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Pasadena Playhouse Continues Their Incredible Expansion of Educational Offerings for 2026

16 Community Classes and 2 Summer Camps For Students Ages 5 to 105!

"By virtue of its reputation — freshly burnished in 2023 when it became only the second Los Angeles institution to win a Regional Tony Award — the Playhouse has attracted a talented, highly qualified roster of teaching artists" – Los Angeles Times



Youth & Teens

Little Players (Ages 5 – 7) Physical Comedy (Ages 8 – 11)

Playhouse Players: Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS (Ages 7 – 12)

Playhouse Players: Once Upon A Mattress: Youth Edition (Ages 11 – 16)

Playwriting (Ages 9 – 13)

Puppetry (Ages 8 - 11)

Story Theater (Ages 5 – 7)

Teen Acting Intensive (Ages 14 - 18)

Adults

Acting For Non-Actors (Ages 18+)
Acting the Song (Ages 18+)
Drama Book Club (Ages 18+)
Brigadoon 101: Through the Mist (Ages 18+)

Comedy for the Stage (Ages 18+)
Playhouse Singers: A Musical Theater Community Choir (Ages 18+)

Shadow Puppetry Workshop (Ages 14+)
Your Story Matters: A Storytelling Workshop (Ages 18+)

Summer Camps

Musical Theater Boot Camp (Ages 14 - 18)
Playhouse Players Summer Camp: Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. (Ages 7 - 12)

Enrollment Opens Nov 11, 2025
Enrollment & Scholarship Information
Available at pasadenaplayhouse.org

PASADENA, CA (November 11, 2025) – Danny Feldman, Producing Artistic Director of Pasadena Playhouse, the official State Theater of California and recipient of the 2023 Regional Theatre Tony Award, announces the continued expansion in 2026 of educational offerings for all ages from the theater's robust Education Department with 16 new community classes and 2 summer camps. As recently related in the *Los Angeles Times*, "education is as core to us as the shows on stage," said Feldman. "When we were making the bold choice of purchasing back this building, it wasn't just about restoring an old theater." Additionally, Feldman joins the roster of teaching artists this Spring as he prepares to teach a seminar on *Brigadoon* leading up to the Playhouse's production of the classic musical.

Youth classes offered will include **Playwriting** (Ages 9 – 13) January 14 – March 4, **Little Players** (Ages 5 – 7) January 13 – March 20, **Physical Comedy** (Ages 8 – 11) February 2 – March 9, **Playhouse Players**: *Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS* (Ages 7 – 12) February 10 – May 22, **Puppetry** (Ages 8 – 11) April 13 – May 18, and **Story Theater** (Ages 5 – 7) April 16 – May 14.

Teen classes offered will include **Teen Acting Intensive** (Ages 14 - 18) February 2 - March 9 and **Playhouse Players:** *Once Upon A Mattress: Youth Edition* (Ages 11 - 16) February 11 - May 16.

Adult classes offered will include **Your Story Matters: A Storytelling Workshop** January 10th, 11th, and 18th, **Playhouse Singers: A Musical Theater Community Choir** (Winter Session (Advanced): Jan 12 – Mar 2, Winter Session (Beginner): Jan 21 – Mar 2, Spring Session (Advanced): Apr 6 – Jun 1, Spring Session (Beginner): Apr 15 – June 1, **Acting For Non-Actors** January 13 – February 17, **Acting the Song** February 19 – March 26, **Drama Book Club** January 6 – February 10, **Brigadoon 101: Through the Mist** April 18 – May 9, **Comedy for the Stage** February 5 – March 12 and **Shadow Puppetry Workshop** (Ages 14+) April 19.

Playhouse Player's summer camps will feature the magic of **Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR**. for ages 7 - 12 during four two-week sessions from June 15 through August 7 and **Musical Theater Bootcamp** returns for ages 14 - 18 from July 20-July 31.

Enrollment for all classes officially opens November 11, 2025. Additional details, including cost and scholarship information for all classes can be found at <u>pasadenaplayhouse.org.</u>

PLEASE NOTE: We have a limited number of partial scholarships available for all classes offered on a rolling basis.

