



# Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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March 20, 2021

Placer Repertory Theater: [Outreach@PlacerRep.org](mailto:Outreach@PlacerRep.org) | [www.PlacerRep.org](http://www.PlacerRep.org)

***Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank profiled through the thematic lens “Planting Seeds” for April 29 Placer Rep “LAB” Event***

FREE PUBLIC EVENT: [Outreach@PlacerRep.org](mailto:Outreach@PlacerRep.org)

Funded by a grant from the Arts Council of Placer County, this month on Collaboration LAB, Placer Rep profiles Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank and previews Undone, a new performance art digital piece by T.S. Forsyth & Natalie Farrell, featuring the Placer Rep commissioned poem, “Ivy” by Natalie Farrell. Other guests include author and architect Sanjay R. Singhal, Anne Merino, Kate Brolan, Paulina Pino Rubio, and other area performing and visual artists and cultural organizations. Event hosts include Placer Rep company members Kevin Foster, the Outreach Director, and Ryan Gerberding, the Digital Media Director, both of whom are in the Placer Rep mentorship program.

A partial line-up of performers and presenters for April 29, 2021 includes:

- Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank (video and discussion)
- Sanjay R. Singhal (live) author and architect
- Anne Merino (live) Placer County author of Hawkesmoor, Artistic Director of Placer Theatre Ballet, and faculty at William Jessup University.
- Eric Piotrowski (singer/actor)
- Undone, a digital performance art preview & live interview with T.S. Forsyth & Natalie Farrell
- Natalie Farrell (live) San Francisco poet & performance artist
- Jennifer Bloom (live) discusses her new Musical Theater work
- Paulina Pino Rubio (live) actor and author
- Ryan Gerberding (live) Rocklin singer/songwriter
- Kevin Foster (live) Placer County singer/actor

Creatives who wish to join in the discussion and nonparticipating general audience members are welcome. Open to the public; simply contact Placer Rep ([PlacerRep.org](http://PlacerRep.org)) for the Zoom link. Collaboration LAB is a FREE monthly open stage / open mic for the arts, culture and humanities hosted by Placer Repertory Theater via Zoom, on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (Pacific), January through October 2021. Participants register in advance via email ([boxoffice@placerrep.org](mailto:boxoffice@placerrep.org)) for a presentation slot, and may try out new material, share a new work, hone their performance or presentation skills, seek collaborators, market themselves or



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their group, and may choose to receive feedback from attendees. Creatives and cultural advocates come together to incubate new works and ideas in an open and supportive atmosphere.

Placer Repertory Theater ([www.PlacerRep.org](http://www.PlacerRep.org)) is a professional performing arts nonprofit organization with the mission to offer educational and quality-of-life enriching professional performing arts and cultural programs relevant to the people of Placer County, while supporting local organizations and acting as an economic engine for the area. Follow Placer Repertory Theater on Facebook (PlacerRep) and Instagram: @PlacerRep.

Contact: Kevin Foster, Outreach Director at [Outreach@PlacerRep.org](mailto:Outreach@PlacerRep.org).

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## TERESA STIRLING FORSYTH – Producing Artistic Director

With an MFA in Dramatic Arts and an MS in Business Management & Leadership, this former Silicon Valley high-tech VP and critically acclaimed professional director/[playwright](#) also plays



the role of Producing Artistic Director for [Placer Repertory Theater](#).

Previously, the artistic director for two San Francisco theater companies and founder/board president of an economic & workforce development nonprofit organization for Santa Cruz County, her performing arts background includes international tours as an actor/singer/dancer, and director/playwright for national and international touring productions with renown performing artists, such as Brenda Wong Aoki, and companies like Dell'Arte International. As an educator, she has instructed and directed at UC Davis, University of San Francisco, Shawnee State University and other educational institutions. Projects on which Forsyth worked performed at venues such as the Kennedy Center, the Smithsonian, Dallas Theatre

Center, San Diego Repertory Theater and many other renown venues, and received Dramalogue Awards, Critics Circle Awards, Indy Award: Best Spoken Word Album, as well as numerous grants from the NEA, NEH, CAC and corporations. She is a member of the professional organizations: The Dramatists Guild, The Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), TCG and NNPN/New Play Exchange.



