

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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October 25, 2021

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

Find Your Inspiration at Placer Repertory Theater's Final "LAB" of 2021!

FREE PUBLIC EVENT - The Rockstar Music Academy in Lincoln

[For zoom link: Outreach@PlacerRep.org]

Discover the ways creatives take their completed works to the next stage as professional playwrights and authors discuss their journeys at ColLABoration LAB, happening both via Zoom, and in-person at Rockstar Music Academy on Thursday, September 30th at 7 p.m.

The theme for October's LAB is "Now is the Winter of our Discontent," a lens through which we share strategies on how to remain creatively inspired, particularly in times of hardship.

Presentations and performances at the October LAB include Brooke Abrames of Blue Line Arts, professional playwright Scott Charles, Comedian Funny Robert, and the cast of Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of the Four.

Hosts for the October LAB are Placer Rep company members Kevin Foster, Outreach Director, comedian "Funny Robert", and Teresa Stirling Forsyth, Producing Artistic Director. Creatives who wish to join in the discussion and nonparticipating general audience members are welcome. Open to the public; simply contact Outreach@PlacerRep.org to reserve a seat or for the Zoom link.

Collaboration LAB is a FREE monthly open stage program for the arts, culture and humanities – an incubator for new works -- hosted by Placer Repertory Theater via Zoom, on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (Pacific), January through October 2021. Funded in part by a grant from the Arts Council of Placer County and Rockstar Music Academy. Participants register in advance via email (Outreach@PlacerRep.org) for a presentation slot, at which they 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 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 social media: [@PlacerRep](https://www.instagram.com/PlacerRep).

Contact: Kevin Foster, Outreach Director at Outreach@PlacerRep.org.



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 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 while earning his B.A. in Music Performance. After graduation and his return from a professional stint in New York, 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 theater classes, and currently teaches at Rockstar Music Academy in Lincoln, CA. You may see him in Placer Rep's digital series *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries* on YouTube.

Guests for the October 28 2021 Line-up:



Brooke Abrames - Co-Executive Director

Brooke Abrames, Co-Executive Director, the first of her name, writer of grants, solicitor of donations, broker of strategic partnerships, and keeper of the power tools. Abrames joined Blue Line Arts in early 2018 with a background in community non-profit leadership, fundraising, volunteering, events, and floral design. Brooke has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature, which she completed while teaching ESL in Japan. Her travels throughout Asia have given her a deep appreciation for the cultural value of art and the creative communication of ideas. She is proud to be a founding member of the Sacramento Alliance for Regional Arts.



SCOTT CHARLES – Playwright

Scott Charles was born in the Midwest and relocated to Sacramento, California in the 1980s. He lives a happy life with his wife and his dog. He has just released a novel, Wishing Shelf Awards Finalist and NCPA cover award winner “*The Illustrated Hen*,” which is available on Amazon.com. He is also the author of several plays, including “*Dinners With Augie*.” You can see some of his other works on his website at www.libernetics.com



MATTHEW HEYER – Actor

Matthew Heyer is a recent graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette where he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre. He is the winner of the Irene Ryan award for his ensemble work in 2018 and for his performance as Elliot in *Completeness* in 2019. His recent mainstage productions include Stanley in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Vince Fontaine in *Grease*, Charles in *As You Like It*, and as Shakespeare in *The Bard on Broadway*. This is Matthew’s first season with Placer Rep, and he looks forward to playing the title role in the world premiere of *Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of the Four* in October 2021.



KATIE HALLS - Actor

Katie hails from Fairfield, California, and received her Bachelor of Arts degrees from UC Davis in Theater and English. Recent roles include Molly in Peter and the Starcatcher, Sophie in Mamma Mia, and Jordan in Ranked: A New Musical. Among Katie's professional credits include the performance of the female lead, Miss Mary Morstan in the livestreamed stage-reading of Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of the Four in July 2020 for Placer Repertory Theater. She will also be playing Mrs. Hudson, Wiggins, Vivian Rutledge and Mrs. Moriarty in the November 13 2021 stage reading of Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries (the stage play), a new work based upon the Placer Rep digital series slated for world premiere in 2022.

THE EVENT

October 28, 2021 at 7 p.m. via Zoom

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

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

Facebook event link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1422287478170013?>

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 organizations. Hosted by Kevin Foster & T.S. Forsyth.

WHERE:

The Rockstar Music Academy in Lincoln. Also livestreamed via Zoom.
Email Outreach@PlacerRep.org for the Zoom link.

WHEN:

Thursday, October 28 at 7 p.m. Pacific

TICKETS:

Email Outreach@placerrep.org to receive the Zoom link, or to schedule a presenter slot for January 2022

WHO:

Co-Hosts: Kevin Foster & Comedian "Funny Robert"

Producing Artistic Director: T. S. Forsyth

Partial Line-Up:

- Brooke Abrams, Blue Line Arts (live)
- Paulina Pino Rubio, actor (live)
- Scott Charles, playwright (live)
- Funny Robert, Comedian (live)
- Kevin Foster, actor/singer/author (live)
- Cast of Sherlock Holmes: Sign of the Four (live)

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