If you are interested in a scholarship, please apply using this link:

Youth Classes Scholarship Application Adult Classes Scholarship Application Summer Camp Scholarship Application

<u>Playwriting – Ages 9 – 13</u> January 14 – March 4

Time: Wednesdays, 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Teaching Artist: Emoria Weidner

Ages: 9 – 13

Tuition: \$320, Member Discount: \$256

In this class, students will become playwrights, actors, and collaborators as they create and perform their very own original play! The class explores every step of the creative process of making a play; from building characters and shaping plot to writing dialogue and bringing stories to life on stage. Through games, improvisation, and ensemble storytelling, students will learn how ideas evolve from brainstorming to script to performance. The session culminates in a joyful sharing where families can see the students' imaginative work come alive before their eyes.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Emoria Weidner is a teaching artist, director, actor, and educational theatre producer. With over 15 years of theatre education experience, she has worked with thousands of students of all ages, from toddlers to adults. Emoria is a teaching artist for the Pasadena Playhouse, as well as the School Programs Coordinator for Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum. Her teaching method focuses on individual voices, ensemble work, and inclusion of every student, creating a classroom environment where students feel seen and heard while developing confidence and social skills that will last a lifetime.

<u>Little Players – Ages 5 – 7</u> January 13 – March 20

Time: Tuesdays - Fridays. 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM

Teaching Artist: Taylor Wallis

Ages: 5 – 7

Tuition: \$235, Member Discount \$188

Get ready for a wild adventure! In this playful Little Players class, young actors will journey into the jungle to meet Mowgli, Baloo, Bagheera, and all their animal friends while learning songs

from *Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS*. Through imagination, movement, and music, kids will bring this classic story to life while learning the basics of performing and working together as a team. With plenty of fun along the way, the class culminates in a cheerful mini performance for family and friends—celebrating creativity, confidence, and the joy of music!

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Taylor Wallis is a teaching artist and actor from Dallas, Texas. She graduated with a degree in musical theatre from Millikin University and taught in public schools for 10 years before moving to Los Angeles. Since 2010, Taylor has been teaching and performing professionally, bringing her passion for the arts to life. Excited to work with the community at the historic Pasadena Playhouse, she looks forward to inspiring the next generation of artists.

Physical Comedy – Ages 8 – 11 February 2 – March 9

Time: Mondays 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Teaching Artist: Jack Novak

Ages: 8 – 11

Tuition: \$200, Member Discount: \$160

In this class, everyone's the clown! Young performers will discover the art of clowning, mime, and expressive movement to create hilarious moments on stage. Through imaginative play and physical theater exercises, they'll learn comedic timing and rhythm, slapstick, and how to create their own wacky characters. Perfect for kids who love to be silly, dramatic, or just can't sit still!

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Jack Novak is a playwright, actor, comedian, and teaching artist. As an actor, he performed at numerous theaters in Chicago and Washington, DC before relocating to the LA area. He received a Helen Hayes Award nomination for his performance in Lover's Vows (We Happy Few), which the Washington Post review described as "screamingly funny." He was also a company member with Faction of Fools, Washington DC's Commedia dell'Arte company. He currently teaches playwriting and physical comedy at Cal State Fullerton, where his original play X-Out is in development to be produced on campus then toured to New York in the Spring of 2026. He received his MFA in playwriting and screenwriting from the UC Riverside low-residency MFA program.

Playhouse Players: Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS - Ages 7 - 12

February 10 – May 22

Time: Tuesday - Friday 4:15 PM - 6:15 PM

Teaching Artist: Taylor Wallis

Ages: 7 – 12

Tuition: \$600, Member Discount \$480

Adventure awaits in the jungle! In this session of Playhouse Players, students will dive into the wild world of *Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS*, bringing to life beloved characters like Mowgli, Baloo, and Bagheera through acting, movement, and music. Young performers will build confidence, teamwork, and stage skills as they rehearse and perform an adapted version of this timeless tale. Perfect for both new and returning students, this class celebrates creativity,

collaboration, and the joy of storytelling — all culminating in a lively final performance for family and friends!