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## Ryan Gerberding DIGITAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

### **RYAN GERBERDING – CO-HOST, Collaboration LAB**

Ryan Gerberding is an actor from Rocklin, CA. He is proud to be a founding company member and Digital Media Director for Placer Repertory Theatre. Ryan studied at University of California, Davis, where he earned his bachelor's degree in Theatre and Dance. There, he performed in numerous plays and musicals, including *Urinetown the Musical*, *Lungs*, *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, and *Gospel According to the First Squad*. He also directed multiple shows for Studio 301, a student-run theatre club at UC Davis, including *The Pillowman*, *Swimmers*, and *Dogfight*. After graduating from college, he has performed in numerous productions in the Sacramento area, including *Amélie the Musical*, *Shakespeare in Love* and *The Rocky Horror Show with Green Valley Theatre*, and *Small Mouth Sounds with Big Idea Theatre*. Currently, he teaches youth classes for Sacramento Theatre Company and may be seen in episodes of Placer Rep's *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries* series episodes on YouTube, for which he is on the writing and directing team, as well as performing duties as the digital editor, or in his solo show, *My Jekyll & Hyde*, currently previewing throughout the greater Sacramento area.



### **KEVIN FOSTER - OUTREACH DIRECTOR, Collaboration LAB**

Kevin Foster is a Rocklin local and Sacramento area native, excited to work at Placer Repertory as Outreach Director and in various other capacities. He began training in acting at UC Davis whilst earning his B.A. in Music Performance. After graduating, he performed at Davis Musical Theater Company in *Peter Pan*, *The King and I*, *Damn Yankees*, and the Elly Award winning production of *Chicago*. His other credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Chautauqua Playhouse and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at Sacramento Theater company, where he is currently teaching youth classes. You may see him in Placer Rep's new digital series *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries* on YouTube.



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### Guests for the April 29 2021 Line-up:



**ANNE MERINO – Novelist, Screenwriter, Adjunct Faculty, Artistic Director of Placer Theatre Ballet**

Merino began her career dancing for notable companies such as American Ballet Theatre and the London Festival Ballet and is currently the artistic director of Placer Theatre Ballet. A prolific choreographer, she won the Vanguard Award for Choreography. Merino's traditional theatrical training was received at Chicago's Goodman Theatre, Second City with Del Close and John Belushi and later trained under Alan Rickman at the British American Drama Academy. As an actress, Ms. Merino performed with The Groundlings and Tim Robbins' The Actors' Gang, is on the Theater department faculty at William Jessup University. Her screenplay, *A Season for Wolves*, recently won the Critics' Choice award at the Madras Film Festival.



**NATALIE FARRELL – Performance Artist, Published Poet**

Natalie Farrell is a singer, actress, poet, producer, and model working and living in San Francisco and Los Angeles, who specialized in devised theatre as part of her M.A. at UC Santa Cruz. She has appeared in TV and film and may be seen in Placer Rep's *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mystery Series*. Counting among her various theatre credits are *Zoot Suit*, *The Odyssey*, and *Pains of Youth* at UC Santa Cruz, as well as *Cannery Row* at Sacramento City College. She is currently working on a movement and poetry performance art digital project in collaboration with T.S. Forsyth at Placer Repertory Theater.

### THE EVENT

April 29, 2021 at 7 p.m. via Zoom

Email [Outreach@placerrep.org](mailto:Outreach@placerrep.org) for the Zoom link, or to request a slot.

<https://placerrep.org/programs/collaboration-lab/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/182936840311189/>

# CollABoration

A FREE OPEN MIC and creative LAB  
for the Arts, Culture and Humanities

Last Thursday of each month @ 7 p.m. via Zoom  
PlacerRep.org • Facebook/PlacerRep



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## DETAILS

### WHAT:

Placer Repertory Theater presents the live-stream Zoom event: Collaboration LAB, featuring new presentations, performances and works by Placer County and Greater Sacramento Area creatives and cultural organization. Hosted by Kevin Foster, Outreach Director, Ryan Gerberding, Digital Media Director, and T.S. Forsyth, Producing Artistic Director.

### WHERE:

Livestream via Zoom. Email [Outreach@PlacerRep.org](mailto:Outreach@PlacerRep.org) for the Zoom link.

### WHEN:

Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 7 p.m. Pacific

### TICKETS:

Email [Outreach@placerrep.org](mailto:Outreach@placerrep.org) to receive the Zoom link, or to schedule a presenter slot for April – October 2021.

### WHO:

Co-Host: Ryan Gerberding

Co-Host: Kevin Foster

Co-Host: T. S. Forsyth

### Partial Line-Up:

- Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank (video and discussion)
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