



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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September 18, 2023

Placer Repertory Theater: BoxOffice@PlacerRep.org | PlacerRep.org

FREE PUBLIC SHOW / EVENT

International Sculptor Jay Stargaard headlines Sept Collaboration LAB

Placer Repertory Theater is excited to announce the inclusion of Jay Stargaard, international sculptor & painter, to headline Collaboration LAB on September 24 in Rocklin. In addition to Stargaard, an excerpt from a new theatrical work by Lew Osteen is to be read by professional actors, Connie McLennan will share her paintings and illustrations, and comedian Funny Robert is slated to perform. Audience members are encouraged to participate in post-presentation Q&As and are invited to introduce themselves and share their work or talent during the open stage portion of the LAB. Creatives from all artistic and cultural disciplines, and general audience members, are welcome to this FREE event, held the fourth Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Cool River Pizza & Taphouse event room in Rocklin.

The September Collaboration LAB headliner, sculptor and painter Jay Stargaard, creates hand-crafted indoor and outdoor private commissions from San Francisco to New York, creates public art for Sacramento and Auburn and creates site-specific commercial installations, while her works also exhibit in galleries, at performance art programs, high-end art festivals and as temporary art installations. Jay Stargaard's creations are enjoyed by private collectors in Australia, Canada, Denmark, England, Japan, Poland, and United States. "I am proud to hold my work to the highest standard of quality. I love what I do," said Stargaard. Her studio is located in Weimar, California. Studio and Garden Tours are available by appointment only and commissions are welcome. For more information on her work, visit her website, Stargaardart.com.

The theme for September's LAB is "Fusion: Creative Chaos becomes synergy." Creatives share their work or talent, followed by an optional Q&A. After the open stage



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portion, at the end of the evening, there is a drawing for \$100 in prizes. This month, the prize donors are Starbucks Coffee and Wally's Café. The monthly drawing is an incentive to remind presenters and attendees to register for the LAB as *seating is limited*. The LAB is conveniently located on the Roseville/Rocklin border and offers wine, draft microbrew beers, soft drinks, and the full Cool River menu of items available for purchase, as Placer Rep provides a couple free pizzas in the room so everyone can have a slice and enjoy the free show. *Visit Placer Repertory Theater on Eventbrite.com to register for this FREE live event.*

"I am so grateful to take part in our monthly LABs and all the rich conversations we have about the creative process. It's like 1920's Paris – creatives from all disciplines sharing and learning from each other and being inspired by each other," said Matthew Heyer, LAB Color Commentator, *"I'm so proud of this amazing program and hope to see you there."*

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 areas, 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 – LAB PRODUCER, GUEST HOST

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. She has instructed and directed at numerous educational institutions, including UC Davis, University of San Francisco and University of Minnesota. 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, and an Indy Award: Best Spoken Word Album. While with Placer Rep, her projects have won Broadway World Awards, the Gloria Burt Fellowship in Literature and Gold Country Media awards. Her prior works have won numerous grants from the NEA, CAC 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.



ARIE KNYAZEV – LAB CO-HOST / TECHNICIAN – Aug-Oct

Haunting History in 2022 was Arie's first opportunity to work with Placer Repertory Theater. Previously, he starred as the character William Gillette in Ken Ludwig's play *The Game's Afoot*, produced by the State Theatre Acting Company at the Auburn State Theatre in Auburn and as Max in *Lend Me a Tenor* for Lincoln Theatre Company. A software engineer by day, he says he would happily give up his lucrative high-tech career to become a starving professional actor. Currently he studies with Placer Repertory Theater in Studium-Practicum, a professional growth program providing MFA curriculum to Placer Rep company members and affiliates.



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MATT HEYER – BOOKER, 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*. Having studied IPA, Matt 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*. In 2023, Matt starred in the titular role of *Uncle Vanya*, produced by Placer Rep.



FUNNY ROBERT – Comedian, Technical Director

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, and has been seen briefly on TV in *Last Comic Standing*. 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 tragicomedy that is human existence.



THE EVENT

CoLABoration LAB

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

DETAILS

CoLABoration LAB – Both a pre-booked show and an open stage, the LAB is a cultural incubator and networking opportunity each month for creatives and general audience members featuring presentations, performances and new works shared by individual creatives and cultural organizations primarily from the Greater Sacramento Area, with occasional national or international guests. Open stage time is offered to the audience after the pre-booked presenters complete their performances. Drawing for \$100 in prizes for those presenters and attendees who reserve their FREE seats via Eventbrite.com and are present onsite during the drawing.

WHERE:

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

WHEN:

September 24, 2023, at 7 PM (Pacific)

FMI / TICKETS:

Free registration on Eventbrite.com:

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

Reserve Presentation Slot for October: email BoxOffice@PlacerRep.org

WHO:

- T. S. Forsyth, LAB Producer, September Host
- Arie Knyazev, Co-Host / Technician
- Matthew Heyer, Color Commentator



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GRAPHICS INCLUDED BELOW:

- 1) Sculptor, painter Jay Stargaard's work "Wings"





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