performance freedom necessary in finding, developing and unleashing powerful comedic abilities.

Sarah Brown received her MFA in Acting from Yale School of Drama and is on the University of Memphis faculty as Assistant Professor of Theatre where she teaches Acting and Audition Preparation.

DONNIE BRYAN - A, B, C, D, E Stage Movement for the Actor and Dancer ~ Participants will use choreographed movement to music, words and sounds to create performance art.
F Sell Your Show! Sell Your Program! Watch Your Students Shine! (Sponsors Only) ~ Ideas that work and can make your teaching and directing easier, your shows more popular and profitable, and shine the spotlight on your program.

Donnie Bryan teaches Drama at Florence High School and Florence Freshman Center in Florence, AL. A veteran teacher of theatre for 26 years, Bryan has served as AL State Director for 12 years, and has chaired the Scholarships for the International Thespian Festival.

STEVE CARDAMONE - A, B **Shakin' Up Shakespeare** ~ Participants learn to spot acting clues that will make performing more fun and “Shakes-fear” less intimidating.
C, D **We Few, We Happy Few: Ensemble Building** ~ Listening, concentration, and strengthening one’s awareness on stage.
E, F **Keepin’ It Real** ~ This workshop explores the fuel behind the words; the actions a character can take to achieve his or her objectives in any monologue or scene.

Steve Cardamone currently teaches Acting and Shakespeare at the University of Minnesota / Guthrie Theater BFA Program. He spent four years touring the states as part of Shenandoah Shakespeare Express and holds an MFA in Theater from the University of Delaware.

CAREN CARSON - C, D, E, F **Period Costumes** ~ This workshop focuses on defining historic elements of fashion. Participants will have the opportunity to try on different period pieces.

Caren Carson is a Technical Theatre and Design Student at the University of Memphis. She was the Stage Manager for Assassins, and Prop Master for Blue Jacket: The Epic Outdoor Drama in Xenia, OH.

STEVEN CHINNI - A, B, C, D, E, F **How to Sign with a Manager or Agent in NYC** ~ Learn what it takes to sign with a manager or agent and dispel myths of the trade.

Steven Chinni is the Director of Admissions at The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts. He received his BA in Theatre from Queens College in 1984. His off-Broadway credits include Dinner for a Scorched Hero, The Unseen Hand, The Indian Wants the Bronx, and Walking to America.

SUSAN CHRIETZBERG - A, B **Mime** ~ Learn the art of illusionary mime as learned from Etienne Decroux.

Susan received her MEd from Middle Tennessee State University in 1968. She joined the U of M faculty as an Artist in Residence in 1981 and as a full-time faculty member in 1984. Her training includes work with Etienne Decroux, Jacques LeCoq, Thomas Leabhart, and Joseph Martinez.

SHAWN DAVIS - A, B, C, D, E, F **Improv Basics** ~ Free your body and your mind playing fun improv games and learn to apply them to your craft.

Shawn J. Davis received his BFA in Acting from Southern Methodist University and is working in New York City. He is a member of Actor’s Equity Association and has performed all over the country.

MICHAEL DETROIT - C, D **Singing for the Stage** ~ Come learn some valuable tools and gain knowledge in the art of singing for the stage.

With a BME in Music Education from Northern Michigan University and an MFA in Musical Theatre from San Diego State University, Michael has over 70 professional theatre credits. He is currently a Resident Company Member at Playhouse on the Square where he also serves as Associate Producer.

MARISA DOERFLER - (Master Class) **Swing Dance** ~ Bring a partner and come ready to jump, jive, and wail!

Marisa Doerfler is a graduate of Texas Christian University with a BFA in Theatre Design. She has training in ballet, jazz, tap, modern, hip-hop and swing dancing.

JONATHAN DORF - A, B **Playwriting Jumpstart: Writing Great Plays...Fast!** ~ This workshop will give you all the tools you need to start writing right away.
C **Practical Playwriting** ~ Where to submit your play, what to do when they say “yes”, the Playwright’s Bill of Rights, getting published and marketing your work.
D **Singular Sensation: Writing the Monologue** ~ Monologues give actors moments that audiences remember. Learn how to write those memorable moments.
E, F **Advanced Playwriting: Taking Your Play to the Next Level** ~ Learn specific tips and techniques to take that play that isn’t working and turn it into one that does.

