

# STAGEBRIDGE

Nov 29, 2016

## Celebrate 2016 with Stagebridge Class Showcases



Photo of Musical Theater by Stuart Kandell

There are lots of great reasons to support Stagebridge's 2016 Class Showcases:

- Check out what other Stagebridge students and classes have been up to
- Get an in depth look at what to expect from our classes
- If you like what you see, register for Winter 2017 classes on the spot!
- Sit back, relax, and be entertained!

**On Monday, December 5**, you can catch **Acting Foundations** at **10:30 AM** in the Basement, presenting a variety of monologues and two person one-acts. **At 11:00 AM**, our **Viewpoints class** presents a unique collaborative performance in progress in the Choir Room, and **at 11:30 AM** our **Monday Singing class** presents a program of solos and duets in the Angel Room. On Monday afternoon, stop by the Choir Room **at 2:40 PM** and enjoy some selections from *Showboat!* performed by our **Musical Theater class**.

**On Tuesday, December 6**, we have a variety of showcases. **At 11:00 AM**, Stagebridge's **Improv Troupe, The Antic Witties**, presents a fun(ny) showcase in the Basement. Also **at 11:00 AM**, come move with our **Joy of Dance class** in the Choir Room, or check out our **Tuesday Singing class** in the Angel Room. On Tuesday afternoon, **Stagebridge student Hilary Kaiser** will be signing copies of her book, *French War Brides in America*, in the atrium. Stick around to see our **Beginning Tap class** perform at **1:30pm** and our **Intermediate Tap class** take the stage at **2:30pm** in Reidenbach Hall. **Playback Theater** performs at **4:00 PM** in the Basement. If you're not familiar, Playback Theater is a uniquely interactive performance that takes audience stories and plays them back - come prepared with a good story! Finally, our **Staged Reading class** presents **"I Remember Mama"** in Reidenbach Hall at **7:00 PM**.

**On Wednesday, December 7**, check out our **Beginning Improv class** at **10:30 AM** in the Angel Room. **At 11:00 AM in the Basement**, our **Radio Plays class** performs their rendition of "Dagwood and Blondie", a live broadcast with Senior Center Without Walls. Head back up to the Angel Room **at noon to laugh with Advanced Improv**.

**On Thursday, December 8**, let our **Thursday Singing Class** serenade you at **11:00 AM** in the Angel Room. **At 1:30 PM**, our **Storytelling classes** present personal stories in the Choir Room and the Angel Room, and **at 2:00 PM**, our **Scene Study class** will perform a variety of two-person scenes in the New Oakland Room.

**On Friday, December 9**, visit our **Art of Storytelling class** at **10:15 AM** as they tell stories based on games. **At 11:00 AM**, our **Theater Francais class** will perform selections of

Moliere's free-wheeling comedy, *Les Fourberies de Scapin* ('Scapin's Deceits').

Come back to Stagebridge on Friday, December 16 at 11:00AM in the Basement and enjoy scenes from *Othello* performed by our **Acting with Shakespeare** class.

Our final Fall 2016 showcase will be our **Advanced Playwriting class** on Wednesday, December 21 at 7PM at the **Flight Deck**. Professional actors and directors bring to life original plays written by Stagebridge students! [To reserve your free ticket, please click here.](#)

## Register now for Meisner Technique Intensive: Emotional Preparation with Christie Maturo and Suzanne Schmidt



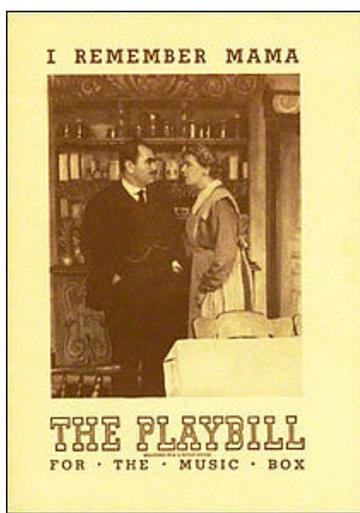
Tuesday, January 2-Friday, January 6. Class meets 10am-3:30pm

\$275 for this week-long intensive

[To register for this class online, CLICK HERE](#)

To contact us, email [sadie@stagebridge.org](mailto:sadie@stagebridge.org) or call 510-444-4755

In the foundational work of the first Meisner class, students strengthened their acting skills through this versatile technique. They learned to lived fully moment to moment, were responsive to their partners, followed their instincts, learned what it meant to "really do," and brought authentic and personal meaning to their work. We invite you to join us for the next phase of the work that Meisner calls "emotional preparation." **In this class, students will learn to deepen their connection and emotional availability to the text and its circumstances. Students will learn how to enter a scene emotionally full and ready to meet whatever the scene demands.** This class is intended as a follow-up to the Introduction to Meisner class offered at Stagebridge in Summer of 2016. If you are interested in this class and took our summer class, or if you have experience with the Meisner Technique, please sign up now. If you are new to Meisner, please contact our office - we might be able to bring you up to speed.



