



# Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

## ***Rocklin local, Spencer T Gayden, named Company Member at Placer Repertory Theater***

Rocklin local, Spencer T Gayden, officially became a Company Member of Placer Repertory Theater as of June 1, 2021. Spencer was raised in Placer County and is a recent graduate of William Jessup University with a BA in Theatre. When not performing in Placer Rep productions, his title is Digital and Social Media Director, and his responsibilities include shooting and editing digital projects, as well as maintaining Placer Rep's presence in social media, such as Twitter and Instagram.

Spencer Gayden first came to Placer Repertory Theater's attention when he submitted his headshot, link to a video, and a resume, along with his email cover letter to audition for the event: ***New Beginnings: A new play about the historic Placer County Roundhouses - NAME THAT PLAY!*** "The moment I read Spencer's very professional and thoughtful cover letter, and watched the digital recording of his monologue, I knew we'd work together on some production in the future," said Producing Artistic Director Teresa Stirling Forsyth. As fate would have it, Spencer Gayden was recently cast in the upcoming performances of ***New Beginnings*** to be held July 31 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at William Jessup University in Rocklin California.

"In theatre we always strive to learn and improve, so I was overjoyed to join the PRT mentorship program to continue to hone my craft and my skills. And that joy only grew when I was offered company membership; a chance to be a part of the great work, truthful storytelling, and meaningful process Placer Rep has to offer. I can't think of a better way to find my footing and make my start as a professional in this great industry," said Spencer.

Spencer T Gayden, born in San Diego California, moved to Placer County at the age of seven, where he discovered his love of theatre while attending Horizon Charter School. Spencer received several academic and theatrical scholarships to attend William Jessup University, where he graduated in May 2021 with his B.A. in Theatre. For five years, Spencer has been an instructor and director with Royal Stage Christian Performing Arts, and he also manages social and digital media for local education non-profit IntelliBricks and has worked for the character company Sevilla Magic FX as a werewolf, Black Panther, a Jedi, The Grinch, Iron Man, Kylo Ren, and a Stormtrooper. Recently, audiences saw Spencer in an original musical with Curious



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Theatre Works, a small local experimental theatre group. While at William Jessup University, he enjoyed performing roles such as Howard Bevans in Picnic, Professor Plum in Clue, and Ben Gunn in Treasure Island. Upon graduation in May 2021, Spencer joined the Mentorship program at Placer Repertory Theater, and as of June 1, is a company member appointed to the position of Digital & Social Media Director. His first major role with PRT is as a member of the ensemble cast for New Beginnings: a new play about the historic Placer County roundhouses, which performs in July 2021.

Placer Repertory Theater (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), Twitter and Instagram: @PlacerRep.

Contact: Teresa Stirling Forsyth, [artisticdirector@PlacerRep.org](mailto:artisticdirector@PlacerRep.org), or Kevin Foster, Outreach Director at [Outreach@PlacerRep.org](mailto:Outreach@PlacerRep.org).

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## SPENCER T GAYDEN – Digital & Social Media Director



**Spencer T Gayden**  
**DIGITAL & SOCIAL**  
**MEDIA DIRECTOR**

Spencer T Gayden, born in San Diego California, moved to Placer County at the age of seven, where he discovered his love of theatre while attending Horizon Charter School. Spencer received several academic and theatrical scholarships to attend William Jessup University, where he graduated in 2021 with his B.A. in Theatre. For five years, Spencer has been an instructor and director with Royal Stage Christian Performing Arts, and he also manages social and digital media for local education non-profit IntelliBricks and has worked for the character company Sevilla Magic FX as a werewolf, Black Panther, a Jedi, The Grinch, Iron Man, Kylo Ren, and a Stormtrooper. Recently, audiences saw Spencer in an original musical with Curious Theatre Works, a small local experimental theatre group. While at William Jessup University, he took on roles such as Howard Bevans in Picnic, Professor Plum in Clue, and Ben Gunn in Treasure Island, and upon his graduation, Spencer joined the Mentorship program at Placer Repertory Theater in May 2021. As of June 2021, Spencer has become a company member appointed to the position of Digital & Social Media Director. His first major role with PRT is as a member of the ensemble cast for New Beginnings: a new play about the historic Placer County roundhouses, which performs in July 2021.



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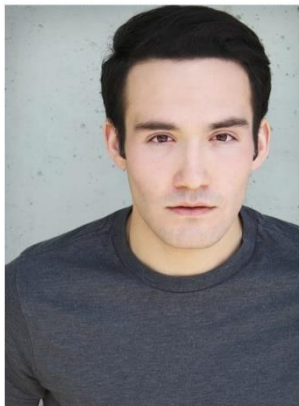
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## TERESA STIRLING FORSYTH – Producing Artistic Director



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, 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.

## KEVIN FOSTER – Outreach Director



**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.

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