



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kevin Foster
PRT Phone: 916-884-0055
Kevin Cell: 916-342-4381

May 22, 2021

Placer Repertory Theater: Outreach@placerrep.org | www.PlacerRep.org

Newcastle Packing Shed Artists Gallery and Olympic Productions featured on Placer Rep's May 27 "LAB" Event

FREE PUBLIC EVENT: Outreach@PlacerRep.org

This month on Collaboration LAB, Placer Rep features the Newcastle Packing Shed Artists Gallery, Olympic Productions' short film, "Barton," and welcomes the co-founders of UC Davis arts group Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank, as contributors to this month's theme, "How Does Your Garden Grow?" The LAB will explore each creative's choice of medium and what inspires their continued development as artists. Hosts this month include Placer Rep company members Kevin Foster, Outreach Director, and Teresa Stirling Forsyth, Producing Artistic Director.

A partial line-up of performers and presenters for May 27, 2021 includes:

- Newcastle Packing Shed Artists Gallery
- Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank of Davis, CA
- Olympic Productions shares short film "Barton"
- Jennifer Bloomer, Rocklin musician and composer
- Sanjay R Singhal, Chicago author and architect
- Kevin Foster, local area actor/singer
- Funny Robert, Rocklin Standup Comedian
- Placer Rep previews *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries episode 6, the final episode in season one of the digital series.*

Creatives who wish to join in the discussion and nonparticipating general audience members are welcome. Open to the public; simply contact Placer Rep (outreach@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. Collaboration LAB is funded through a grant from the Arts Council of Placer County. Participants register in advance via email (outreach@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 their group, and may choose to receive feedback from attendees. Creatives and cultural



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

advocates come together to incubate new works and ideas in an open and supportive atmosphere.

Placer Repertory Theater (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: Teresa Stirling Forsyth, artisticdirector@PlacerRep.org, or Kevin Foster, Outreach Director at Outreach@PlacerRep.org.

HOST: 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, University of Minnesota and other educational institutions. Projects on which Forsyth worked performed at

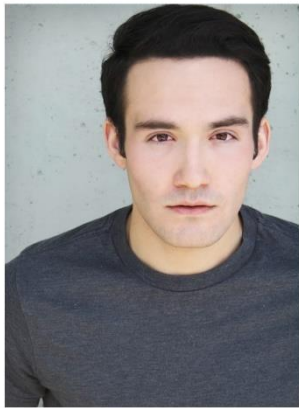
venues such as the Kennedy Center, the Smithsonian, Dallas Theatre Center, San Diego Repertory Theater and many other renown venues, and received Dramalogue Awards, Critics Circle Awards, Indy Award: Best Spoken Word Album, as well as numerous grants from the NEA, NEH, CAC and corporations. She is a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



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

HOST: KEVIN FOSTER - OUTREACH DIRECTOR, Collaboration LAB



**Kevin
FOSTER**

Kevin Foster, a local performing artist and playwright, is a Placer Repertory Theater Founding Company Member, and Outreach Director. He began training in acting at UC Davis while 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 taught youth classes through the School Partnership Program, and now teaches Musical Theater at Rockstar Music Academy, as well as adult courses through the Placer Rep Performing Arts Preparatory Education program. Kevin stars as Dr. Watson in the audience favorite

“Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries series,” as well as playing Mr. Charles Musgrove in Placer Rep’s holiday play, *Persuasion*. He is currently developing his solo show for preview this winter, and world premiere in 2022.

Some of the Presenters for the May 27, 2021 Line-up:

MINDY COOPER -- Director, Choreographer, Performer



Mindy Cooper, Co-Founder of Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank and a veteran of the Broadway community for over 30 years, has always led with her passion for new works. As a Director, Choreographer and performer on Broadway and Off-Broadway- *Chicago* (Original Revival Cast), *Titanic* (Original Cast), *Dracula The Musical*, *Wrong Mountain*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Song & Dance*, *50 Shades The Musical Parody*, *The Eternal Space*, *Mars/Venus Live*, *Soul Doctor*, *Five Course Love*, *Hoi Polloi*, *Being Seen* (FringeNYC) and *Deployed* (NYMF). Readings, Commissions and World Premieres- *Mothers* (NNPN), *Social Life the Musical*, *American Monkey*, *Still Will Be Heard* (Peak Performances), *My Friend Hafiz* (SF Mission), and *Mojave The Musical*. Her regional work has won multiple Bay Area Theater Critics Awards and Theatre Bay Area Awards. She is a Professor of Theatre at UC Davis.



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

DR. LISA QUORESIMO -- Director, Performer, Playwright, Composer



Dr. Lisa Quoresimo, a director, performer, playwright and composer, is Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre at Southern Utah University. She is directing several projects this season with Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank, including *Juliet & Romeo*, a new musical by Tony-nominated composer Paul Gordon and Emmy-nominated composer Curtis Moore. Lisa's work as a performer and composer has been seen most recently in the SF Bay Area at Berkeley Rep, Shotgun Players, Brava Theatre, and the Davis Shakespeare Festival. As the artistic director of the Kairos Theatre in NYC, Lisa produced and directed upwards of thirty shows. Her vocal students have been seen on Broadway, national tours, and in the Vienna Boys Choir. She has served on the faculties of NYU and the Manhattan School of Music.

Her scholarly work has been published in *Theatre Topics*, *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies* and *Analog Game Studies*, and she has a forthcoming chapter in *Hamilton: History, Hip-Hop and Politics: Essays on the Afterbirth of a Nation*. Lisa holds a Ph.D. in Performance Studies from UC Davis.

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.



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

THE EVENT

May 27, 2021 at 7 p.m. via Zoom

Email Outreach@PlacerRep.org for the Zoom link, or to request a slot.

<https://placerrep.org/programs/collaboration-lab/> <https://www.facebook.com/events/NEED>

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 organizations. Hosted by Kevin Foster, PRT Outreach Director, and Teresa Stirling Forsyth, PRT Producing Artistic Director.

WHERE:

Livestream via Zoom. Email Outreach@PlacerRep.org for the Zoom link.

WHEN:

Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 7 p.m. Pacific

TICKETS:

Email Outreach@PlacerRep.org to receive the Zoom link, or to schedule a presenter slot for June – October 2021. FREE to the public.

WHO:

Co-Host: Kevin Foster

Co-Host: Teresa Stirling Forsyth

Partial Line-Up:

- Newcastle Packing Shed Artists Gallery
- Catalyst: A Theatre Think Tank
- Olympic Productions shares the short film “Barton”
- Jennifer Bloomer, musician, and composer
- Sanjay R Singhal, author
- Kevin Foster, actor/singer
- Funny Robert, Standup Comedian
- Placer Rep previews *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries episode 6, the final episode in season one of the digital series.*

####