Staged Reading  
Presents:  
**I Remember Mama**

## Winter Class Registration NOW OPEN



We've had a great response to our **Winter 2017 class registration!** So great, in fact, that a few of our classes are full. If a class you want is full, don't worry - we will add you to a wait list, and in the meantime, **please consider registering for a new class.** You never know what you might find!

**Acting Foundations and Ensemble Acting with Michael French** are full, but maybe you'd be interested in checking out **Scene Study or Drunks, Drugs, and Almost Dead with Jeri Lynn Cohen.**

Based on Kathryn Forbes' novel *Mama's Bank Account*, ***I Remember Mama*** is a study of family life centered on a Norwegian immigrant family in San Francisco early in the 20th century.

This Staged Reading is directed by **Jeri Lynn Cohen** with stage managers **Beverly Miles** and **Barbara Szudy** and features Stagebridgers **Abe Bernstein, Judy Breakstone, Sharon Gambill, Lynne Hollander, Hilary Kaiser, Suzanne Latham, Bill Liebman, Ann Martin, Rima Miller, Jane Schoenfeld, and Jill Shugart.**

Doors open at 6:30pm and show begins at 7:00pm at Reidenbach Hall in the FCCO, 2501 Harrison St. Oakland, CA. **This is a free show!**

## **Class Focus: Dancing to Jazz: From the 1920s-1970s with AeJay Mitchell.**



Photo: Nori - (64) Her and Jazz shoes Uploaded by SchuminWeb

Did you know that Dance actually makes you smarter? It's true! [According to a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine](#), dancing was the only physical activity studied that significantly lowered the risk of dementia. [According to an article published by Stanford Dance](#), *dancing integrates several brain functions at once - kinesthetic, rational, musical, and emotional -*

**All of our Singing Classes with Scrumbly (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday) are currently full, but there's room in Chorus and Ear-Training is FUN! with Ellen Hoffman.** Or, if you have some singing experience, **check out our Intermediate level Musical Theater**, which will be performing songs and choreography from *Les Miserables*, or **join our Jazz & Broadway Harmony Chorus with Ellen Robinson.** Maybe you just want to dance - **join Jazz Dance with AeJay Mitchell!**

**Our Storytelling Essentials classes with Kirk Waller and Mary Gay Ducey are both full, but there is room in Jeanne Haynes' Art of Storytelling Class.** We're also offering **Creativity for Performance with Clara Kamunde**, a class that blends storytelling, improv, writing, and movement to get your creative juices flowing.

To read class descriptions and register online, [CLICK HERE](#)

For more information or questions, contact us at 510-444-4755 or email [info@stagebridge.org](mailto:info@stagebridge.org).



Storytelling Director Kirk Waller

## **Mark your calendar - We have 2017 Lunchtime Storytelling Dates!**

Stagebridge's Lunchtime Storytelling Series gives

our storytellers an opportunity to stretch out, test new material, and hone their skills in front of an audience. **These free, brown bag lunch events are a great way for our community to see what our storytellers are up to** and to enjoy moving, funny, and meaningful stories by some of Stagebridge's best student tellers.

Our Winter 2017 Lunchtime Storytelling Dates are:

- January 19:** Ben Tucker, Claire Wahrhaftig
- February 23:** Linda Moore, Agnes Riedmann
- March 16:** Bill Zarchy, Eleanor Clement Glass
- March 30:** Jeff Byers, Kiran Rana
- April 20:** Scott Ullman, Jon Florey
- May 4:** Gerry Keenan, Ellen Kaufman
- May 18:** Jan Goodman, Suz Shampanier

**Tonight! Storytelling Instructor Jeanne**

*further increasing your neural connectivity.*

So what are you waiting for? **Check out a dance class at Stagebridge this winter.** We're offering five great options - if you want to combine dance and theater, check out **Musical Theater on Mondays from 1-3pm.** If you have an injury or are new to dance, **All Levels Tap with Lucia Fanelli on Mondays from 12-1 and Joy of Dance with Bruce Bierman on Tuesdays from 10-12** are great options. And check out **Dancing to Jazz with AeJay Mitchell on Thursdays from 10-12** if you want to learn a variety of new moves, impress people at parties, get a great workout... the list goes on!

**[Join Actor, Dancer, and Choreographer AeJay Mitchell as he takes you through jazz dance styles from 1920's to the 1970's.](#)** From the Charleston to the Twist to a bit of Bob Fosse, students will learn fun combinations to some great American jazz standards. This class is open to all skill levels, and all you need to bring are your dancing shoes!



**AeJay Mitchell is an educator, actor, singer, dancer, and choreographer based in Oakland, California.** Originally from Louisiana, he has been granted opportunities to study, perform and teach for the past

## Haynes at The Marsh!



Celebrating her 20th anniversary as a storyteller, **Stagebridge instructor Jeanne Haynes performs at the Berkeley Marsh, 2120 Allston Way, Tell It on Tuesday series, last of the year, November 29.** Inspired by a Stagebridge seminar in November 1996, Jeanne abandoned her media relations consulting business to become a

teller and teacher. **Wayne Harris, also a Stagebridge Instructor,** stars in the music portion at 7PM, followed by four tellers at 7:30PM. Tickets at the door, \$5 with phrase "Last Tuesday of the Month."

