

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[PRESS ROOM](#)

NEW CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER ANNOUNCES NEW ONLINE THEATRE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

San Francisco, CA (September 3, 2020) – **New Conservatory Theatre Center** falls into fun this autumn with brand-new digital classes for theatre lovers of all ages. In addition to our beloved **Youth and Teen Classes**, the incredibly popular **Adult Drama Club** returns, with a fresh virtual line-up that will be sure to add a little theatre magic to your day-to-day. From **Immersive Improv: The Office** and **Bad Girls Throughout History** to **Storybook Adventures** and **Puppet-Palooza**, there's something for everyone! The first session of classes begins Sept 21 with tuition starting at just \$80.

To support our mission of making theatre accessible to everyone, our **Musical Activism for Teens** class will offer full scholarships. Additionally, a 5% discount will be applied if the student signs up for 2 or more classes. Please see further details below.

ADULT DRAMA CLUB

Embrace your inner drama nerd with these weeknight classes that jam-packed with fun in 50-75 minutes.

Songwriting for Social Change

Dates: Mondays (6 meetings: 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26)

Time: 7:00 - 8:15 pm, Fee: \$150

Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, and Bruce Springsteen are known for using their music to inspire social change. Working with professional singer/songwriter Rachel Garlin, you'll create new songs that highlight the challenges in today's world (we think we have enough to work with, don't you?!). Don't miss this one-of-a-kind opportunity to express your hope for social change through music. No singing or musical experience required.

Writing Lab: Memories

Dates: Tuesdays (6 meetings: 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27)

Time: 6:00 - 7:15 pm, Fee: \$150

Whether you're new or experienced, writing for the page or the stage, let this creative group inspire you to write and share your work-in-progress with others. Got writer's block? Don't we all?! That's why we've also developed solo writing prompts and group activities to help you unlock your stories. Get ready to write!

Immersive Improv: The Office

Dates: Wednesdays (6 meetings: 9/23, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28)

Time: 6:00 - 6:50 pm, Fee: \$120

Congratulations! You've just been hired at the most ridiculous and dysfunctional office ever! Join improv extraordinaire Jenny Rosen as she guides you through an immersive experience filled with characters you create (and no one will know you're really mocking Jan, that loud-talker from YOUR office.) Conduct job interviews, explain powerpoint presentations you've never seen before, fan office gossip and stumble your way through bad zoom calls in the most hysterical of ways!

Reader's Theatre: Stories of Love

Dates: Thursdays (6 meetings: 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)

Time: 6:00 - 7:15 pm, Fee: \$150

Love comes to us in many ways--through romantic partnerships, the families we're born into or the families we choose. From love of heritage and country, to love of food and film, to love of spirit and self, there are endless ways we encounter and embrace love. Join us as we delve into a thoughtfully curated list of plays to explore love in all its many forms. Each week, we will focus on a new script, read select scenes as a group and participate in discussions led by professional director and theatre artist M. Graham Smith.

LGBTQ Songwriting: Growing Up Gay

Dates: Mondays (4 meetings: 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7)

Time: 7:00 - 8:15 pm, Fee: \$100

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, we'll create songs in a safe, queer space that reflects our collective stories. Each week, we'll explore a new topic generated by the group and you'll have a front row seat as Rachel takes your collective ideas and turns them into improvised songs. No singing or musical experience required in this LGBTQ-focused workshop.

Puppet-Palooza!

Dates: Tuesdays (4 meetings: 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8)

Time: 6:00 - 7:15 pm, Fee: \$100

Looking for a crash course in fun...with puppets? Join master puppeteer and NCTC veteran actor Chris Morrell for this playful and informative workshop. Experiment with techniques to make your own *puppet creations come to life, including movement, breathe and focus. Create a signature voice and personality for your puppet and improvise short skits with other puppets. Let your inner child come out and play in a whole new way!

Games! Games! Games!

Dates: Wednesdays (4 meetings: 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9)

Time: 6:00 - 6:50 pm, Fee: \$80

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. So, grab some friends and join the other cool kids in the virtual drama room for theatre game night!

Reader's Theatre: Mexican Playwrights

Dates: Thursdays (4 meetings: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10)

Time: 6:00 - 7:15 pm, Fee: \$100

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. Come celebrate these proud Mexican storytellers!

Upcoming Youth & Teen Classes Include:

Bad Girls Throughout History: Grades 5-8

Dates: Mondays (6 meetings: 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26)

Time: 3:00 - 4:15pm, Fee: \$140

Based on the popular book by Ann Shen, this character exploration and monologue workshop will explore amazing "bad girls" who made history and made their mark on the world.

