

FLC ACTING CLUB – Fall 2023

Instructor Bios and Course Descriptions



Instructor: Trevor Rueger

Trevor has been an actor, director, writer and dramaturge for over 30 years. For the past 15 years, he has worked as Executive Director of Alberta Playwrights' Network, an organization devoted to the development of playwrights at all stages for stages. In 2011, he received the Betty Mitchell Award for Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role for his performance as Billy Bibbit in Theatre Calgary's production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. As an actor, he's been seen at Theatre Calgary, Lunchbox Theatre, Sage Theatre, Vertigo Theatre, Stage West, Garry Theatre and The Shakespeare Company. Directing credits include *Medea* and *33 Swoons* for Rocky Mountain College, *Courage for Lost Boy Productions*. This is Trevor's fifth year teaching for FLC Seniors Acting Club.

Playwrighting Boot Camp

Need to up your playwrighting game? Trevor Rueger will take you through a number of writing exercises to hone your creative skills. Exercises will focus on writing strong exposition, writing crisp dialogue, finding your character's voice, focussing your action, and will culminate in the creation of a ten minute play.



Instructor Bios and Course Descriptions (cont.)



Instructor: Jordan Lane

Jordan has been improvising since 1997 and a member of the Kinkonauts, Calgary's Improv Lab since 2016. Kinkonauts, the home of bold, boundless, experimental improvisation, is dedicated to sharing the joys of improvisation with audiences far and wide. As an instructor at Kinkonauts, Jordan has been leading drop-in sessions, coaching individuals and groups and teaching online and in-person improvisation classes for over 6 years now. He also hosts some podcasts, including an improvisation show, and is a musician and dancer. When he is not having fun improvising, Jordan works as an image consultant as well as a small business consultant focusing on digital asset management and search metadata.



IS FUN!!

Improvisation II

Learn improvisational theory and techniques to create scenes from thin air and keep them going. Discover the keys to character work and the narrative in long form improvisation and build scenes with partners/small groups. Get to know tools like Platforming and "Game of the Scene" to create fun and engaging characters and scenarios to delight your audience and yourselves!

FLC ACTING CLUB – WINTER/SPRING 2024

Instructor Bios and Course Descriptions



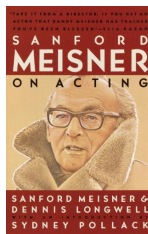
Instructor: Sally Cacic

Sally Cacic is a West Australian actor, director, and producer. A graduate of Company of Rogues Actors' Studio Master Class Program and StageMilk Drama School, Sally trained in acting technique for stage, TV and film, voice and movement, and clown, in the teachings and interpretations of Constantine Stanislavski, Sanford Meisner, and Uta Hagan. Sally apprenticed to teach the Meisner Program under the mentorship of Stacie Harrison, and Film & Television under Joe-Norman Shaw, and is the Lead Instructor of the Meisner Program at Company of Rogues Actors' Studio. Sally is also the Co-Founder of The Brolly Shelf Production Co. with Lori Bachynski. Sally won the Outstanding Director Award for Night Ducks' production of "Seagulls" at the Calgary One Act Play Festival in 2022 and is one of Calgary's prominent private self-tape and audition coaches.

Select theatre & dance credits include The Miracle Worker (Workshop Theatre), Come Home (Urban Stories Theatre), Laughter (Urban Stories Theatre), How To Almost Be An Adult (Urban Stories Theatre), Late Night At The Plaza (Late Night Productions), and Australian productions A Chorus Line (The Old Mill Theatre), and Beauty & The Beast (The Ballet Company).

Meisner Acting Technique

Over 6 weeks, students will be led through the essential principles of the Meisner Acting Technique using the word repetition exercise and paired improvised scenes, designed to awaken authentic and vulnerable performances within the actor. Whether pursuing stage, film, or television media, the Meisner exercises allow actors to tap into their authentic and intrinsic needs in order to drive their performance deeper; to live "truthfully under the imaginary circumstances, moment to unanticipated moment."



Instructor Bios and Course Descriptions (cont.)



