



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 27, 2022

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

New Acting Company Members for 2022 at Placer Rep

Still glowing from their fabulous performances in *Persuasion* at the December 2021 *Jane Austen Soiree*, Placer Repertory Theater is proud to announce the official inclusion of two of the production's local professional actors to the Placer Rep Acting Company for 2022.

The first individual joining the 2022 acting company is no stranger to Placer Rep followers; it is none other than Anne Merino. In addition to having seen her perform and provide feedback to help incubate new performing arts and visual works at Placer Rep's program "CollABoration LAB" and perform several roles in *Persuasion* at *The Jane Austen Soiree* in December 2021, her background includes a long career in the performing arts. Anne began her career dancing for notable companies such as American Ballet Theatre and the London Festival Ballet. A prolific choreographer, she won the Vanguard Award for Choreography. Anne's traditional theatrical training was received at Chicago's Goodman Theatre, Second City with Del Close and Jim Belushi and later trained under Alan Rickman at the British American Drama Academy. As an actor, and former member of AEA, SAG/AFTRA, Anne performed with The Groundlings and Tim Robbins' The Actors' Gang. Currently, she is a member of the theatre department faculty at William Jessup University, she recently won film festival awards for her screenplay, "The Season of the Wolf," received critical acclaim for her novel, *Hawkesmoor*, and recently completed the second novel in this series.

The second individual joining the 2022 acting company was most recently seen as Mr. Charles in Placer Rep's *Persuasion* at *The Jane Austen Soiree* and was known for his work with Stand-Out Talent of Roseville; we welcome Steve Campbell. Audiences may recognize Steve from his role as Charlemagne in the McLaughlin filmed production of *Pippin* in 2020. Steve also performed with Big Idea Theatre in Sacramento playing MacBeth in *MacBeth* and Enobarbus in Shakespeare's *Antony & Cleopatra*. His background includes productions with Stand-Out Talent of Roseville including Fredrick Frankenstein in *Young Frankenstein*. His actor training began at San Jose State with a

Minor in Drama, Voice Inflection course instructed by Rodger McDonald and was classically trained in Shakespeare with the great Jack Lynn. Steve currently works for Talkdesk and as a voiceover talent.

“Placer Repertory Theater is pleased to be working with two new great talents, and we look forward to sharing them with you throughout the 2022 season,” said Kevin Foster, Placer Rep Outreach Director.

In additional company news for 2022, Placer Rep has said good-bye to our dear 2021 Acting Company Member, Spencer T. Gayden. Audiences may recall Spencer’s performances in *New Beginnings* as Mr. Sweeney in July, as Thistledew in *From the Mind of Scott Charles* in September and *An Evening with Sherlock Holmes* as Inspector Jones in November 2021. Spencer is taking advantage of new opportunities offered to him with other companies but may be hired as a friend of Placer Rep in future shows from time to time, as his schedule permits.

Audiences may recall Placer Repertory Theater as the professional company that produced the immersive event “The Jane Austen Soiree” in December 2021, “An Evening with Sherlock Holmes” in November 2021, and commissioned and produced the “New Beginnings” event, featuring a new play about the history of the Placer County roundhouses by Ryan Gerberding in July of 2021. This is the same theater company that won the Gold Country Media’s “Best of the Best: Best Live Theatrical Group” in 2021 and was nominated for seven and won four Broadway World awards, and host the programs ColLABoration LAB, The Writers Workshop and Rifts in Time: Interactive Adventure Theater.

Placer Repertory Theater (PlacerRep.org) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit professional performing arts and culture 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 and Instagram: @PlacerRep.

Publishers: Contact Kevin Foster, Outreach Director, at Outreach@PlacerRep.org, or Teresa Stirling Forsyth, Producing Artistic Director, at ArtisticDirector@PlacerRep.org.



BIOS – THE COMPANY MEMBERS



STEVE CAMPBELL – Acting Company Member

A resident of Roseville, this is Steve's first production with Placer Repertory Theater. Audiences may recognize Steve from his role as Charlemagne in the McLaughlin filmed production of Pippin last year. Steve has also performed with Big Idea Theatre in Sacramento playing MacBeth in MacBeth and Enobarbus in Shakespeare's Antony & Cleopatra. His background includes productions with Stand-Out Talent of Roseville including Fredrick Frankenstein in Young Frankenstein. His actor training began at San Jose State with a Minor in Drama, Voice Inflection course instructed by Rodger McDonald and was classically trained in

Shakespeare with the great Jack Lynn. Steve currently works for Talkdesk and as a voiceover talent.