Drama-Rama #1: Grades 3 - 5

Dates: Thursdays (6 meetings: 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50pm, Fee: \$120

In this game-focused workshop, students will ACT-ivate their theater muscles and build their imaginations. We'll create zany characters, make silly stories, and dance around our living rooms like flamingos! A great time for beginners and seasoned theater kids alike, Drama-rama is your weekly appointment with fun.

Writing Lab: Inspiration Everywhere!: Grades 7 - 12

Dates: Tuesdays (6 meetings: 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27)

Time: 4:00 - 5:15pm, Fee: \$140

Whether you're looking for a creative writing project or interested in writing a mini-play, we'll help you find inspiration through art, music, dance and even objects in your home. This thoughtful writing workshop is perfect for teens who want to develop their self-expression, but don't always know where to start.

Reporting Live!: Grades 5 - 8

Dates: Wednesday (6 meetings: 9/23, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28)

Time: 4:00 - 4:50 pm, Fee: \$120

Join this improvised news team to report on the silly, sassy, and surreal! As one of our expert field reporters, you'll learn to think on your feet as you interview scientists on top of a volcano, tourists on Mars, or turkeys at a Thanksgiving protest parade. Anything is possible in this immersive improv workshop!

Musical Activism for Teens: Grades 7 - 12

Dates: Thursday (6 meetings: 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)

Time: 4:00 - 5:15 pm, Fee: Free - \$80

Rise up through song! Make your voice heard in this interactive song workshop singer/songwriter Rachel Garlin and theatre artist Alicia Piemme Nelson. With teens leading the way, we'll explore how their responses to our world can be amplified through spoken word and song. No singing or musical experience required. 100% of this class's tuition will be donated to a non-profit cause of the group's choosing. **To make this class as accessible as possible, full scholarships can be applied at check-out by entering the code "ACTION".**

Storybook Adventures: Tricksters: Grades 1 - 3

Dates: Thursdays (6 meetings: 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50 pm, Fee: \$120

Bring the page to the virtual stage with this interactive workshop for creative kids. Together, we'll read popular picture books featuring themes to promote social emotional learning such as kindness, friendship, acceptance, and social awareness. "The End" is just the beginning in this engaging workshop for beginning drama students.

Improv Master Class: Grades 9 - 12

Dates: Mondays (4 meetings: 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7)

Time: 4:00 - 4:50 pm, Fee: \$80

Join improv-extraordinaire Jenny Rosen for this masterclass in spontaneity. Improvisation is a crucial part of becoming a skilled, well-trained actor as it hones storytelling and character development, builds confidence in navigating unplanned moments, and forces you to be present. Ready to play with the best?

Drama-Rama #2: Grades 3 - 5

Dates: Tuesdays (4 meetings: 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50 pm, Fee: \$80

In this game-focused workshop, students will ACT-ivate their theater muscles and build their imaginations. We'll create zany characters, make silly stories, and dance around our living rooms like flamingos! A great time for beginners and seasoned theater kids alike, Drama-rama is your weekly appointment with fun.

Wacky Inventors: Grades 5 - 8

Dates: Wednesdays (4 meetings: 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9)

Time: 4:00 - 4:50 pm, Fee: \$80

In this weekly role-playing game, you'll become an inventor tasked with creating new items that will make the world a better place; a portable milkshake maker, a leash that walks the dog, a vacuum for pollution. Use wacky items in your home as inspiration, join a panel of experts to discuss your inventions, and zoom into the future to see how your idea has changed the world.

Cuentos En Español: Grades 3 - 5

Dates: Thursdays (4 meetings: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10)

Time: 4:00 - 4:50 pm, Fee: \$80

In this Spanish-language immersion class, students will play acting games to inspire their imaginations and build on the oral tradition of storytelling. You never know where a good story can lead! *While the instructor is bilingual, this class will be taught primarily in Spanish and students should be fluent in conversational Spanish in order to participate.

Storybook Adventures: Kindness: Grades 1 - 3

Dates: Thursdays (4 meetings: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50 pm, Fee: \$80

Bring the page to the virtual stage with this interactive workshop for creative kids. Together, we'll read popular picture books featuring themes to promote social emotional learning such as kindness, friendship, acceptance, and social awareness. "The End" is just the beginning in this engaging workshop for beginning drama students.

Crafty Costumes: Grades 3 - 8

Dates: Fridays (4 meetings: 11/13, 11/20, 12/4, 12/11)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50 pm, Fee: \$80

Ever wanted to turn your house into a costume closet? Now you can! Each week, we will create a brand new costume piece from household objects inspired by a different theme. Sessions will include a no-prep craft activity, time to create while working together, a fashion show, and performing as your newly costumed character. No special materials needed--just bring your imaginations!