Valerie Pearson is a theatre professional who has been in the business for almost forty years. She began as a high school drama teacher at Crescent Heights and went on to become an actor and director. She has worked from Vancouver Island to New Brunswick and most of the provinces in between. Her favorite stage roles were Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* and Hagar Shipley in *The Stone Angel*. Her favorite film and TV roles were Maggie in *Solitaire* and Gramma in *Shoebox Zoo*, both of which garnered her an AMPPIA award.

Instructor: Val Pearson

Directing is her latest venture, with successful productions of the *Buddy Holly Story* and *Ring of Fire* for The Globe Theatre in Regina and *The Paper Bag Princess* for Storybook Theatre, Newfoundland Mary at Lunchbox Theatre and most recently, *The Miracle Worker* for Workshop Theatre. Val and her husband of 54 years this March have two children and two fabulous grandchildren.

Directing for the Stage

This is a course for new directors who wish to learn how to approach directing for the stage. It will cover all the basics of directing a play including analyzing the script, auditioning, casting and the rehearsal process. Each participant will have an opportunity to direct a couple of scenes using fellow students as cast. We will also examine the responsibilities of the director with regard to costume and set design as well as soundscape design.



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Instructor Bios and Course Descriptions (cont.)

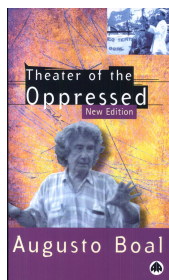


Instructor: Helen Young

Helen is the Artistic Director and founder of Urban Stories Theatre and Knox Theatre Collective. Her first play, *BONDS*, won a writers circle award at the University of Winnipeg and her plays *A Touch of Grace* and *No Way Back* were nominated for CAT Awards for best original script. Helen has developed and continues to organize the Just Acts Play Fest and The Play Off Series both in the Lower Theatre at Knox United Church. These festivals showcase local playwrights just beginning their journeys and local actors, stage managers, designers and directors looking for experience. Aside from developing these important programs for UST Helen works as an assistant teacher to Joe-Norman Shaw in the drama department at St. Mary's University. She also teaches online workshops in acting and writing through Urban Stories Theatre and works as an acting coach with The Stardale Women's Group for live performances and film. Training: Dance and Musical Theatre in Edmonton (Grant MacEwan Community College) and Manchester England, Stunt work on the sets of *MacGyver*, *21 Jump Street* and a variety of films in Vancouver and Winnipeg, theatre training in New York at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, a joint Theatre/English degree from the University of Winnipeg and completion of the Master Program at Company of Rogues Actors Studio in Calgary.

Theatre of the Oppressed

Theatre of the Oppressed (TO) is a collection of theatre techniques, games, and trust exercises that help to humanize people, encourage dialogue and create space to play. This introductory course will cover the basics of how TO works and will include fun games and exercises as well as examine trust work, techniques that all actors should study. We will also introduce participants to Forum Theatre and the brainstorming process of writing a Forum Theatre play. Come play, share, learn and connect!



Instructor Bios and Course Descriptions (cont.)



Instructor: Nina Wilder

Nina Wilder is a multi-dimensional entertainer who combines theatrics, physical humour and pure angst into one comical package. She's an awkward, neurotic millennial – and she wants to be your friend. Vancouver born and raised, Nina has opened for Spenny from Kenny vs. Spenny during his BC Tour for Spennaissance Man, Josh Adam Meyers of Comedy where also featured for Michael Ian Black. Her personal life consists solely of two houseplants, that may be on the verge of death. But on the positive side, it gives her time to do other things: comedy, writing, producing, personal training and staring at ceilings. Special skills include fish bumping a high five, crying on cue and out-lifting your boyfriend at the gym.

Stand-Up Comedy II

In this course, we'll be building off the essential components of stand-up comedy: joke structure, performance etiquette & joke generation. This course will work on helping you build new material from your personal stories and experiences, as well as cover more advanced skill sets such as dealing with hecklers, crowd work, call backs and act outs. This class welcomes all levels. Just be prepared to jump in with both feet, cause one foot is just awkward!