Please note: Pasadena Playhouse classes will not take a spring break, but we understand that your student may miss class according to their school's spring break schedule.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Taylor Wallis is a teaching artist and actor from Dallas, Texas. She graduated with a degree in musical theatre from Millikin University and taught in public schools for 10 years before moving to Los Angeles. Since 2010, Taylor has been teaching and performing professionally, bringing her passion for the arts to life. Excited to work with the community at the historic Pasadena Playhouse, she looks forward to inspiring the next generation of artists.

<u>Puppetry – Ages 8 – 11</u> April 13 – May 18

Time: Mondays 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM Teaching Artist: Sam Rotengold

Ages: 8 – 11

Tuition: \$350, Member Discount: \$280

Puppetry is back! This semester, Jim Henson Foundation-supported puppeteer Sam Rotengold invites participants to turn their favorite stories into miniature productions. Over six weeks, students (ages 8-11) will explore marionettes, table-top puppets, and toy theater as we combine centuries-old traditions with modern materials and our own creativity to build and perform reimagined stagings of beloved books, poems, or tales from our own imaginations.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Sam Rotengold is a puppeteer, writer, and arts educator based in Los Angeles. As a Thomas J. Watson fellow, Sam trained in traditional forms of puppetry around the world while exploring empathy and projection across the animate/inanimate divide. His work has been supported by the Jim Henson Foundation and featured at theaters and festivals on five continents. Alongside his art-making, Sam is the Lead Teaching Artist and In-School/Family Engagement Administrator at the Tony Award-winning Pasadena Playhouse, where he creates opportunities for audiences of all ages to explore the performing arts inspired by the shows featured onstage. To the role he brings fifteen years of experience teaching for organizations including The New Victory Theater, Lincoln Center, and the Kennedy Center, through which he continues to offer Arts Integration professional development opportunities for classroom teachers across the country. More information at: www.samjaygold.com

Story Theater – Ages 5 – 7 April 16 – May 14

Time: Thursdays, 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Teaching Artist: Claire Simba

Ages: 5 – 7

Tuition: \$180, Member Discount: \$144

Get ready to jump into a world of magic, adventure, and fun! In this playful theater class, kids will explore exciting tales using their actors' toolbox: their bodies, voices, and imaginations.

Together, we'll discover how to bring a story out of the page and onto the stage! Along the way, everyone gets to try out different characters, use their imagination, and have tons of fun working with new friends. This class is perfect for young actors and storytellers who love pretending and performing!

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Claire Simba is a versatile actress, director, and teaching artist with over a decade of experience in theater, film, and television. She has performed across the U.S. and Europe, with credits including Morbayassa (Cannes Film Festival official selection), Madam Secretary (CBS), and Everybody's in LA (Netflix). Her stage work includes the Old Globe, Cincinnati Playhouse, Antaeus Theatre Company, and more. Claire is also a passionate educator, designing and leading arts-based programs for youth, including those in detention and underserved communities. Born in France and fluent in both French and English, she brings a global and inclusive lens to her work. She believes in the transformative power of storytelling and continues to inspire growth, healing, and connection through the performing arts.

<u>Teen Acting Intensive – Ages 14 – 18</u>

February 2 – March 9

Time: Mondays, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Teaching Artist: Brandon Gill

Ages: 14 – 18

Tuition: \$240, Member Discount: \$192

Julliard-trained actor and acting coach, Brandon Gill (*TOPDOG/UNDERDOG* at the Playhouse), is back for another session! Students will learn how to select, analyze, and perform monologues, understanding structural and emotional components for audition and performance. All experience levels are welcome!

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

A proud New Yorker, Brandon Gill is a graduate of The Juilliard School. Recent: "Guildenstern" in the NY Public Theater's Hamlet (Shakespeare in the Park), directed by Kenny Leon. Theater: Originated the role of "Fred" in Broadway's Tony Award-winning production of *A Christmas Carol, Bella* (Playwrights Horizons, Lucille Lortel nomination – Best Featured Actor, dir Robert O'Hara), The Last Goodbye (Old Globe, dir Alex Timbers), World Premieres of Brandon Jacob Jenkins' Neighbors (Public Theater) & Too Heavy For Your Pocket (Roundabout). Brandon's narrated several NY Times Bestselling authors including Black Panther: Dreams of Wakanda. TV/Film: Chicago P.D., NCIS: New Orleans, Bashira, Radium Girls, Marvels: The Punisher, Madam Secretary, Blue Bloods, Law & Order: SVU.

