



Portland Actors Conservatory

The Premiere School For Professional Actor Training
In The Pacific Northwest

Press Contact: Jessica Wallenfels

jessica@actorsconservatory.com

W 503 274 1717

C 503 453 4497

CONSERVATORY OFFERS LOW COST REHEARSAL SPACE UNDER COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE

Competitive Application Process Now Accepting Letters of Intent

PORTLAND, ORE. – June 30, 2011 – Portland Actors Conservatory (PAC) has announced the launch of a Community Service Initiative, AccessPAC, which seeks to provide greater connectivity between Portland Actors Conservatory and the theatre community within the Tri-County Portland Metro area by making Conservatory resources available to the community at large. Programming under the Community Service Initiative includes: PAClab, low cost rehearsal/performance space packages awarded on a competitive basis; PACscratch, an “open mike”-style night of performance for all theatre artists curated by alumni; and the continuing development of PACstage, the Conservatory’s alumni performance program.

“The Community Service Initiative will throw open our doors so that more members of our community can experience PAC in addition to those who receive fulltime professional training every year, said Philip Cuomo, executive director. “PAC’s Community Service Initiative seeks to foster the creation of work by our city’s emerging artists and share our resources with the thriving local theatre scene.”

“Service has always been at the heart of the Conservatory’s mission,” said Beth Harper. “To serve one another on stage, to collectively serve the play, and to serve our craft with vigorous training is why we’re here. The Community Service Initiative widens this scope and offers what we have to a greater number of artists.”

Kicking off the Community Service Initiative launch is PAClab, a low-cost, self-production program that serves emerging independent theatre artists, theatre companies and groups by offering affordable rehearsal and performance space for theatremakers to develop and show their work in various stages of development. Following a competitive application

1436 SW Montgomery Street Portland, OR 97201
(503) 274-1717 (503) 274-0511 (fax)

Email: pacinfo@actorsconservatory.com
www.actorsconservatory.com

process reviewed by PAC staffers, selected artists and producing groups will be dedicated more than 48 hours of rehearsal space at a reduced rental rate, a day of technical rehearsal and two evening performances in the theatre. The package is an \$850 value including rental rates, parking, and technical support, and will be provided at \$250, a fraction of market value.

The Conservatory looks to pilot the program over a four-week period during the month of August, 2011, and plans to select two PAClab applicants on a quarterly basis throughout the 2011-2012 season. Dates of sessions will be determined by PAC throughout the year, and participant rehearsals scheduled within set timeframes.

The application review process will be based on artistic merit, articulation of intent, and planned use of development resources. Letters of intent are now being accepted for the August pilot program and are due July 15. Details on the application process can be accessed on the Conservatory's website at <http://www.actorsconservatory.com/paclab>

Two other programs will be executed under the Community Service Initiative. One is PACscratch, evenings of live, informal performance composed of short pieces by several different artists or groups. PACscratch will be presented by PAC alumni, and anyone can participate. Performances will be open to the public by donation. PAC will continue its support of PACstage, the alumni performance program, which over the past two years has provided resources for alumni theatre group The Montgomery Street Players' productions of "Stay for the Cake" (2009) and "A Bawdy Tale" in 2010. Plans are underway to expand and develop PACstage to provide continuing education and workshop opportunities to all graduates of Portland Actors Conservatory.

ABOUT PORTLAND ACTORS CONSERVATORY

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, Portland Actors Conservatory is the premiere school for professional actor training in the Pacific Northwest. Artistic director Beth Harper leads the Conservatory's multiple offerings including its fulltime, Two Year Professional Training Program, ongoing Studio Class offerings, and the Summer on Stage youth theatre program. Portland Actors Conservatory provides the highest standard in actor training with distinguished faculty including Beth Harper, Connor Kerns, Philip Cuomo, and Michael Mendelson among others. The Conservatory is located near Portland, Ore.'s city center in the historic Firehouse Theatre, housing an upstairs studio space as well an intimate 70-seat theatre. Portland Actors Conservatory annually produces a three show season featuring its second year students working alongside professional guest artists, in addition to two student showcases. Portland Actors Conservatory is Oregon's only independent professional actor training school accredited with the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

* * *

1436 SW Montgomery Street Portland, OR 97201
(503) 274-1717 (503) 274-0511 (fax)
Email: pacinfo@actorsconservatory.com
www.actorsconservatory.com