Youth and Teen Performance Ensemble: Grades 3 - 5, 6 - 8

Dates: Saturdays (11 meetings: 9/26 - 12/12, no class 11/28)

Time: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm, Fee: \$300

The Youth and Teen Performance Ensembles offers students a chance to work on performance projects that will both challenge and delight them--all in a supportive community of theatre-loving peers. In the fall session, we'll dive into not one, but TWO unique performances you won't see anywhere else! The first, a fun-filled Spooktacular showcase just in time for Halloween! The second? Well, that's up to the students as they begin group Passion Projects guided by a stellar staff of theatre professionals. In a time where so much is out of control, we want to empower students to be creators themselves! Utilizing all the tools in our theatre toolbelt (improvisation, scripted materials, song, dance, etc.) we'll design a final performance that celebrates these emerging theatre artists.

High School Performance Ensemble: Grades 9 - 12

Dates: Saturdays (11 meetings: 9/26 - 12/12, no class 11/28)

Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Fee: \$500

Led by NCTC Conservatory Director Stephanie Temple, this master class is the ultimate performance experience for serious (or seriously fun) students. During the fall session, high school students will create not one, but two theatre pieces to share with family and friends! First, we'll produce The World's Worst Production of Dracula in time for the all-Conservatory Halloween Spooktacular event. Next, the students take the lead as we collaboratively develop their passion projects. A Scene Fest? A radio play? Social Justice theater? It's up to you! Actors will build on their creative skillset while exploring a topic close to their hearts for this culminating performance opportunity.

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: Conservatory classes for adults, youths, and teens

Youth & Teen Classes:

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Dates: Thursdays (6 meetings: 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50pm, Fee: \$120

Writing Lab: Inspiration Everywhere! Grades: 7 - 12

Dates: Tuesdays (6 meetings: 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27)

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Reporting Live!: Grades 5 - 8

Dates: Wednesday (6 meetings: 9/23, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28)

Time: 4:00 - 4:50 pm, Fee: \$120

Musical Activism for Teens: Grades 7 - 12

Dates: Thursday (6 meetings: 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)

Time: 4:00 - 5:15 pm, Fee: FREE - \$80

**Note: 100% of the tuition will be donated to a cause of the group's choosing. Full scholarships are also available to students. Just use the code "ACTION" at checkout.*

Storybook Adventures: Tricksters: Grades 1 - 3

Dates: Thursdays (6 meetings: 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29)

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Dates: Mondays (4 meetings: 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7)

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Drama-Rama #2: Grades 3 - 5

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Wacky Inventors: Grades 5 - 8

Dates: Wednesdays (4 meetings: 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9)

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Cuentos En Español: Grades 3 - 5

Dates: Thursdays (4 meetings: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10)

Time: 4:00 - 4:50 pm, Fee: \$80

Storybook Adventures: Kindness: Grades 1 - 3

Dates: Thursdays (4 meetings: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50 pm, Fee: \$80

Crafty Costumes: Grades 3 - 8

Dates: Fridays (4 meetings: 11/13, 11/20, 12/4, 12/11)

Time: 3:00 - 3:50 pm, Fee: \$80

Youth and Teen Performance Ensemble: Grades 3 - 5, 6 - 8

Dates: Saturdays (11 meetings: 9/26 - 12/12, no class 11/28)

Time: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm, Fee: \$300

High School Performance Ensemble: Grades 9 - 12

Dates: Saturdays (11 meetings: 9/26 - 12/12, no class 11/28)

Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Fee: \$500

Adult Classes:

Songwriting for Social Change

Dates: Mondays (6 meetings: 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26)

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Writing Lab: Memories

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Time: 6:00 - 7:15 pm, Fee: \$150

Immersive Improv: The Office

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Reader's Theatre: Stories of Love

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Time: 6:00 - 7:15 pm, Fee: \$150

LGBTQ Songwriting: Growing Up Gay

Dates: Mondays (4 meetings: 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7)

Time: 7:00 - 8:15 pm, Fee: \$100

Puppet-Palooza!

Dates: Tuesdays (4 meetings: 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8)

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Dates: Wednesdays (4 meetings: 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9)

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Reader's Theatre: Mexican Playwrights

Dates: Thursdays (4 meetings: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10)

Time: 6:00 - 7:15 pm, Fee: \$100

WHERE: nctcsf.org/classes/

WHEN: September 21 - December 10