



## GOLD goes to the ELITE DANCE TEAM!

Ryan Holder, ATC's new Elite Dance Division chair, has coached The Elite Dance Team to GOLD in its first competition, winning a bid to Nationals!

Are **YOU** looking for excitement? Fun? Challenge? Do **YOU** love to move? Dance? Flip? Or...Would you like to learn **HOW** to move?

ATC is pleased to offer a complete program of dance classes from ballet, tap, jazz and musical theater dance, right through cutting edge hip hop and video dance styles. There's a place for everyone within the new Elite Dance Studios--classes start for youngsters at age 4 and go right on up through adults. Two dance teams are forming from those enrolled in classes, The Elite (teens) and The Elite Jr. (young people starting age 7). You can access The Elite webpages through our website, or go directly to [www.atcstudios.org/eds](http://www.atcstudios.org/eds). You'll find the latest class schedules, news, and some fun photos to ignite your imagination!



**Action Theatre Conservatory**  
68 Union Avenue  
Clifton, NJ 07011  
973-772-6998  
E-mail: [atcstudios@aol.com](mailto:atcstudios@aol.com)  
Website: [atcstudios.org](http://atcstudios.org)

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** It's been said before but bears repeating: PLEASE if you are interested in a class, REGISTER with at least your deposit ASAP. Too many classes have been pulled because we THOUGHT we didn't have sufficient registration, then people show up and wonder why there's no class. Call the studio (973-772-6998) if you want to make sure you get your name in the book, but can't get the deposit in immediately.



68 Union Avenue  
Clifton, NJ 07011

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CONSERVATORY

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### REGISTRATION FORM (please print)

AGE (if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS(ES) \_\_\_\_\_

Get 30% off additional classes of equal or lesser value when taken concurrently!

Payment Now \_\_\_\_\_ Full or \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 Deposit (balance due at 1st Class) payable for each class

\_\_\_\_\_ I'm paying in full 10 days before my class starts! 10% early payment discount\*

\*10% Early Payment and 30% multiple class discount Discount Does Not Apply for the Dance Division.



**ACTION THEATRE  
CONSERVATORY**

# The Followspot



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## ROMEO & JULIET THRILLS NJ AUDIENCES

The Conservatory Players spring production of the First Folio edition of *ROMEO & JULIET* electrified audiences." Maren Sugarman, who is ATC's theatre speech instructor, and co-taught the Shakespeare workshop with David Braucher, directed this contemporary staging of one of Shakespeare's best-loved tragedies.

"As the saying goes, this is not your father's Shakespeare," Maren commented when asked to describe the production, "nor is it the first time the Capulets and Montagues have been represented by contemporary street gangs. The themes of territorial struggle and honor-inspired vengeance are just as common to us as they were to Shakespeare." With fights staged by Fight Master David Godbey of NYC, The Players production presented this sometimes sugar-coated love-story without confection. Replacing the familiar swords and daggers with knives and chains, the fights became more intimate and the violence more personal.

Audiences for both the regular weekend performances and the school performances were most enthusiastic in their responses. "I never knew *Romeo & Juliet* was so FUNNY!" several patrons could

be heard to exclaim during intermission. Those same folks came up after the final curtain with tears in their eyes, professing a new appreciation for the well-known classic.

As a fun activity for the audiences, a survey was handed out at the end of each performance, "Who Do You Blame...?" for the deaths of *Romeo & Juliet*. Audiences had a choice of all of the named characters and also were provided a place for write-in candidates. It was fascinating to read some of the responses and it brought a chuckle to cast and crew to notice that "George Bush" was a write-in for more than one returned survey.

The Conservatory Players will be hosting Evenings at the Studio, throughout the year, featuring readings, short plays and smaller-cast shows. Stay tuned for a very exciting announcement about our Spring 2007 main stage production!



**The Conservatory Players**  
"Art with a Heart"

## ATC KIDS & TEENS PERFORM IN NYC

Fifteen fantastic kids, ages 7-12, and 25 terrific teens wowed audiences' when they performed their NYC Showcases during the last week of July. "Free to be ME," the kids' showcase, was put together by Karen Babcock Brassea and Jim Campodonico, with additional choreography by Ryan Holder, and featured fun, creative numbers and fast-moving scenes to show off the strengths of each child involved. This year's Teen Showcase composed of dynamic scenes and musical numbers, also featured works created by former and current participants. ATC's artistic director, Kathleen Kellaigh and a Teens Showcase alumnus, Alvin Foster, wrote the opening number for the teens' showcase which defined the whole evening's theme: "Playing With the Truth." Alvin is majoring in composition at Berklee College and was one of the members of last year's workshop. Three of this year's teens also ventured into the behind the scenes side of the showcase, as well as performing: Tommy McKiernan and Priscila Bellia choreographed the number "Hernando's Hideaway", under the guidance of choreographer Ryan Holder, and Chris Robertson directed one of the scenes.

Artistic Director Kathleen Kellaigh was most pleased with the results: "That's what we're all about: nurturing each individual's unique talents. It is thrilling to watch and mentor the first forays of these young people into new facets of their theatrical dreams."

