

The Actors Conservatory

AT ARTISTS REP

Dear Donor,

Warmest greetings of the season and thank you for your continued support during this difficult period. These are challenging times for us all, and we hope you're in good spirits and health! Right now, we're doing everything possible to sustain daily operations and provide education, connection and support to our students and community. While there's a lot of uncertainty, we are adapting fast to our changing reality.

We have been able to switch to virtual classes. This has provided new and unexpected opportunities and has allowed us to build connection and community while providing rich arts education for our students and community members. Here are some of the highlights, together with some comments from some of our students (in italics):

Our Conservatory Program is up and running with an outstanding group of students and exceptional faculty members from around the country. *"This gives me a lot of joy at a time I really, really need it to survive. I hope you don't take the importance of your classes for granted because they mean everything to me."*

We have updated our curriculum to reflect both the social climate of today and the online training environment so many of us are learning to embrace. *"This class was exactly what I needed during this divisive time as I attempted to emerge from my Covid cocoon while trying to unravel the mysteries of zoom technology. I almost didn't sign up. Now I wonder what path I'd be on if I hadn't – probably still on pause."* We have added exciting new classes to the Conservatory Program, such as Improvisation and BIPOC Playwrights Advanced Scene Study.

We have expanded our Studio Program to offer up to 20 online classes per quarter, including acting, playwriting and several discussion series classes. This Program has a worldwide reach, with students tuning in from France, Tokyo, New York, Florida, California, Connecticut, Alabama, Texas, Idaho, Eugene, and Seattle. We have also been able to recruit exceptionally qualified instructors from all over the country. *"This studio class helped me more than I can express. I had the opportunity for creative connection with complete strangers during this very weird time in history. Thank you for helping me feel human again!"*

In addition, we are co-producing a new audio drama with Artists Rep that stars second-year Conservatory students, specifically written for them by playwright Diana

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Burbano and directed by Dámaso Rodríguez. We have entered into a strategic alliance with Artists Rep that will help us grow our education programs and provide more professional acting opportunities for our Conservatory students.

Most importantly, we are providing opportunities for students and our community to connect and engage in arts education during an otherwise challenging time. Now, more than ever, our students and community need to connect and engage with each other as we strive to make the world a more livable, curious, and compassionate world – one artist at a time. And we need you.

If you are able, please make a donation to enable us to continue to offer first class programs for everyone and provide scholarships and tuition relief grants so our programs are accessible to everyone. If you're unable to donate at this time, there are many other ways you can support us! You can sign up for one of our Studio classes. You can advocate for us by sharing our mission and programs with a family member or friend. Even a quick mention on your social media would mean the world to us.

In times like this, we are reminded of how interconnected we all are. Thank you for being part of our community. Without you, none of it is possible.

Stay safe and well,


Beth Harper
Producing Artistic Director

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