Author of twenty published plays Jonathan Dorf is co-chair of the Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights. He penned Young Playwrights 101, and holds a BA in Dramatic Writing and Literature from Harvard University and an MFA in Playwriting from UCLA.

JIM EIKNER - A, B VOCA: Voice-over Techniques ~ This workshop teaches development of vocal technique for narration in various media and marketing one's voice talent. Students will be assigned a reading to be recorded and critiqued.

Jim Eikner has appeared on national TV in drama, in commercials and as an on-air host for 3 national television specials on PBS. He has been the voice for Infiniti automobiles and Trustworthy Hardware on their commercials and is Marketing Manager for WKNO-TV and FM, Memphis.

TODD ESPELAND - A, B, C, D, E, F Mask Acting ~ Use character masks to illuminate the actor within.

Todd Espeland is a mask and movement performer/director and the Artistic Director of Commedia Zuppa. He is currently in residence at Kalamazoo College. Recent projects include Waiting for Godot, Endgame, Romeo and Juliet, and the touring mask show Boxhead.

CHRIS HARDIN - A, B, C, D, E, F The Language of the Feet ~ Movement techniques based in the teachings of Tadashi Suzuki, incorporating exercises in balance, focus, and forward momentum.

B. Chris Hardin is an Assistant Professor of Voice and Movement at Austin Peay State University. An actor, director, vocal coach, and dialect specialist, Chris has worked extensively throughout the southeast and midwest.

GORDON HENSLEY - A, B Airbrush Makeup: Nuts and Bolts

C, D Airbrush Makeup: Freehand Techniques

E, F Airbrush Makeup: Painting with Stencils ~ These technology and technique workshops focus on airbrush systems and materials, setting up equipment, freehand and stencil airbrushing techniques, and shading & highlighting.

Gordon Hensley serves as faculty at Appalachian State University and holds a BS in Teaching Theatre K-12 and an MFA in Theatre. Gordon's makeup credits include Miss America's South Carolina Pageant, Snow White, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, and The Legend of Hangman's Hollow.

BECKY HOAG - A, B, Yoga ~ Center the mind & body through meditation, breath work, and deep stretching.

Becky has been teaching yoga since 2003. In 2006, she completed the 200-hour yoga alliance certification through Yogafit. She is now a 200 hour RYT. She is also certified through ESA and CPR.

JIM HOARE - A, B, D E, F The Journey of a New Musical ~ Discover how a new musical becomes a classic, from page to stage to catalogue.

C New Resources and Tools for Directing Musicals (Sponsors Only) ~ For beginners or seasoned directors, this workshop will address innovative ways to enhance your directing experience while saving some much-needed time.

A, B, D E, F The Journey of a New Musical ~ Discover how a new musical becomes a classic, from page to stage to catalogue.

Jim Hoare is the Director of Amateur Licensing for Theatrical Rights Worldwide. Prior to joining TRW, Jim taught Theatre and Music for thirty-one years. He is a member of the Educational Theatre Association and is a Board Member of the New York State Theatre Education Association.

FRANK HOLEMAN - A, B, E, F Ballroom Basics ~ Learning the basics of modern social dancing and partnering so that you won't be a wallflower at the next social gathering.

Frank Holeman has studied all forms of dance and theater. He has been employed by several of the major ballroom dance organizations and became a Certified Adjudicator, Certified Dance Director, Regional Dance Director, Teacher, Owner, and Competitor - Professional and Pro Am.

MEREDITH KARNER - Performance Showcase Judge

Meredith is a senior Stage Management student at the University of Memphis. She recently stage-managed for Hedda Gabler at the U of M and Massenet's Werther in conjunction with the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music and University of Memphis Opera.

RICHARD LAFLEUR - A, C ITO Leadership Workshop (with Dani Welty) ~ A hands on approach to learning great leadership.

B, D, E **Think on Your Feet** ~ Improv games to get your creative juices flowing.

F **Creating a Character with a Disability** ~ This workshop incorporates a variety of techniques (focus, levels, dialect, etc.) to display a disability.