Playhouse Players: Once Upon a Mattress: Youth Edition - Ages 11 - 16

February 11 – May 16

Time: Wednesdays, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Teaching Artist: Taylor Wallis

Ages: 11 – 16

Tuition: \$600, Member Discount \$480

Take the stage and bring a beloved Broadway classic to life in *Once Upon a Mattress: Youth Edition*! In this Playhouse Players class, students will experience the excitement of a true rehearsal process while receiving exceptional training in acting, singing, and dancing. Guided by professional teaching artists, young performers will develop their technique, confidence, and stage presence as they explore this clever musical made famous by Sutton Foster, Sarah Jessica Parker and the legendary Carol Burnett. The session culminates in a fully staged performance for family and friends—showcasing each student's growth, talent, and love of musical theatre.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Taylor Wallis is a teaching artist and actor from Dallas, Texas. She graduated with a degree in musical theatre from Millikin University and taught in public schools for 10 years before moving to Los Angeles. Since 2010, Taylor has been teaching and performing professionally, bringing her passion for the arts to life. Excited to work with the community at the historic Pasadena Playhouse, she looks forward to inspiring the next generation of artists.

Shadow Puppetry Workshop - Ages 14+

April 19

Time: Sunday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Teaching Artist: Sam Rotengold

Ages: 14+

Tuition: \$150, Member Discount: \$120

From traditional tales brought to life by a dancing flame to modern productions combining multiple projectors, animation, and live performance, Shadow puppetry has delighted and fascinated audiences around the world for centuries. Join Sam Rotengold, performer in *Song of the North* and Jim Henson Foundation-supported puppeteer, for a deep dive into this rich and varied art form. Over the course of this workshop, participants will gain hands-on experience with traditional puppetry construction and performance technique, as well as contemporary tricks and cinematic adaptations of this ancient performance art. This one day workshop is suited for ages 14 and up; enthusiastic newcomers and puppetry fanatics alike. Come ready to cut, carve, and shadow-cast as we create sweeping sagas and personal portraits from nothing more than light and darkness.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Sam Rotengold is a puppeteer, writer, and arts educator based in Los Angeles. As a Thomas J. Watson fellow, Sam trained in traditional forms of puppetry around the world while exploring empathy and projection across the animate/inanimate divide. His work has been supported by the Jim Henson Foundation and featured at theaters and festivals on five continents. Alongside his art-making, Sam is the Lead Teaching Artist and In-School/Family Engagement Administrator at the Tony Award-winning Pasadena Playhouse, where he creates opportunities for audiences of all ages to explore the performing arts inspired by the shows featured onstage. To the role he brings fifteen years of experience teaching for organizations including The New Victory Theater, Lincoln Center, and the Kennedy Center, through which he continues to offer Arts Integration professional development opportunities for classroom teachers across the country. More information at: www.samjaygold.com

Your Story Matters: A Storytelling Workshop - Ages 18+

January 10 & 11, with a final showcase on January 18

Time: 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM Teaching Artist: Kona Morris

Ages: Adults (18+)

Tuition: \$300, Member Discount: \$240

Storytelling encompasses every person on the planet, no matter your background, field of study, or walk of life. Join writer and storyteller Kona Morris (*The Moth, PBS's Stories From The Stage, RISK!*) for a 2-day workshop that will guide you through the process of composing and structuring your stories for any audience. From job interviews to wedding speeches, it is important to feel confident to share your stories because YOUR STORY MATTERS. Learn how to craft your own life experiences into a polished, first-person narrative that you can share with family, friends, and at storytelling events. Open to all experience levels!

