

Placer  
Repertory  
Theater

PlacerRep.org

Professional Performing Arts, Cultural & Economic Enrichment for Placer County

Presents



## Ghosts of Placer County



Includes:  
Post-show  
"Meet  
the actors  
Q&A"

Friday, Sept 30 & Oct 7 @ 7 PM  
Saturday, Oct 1 & Oct 8 at 4 PM & 7:30 PM  
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### OUR MISSION...

...is 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.

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## Artistic Direction:

Placer Rep's theme for season 2022 is "The Other," and *Ghosts of Placer County* definitely embodies that theme: observing or discovering something or someone separate or different from ourselves and either engaging with fear or with curiosity, openness and love.

While this play focuses on a mother/daughter relationship, we come to know each character through the stories they tell, which reveal who they are and their relationship dynamics, as we explore contributions and dark moments in local history, how that history haunts us, and how we haunt history to define ourselves, individually and as a community.

Placer Rep is grateful to **ARMROD CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, Tamraloo Studios, ACPC and the Gloria Burt Sacramento Region Art Fellowship in Literature** for supporting script development and/or this history-in-the-making production.

## Director/Playwright Notes: T. S. Forsyth

Imagine you have been magically transported to the Granite Chief Wilderness and through some mysterious mechanism of quantum physics, you can see everything that ever happened in this lonely wilderness. You become intrigued and decide to focus your attention on key moments for a mother & daughter who visit this wilderness.

But according to Einstein, time is nonlinear, so you are able to see echoes of the past and 'premonitions' of what has yet to be presented to you in this space, where all time exists

simultaneously. A heady concept, but it bears funny, charming, poignant fruit—asking us to consider aspects of existential human experience and the human condition.

As a playwright, the goal of this work is to bring our community together, to explore and embrace our shared history (both dark and admirable) and our common human experiences. Hopefully, the play will not only engender conversation and healing, but also make area residents

***Placer County Proud.***



### **T.S. FORSYTH, MFA/MS—Director/Playwright**

Producing Artistic Director for Placer Rep, Tess was previously artistic director for two San Francisco theater companies, and a celebrated director/playwright for national/international touring productions with renown professional performing artists and theater companies. She has instructed/directed at numerous universities. Projects on which Forsyth worked performed at venues such as the Kennedy Center & received Dramalogue Awards, Critics Circle Awards, NEA, NEH & CAC grants. In She is a member of the Dramatists Guild and Stage Directors & Choreographers union.

# Ghosts of Placer County

By T. S. Forsyth

## Time & Place

Time and the nature of the universe are up for debate in this play. For staging purposes, since we "tiny humans" live in three dimensions and perceive time as linear and progressive, the story of the Dagmars takes place 30 years before, 20 years before and the day of "the incident," but not always in that order. There is a unity of place, but not of time.

## Act One

Placer County

- Ballet of the Ghostly Echoes, part Un  
(past and future moments in the wilderness)
- **Lost in the Granite Chief Wilderness**  
(30 years before *the Incident*)
- Ballet of the Ghostly Echoes, part Deux  
(past and future moments on Granite Chief Trail)
- **Learning to Lead on the Granite Chief Trail**  
(20 years before *the Incident*)
- Ballet of the Ghostly Echoes, part Trois  
(past and future moments at the Bear River Campground)

## INTERMISSION

(Approximately 10 minutes)

## Act Two

Placer County

- Bear River Campground & Park Trails  
(the day and evening of *The Incident*)

Door Prize Drawing

Post-show Q&A / Meet the Actors



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Tamra Rogers, BA, MTNA, CAMTA

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- Placer County Archive & Research Center
- EMH Productions / The Artist's Collective (EMHpros.weebly.com)
- Oakmont High School Drama Dept.—Jacqueline MacKusick
- Foresthill High School—English: Ryan Jacobsen, VADA: Rachel Cottingham  
And SO MANY MORE... see our web site

##### Local Entities with Resources that assisted play development

- Maidu Interpretive Center & Museum of Roseville
- Japanese American Civil Liberties of Penryn
- Auburn Joss House & Cultural Center
- Penryn Buddhist Church ... and SO MANY MORE

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**PlacerRep.org**

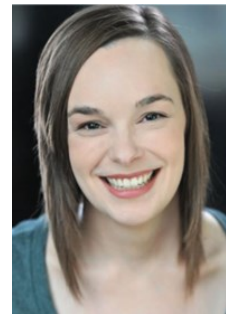
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# THE CAST



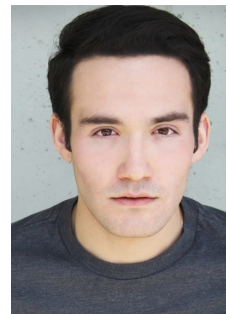
### ANNE MERINO—Dr. Dessa Dagmar

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 trained under Alan Rickman at the British American Drama Academy. As an actor, Anne performed with The Groundlings and Tim Robbins' The Actors' Gang, and is a former member of AEA, SAG/AFTRA. Currently, she 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 new novel, *Hawkesmoor*.



