

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[PRESS ROOM](#)

## **NEW CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER ANNOUNCES NEWEST DIGITAL ADULT DRAMA CLUB CLASSES**

San Francisco, CA (October 15, 2020) – **New Conservatory Theatre Center’s Adult Drama Club** returns with even more community-minded classes for ages 18+! Back by popular demand, this latest selection of digital courses features songwriting, puppetry, improv games, and the reading of world premiere plays by some of the hottest new playwrights. All experience levels are welcome at these virtual classes, led by the Bay Area’s best teaching artists. Classes start on November 9, with tuition ranging from \$80 - 150.

### **Upcoming Classes Include:**

#### **LGBTQ SONGWRITING: GROWING UP GAY**

*Dates: Mondays (4 meetings: 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, no class 11/23)*

*Time: 7:00 - 8:15pm*

Everyone in the LGBTQ community has their story of challenges and revelations growing up in a heteronormative world. Working with professional singer/songwriter **Rachel Garlin**, students will create songs in a safe, queer space that reflects their collective stories. Each week, a new topic group-generated topic will be explored as Rachel turns these collective ideas into improvised songs. No singing or musical experience required in this LGBTQ-focused workshop.

Performing singer-songwriter Rachel Garlin has toured nationwide on the indie-folk circuit and recently won accolades for composing the title track for *Out There*, the world’s first musical in augmented reality. With a natural stage presence and an affinity for quirky-intellectual songs (from the melancholy to the rousing), Rachel is a community-minded artist who was recently featured in the SF Chronicle for being “the neighborhood entertainer, comedian, cheerleader and soother all in one” after starting a series of COVID-era concerts from the edge of her garage. Rachel’s latest release *Mondegreens* (April 2020) was produced by Julie Wolf premiered in Curve Magazine and Americana Highways.

#### **PUPPET-PALOOZA!**

*Dates: Tuesdays (4 meetings: 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8, no class 11/24)*

*Time: 6:00 - 7:15pm*

Looking for a crash course in fun...with puppets? Join master puppeteer and NCTC veteran actor **Chris Morrell** for this playful and informative workshop. Students will experiment with techniques to make their own puppet creations come to life - including movement, breathe and focus.

Chris began learning puppetry in 2012 and has been teaching groups and classes for the past 5 years. On-stage performances include *Rights of Passage* and four annual productions of *Avenue Q* at NCTC, for which he won Outstanding Performance for a Featured Actor in a Musical at the TBA Awards in 2015. For two seasons, Chris was also one of three puppeteers working on SF Opera's "puppeteaser" video series. While sometimes teaching classes for private clients like Google, Chris has also trained company members for several theatrical companies, including *Killing My Lobster's Puppetry of the Lobster* and several subsequent productions of *Avenue Q*, which he also Assistant Directed for NCTC's 2018/19 season.

### **GAMES! GAMES! GAMES!**

*Dates: Wednesdays (4 meetings: 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9, no class 11/25)*

*Time: 6:00 - 6:50pm*

You worked hard all day, so you deserve some fun tonight! Game-master **Jenny Rosen** has assembled a lineup of the BEST. THEATRE. GAMES. EVER. No experience acting? No problem! Improv is all about listening and responding--and as a functioning adult, you've probably already got that down.

A company member at BATS Improv since 2003, Jenny served as Dean of the BATS School of Improv for four years. She has led corporate workshops for Google, Industrial Light and Magic, and Pixar. As a teacher and coach, Jenny has worked with students at NCTC, StageWrite, Live Oak School, Haight Ashbury Cooperative Nursery School and dozens of other schools throughout the Bay Area. She enjoys using theater games to inspire collaboration, positivity, and creativity in and out of the classroom. Jenny regularly performs long and short form improvisational theater at Fort Mason Center and has performed in Aspen, Improv Olympic (LA), The MET theater (NYC), The Moth and at the SF Fringe Festival. She has created original musicals for 64 4th graders at the Cathedral School for Boys, and can make up full length musicals on the spot. Born and raised in the Bay Area, Jenny Rosen lives in Potrero Hill with her husband and two children, Henry and Magnolia.

### **READER'S THEATRE: MEXICAN PLAYWRIGHTS**

*Dates: Thursdays (4 meetings: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10, no class 11/26)*

*Time: 6:00 - 7:15pm*

Let us introduce you to amazing Mexican playwrights whose works are deeply rooted in a heritage of storytelling. **Francisco Javier Rodriguez**, Artistic Director of the Mexican American Conservatory Theatre, will guide you through a new play each week. With a combination of English translations and

source materials for Spanish-language speakers, you'll read and discuss select scenes as a group. You don't need to speak Spanish to enjoy or participate in this class.

Francisco Rodriguez is a theatre-maker, primarily as an actor and educator. He has worked with a number of theatre companies and schools within the bay area. Francisco is the founder of Teatro Sublingual; developed while living in Guadalajara, Mexico and the Artistic Director of the Mexican American Conservatory Theatre. His work focuses on spreading and uniting the diverse and rich art of Mexico and Latin America. FranciscoTeatro.com. As a teaching artist at NCTC, Francisco is excited to serve communities in need of arts education.

New Conservatory Theatre Center has been San Francisco's premier LGBTQ+ performing arts institution and **progressive arts education** conservatory since 1981. NCTC is renowned for its diverse range of innovative, **high-quality productions**, touring productions and shows for young audiences; its foundational **anti-bullying work** with youth and educators through YouthAware; and its commitment to developing **new plays** to continue expanding the canon of Queer and Allied dramatic work.

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## FACT SHEET

**WHAT:** *Adult Drama Club*, community-minded digital classes for ages 18+

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**WHERE:** [nctcsf.org/classes/adult-drama-club](http://nctcsf.org/classes/adult-drama-club)

**WHEN:** November 9 - December 10