Richard Lafleur is the chair of the International Thespian Officers. He was born and raised in Montreal, Canada and now attends Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, a boarding school for the arts.

ADAM LENDERMON - (Master Class) Bob Fosse In Action ~ Through learning the fundamentals of Bob Fosse's choreography, students will explore movement unique to Mr. Fosse.

Adam Lendermon, a native Memphian, holds a BFA in acting and a dance minor from Adelphi University. Most recently, he toured internationally playing Big Deal in West Side Story and just finished up playing Chantal in La Cage Aux Folles at the Arvada Center in Denver.

CRAIG LEWIS - Performance Showcase Judge

Craig is a senior Scenic Design student at the University of Memphis. He recently served as Scenic Designer for Assassins at the U of M and Jake's Women at Germantown Community Theater.

JIM LIBBY - A, B, C, D, E, F Improv For Actors ~ Using improvisation to work on scenes, character and environment.

Jim is an American actor living and working in Vienna. Originally from Maine, Jim was a proud member of the International Thespian Society and is very excited to once again get to see the Jungle Room.

JOE MAHOWALD - A, B (2-Hour Session!) Musical Theatre Master Class ~ Broadway veteran performer Joe Mahowald will lead a special two hour Master Class on the professional musical theatre experience.

Joe recently appeared in Boublil & Schonberg's The Pirate Queen on Broadway. He starred on Broadway in the title roles of Jekyll and Hyde, Javert and Enjolras in Les Miz and he originated the role of Aaron James in Mike Reid's opera, Different Fields.

JASON MAYFIELD - (Master Class) Swing Dance ~ Bring a partner and come ready to jump, jive, and wail!
C, D **Stage Combat** ~ A basic look at the illusion of violence on stage.

Jason Thomas Mayfield received his Associate of Arts Degree in Theatre from McLennan College and a BFA in Modern Dance from Texas Christian University. He has experience in directing, choreography, and performance.

RICK MAYFIELD - A, B Open Source Software for Technical Theatre ~ Download and use free software. Explore OpenOffice, Qcad, Gimp and others.

Rick received his MFA in Theatre Technology from The University of Tennessee. He currently serves as assistant Technical Director for the University of Memphis.

WILLIAM MARTIN - A, B, C, D, E, F Electrical Wiring for Stage Props ~ Discuss how to create low voltage circuits for props and practice mounting electrical components into a prop.

William Martin studied electrical theory in the U.S. Navy. He has since worked for Germantown High School's Poplar Pike Playhouse, Germantown Performing Arts Center, and the Cannon Center.

DAN MCCLEARY - A, B, C, D, E, F Fully-Blooded Shakespeare ~ Kick away the desks, forget about memorizing, and come ready to play in *Macbeth*.

Dan McCleary has acted in and directed most of Shakespeare's plays in regional theatres over the past fifteen years. He has also taught and produced Shakespeare while serving as the Associate Artistic Director of Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, MA.

JOHN MCFADDEN - A, B Wireless Sound Techniques

John McFadden received his MFA from Pennsylvania State University in 1975. He currently serves as Lighting and Sound Director and Production Manager for the University of Memphis Department of Theater and Dance.

DARREN MICHAEL - A, B, C, D, E, F Say YES!!! Basic Improv ~ Basic improv games to help remove your inhibitions on stage.

Darren Michael has a BA in Theatre from Ouachita Baptist University and an MFA in Performance from the University of Southern Mississippi. He has training in commedia dell'arte and Shakespeare at Bretton Hall College in England and stage combat from the Society of American Fight Directors.

DAVID NOFSINGER - E, F Juggling ~ Learn to juggle. Work up to the basic three-ball cascade.

David Nofsinger received his MFA from the University of Arizona-Tucson in 2000. He has worked professionally with Florida Studio Theatre, the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts, Denver Center Theatre Company and San Jose Repertory.

LIZZIE ORGAN - A, B Tips for Freshman Year ~ This session will cover the things you wish you'd known before your freshman year of college.

Lizzie Organ is a Junior Technical Theatre major at the University of Memphis. Last summer she was the Props Artisan for the Georgia Shakespeare Festival.

