

Theatre Company announces fall virtual classes and a new online production



TCOE's Theatre Company announced this week a variety of virtual fall workshops, including classes for dance, acting, monologue, and vocals. The classes have been designed to accommodate small groups of 10 to 20 students who will meet with instructors through Zoom.

Theatre Company Director Bethany Rader will conduct the two acting workshops, including the Monologue Series for 10 high school students to focus on their character's development, scene study, and college audition preparation. Through a second workshop entitled "Inside an Actor's Toolbox," Ms. Rader will help 20 middle and high school students prepare for auditions, develop their characters, and connect with audiences.

Choreographer Nicole Zweifel will lead a workshop for students in grades 3-6 entitled "Intro to Musical Theatre Dance." Students will learn the basics of ballet, jazz, and tap for musical theatre. Vocal coach Charlotte Garcia Da Rosa is conducting two virtual vocal classes created to help middle and high school students perfect their vocal auditions and build a repertoire of songs for a variety of musicals.

The Theatre Company also announced that students in grades 3-8 could register to be part of its Fall online musical, *Super Happy Awesome News!* The musical, which is designed to be rehearsed and performed remotely, features the story of two siblings who launch rival good news networks and find themselves competing for the title of happiest news show. Correspondents from the competing networks provide a whirlwind of ecstatic musical reporting – from joyful weather forecasts to cheerful cooking segments and blissful political updates. Beneath



the euphoric facade, reporters wonder if there is room for raw honesty on a super happy broadcast. *Super Happy Awesome News!* incorporates real stories from students ages 7-14, offering a positive outlet for them to express their emotions.

Visit <u>tcoe.org/TheatreCo</u> for complete class and production registration information. For additional information, contact Bethany Rader at <u>bethany.rader@tcoe.org</u>.

College Night resources now available online for students and parents

TCOE's College Night was held virtually last week on the platform used by the California Center on Teaching Careers to conduct its online teacher recruitment fairs. Over 1,300 students and parents registered to attend the event. The event features a convention center-style lobby and an exhibit hall full of booths from over 70 colleges and universities. Those who logged on to the event conducted over 9,400 chats with higher education representatives and high school counselors, who were also part of the event.

"Although this was our first virtual College Night, we are pleased with the robust engagement of those who attended," said Tim Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools. "On average, students or parents were having 13 chats with representatives over the course of the event."

For those who were unable to attend the event, event coordinators will make many of the resources available on TCOE's Common Core Connect website. Families can now download a copy of the popular College Night Planning Guide and the annual scholarship application. Videos of the breakout sessions and materials provided by the colleges and universities are also available. For more information, visit <u>commoncore.tcoe.org/student-events/college-night</u>.

Final week to nominate Kids of Character begins tomorrow

Teachers, parents, and family members are encouraged to nominate Kids of Character as part of the 25th Annual CHARACTER COUNTS! Week Celebration. Nominations will be accepted through September 24 for Tulare County students (grades TK-12) who are exhibiting great character during these challenging times. Visit tcoe.org/KidsOfCharacter to nominate and see examples of how to spot good character as students learn from home.



Tulare County's celebration of students modeling the Six Pillars of Character began in 1996. It has become a national character recognition model, which has honored tens of thousands of Tulare County students. All students nominated by September 24 will be recognized during National CHARACTER COUNTS! Week, October 19-24.

Distance Learning Resources

- Arts All Around Us
- TCOE Learning at Home
- TCOE's Educational Resource Services Library

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To receive *News Gallery Week*, visit <u>tcoe.org/GetTheGallery</u>, or contact Jennifer Fisher at <u>jenniferf@tcoe.org</u> or (559) 733-6172.