

presents

The 4th Wall

Originally conceived by Lindsey Mantoan

A once-a-month gathering of peninsula teenagers interested in learning more about theater and performance.

- MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS -

Any student age 13-19 who is interested in theater may join. Yearly dues are \$425 and cover the cost of attending performances, workshops, and workshop supplies.

- PROGRAM DIRECTOR -

Ria Lodick has been involved with theater steadily around the Bay Area for over a decade and is the resident Stage Manager and junior show Summer Camp Director at Bay Area eTc. She has a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education, a Master of Education in Instructional Design, and a Vocal Performance Graduate Certificate with an emphasis in Musical Theater. She loves the challenge and the art of passing information on to young minds in ways that inspire them to explore their own creativity and passions.

- GET INVOLVED -

We welcome parent/guardian chaperones for our show trips. To get involved, please email: 4thwall@bayareaetc.org

- PROGRAM OBJECTIVES -

- ◆ Attend a variety of performances around the Bay Area and engage in thoughtful discussions afterwards
- ◆ Become critical spectators who view performance as entertainment while also breaking down elements of a performance to analyze how they operate in the larger production
- ◆ Apply what you learn from watching performances to your own performance technique
- ◆ Develop and hone skills necessary to perform with integrity and great satisfaction
- ◆ Be exposed to various aspects of theater history and stagecraft
- ◆ Build a community that fosters a love and appreciation of the performing arts



2018-2019 The 4th Wall Cohort

OCTOBER 2024

Workshop: Scene Study

The influence of European playwrights Anton Chekhov, Henrik Ibsen, and August Strindberg despite being written over a century ago still capture the human condition and societal issues of today. The innovations introduced by these playwrights established the basis for naturalism in Western theater, and to this day set the benchmark for the actor's craft in both theater and film. This three-hour workshop will explore the reasons behind the continued relevance and will investigate playscripts for clues about character, plot, relationships, and strategies for presenting this information. Participants will develop their skills in reading like actors as well as like directors. **Led by Thomas Freeland at 9:00 am, Saturday 10/5/2024 at Melodic Dance Studio**

Thomas Freeland is a lecturer in the Oral Communication Program at Stanford University, leading workshops and providing individual coaching in vocal technique, public speaking and interview preparation. He has a Ph.D. in Drama from Stanford, and a B.F.A. and M.A. in Theater from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Thomas has also both directed and appeared in many local stage productions, and in various roles in the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. He has published articles and translations in Theatre Journal, New German Critique, and Performing Arts Journal.

NOVEMBER 2024

TAPS

Stanford THEATER & PERFORMANCE STUDIES

PIGOTT THEATER

(IN MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM COMPLEX)

Chekhov's Three Sisters

Anton Chekhov's most complex of plays, and a masterpiece, *Three Sisters* is a haunting and sensitive play that honors the lives of ordinary people and the simple heroism of keeping on. Its enduring significance lies in its portrayal of three sisters trapped in a dreary provincial setting, sustained only by the fantasy of an escape to a glittering Moscow of the mind. This production will be produced in collaboration with the COLLEGE program and Stanford Arts Intensive. **8:00 pm, Saturday 11/16/2024**

DECEMBER 2024



JaJa's African Hair Braiding

with Theater-Led Post-Show Discussion After

Step into the vibrant world of Jaja's African Hair Braiding, a beloved Harlem hotspot where West African immigrant braiders work their magic on the locals' locks. Amidst the lively buzz of a scorching summer, love ignites, dreams soar, and secrets unravel. But beneath the surface lies a current of uncertainty, pushing this close-knit community to confront the challenges of being outsiders in their own neighborhood. From the pen of acclaimed Ghanaian American playwright Jocelyn Bioh (*Goddess, School Girls; Or, The African Mean Girls Play*) and directed by Obie winner Whitney White, *Jaja's African Hair Braiding* is "a play that is equally affecting as it is hilarious," hails Entertainment Weekly. **2:00 pm, Saturday 12/7/2024**