Several of the showcase performers had already been contacted by agents and/or managers as this Followspot issue went to press. Much thanks to the artistic staff: Karen Babcock Brassea, Jim Campodonico, Vanessa Montesano, Kathleen Kellaigh, Joel Robertson, Karen Greenstein, and Ryan Holder. And super -congratulations to all the kids and teens on the incredible work they did this summer!

Did you miss the NYC performances? You can order the professional quality DVD and catch BOTH the Kids and Teens shows! A Train Productions taped two performances of each showcase and is editing what promises to be a truly exciting DVD. DVDs are \$35 and include both showcases. You can pick them up at ATC or add \$4 for shipping. Call the studio to get your order in now!

# Fall Classes!

**INTRO TO ACTING:** Just as it sounds: the ideal opportunity to "give it a try." This six-week course will introduce you to acting in a supportive and very creative atmosphere. Through the use of theatre games and improvisation, students will discover that the art of acting involves the imagination, taking chances, and FUN! \*No Prerequisite.

**ACTING I:** A continuation of using theatre games and improvisation to learn acting techniques. Students will now work on monologues and be introduced to scene study. \* Prerequisite: a previous acting class or some acting experience. Interview required.

**ACTING II:** Beginning Scene Study. Students will learn how scenes are structured and be introduced to creating a character. \*Prerequisite: one year previous study or experience. Interview required.

**ACTING III:** Scene study, continued work on building a character, audition skills, movement, speech, and sharpening technique. \*By audition only, or successful completion of Acting II.

**ACTING IV:** Advanced Scene Study--Ongoing professional-level class. The class in which actors "put it all together," perfecting their individual technique. Return throughout your development as an actor to keep your instrument (YOU!) "in tune." Pre-requisite: ATC classes through Acting III.5 and Dramatic Action, or by audition. NYC showcase following completion of spring semester is possible, dependent on enrollment.

**INTRO TO IMPROV:** One of the most valuable tools an actor can have, the emphasis is on observation and concentration, giving and taking, spontaneity, and FUN. Learn how an actor uses these techniques on and off the stage. \* Pre-requisite: successful completion of OR concurrent enrollment in Intro to Acting

**INTRO TO MUSICAL THEATRE:** Just as it sounds: the ideal opportunity to "give it a try." This eight week course will introduce you to singing in a non-threatening, highly supportive and fun atmosphere. Students will learn the basic vocal elements:

breath control, development of through-line and begin to work on group harmonics. Outside practice cannot be overemphasized. \*No Prerequisite. No audition.

**MUSICAL THEATRE LAB:** The first step towards professional presentation. An in-depth study of the imagery and emotion needed to project the intent of music and lyrics, while working with two instructors. Continuing gradient increases of vocal syllabus and group harmonics. Duets and trios need outside rehearsals. \* Prerequisite: Completion of Intro to Musical Theatre or By Audition.

**INTRO TO TV AND FILM:** Get an overview of the business of TV Commercials, Sitcoms, Series, Film and more! On camera time with footage you can take home and show your friends and family! A terrific way to break into this exciting side of showbusiness! Open without prerequisite to all. Current Intro to Acting, Acting I and Acting II students take this class as part of a package to get STEEP discounts!

**SOAPS!:** The perfect follow-up to the beginning levels of TV & Film! Apply your personal acting technique to on-screen acting. The ins and outs of the business will be covered. If you're interested in soaps, television or film-or if you just want to improve your overall marketability-this course is for you. \*Prerequisite: Completion of Acting II or TV & Film I.

**VOICE OVER TECHNIQUE:** Voiceover artists find work in television, radio, film and corporate video work. Learn how to interpret copy, train and take care of your voice. You will be taught the audition and recording process, how to recognize and properly use different microphone types. Get a head start by learning what the business offers, and expects of you. Hands-on class. No pre-requisite. Acting and/or singing background very helpful.

**STAND-UP COMEDY!:** This fantastically fun—and useful—class will include a performance (Yes. YOU perform!) and a tape of your performance. Taught by Stand-up Veteran Rich Carucci (Steamroller Entertainment), if friends say you're funny, this class just might be for YOU!

**TWEENS ACTING --** This is the class for those students (Ages 10-13) who are more experienced than the CCT level and yet not old enough for the Teens Workshop. TWEENS will incorporate improvisation, and will introduce and build on concepts regularly taught in ATC's Intro and Acting I teen and adult classes. Fun AND challenging! Pre-requisite: Approval of TWEENS' instructor (past CCT students may call and ask for approval. At least a phone interview is required for prospective students.)

**CHILDREN'S CONSERVATORY THEATRE:** For students 7 to 12 years old. Learn skills in the three disciplines of musical theater, acting and dance. Each semester culminates in a public open class. Story theatre techniques are employed encouraging students to be spontaneous in a non-competitive atmosphere. Students progress from semester to semester, building on concepts previously learned. Older students may elect to take the "TWEENS" class (acting only).

**TEEN CONSERVATORY THEATRE:** (Ages 13-18) An intensive program incorporating Acting, Musical Theater and Dance. All three disciplines are offered in one extended class on Sundays. Advanced dance students may opt out of the dance portion of the program. Each semester culminates in a public open class. This course is excellent preparation for the Summer Teen Workshop/NYC Showcase.

