



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Placer Repertory Theater: BoxOffice@PlacerRep.org | PlacerRep.org
FREE PUBLIC SHOW / EVENT

Visual Artists & a Giggle of Comedians present at Placer Rep's March LAB

With Comedian Funny Robert as a guest host for the March Collaboration LAB, it is no surprise that a “giggle” of comedians populates the presenter slots alongside the headliner, Auburn Sculptor Jennifer Johnson, at Placer Rep's March 26 LAB, being held for the first time in its new venue, the event room at Cool River Pizza & Taphouse. Conveniently located on the Roseville/Rocklin border, only a couple miles off I-80 exit 105B (Taylor/Pacific), Cool River's event room has all the necessary amenities for the LAB and its variety of presenters from visual artists, designers, and all types of writers, to comedians, musicians, actors/singers/dancers and cultural groups. Wine, beer and soft drinks are available for purchase, and Placer Rep will provide pizza for the room.

“While I've been a presenter a couple times at Collaboration LAB, this is my first time to host the show, and my first pizza in at least a week,” said Funny Robert, a graduate of the San Francisco Comedy College who has performed throughout the western U.S., including San Francisco and Los Angeles, as well as Reno, Las Vegas and Austin, Texas. “I'm looking forward to a microbrew on draft and to hear headliner Jennifer Johnson discuss her inspiration from found and discarded steel. I wonder how much it would cost to commission Jennifer to ‘sculpt’ a new catalytic converter?” A few of the other featured creatives for March 26 include:

- Daniel Carillo - Comedian
- Amber Zajec - Comedian
- Audrey Ella Garland – Actor/Singer
- Carrie Meyers – Comedian
- Wesley Hoffman - Comedian

Matt Heyer, Booker and Color Commentator for Collaboration LAB chimed in, “The LAB is this amazing, safe space – warm and friendly – where every walk of creativity is



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embraced and welcomed. Cultural groups and creatives come together to share new works, market themselves or hone their performance or presentation skills. They often ask for audience feedback to continue their creative development.”

Collaboration LAB is a free monthly event. Presenters and audience members alike register for FREE on Eventbrite.com to ensure their seat at the live event and secure their eligibility for the monthly drawing for \$100 in prizes (must be present onsite to win). The monthly prize is an incentive to remind presenters and attendees to register for the LAB **as seating is limited**. Visit Placer Repertory Theater on Eventbrite.com to register for this FREE live event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/collaboration-lab-tickets-515729529907>.

Placer Repertory Theater (www.PlacerRep.org) is a 501(c)3 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 and surrounding area, while supporting local organizations and acting as an economic engine for the region. Follow Placer Repertory Theater on Facebook (PlacerRep), Twitter and Instagram: @PlacerRep and subscribe to their YouTube Channel (Placer Repertory Theater).

Publishers: Contact BoxOffice@PlacerRep.org



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COLLABORATION LAB TEAM



TERESA STIRLING FORSYTH – Producing Artistic Director, Guest Host, LAB PRODUCER

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 renowned 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, Shawnee State University, 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 renowned venues, and received Dramalogue Awards, Critics Circle Awards, Indy Award: Best Spoken Word Album, Broadway World Awards, the Gloria Burt Fellowship in Literature, as well as numerous grants from the NEA, NEH, CAC, ACPC and corporations. She is a member of the professional organizations: The Dramatists Guild, SDC Stage Directors & Choreographers, The Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), TCG and NNPN/New Play Exchange.



SHIANNE DINGEMAN – LAB CO-HOST / Technician

With a B.A. in Films/Media Studies and a minor in Theater with a Directing concentration from U C Santa Barbara, Shianne is a new company member with Placer Repertory Theater as of 2023. Some of her favorite previous directing projects include *Art/Work* by Russell Leigh Sharman, *South Lake Tahoe* by Brian Otaño, and scenes from *The Seagull* by Anton Chekhov and *Stupid F*cking Bird* by Aaron Posner. Shianne graduated with honors in her major and looks forward to directing and administrating with Placer Repertory Theater.



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MATT HEYER – COLOR COMMENTATOR

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 Stanley in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Charles in *As You Like It*, Thomas Putnam in *The Crucible*, and Shakespeare in *The Bard on Broadway*. Matt studied IPA and performs duties as a Dialect Coach for Placer Repertory Theater productions. As an actor, for Placer Rep in 2021, Matthew has played the characters George and Milo in *From the Mind of Scott Charles*, and the title role in “An Evening with Sherlock Holmes” featuring a new play based on *The Sign of the Four* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. In 2022, Matt was part of the ensemble cast for *Haunting History*, and the ASM and Understudy for two roles in the mainstage world premiere of *Ghosts of Placer County*.



FUNNY ROBERT – GUEST HOST for MARCH LAB

A graduate of the San Francisco Comedy College, Robert has performed throughout California, as well as in Reno, Las Vegas, and Austin, Texas. As an Emcee / comedian, he has hosted comedy shows, as well as open mic nights for professional clubs. Among his favorite performances are his evening at The Improv in San Jose and performing as a featured comedian at Rooster T. Feathers in Sunnyvale. He draws his comedy from his family, work and the comic-tragedy that is the human existence.



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THE EVENT

CoLABoration LAB

- Open Stage event/show that features New Work/Talent Incubation & Networking.

DETAILS

CoLABoration LAB - An open stage incubation and networking monthly event program offered in-person and via zoom, featuring presentations, performances and new works shared by individual creatives and cultural organizations from Placer County and beyond. Open stage time is offered to the audience after the pre-booked presenters complete their performances or presentations. Drawing of \$100 in prizes for those presenters and attendees who register via Eventbrite.com and are present at the time of the drawing.

WHERE:

In-Person: Cool River Pizza & Taphouse, 6200 Stanford Ranch Rd., Rocklin CA

WHEN:

March 26, 2023 (Pacific)

FMI / TICKETS:

Free registration on Eventbrite.com:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/collaboration-lab-tickets-515729529907>

Reserve Presentation Slot: email BoxOffice@PlacerRep.org

WHO:

- Funny Robert, Comedian & Guest Host for March 2023
- Shianne Dingeman, Co-Host / Technician
- Matthew Heyer, Color Commentator
- T. S. Forsyth, Producing Artistic Director

GRAPHIC BELOW:



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Guest Host Funny Robert:



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