JANUARY 2025



Some Like It Hot

Set in Chicago when Prohibition has everyone thirsty for a little excitement, two musicians are forced to flee the Windy City after witnessing a mob hit. With gangsters hot on their heels, they catch a cross-country train for the life-chasing, life-changing trip of a lifetime. Based on the 1959 MGM/UA feature film *Some Like It Hot*, which in turn was based on the 1935 French film *Fanfare of Love*, *Some Like It Hot* was named Best Musical by the Drama Desk, The Drama League, and the Outer Critics Circle, and the winner of 4 Tony Awards and the Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album, no wonder Deadline calls it "a tap-dancing, razzle-dazzling embrace of everything you love about musical theater." **1:00 pm, Saturday 1/18/2025**

FEBRUARY 2025

Workshop: Puppetry

In this three-hour workshop, participants will explore the varied design and performance techniques of puppetry. Some historical puppetry traditions will be covered, and the workshop will conclude with the students constructing their own rudimentary puppet in the style of their choosing. Workshop materials will be provided. **Led by Scott Ludwig at 9:00 am, Saturday 2/22/2025 at the eTc Warehouse**

Scott Ludwig is an alumnus of San Francisco State University's Drama Department and has designed puppets for San Francisco Lyric Opera, The African-American Shakespeare Company, and for past e.T.c productions. Scott currently works as the resident production manager and technical director at Palo Alto Players and as a freelance set designer and 3D draftsman. Directing credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Macbeth*, and *The Three Sisters*.

MARCH 2025

Workshop: Musical Theater Tap

In this three-hour workshop, participants will learn the basics of tap in order to successfully audition for a tap musical! They will be taught the fundamental steps and techniques in order to "fake" their way through a tap audition, in addition to techniques on how to sell their personality along with their eagerness to learn. A short combo will also be taught. Tap shoes not necessary to participate. **Led by Emily Simpson at 9:00 am, Saturday 3/8/2025 at Melodic Dance Studio**

Emily Simpson has been working with Bay Area eTc since 2018, choreographing *The Wizard of Oz* and *Peter Pan*, and *Beauty and the Beast* as well as directing *Newsies*, *Descendants*, and *The Little Mermaid*. Emily's love of dance started at Miss Tilley's Ballet Studio in San Francisco at age 3. She then continued her training in tap, jazz, and character at Star Dance Studio. She loves sharing her passion for dance with those around her.

APRIL 2025



The Comedy of Errors

Shakespeare's quintessential comedy, this farcical tale of separated families and mistaken identities delights audiences young and old. Antipholus and his servant, Dromio, travel in search of a long-lost family member, only to get mixed up in a madcap race against the clock, love-at-first-double-take, run-ins with local law enforcement, and double trouble - times two. Christina Anderson's translation maintains all we love about Shakespeare's language even as it updates the jokes and wordplay, breathing new life into the double (and triple) entendres. Additional support for *The Comedy of Errors* is provided by the Hitz Foundation and Play On Shakespeare. **8:00 pm, Saturday 4/26/2025**

MAY 2025

Workshop: Voice & Dialect

Join our engaging three-hour Voice Workshop designed for actors eager to enhance their vocal skills! Participants will explore essential techniques for projection, clarity, and emotional tone, along with a brief introduction to dialects. Through interactive exercises and group activities, you'll gain practical experience in applying these voice techniques to scene work. Don't miss this opportunity to elevate your performance skills and discover the power of your voice! **Led by Rachel Hallstrom at 9:00 am, Saturday 5/3/2025 at Melodic Dance Studio**

Rachel Hallstrom is classically trained in theater with a B.A. from SF State, studied with ACT San Francisco, and has had the pleasure of working with some of the premier Bay Area actors and coaches. She is trained in Classical Theater, Method Acting, Meisner, Stella Adler, Improvisation, Comedic Theater, Stage Combat, Voice, Directing and Play Writing and has acted professionally in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and on the East Coast performing on stage and in movies, as well as been an acting instructor and coach. Rachel has served as acting coach for a number of eTc shows and will always push her students to be the best they can be.