

Ghosts of Placer County: Mainstage World Premiere

History in the making for Placer County & Placer Rep

By: Teresa Stirling Forsyth

Here's the inside scoop. If you saw a stage reading of *Ghosts of Placer County*, you are in for a **huge surprise at the tremendous transformation** from stage reading to mainstage world premiere September 30 through October 8 in Roseville.

Stage readings of early versions of a script are important to confirm the audience finds the characters interesting and the story compelling to make sure the project is worth the *thousands of hours* that will be spent developing and transforming the work to turn it into a professional mainstage world premiere.

As the playwright and director, this journey has taken a year from initial concept, through research of and visits to ten Placer County population areas, copious drafts, receipt of feedback from actors and multiple stage reading audiences, to the final lonely months of significant script development. *I'm grateful for the opportunity to have met new partners and friends, and immersed myself in Placer County history, culture and its communities.*

And now, as we rehearse, and add costumes, lights and sound to the production, this is when **theater magic** happens. All the months of hard work, generous support from partners, friends and the public add up to an emotional, meaningful, impactful night of theater for Placer County and its surrounding areas. *This play shares our history, our triumphs and our struggles, as it depicts archetypal relationships, human experiences and catharsis. Bring a tissue for the touching final scene.*

MAKING HISTORY. This mainstage world premiere is an historic event for Placer County and for Placer Repertory Theater. This production is not only Placer Rep's first multi-week mainstage production, but also ***Placer County's first opportunity to support its own professional regional theater company for a multi-week run of a new play on a mainstage. And that is set in and features stories from our area!***

"Placer Repertory Theater, its partners, friends and patrons, together, are building a legacy of professional theater in Placer County! We encourage you to come and see the beauty of the history and people of the area," said Kevin Foster who plays Kenny Greene. *This new play is the poignant story of a mother-daughter relationship that spans 30 years, and*

Ghosts of Placer County

Mainstage World Premiere—Sept 30 thru Oct 8



Placer Repertory Theater

PlacerRep.org 



features history, ghost stories, and admirable contributions from people throughout Placer County.

It is my hope you will come out and see this work, embrace this burgeoning legacy, and feel touched by this play. The whole Placer Repertory Theater family hopes this play makes area residents feel **Placer County Proud**.

Be a part of HISTORY! Help build a LEGACY. See Ghosts of Placer County.

FMI: Ghosts of Placer
County

Development and Premiere of Ghosts of Placer County supported in part by:



Armrod Charitable Foundation



And ...

Your Donations

Thank you so much!

of the [Sacramento Region](#)
[Community Foundation](#)

September News:

Meet the Cast of Ghosts of Placer County

By: Kevin Foster

Ghosts of Placer County, by T.S. Forsyth, is a comedic drama that shares history and ghost stories from throughout Placer County as it shows how individual and community history haunts us and how we haunt history to define ourselves. The play follows 30 years of a mildly dysfunctional mother-daughter relationship, and how it develops and changes over time.

MEET OUR WONDERFUL CAST



KATHERINE STROLLER: Aubrey Emersyn Dagmar

Katherine 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*, Cathleen in *Long Day's Journey into Night*, and The Woman from *The Woman in Black*. She recently performed in PRT's Haunting History. When she is not acting, Katherine is a character movement coach and writer. [Learn more](http://katherinestroller.com) at katherinestroller.com.



ANNE MERINO: Dr. Dessa Dagmar

Anne danced for the American Ballet Theatre & London Festival Ballet and won the Vanguard Award for Choreography. Anne's theatrical training was received at Chicago's Goodman Theatre, Second City with Del Close and Jim Belushi and under Alan Rickman at the British American Drama Academy. Anne performed with The Groundlings, Time Robbin's The Actors' Gang and is a member of the theatre faculty at William Jessup University.



JUDY MERRICK: Aubrey & Dr. Dagmar (Understudy)

Judy worked 13 years in New York as a performer & director. Her favorite credits include Portia in *Merchant of Venice* (Santa Monica Playhouse), Adam Rapp's *Ghost in the Cottonwoods*, Playwrights Horizons, the Manhattan Theatre Club, and the tour with *Knuckleball*, for which she won best actress at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. MFA from USC and RADA & AADA trained, Judy now teaches and performs improv with the House of Yes in Nevada City.



KEVIN FOSTER: Kenny Greene

B.A. in Music Performance (UC Davis). After graduation, Kevin performed with Sacramento Theatre Company, then moved to NY to pursue performing arts. When Kevin returned to California, he taught youth performing arts at STC and currently teaches for PRT. Kevin played Dr. Watson in the 2020 & 2021 Placer Rep Sherlock Holmes productions and digital series, as well as roles in *Persuasion*, winning a



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. 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



Matthew D. Heyer

MATTHEW HEYER: Kenny & Guide-Master (Understudy)

Matthew received his BFA in Theatre and won the Irene Ryan ensemble award in 2018 and won again in 2019 for his performance as Elliot in *Completeness*. His favorite mainstage productions include Charles in *As You Like It*, Thomas Putnam in *The Crucible*, and Shakespeare in *The Bard on Broadway*. Matt serves as a Dialect Coach for Placer Rep, where in 2021 he played the title role in "An Evening with Sherlock Holmes," and

Broadway World award for best supporting actor.

of his favorite roles is Patrick Stone in *Inventing Van Gogh* with Big Idea Theatre.

in 2022 performs monthly in *Rifts in Time*: Interactive Adventure Theater.

