

Syllabus #680 - MASTERCLASS: THE WRITERS WORKSHOP

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This two-hour workshop employs professional actors to read from participants' submitted works-in-progress (play & film scripts, novels, poems, lyrics). The class provides feedback, then the facilitator workshops the piece with the writer and performers while maintaining an informative dialog with the rest of the workshop attendees.

The Writers Workshop is an incubator and growth experience for serious writers, directors and performers which seeks to inspire continued development and promote rapid growth of the artists and their work.

We explore the use of dramatic structure, objectives, tactics, obstacles, foreshadow, parallelisms, etc., and we will develop our works through textual, story and character analysis, and through providing and receiving feedback. This course will continue participants' skill development, applicable to every form of writing, and engender professional growth for writers, directors, and performers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES - Writer & Work Development

Gain knowledge and experience related to the following areas:

- Writing Process
- Research
- Storytelling
- The Writer's Voice
- Structure
- Dramatic Action
- Textual, Story & Character Analysis
- Psychology
- Writer, Director & Actor Choices

EVALUATION FORM

An evaluation form for #680 is available on SurveyMonkey, which includes

- Self-evaluation
- Class evaluation (Learning environment, Curriculum, Instructor)

CLASS STRUCTURE is flexible dependent upon the number of attendees, number and length of works submitted.

- 3 PM - Introduction
- Read, feedback and workshop of one or more pieces
- BREAK
- Read, feedback and workshop one or more pieces
- 4:55 PM Wrap Up

REQUIREMENTS:

- **Be Respectful**, and please be on time.
- **Constructive feedback.** Examples:
 - I was not able to follow the plot once Ben left.
 - What was your intention when you included the Ben character?
 - I did not understand the motive of Mr. X.
- **Attend the class** when your writing is scheduled to be workshopped.
 - Notify the facilitator in advance if you need to switch months.
- **There is NO requirement that you submit works to the class.**
- Any submitted works (PDF, please) must include:
 - A cover page with work title and author's name
 - A one-paragraph high-level synopsis of the play setting up the piece to be read.
 - Character descriptions for the characters in the piece to be read. (For casting the readings)
 - The pages that contain the piece to be read. (No extraneous pages, please.)
- **Respect & adhere to the nondisclosure agreement.** By attending this workshop, you are promising to respect intellectual property and work product of others, to not distribute nor share specifics regarding any works presented in this workshop, nor to use the intellectual property of others for your own purposes - see Nondisclosure below.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Email development@placerrep.org NO MORE THAN three (3) writing excerpts or pieces of up to 10 minutes in length for prospective workshopping in-class.
- Email development@placerrep.org NO MORE THAN one 10- to 30-minute writing excerpt or piece for prospective workshopping in class.
- Send writing excerpts/pieces at least 1 week prior to the class in which you wish it to be workshopped.
 - If they are not received in a timely manner, the actors will have to COLD read your work, which may dilute the depth of the workshopping.

- Attend the class monthly. You will learn exponentially more through regular attendance, **even if your piece is not being worked.**

POLICIES

- The class will start on time. Please be respectful if you arrive late.
- The work you have submitted may or may not be selected in any given class to be workshopped. Works submitted that are not used in class may be used in a subsequent class. If the work will not be workshopped, the facilitator will provide written feedback on the work to support the writers' development.
- COVID POLICIES: Placer Rep follows the venue, city, county and state requirements and guidelines. A COVID station with protective and convenient supplies is made available to all who attend. Temperatures are taken.

NONDISCLOSURE / INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

By attending this workshop, you are consenting to the nondisclosure agreement and will not share the work product of others, nor take the intellectual property of others for your own use or purposes. Placer Repertory Theater and all class attendees recognize each creator's rights to their own intellectual property.

The author of any original work that constitutes copyrightable subject matter under the copyright laws of the United States retains all rights, title, and interest in the work product. Should any attendee take another's work product, in whole or in part, that attendee is subject to suit in both civil and criminal court.

FOR MORE INFO on Placer Repertory Theater and its programming, visit PlacerRep.org (<https://PlacerRep.org>)

Eventbrite class listing:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-writers-workshop-masterclass-680-tickets-242585227947>

Workshop Evaluation link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZRWP9DL>