### KATHERINE STROLLER - Aubrey Emersyn Dagmar

Katherine is thrilled to be joining Placer Rep for this new work, *Ghosts of Placer County*! She received her B.A. in Dramatic Art from UC Davis and is a graduate of Foothill Theatre Conservatory. Favorite past roles include Portia from *The Merchant of Venice*, Mindy from *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, Cathleen in *Long Day's Journey into Night*, and The Woman from *The Woman in Black*. Katherine originated the role of Aubrey Dagmar for the Haunting History stage readings in Spring/Summer 2022. When she is not acting, Katherine is a character movement coach and writer. Learn more at [katherinestroller.com](http://katherinestroller.com).



**KEVIN FOSTER - Kenny Greene / Forager.** Kevin Foster trained in acting at UC Davis while earning his B.A. in Musical Performance. After graduation, he performed at Davis Musical Theater Company in the Elly Award winning production of *Chicago*. Other credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Chautauqua Playhouse and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at Sacramento Theatre Company, where he taught youth theater classes. Currently, he teaches for Placer Repertory Theater and is working on his solo show. Kevin played Dr. Watson in Placer Rep's *An Evening with Sherlock Holmes*, portrayed Mr. Hayter & Capt. Benwick at *The Jane Austen Soiree*, stars as Dr. Watson in the Placer Rep "Domestic Mysteries" YouTube series, and plays Purdy in *Rifts In Time: Interactive Adventure Theater*.

## THE CAST, continued



**BRENNAN VILLADOS - Guide-Master Jack / Liam / Damon / Raymond**

Brennan's most recent acting credits include *The Picture of Dorian Gray* with Freefall Stage, *A Soldier's Play* with Celebration Arts, and *Marat/Sade* with Falcon's Eye Theatre. Brennan made his directorial debut in 2019 with *Romeo and Juliet* for Freefall Stage's Shakespeare in the park. He attended The American Academy of Dramatic Art and has worked for the UC Davis School of Medicine Standardized Patient Program for eight years. One of his favorite roles is Patrick Stone in *Inventing Van Gogh* with Big Idea Theatre. This is his first mainstage performance with Placer Repertory Theater.



**JUDY MERRICK—Dr. Dessa Dagmar / Aubrey Dagmar (Understudy)**

Judy worked for 13 years in New York as a performer and director. Her favorite credits include Portia in *Merchant of Venice* (Santa Monica Playhouse) and Lysander in *Midsummer Night's Dream* (RADA). She co-founded the NYC theatre Company, The Amoralist, and some of her credits include *The Cheaters Club*, *Adam Rapp's Ghost in the Cottonwoods* and *Bring Us the Head of Your Daughter*. Judy also worked at Playwrights Horizons, and the Manhattan Theatre Club, and toured with *Knuckleball*, which won best show, and she best actress, at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. With an MFA from USC, she trained at RADA and AADA in NY. Recently, Judy performed in *Persephone's Tale* with her new Nevada City theater company House of Fates, and currently teaches and performs improv with the House of Yes in Nevada City.



**MATTHEW HEYER - Kenny Greene & Guide-Master Jack (Understudy)**

Graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette where he received his BFA in Theatre, Matthew won the Irene Ryan award for his ensemble work in 2018 and for his performance as Elliot in *Completeness* in 2019. His favorite mainstage productions include Charles in *As You Like It*, Thomas Putnam in *The Crucible*, and Shakespeare in *The Bard on Broadway*. Matt performs duties as a Dialect Coach for Placer Repertory Theater productions. As an actor, for Placer Rep in 2021, Matthew played the characters George and Milo in *From the Mind of Scott Charles*, and the title role in "An Evening with Sherlock Holmes" as well as Mr. Elliot in *The Jane Austen Soiree*.

## THE CREATIVE TEAM



Producer:  
T.S. Forsyth

Production Stage Manager:  
Bobbi DeLeón



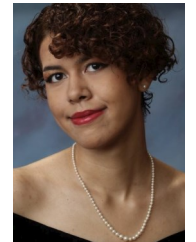
Box Office Mgmt./Crew:  
Robert Bruce

Eagle-Scout Consultant / Crew:  
Hunter Davidson



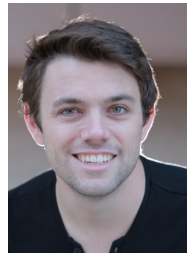
House Manager:  
Becca Foster

Assistant House Manager:  
Kennedy-Jade Green



Rehearsal Stage Manager:  
Gage Doss

Assistant Stage Manager:  
Matt Heyer



Videographer:  
Andy Poston

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