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

By: Matt Heyer, Placer Rep Performer

When I first auditioned for Placer Rep in 2021, I didn't know they were only in their second season at the time. The audition process was professional and warm.

As a recent college graduate, this theatre company allows me to broaden my portfolio as a techie while learning new skills as an actor. It truly feels like a family that has grown to include amazing talent and wonderful people.

Tess Forsyth is an accomplished and inspired director/playwright who has created an outlet for the arts that is desperately needed in this region. She diligently works to connect with the community and helps to bridge gaps through Placer Rep's locally relevant works performed on the stage. I always look forward to working at Placer Rep and know other company members feel the same way.

RIFTS IN TIME: Interactive Adventure Theater:

During the monthly 'improv' show, *RIFTS in Time*, two other professional actors, Anne Merino and Kevin Foster, and I perform a living, breathing storytelling adventure that uses improv & role-playing game elements.

The scenarios provided have led to some fascinating and extremely humorous situations, including actors having to act like paleolithic hominids, sneaking away from prepubescent museum guards (played wonderfully by two young audience members), and finding ourselves on trial for witchcraft! BTW, while this show is often attended by audiences 18-70, it is G rated, and the kind of immersive fun that even an eight-year-old would relish.

There was one show where, by the luck of the dice, I have been "marked" by a "dark entity" for some nefarious future purpose to be revealed at the October show. **(Don't ask me what will happen, as only our storyteller knows where this is going.)**

In all, the show has been a resounding success, and I hope the program will find full funding for 2023 so we can continue to explore history and lore while sharpening our

Placer Repertory Theater

PRESENTS

2022 WEEK-FOUR PROGRAMS

Fourth Wednesday & Fourth Sunday each Month



Collaboration
A FREE OPEN MIC and creative LAB
for the Arts, Culture and Humanities
Fourth Wednesday of each month @ 7 p.m.
Live in Person & Live-Streamed via Zoom
FMI: [eventbrite](#) Or email Outreach@PlacerRep.org
to reserve your performance slot, seat or get the zoom link.



THE WRITERS WORKSHOP

- Hear professional actors read your work
- Receive peer feedback
- Workshop your writing with the facilitator.
- Networking & performance opportunities.

Professional Growth: Continuing Education, Masterclass #680
Facilitator: T.S. Forsyth



Placer Repertory Theater **Pilot Program** PlacerRep.org
Rifts in Time
Interactive Adventure Theater
IMPROV ROLE-PLAYING GAME YOU PARTICIPATE
IMMERSIVE THEATER FMI: [eventbrite](#)

FMI: [eventbrite](#)

creative and collaborative skills with our participating audiences.

Writers Workshop:

This Masterclass, The Writers Workshop ... as a variety of people share their work, each session is unique. The workshop propels each writer's work forward and they leave energized and excited to write. Directors and actors also learn so much from attending!

CoLABoration LAB:

Community outreach, networking, and incubating new works and creative talents, the LAB is a platform to discuss the creative process, receive deep, rich feedback that is meaningful and supportive, and is welcoming to all walks of life and all manner of creativity. Free of charge, refreshments provided, and a whole lot of fun!

Come play with us at Placer Rep's Week Four Programs!

Reserve your seats on [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/placer-rep-theater-30342509116>

REGIONAL:

celebrating our Spanish Heritage



Hand enameled plate from Seville, Spain

A new exhibit that looks at the history of the Spanish who made the arduous journey from Spain to Hawaii, finally making their home in Rocklin

Now through September 25th.

The Rocklin History Museum, 3895 Rocklin Road, Rocklin, CA

Hours: Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 pm

Exhibit ends September 25: Rocklin History Museum

For more information about the Rocklin Historical Society and the Rocklin History Museum, including hours of operations, upcoming events and membership...

VISIT ROCKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

<https://rocklinhistorical.org/>

NATIONAL:

**Spielberg movie
"Fabelmans" premieres in
Toronto as director
examines antisemitism of
his childhood**

Steven Spielberg finally turned the camera on his own childhood — from his parents' troubled marriage to anti-Semitic bullying — as his new movie "*The Fabelmans*" received its world premiere on a star-studded Saturday at the Toronto film festival.

Read More

<https://www.voanews.com/a/spielberg-confronts-his-childhood-as-fabelmans-premieres-in-toronto/6739985.html>



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MAST HEAD

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