**PRIVATE VOICE:** Individually scheduled classes to improve vocal (singing) technique, select and polish material, prepare for auditions, etc.

**PRIVATE COACHING:** Acting: Individually scheduled classes to prepare for auditions, etc. Best way to prepare for college/university entrance auditions. Scene partners may book time and split the fee. Speech/Diction: Rid yourself of regionalisms, work on proper vocal production, master a particular dialect for auditions/roles.

**REGISTRATION:** 1) See course descriptions, on page 2. 2) Check this schedule--and the dance schedule, make your choices and enter them on your registration form. If you have any questions, or the class you would like to take requires an interview and/or audition, just call us. 3) **REGISTRATION DEPOSIT:** A \$50.00 deposit for each class holds your place (credited in full toward tuition). Payment in full 10 days before start date of class merits 10% off one class. 30% off each additional class!\*

Intro to Acting	6 Wednesdays	Sept 27	7:30 - 10 PM	\$225
Acting I	7 Mondays	Sept 11	7:30 - 10 PM	\$265
Acting II	8 Mondays	Oct 30	7:30 - 10 PM	\$300
Acting III <i>(Includes Speech for the Actor)</i>	12 Wednesdays	Sept 13	7:00 - 10 PM	\$425
Acting IV	12 Tuesdays	Sept 12	7-10PM	\$450
Intro to Improv	6 weeks	late fall TBD	7:30 - 9:30PM	\$200
Intro to Musical Theatre	6 Weeks	October Start TBD		\$200
Musical Theater Lab	10 Sundays	Oct 1	7:30 - 10PM	\$475
SOAPS! <i>(on camera class)</i>	6 weeks	October start TBD		\$360
Voice Over Technique	6 Weeks	October Start TBD		\$200
Intro to Film & TV	6 weeks	October start TBD		\$300
Stand-up Comedy <i>(includes performance)</i>	6 Tuesdays	Oct 10	6-7:30	\$250
Tweens Acting	10 Saturdays	Sept 30	1-3PM	\$300
**Children's Conservatory Theatre	10 Saturdays	Sept 30	12-3PM	\$440
**Teens Conservatory Theatre	10 Sundays	Oct 1	1-5PM	\$600

**\*Please Note:** The Dance Division at ATC, Children's Conservatory Theatre, and the Teen Workshop feature their own specials and built in discounts: the 30% discount does NOT apply.

#### DANCE DIVISION

FULL DANCE SCHEDULE STARTING WEEK OF SEPT. 25 ~ Call or check out [www.atcstudios.org/eds](http://www.atcstudios.org/eds) for details.

To be scheduled as interest dictates:

Directing      Stage Make-up      Shakespeare/Classics Class      Audition Technique

**XT TRACK** (eXtra Training): Advanced students and professionals are invited to re-take the beginning level courses (Intro, Acting I, Acting II, Intro to Improv) for incredibly reduced prices (1/3 off!!!). What an economic :) and ideal way to get your creative juices flowing!

**KIDS & TEENS OPEN HOUSE:** Sept. 23, 1-3 PM

**2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH MEET & GREET:** Sept. 12, 6-7PM ~ Come for your chance to win a FREE CLASS!

\*\* CCT & TCT classes include ACTING, SINGING, AND DANCING

**ATC ACCEPTS  
VISA & MASTERCARD!**



#### PAYMENT POLICY SUMMARY

Options: 1) Pay in full 10 days before start date of class and receive 10% off of one class. 2) Pay at least a \$50.00 deposit, and the balance is due at your first class. These are the only options open to new students other than work-study, mentioned later. CONTINUING STUDENTS ONLY may: 3) Elect a payment schedule WHICH MUST BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE, and which will require you to sign an agreement stating the specific terms.

If you are seriously money-impaired, ATC has a work-study program which can help you to offset part of your tuition. Talk to one of the directors for details.

There will be a \$35.00 charge for returned checks.

**NEW REFUND POLICY:** If you cancel at least 7 days before the start of your class, you will be given a complete refund. If you cancel less than 7 days before the beginning of the class, you will be subject to a refund less a \$50.00 administration fee. If you drop the class after the first session meets, we will refund you the balance of your payment less the \$50.00 administration fee and the cost of the first class. **THERE ARE NO REFUNDS AFTER THE SECOND CLASS MEETS.** In extraordinary circumstances, credit may be arranged towards another class during the same academic year.

#### 30% OFF CLASSES!

That's right! You can get 30% off a class when you take another class (or two) of equal or greater value in the same semester! For instance, register for Acting II (\$300.00) and take Voice Over Technique for only \$140! What a great way to further your dream! Remember, this offer is only good on classes you take concurrently, so don't wait to take advantage of this terrific deal! To make it even easier, you can still take advantage of the deferred payment plan on one or both of the classes (see "Payment Policy...").

This discount is not available to work-study students.

**Please Note:** The Dance Division at ATC, Children's Conservatory Theatre, and the Teen Workshop feature their own specials and built in discounts: the 30% discount does NOT apply.