**[CLICK HERE to sign up for Art of Storytelling, Jeanne's Winter 2017 Class meeting Fridays from 10-12!](#)**

## North Oakland Village Presents a Concert of Holiday Music



Image courtesy North Oakland Village

**Stop by Stagebridge neighbors North Oakland Village for a free concert of Holiday music on Saturday, December 3 at 3:30PM.** The concert features the Rockridge Chorale led by Devi Jameson and will take place in the Gallery in the First Congregational Church of Oakland, 2501 Harrison St. There will be a reception following the concert.

For more information, call 510-547-8500 or stop by the North Oakland Village office, located on the first floor of the FCCO.

decade across the United States. He trained in Dance, Theatre, and Music at Wake Forest University in North Carolina and is an alumni of Jacob's Pillow Dance Apprenticeship Program where we took classes from Monica Bill Barnes, Camille A. Brown, Hofesh Schecter, and Barak Marshall among others. He has also worked with dance theatre and performance artists Yin Mei, Tim Miller, Joe Goode, and the Architects.



**STELLA ADLER on the ART OF ACTING, KUSHNER and 'ANGELS IN AMERICA'**

**Conceived and performed by Bruce Bierman with participation from students from Stagebridge**

Legendary acting guru Stella Adler comes to theatrical life as portrayed by Stagebridge instructor Bruce Bierman in this **participatory workshop/performance for actors and theater enthusiasts of all backgrounds**. In this hour and a half workshop, Adler recounts her early years in the Yiddish Theater and her first inspiration--her father and famed Yiddish actor--Jacob Adler. Participants will also get to experience the 'Adler Technique' first hand with exercises inspired by her mentor and teacher Constantin Stanislavsky. Finally, Adler gets down to work with students, performing scenes from 'Angels in America,' Tony Kushner's seminal play about love and survival in the time of AIDS and the Reagan administration.

This workshop/performance is presented from 1-2:30pm as part of the **KlezCalifornia Yiddish Culture Festival**, which will take place on Sunday, December 4 from 1pm-7pm at the JCC East Bay 1414 Walnut Street, Berkeley, CA 94709. For tickets and more information, visit the festival online here:

<http://www.klezcalifornia.org/events/2016-berkeley>  
or call **415-789-7679**

### **Grandparent's Tales Contest Begins March 2017**

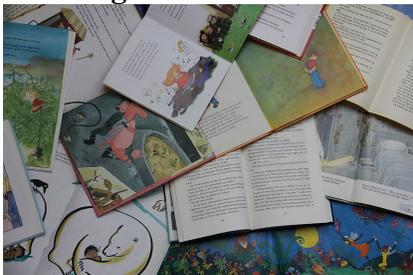


Photo by Vita Thomsen/norden.org

Mark your calendars! Our 25th annual Grandparent's Tales Contest will begin in March 2017.

**We are currently looking for children's book donations for ages 6-12**, especially books that represent diverse experiences. If you know of an educator who might be interested in participating in this contest, please contact Barbara Johnson at [barbara@stagebridge.org](mailto:barbara@stagebridge.org).

**Stagebridge was founded in 1978 by Dr. Stuart Kandell.**

### **Quick Links**

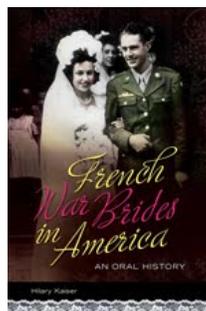
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**Stagebridge Student Hilary Kaiser will be signing copies of her book French War Brides in America in the atrium on Tuesday, December 6 at 1:00pm. Stop by and say hello, hear more about the book, and purchase a signed copy for \$17.**

"French War Brides in America: an Oral History" by Hilary Kaiser. In 1944 and 1945, millions of American soldiers took part in the Liberation of France. It was impossible for these GIs, who brought with them freedom, health, and wealth, to avoid fraternizing with French women. Some 6,500 Franco-American marriages would later take place. Many of these women would cross the Atlantic to join their husbands, following the example of their compatriots who had wed doughboys after World War I. This book, a collection of oral histories, tells the story of Mademoiselle and the GI by

following the destinies of 15 French war brides - three from World War I and 12 from World War II.

**Black Friday. Cyber Monday.**

**#GIVINGTUESDAY™**

**November 29, 2016**

Today is Giving Tuesday! If you haven't yet given to our Fall 2016 Campaign, consider celebrating the holidays with a donation. You can donate to Stagebridge through PayPal here:

[www.paypal.me/stagebridge](http://www.paypal.me/stagebridge) or you can mail us a check at 2501 Harrison St. Oakland CA 94612.

As always, we thank our community for their generosity.

*We are supported by*

*Aroha Philanthropies, Banks Family Foundation, Bernard Osher Foundation, California Arts Council, City of Oakland Cultural Funding Program, Clorox Company Foundation, Dean & Margaret Leshner Foundation, East Bay Community Foundation, May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust, Moca Foundation, San Francisco Foundation, the Alameda County Arts Commission, The Lowell Berry Foundation, West Davis Bergard Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and donations from individuals like you!*