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Kona Morris is a writer, storyteller, and educator. She has won The Moth StorySLAM in New York City, Los Angeles, and Boston, she came in first place for the Ojai Storytelling Festival Story Slam, and she was recently selected to perform at the 2025 Stone Soup Storytelling Festival. Kona has been on national television shows and podcasts, including Stories From The Stage (PBS), the RISK! podcast, and AITApod. She starred in Denver's Live Drunk History Comedy Troupe, where she was Editor-in-Chief of Fast Forward Press and spent 14 years teaching literature, mythology, and creative writing courses to college students. Kona runs a storytelling open mic in L.A., teaches story crafting workshops, and does one-on-one coaching sessions to inspire others to tell their stories.

Playhouse Singers: A Musical Theater Community Choir - Ages 18+

Dates:

Winter Session (Advanced): Mondays, Jan 12 - Mar 2

*No class on MLK Day

Winter Session (Beginner): Wednesdays, Jan 21 – Mar 2

Winter Session Concert: March 2

Spring Session (Advanced): Mondays, Apr 6 – Jun 1

*No class On Memorial Day

Spring Session (Beginner): Wednesdays, Apr 15 – June 1

Spring Session Concert: June 1 Time: 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Tuition: \$195

Member Discount: \$156

Ages: Adults (18+)

Teaching Artist: Adam McDonald

"Happiness is singing together when day is through and happiness is those who sing with you." –You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

Our beloved Playhouse Singers program is back! Vocalists ages 18+ will explore the joy of showtunes, learn harmony and ensemble singing techniques, and develop confidence in their voices. This choir experience builds community and collective effervescence, culminating in a

lively concert for family and friends. Whether new or returning, all singers are welcome to join in the fun!

If you want a more challenging, fast-paced class, choose the Advanced class. If you're new to reading music and singing in harmony, choose Beginner. If you don't care, pick whatever is best for you and feel free to switch after the first class.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Adam McDonald received a Bachelor's degree from Iowa State University and a Master's degree from The Boston Conservatory, both in classical piano performance. He has been a part of five national tours, most notably spending eight years with WICKED, where he eventually took over as music director. Making the move to Los Angeles to pursue both theatre and film, Adam has continued his theatre work at The Pasadena Playhouse, The Pantages, La Mirada Theatre, Pageant of the Masters, and was the rehearsal accompanist for Lion King Live at the Hollywood Bowl. He has scored short films, co-composed, orchestrated, and vocally arranged a musical - MOMologues the Musical, and scored a documentary play for The Boston Public Library, amongst other commissioned compositions. As an educator he serves as Music Director for Marlborough School, music directs the junior high and senior high summer programs at The Pasadena Playhouse, has a private voice studio, and is a vocal clinician at Disney's Imagination Campus.

Acting for Non-Actors – Ages 18+

January 13 – February 17

Time: Tuesdays, 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Teaching Artist: Nick Hoffa

Ages: Adults (18+)

Tuition: \$450, Member Discount: \$360

Unlock your inner confidence — no stage experience needed! Whether you're looking to boost your communication skills, think on your feet, or learn how actors do what they do, this class is for you. Designed for non-actors, it offers a fun, low-pressure introduction to the world of acting. You'll explore how performance techniques can enhance your presence in professional settings—and discover a few surprising things about yourself along the way

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Nick Hoffa is a teaching artist, director, and working actor with over 20 years of experience in the entertainment industry. He's directed full scale musicals, intimate theater productions, short films, and narrative podcasts. For Audible, he directed The Cotton Club Murders, starring Rainn Wilson, Christian Slater, and Juliette Lewis, which won the 2022 Webby Award for Best Scripted Podcast. Through his company Wheelhouse, he coaches professional actors and also teaches Acting for Non-Actors, where he's taught hundreds of industry creatives (DGA, WGA, PGA) and "regular people" alike — from lawyers to designers to sous chefs. As an actor, he's been on Grey's Anatomy, Scandal, The Mindy Project, and Justified among many others, and has appeared in over 25 national campaigns for brands like Lowes, Google, and Progressive. He also serves as the Drama Director for South Pasadena High School and lives in L.A.'s westside with his wife and two children.