JESSICA PARKER - Performance Showcase Judge

Jessica is a senior Performance student at the University of Memphis. She recently performed in As You Like It at the U of M and stage-managed for The Laramie Project.

PAUL PHARRIS - A, B, C, D, E, F Weapon Work ~ A basic stage combat broadsword class using some of the principles taught by the Society of American Fight Directors. Work on basic attacks, parries, and moving with the blade in hand.

Paul Pharris is a graduate student at the University of Memphis. He has basic proficiency in all eight weapons for the Society of American Fight Directors and two weapons with the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat.

DANIEL REYES - A, C Be A Magician ~ Learn how magic really works and how you too can perform outstanding magic tricks for your friends and family.

B, D, F Mime & Breakdancing ~ Learn how to create your own mime routine by combining the illusions of mime and the break-dance form of popping and locking.

E Advanced Magic ~ This class is designed for students with a basic knowledge of magic. Learn magic tricks on request!

Daniel Reyes is a professional Las Vegas stage magician who performs over one hundred magic shows a year. He has taught workshops in the art of magic at the Texas Thespian State Festival, National Thespian Festival, Nevada Thespian Festival, and the Atlanta Georgia State Festival.

ALLISON ROGERS - E (with Frank Bluestein and Eric Brannen) Thespian Sponsor Annual Meeting: Updates on Thespian Activities Nationally and Statewide (Sponsors Only)

Allison Rogers attended Baylor University where she received a BA in Broadcasting. Ms. Rogers currently teaches Communication Arts and Introduction to Film & Video at Germantown High School.

KEITH SALTER - D Curriculum Sharing and Caring ~ Share your favorite activities, teaching tips, and lesson plans with teachers from around the state.

Keith Salter is in his eighth year as the Director of Theatre at Collierville High School, after having taught 15 years in Arkansas. At CHS he has directed Amadeus, Phantom, Scrooge, and The Ghost and Mrs. Muir.

TERRY SCOTT - C, D, E, F Script Analysis for the Actor and Director ~ This workshop provides an opportunity for the actor or director to learn ways of unearthing the seemingly buried information about the play and its characters.

Terry received his MFA in Directing at U of M in 1987. He is currently the Technical Director and Theatre Instructor at Northwest Mississippi Community College.

DAVID SHOUSE - Performance Showcase Judge

David Shouse is a third-year MFA Directing candidate at the University of Memphis. He recently directed the University's fall production of Assassins and has worked as assistant director and stage manager on West Side Story and The Merry Widow at the Ash Lawn Opera Festival.

LARRY SMITH - A, C, D, E, F Stage Snapshots: Visualizing the Scene ~ Forming stage visualizations during rehearsals that can transform the outcome and clarity of final productions.
B Combining Theatre and Circus Arts to Create Your Own Cirque Production (Sponsors Only) ~ This workshop will center on the process in which our Cirque is created each year, video examples of past productions, and how to start such a program at your high school.

Larry Smith is the Theatre Director and Fine Arts Chair at Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School in Georgia. Larry served as secondary chair of the Georgia Theatre Conference for several years and is a current member of the Georgia Thespians State Board.

MARCIE STURIALE - A, B, C, D, E, F Rasaboxes: Experimentation with Raw Emotions ~An exploration of eight emotional states ("rasas") as described in the Natayasastra, an ancient Indian manual of performance. Develop your emotional, vocal, and movement abilities.

Marcie Sturiale is currently the Director of Education at TADA! Youth Theater in Manhattan. Marcie holds a BA in Secondary Education and Theatre from Oswego State in upstate New York and a Master's in Educational Theatre from New York University.

KATHY TANNER - A, B, C Clowning Around ~ Getting in touch with the clown inside you and letting him out.

D,E, F Theatre Sports ~ The Keith Johnstone approach to improvisation.

Kathy is Irish but has lived and worked in Vienna for over 30 years as an actress on stage, in films, on TV, in the radio and as cliniclown, Dr. Chaos, in many hospitals. She is returning to Memphis for the fifth time since 2002.

CLIFF THOMPSON - A, B, C, D, E, F Audition Tips Used by Experts ~ Advice on selecting and performing audition monologues for scholarship and professional auditions.