ANNE MERINO – Acting Company Member

Merino began her career dancing for notable companies such as American Ballet Theatre and the London Festival 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 Jim Belushi and later trained under Alan Rickman at the British American Drama Academy. As an actress, and former member of AEA, SAG/AFTRA, Ms. Merino performed with The Groundlings and Tim Robbins' The Actors' Gang and is a member of the theatre department faculty at William Jessup University. As a writer, she

recently won film festival awards for her screenplay, *"The Season of the Wolf,"* and received critical acclaim for her recently released novel, ***Hawkesmoor***.



TERESA STIRLING FORSYTH – Producing Artistic Director, Company Director/Playwright

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

directing/playwriting for national and international touring productions with renown performing artists, such as Brenda Wong Aoki, and companies like Dell'Arte



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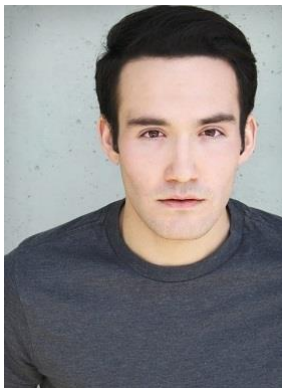
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International. As an educator, she has instructed and/or directed at UC Davis, University of San Francisco, University of Minnesota and other educational institutions. Projects on which Forsyth worked performed at venues such as the Kennedy Center, the Smithsonian, Dallas Theatre Center, San Diego Repertory Theatre 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. Most recently for Placer Repertory Theater, she is the playwright/director for *Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of the Four* and *Persuasion: a holiday romantic comedy* with world premieres this October and December, co-author, dramaturg, director and actor mentor for *My Jekyll & Hyde* and was the director, dramaturg and playwright mentor for *New Beginnings: the new play about the historic Placer County Roundhouses*. She is a member of the professional organizations: The Dramatists Guild, The Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), TCG and NNP/Play Exchange.



BLAIR HARTMAN – Program Operations Manager

Blair Hartman is a graduate of Allegheny College with a BA in Theater and a demonstrated history of working in the performing arts on both east and west coasts. During her undergraduate career, Blair involved herself in both community and college theater, taking on technical, managerial, and creative roles, and completed her thesis by directing and writing a devised project entitled *Goddess*. She gained her post-graduate sea legs as a Production Manager at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City, managing Concert Halls events and productions as well as community programming and outreach in the boroughs. This trajectory led Blair to delve into a career freelancing for such companies as Roundabout Theatre Company, SoHo Repertory Theatre, The New Group, and The Public Theatre. Blair is thrilled to join Placer Repertory Theater as Program Operations Manager in their 2021-2022 season!



KEVIN FOSTER - Outreach Director, Dr. Watson (Track 2)

Kevin Foster is an area local excited to work at Placer Repertory as 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*



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on the *Way to the Forum* at Sacramento Theater company, where he has taught youth performing arts classes. He currently teaches for Rockstar Music Academy in Lincoln and is working on his solo show commissioned by Placer Rep for a 2022 world premiere. Kevin also may be seen in Placer Rep's digital short series *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries* on YouTube and Facebook and performing in Placer Rep's "The Jane Austen Soire" on December 11, 2021 at the Lincoln Civic Center.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT:

WHO:

Placer Repertory Theater - <https://PlacerRep.org>

WHAT:

New Acting Company Members for 2022

- Steve Campbell
- Anne Merino

WHERE:

Placer Repertory Theater

PlacerRep.org

WHEN:

- Season 2022 – January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

FMI:

<https://PlacerRep.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/PlacerRep>



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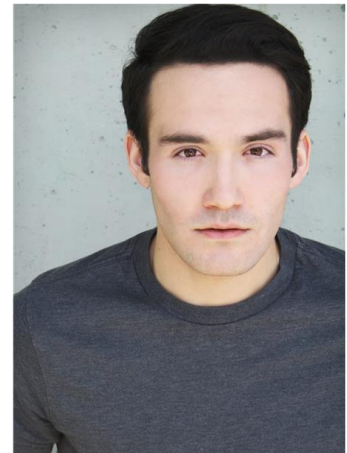
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