Acting the Song - Ages 18+

February 19 – March 26 Time: 7:00 PM – 10:00pm Teaching Artist: Jenni Barber

Tuition: \$450

Member Discount: \$360

Led by actor and USC musical theater professor Jenni Barber (Playhouse's *Sunday in the Park with George*, Broadway's *Beetlejuice*), Acting the Song is a class for experienced beginners ready to take the next step in embodied singing and musical storytelling. Through physical and vocal warm-ups, ensemble-building exercises, and personal song exploration, students will deepen their connection to music and performance in a supportive, community-driven space. We'll work from the ground up; starting with songs you love, learning a group piece, and eventually building the tools to interpret and perform solo material with authenticity and confidence. This class is a joyful, low-pressure stepping stone toward fully "acting the song"...and loving every step of the journey.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Jenni has starred on Broadway in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Performers, The Nance, Annie, Sunday in the Park with George, All My Sons, Beetlejuice, and as Glinda in Wicked. She appeared in Sunday in the Park with George at the Pasadena Playhouse. A dedicated educator, Jenni has taught, directed, and choreographed for the University of Southern California, the University of Michigan, NYU Tisch, and Ohana Arts in partnership with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She also serves as a solo performance coach for the National High School Musical Theatre Awards ("The Jimmy's") and as a theatre panelist for YoungArts. A proud graduate of the University of Michigan's BFA Musical Theatre program, Jenni continues to combine her Broadway experience with her passion for teaching the next generation of artists.

<u>Drama Book Club – Ages 18+</u> January 6 – February 10

Time: Tuesdays, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Teaching Artist: Sarah Mass

Tuition: \$150

Member Discount: \$120

Wish you could fly to New York every weekend to see all the buzzy plays everyone's talking about? Come to the Playhouse and read them with your new friends instead! Over the course of 6 weeks, Drama Book Club will gather in the Playhouse Library to explore three of the most exciting plays in the American theater today. Facilitated by Education Manager and teaching artist Sarah Mass, participants will not only read these scripts out loud together, but also participate in activated discussions (and some light scenework!) to deepen their understanding of the work.

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Sarah Mass is a theater artist who, as the Education Manager at Pasadena Playhouse, has helped to build our new Education Department from the ground up! Bringing over a decade of teaching experience to this class, Sarah has previously worked with students at A Noise Within, 24th St Theatre, artworxLA, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company (Boston, MA), and more.

Sarah's career as an actor and educator has taken her from performing Shakespeare on the Boston Common for thousands, to acting on sets of national commercials here in LA, to starting an after-school drama program at a public high school. She is so excited to meet all the fellow bookworms who also could also talk for hours about the art they've consumed! Sarah received her BA in Theatre from Boston College, studied at the British American Drama Academy in London, and is represented by DPN Talent.

Brigadoon 101: Through the Mist - Ages 18+

April 18 – May 9

Time: Saturdays, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Teaching Artist: Pasadena Playhouse Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman

Tuition: \$180

Member Discount: \$144

Join Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman for an enchanting four-week journey into one of Broadway's great treasures, the latest production in Pasadena Playhouse's American Musical Project. *Brigadoon* may seem like a relic of a bygone era, but beneath its old-fashioned exterior beats the heart of a timeless masterpiece. In this class, we'll explore why Lerner and Loewe's 1947 musical about a magical Scottish village deserves its place among the great American musicals and discover how Pasadena Playhouse's new production breathes fresh life into this classic while honoring everything that made it extraordinary. Whether you're a musical theater devotee or simply curious, this course will bring together musical theater lovers to transform the way you see *Brigadoon* forever. This class will be presented in a hybrid format; come join us in-person in our event space or view the class online in the comfort of your own home.