Dr. Cliff Thompson is the Director of Theatre at Freed-Hardeman University near Jackson. He has worked with Equity Auditions in New York and adjudicates auditions for SETC.

KAREN VALCOURT - A, B, C, D, E, F Stage Managing Basics ~ This course is designed for the novice stage manager, the merely curious, and the experienced, who can share their stories of success and discuss the joys and pitfalls of the most important job in live theatre!

Karen Valcourt is an experienced actress, dancer and director. She attended Hunter College and has stage-managed more than 20 plays of various genres over the past fifteen years.

SAM WEAKLEY - C, D, E, F Balancing Act: Juggling for Beginners ~ The beginning steps to juggling. Learn the secrets to balancing most any object on your hand, chin, or nose! A set of juggling balls will be awarded to the best new juggling learner in each workshop.

Sam Weakley has been a theatre instructor for the past 7 years at Northwest Mississippi Community College. He graduated with a BA in Theatre and Mathematics from Austin Peay State University and a Master's in Theatre from the University of Memphis.

JOE WALLACE - A, B **Student Directing** ~ Students who wish to become directors, have already directed, or are just interested in the directorial process would benefit from this class. Play choice, auditioning, casting and blocking will be addressed.

C, D **Acting Shakespeare** ~ Who hasn't wanted to play Hamlet or Juliet? This class will focus on the basics of playing Shakespeare, emphasizing motivational and classical acting techniques, and use of the body and voice.

E, F **Beginner Playwriting** ~ This class will focus on some essentials to getting started with the play, editing, and how to ultimately get published.

Joseph Wallace is the nationally known author of Hush Little Celia, Don't Say a Word, Something's Rotten in the State of Denmark, A Wild Boor, and a faithful one-act adaptation of The Tempest. He possesses a Masters Degree in English and Theatre, and also has a law degree.

ZAY WEAVER - (Master Class) **Aerial Theatre** ~ Fly like Cirque du Soleil with the Aerial Angels.

A, B, E, F **Directing a Scene** ~ Tips on how to communicate your ideas and the playwrights intentions to your actors.

C, D **Cirque Wirque: Stage Acrobatics** ~ Learn basic techniques on aerial hoop and aerial silk.

Zay Weaver is the Associate Artistic Director of Aerial Angels and a performer and director. She holds a BA in Theatre from Western Michigan University. Her directing credits include Bolero, Feeding the Moonfish, and Cirque du Symphony.

EMILY WELLS - C, D, E, F **Musical Theatre History** ~ Explore key moments in musical theatre history.

Emily Wells is a graduate directing student at the University of Memphis. She has spent 11 years working as a freelance Equity stage manager in New York City and on tour. Her work has been seen with Theatreworks/USA, American Theatre of Actors, Theatre Studio and The Simon Studio.

DANI WELTY - A, C (with Richard LaFleur) **ITO Leadership Workshop**

B, D, E, F **Vocal Warm-Up: The How To's** ~ Participants will learn some new and fun exercises that will help warm-up your vocal cords for singing and properly form vowels.

Dani Welty is the Region IV International Thespian Officer and the North Area State Student Officer for Ohio. She attends Midview High School in Grafton, Ohio. She sings, acts, and directs theatre. Dani plans to audition for the Second City Conservatory in Chicago.

JEFF WHITE - C, D, E, F **Laughing Wild: Stand-Up Comedy** ~ This is a stand-up comedy workshop on how to write jokes that will keep people laughing. We'll also discuss the serious business behind becoming a professional stand-up comedian. Be ready to laugh your head off!!

Jeff is a regular at Comedy, TN and South Street Comedy Club in Jackson, TN. Jeff is a Theatre Arts instructor at the Grizzlies Academy.

ALLISON WILLIAMS - (Master Class) **Aerial Theatre** ~ Learn to fly like Cirque du Soleil with the Aerial Angels.

A, B, E, F **Yoga for Actors** ~ Tips to help calm and focus yourself for auditions.

C, D **Cirque Wirque: Stage Acrobatics** ~ Learn basic techniques on aerial hoop and aerial silk.

Allison Williams is the Artistic Director of Aerial Angels, and a professional playwright and performer. She is the author of Hamlette, Mmmbeth, Drop Dead Juliet! and True Story.