Comedy for the Stage – Ages 18+

February 5 – March 12

Time: Thursdays, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Teaching Artist: Zach Steel

Tuition: \$450

Member Discount: \$360

Discover the joy and craft of theatrical comedy, led by USC professor and professional clown Zach Steel. This lively class explores the rich traditions of stage humor; from clowning and physical theatre, to Shakespeare and contemporary works like *Eureka Day*. Through playful exploration and Spolin-inspired improvisation, students will unlock their comic instincts and deepen their connection to ensemble storytelling. Perfect for lifelong learners eager to laugh, take risks, and celebrate the artistry of making an audience smile

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Zach Steel has been teaching at The USC School of Dramatic Arts since 2014 and is currently an Assistant Professor of Theatre Practice and Director of Comedy. He also currently teaches at The Idiot Workshop, The Elysian Theatre, and is a member of the performance ensemble, Cruel Babes. He serves as the Director of USC Comic+Care, a program that utilizes the practice of various comedy disciplines, including improv and medical clowning, to strengthen community and support the healing process. USC Comic+Care has partnered with Los Angeles General Medical Center, Norris Cancer Center, The Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Program @ Norris Cancer Center, The Children's Bureau, and most recently facilitating improv workshops

for Community Health Workers at CHLA to improve collaboration and communication. He has taught clown master classes at such places as The Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts and Kickstand Comedy Theatre in Portland. He has performed original work in multiple theatres in New York, L.A., São Paolo, Brazil, and took his original, award-winning show, Me Rich You Learn, to The Telluride Playwrights Festival in Colorado. He has appeared on several television shows for Disney, Showtime, NBC, Comedy Central and Fox.

Summer Camps

<u>Playhouse Players Summer Camp: Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. – Ages: 7 – 12</u> Dates:

Session 1: June 15 - June 26

• Performances June 25 and 26

Session 2: June 29 – July 10

Performances July 9 and 10

Session 3: July 13 – July 24

Performances July 23 and 24

Session 4: July 27 – August 7

Performances August 6 and 7

Time: Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 3:30 PM

Tuition: \$950 (Early Bird Pricing until February 15), then increases to \$1050

Member Discount: \$760 (early bird pricing until February 15), then increases to \$840

This summer, it's time to be "a little bit naughty!" Join Playhouse Players for *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR*. Young performers will sing, dance, and act their way through this beloved story of courage, cleverness, and standing up for what's right. Campers will learn stage skills, build confidence, and work together to put on a spirited final performance for family and friends. Whether you're new to the stage or a seasoned performer, this camp promises two weeks of creativity, laughter, and a touch of magic!

PLEASE NOTE: We have a limited number of partial scholarships available, which will be offered on a rolling basis. If you are interested in a scholarship, please apply using the link below.

Scholarship Application

We will accept scholarship applications on a rolling basis until we are at capacity.

Musical Theater Boot Camp - Ages 14 - 18

Dates: July 20 – July 31, 2026 Time: 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Tuition: \$1100

Member Discount: \$880

Take your musical theater training to the next level in this two-week Musical Theater Boot Camp. This audition-only program is designed for serious high school performers and offers expert instruction in acting, singing, and dancing from professional teaching artists.

Week one focuses on building the skills and confidence needed to shine in auditions through monologue and song coaching, cold readings, mock dance calls, and workshops with guest artists and industry professionals. Week two brings it all together as students rehearse and perform a dynamic musical revue that will allow them to apply their triple threat training to performance. Along the way, participants will expand their knowledge of musical theater history, build their repertoire, and learn about career paths and training options after high school. This Boot Camp is a transformative intensive for students ready to experience what awaits them in the world of professional musical theater.

PLEASE NOTE: We have a limited number of partial scholarships available, which will be offered on a rolling basis. If you are interested in a scholarship, please apply using the link below.

Scholarship Application

We will accept scholarship applications on a rolling basis until we are at capacity.

ABOUT PASADENA PLAYHOUSE

Pasadena Playhouse, the official State Theater of California and recipient of the 2023 Regional Theatre Tony Award, is one of the most prolific theaters in the country. The Playhouse has staged thousands of original productions since its founding in 1917 including premieres of works by Tennessee Williams, Eugene O'Neill, Suzan-Lori Parks, Gloria Calderon Kellett and hundreds more. For decades, its pioneering School for Theater Arts was a training ground for actors and theatermakers who went on to make significant contributions to the entertainment industry. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman since 2016, Pasadena Playhouse's productions and community programs are centered on its founding idea of being a living force in its community, making theater for everyone.