



**ACTION THEATRE  
CONSERVATORY**

# The Followspot



A Publication of Action Theatre Conservatory ~ A professional performance training environment since 1990

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## SMASHING FALL PRODUCTIONS

ATC produced two “firsts” this fall: the Artistic and Managing Directors, (husband & wife Joel Robertson and Kathleen Kellaigh) worked ON stage together for the first time as the leads in *The Tragedie of Macbeth*, directed by Maren Sugarman. The exciting, in-the-round production also featured a first-ever collaboration between ATC and their downstairs’ neighbors, Yees Hung Ga Kung Fu Studios! Several of their warriors forayed into the world of stage combat amazing audiences with their flips and sword play in the fights choreographed by Matt Murphy and assisted by John Bertrand.



Our second “first” was the amazing premiere of the *Hip Hop Nutcracker*, featuring the hot rhythms of Jose Aponte overlaying the original Tchaikovsky score, and exciting choreography by Ryan Holder and Heather Diana. Almost 40 dancers took the stage at Woodrow Wilson Middle School the weekend of December 14-16 (yes, that is technically STILL the fall), wowing a whole new generation with this modern retelling of the familiar holiday classic. If you missed it this year, make plans NOW to include it as a “must see” next December!

◀ Kathleen Kellaigh (Lady Macbeth) and Joel Robertson (Macbeth) appeared courtesy of Actors' Equity in The Conservatory Players production of the First Folio edition of Shakespeare's *The Tragedie of Macbeth*. This show saw the first time the couple who founded ATC have acted together in a full-stage production.

## KIDS & TEENS\*\*\*\*\*AUDITIONS NOTICE\*\*\*\*\*TEENS & KIDS

Perform in NYC this summer! Be part of our Teens or Kids Summer Workshop & NYC Showcase program! Open by audition only to kids 7-14 and teens 12-19 (summer of your senior year!) The program runs Monday-Friday, June 30 - July 29 (kids), or to July 31 (teens) 9:30-1:30 so you have time for pool, relaxing or summer jobs. During the week of July 28 we go into NYC to perform a showcase to which we invite agents, managers & casting directors! The hour-long showcase performed by each group is tailored to the individual student's strength. A disciplined yet FUN program that builds strengths, diminishes weaknesses, builds lasting friendships, and provides the same professional level of training we offer at ATC. Each year since we started the NYC showcase programs, back

in 1998, over half of the participants in the Kids & Teens Workshops have been contacted by show business professionals. It's your decision whether to pursue that avenue, of course—ATC gives you the tools and the venue! Showcase performers have gone on to Broadway (GYPSY), national tours (SOUTH PACIFIC, TOMMY, etc.), national commercials, TV, film, voiceovers, regional theater...the list goes on! Don't delay YOUR dream! Audition dates in April and May. (If you require an earlier audition for scheduling your summer, call us ASAP) Call for YOUR time! Prepare: one monologue (1-2 minutes) one song—preferably from a show, and please bring the sheet music for the accompanist We'll give you a simple dance combination.

# Winter Classes!

**INTRO TO ACTING:** Just as it sounds: the ideal opportunity to “give it a try” or to reinforce fundamental acting techniques. 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!

**MONOLOGUE STUDY (formerly ACTING I):** A continued exploration of the basics, using theatre games and improvisation to learn acting techniques. Students will now work on monologues, incorporating and deepening the concepts from Intro. \* Prerequisite: a previous acting class, or some acting experience. An interview is required if the student has not taken Intro to Acting.

**BEGINNING SCENE STUDY (formerly 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.

**CHARACTER TECHNIQUE (formerly ACTING III):** Scene study, continued work on building a character, audition skills, movement, speech, and sharpening technique. The class culminates in a studio scene night. \*By audition only, or successful completion of Beginning Scene Study.

**ADVANCED CHARACTER & SCENE STUDY (formerly ACTING IV):** Advanced Scene Study. For the serious/ professional student. \*By audition and/or invitation following completion of requirements. Prepared students perform in the December Benefit.

**THE PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP — ADVANCED TECHNIQUE:** Advanced, on-going scene study. For the professional actor, those professionally-bound, and those who have successfully completed AT LEAST one semester (preferably 2) of Acting IV —now called Advanced Character & Scene Study. Students of this class will also be the core performers for the Studio Series featuring new and established works.

**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. Continuing gradient increase of vocal techniques and group harmonics. Students will be working with two instructors.

**TEENS CONSERVATORY THEATRE (TCT): (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.

**CHILDREN'S CONSERVATORY THEATRE (CCT): (Ages 9-12)** A performing arts program specifically designed for this age group. This class offers training in acting, musical theater and dance. All three disciplines are offered in one extended class on Saturdays. Each semester culminates in an open class/showcase. This class is excellent preparation for the Summer Kids Workshop/NYC Showcase.

**NEW! TV/FILM FOR KIDS:** You've requested it, and here it is! This is an introductory course for 8-12 year olds who have an interest in learning how to act on TV and

Film. Taught by Chris Robertson (School for Film & Television, NYC), this class will provide a fun experience and get your kids on camera each week. Technical aspects necessary to know for on-camera work (commercials, TV, film, etc.) and auditions will be covered. No prior experience necessary.

**INTERMEDIATE TV/FILM:** 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 Beginning Scene Study OR Intro to TV/Film OR by instructor approval.

**VOICEOVER 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.

**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.

## ATC Elite Dance Studios

For a full course description for Elite Dance Studios, please check out our website at:

[www.atcstudios.org](http://www.atcstudios.org)

and click on

“Elite Dance Studios”



Clara (played by Olivia Grace, in the white nightgown) recounts her time in the Land of Sweets to a doubting community in the final scene of ATC's Elite Dance Company's premiere production of *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*. ATC students, parents and community members were all part of the company, through audition, and worked from the end of September until the opening on December 14. Next year's production will feature even more hip hop choreographed by Ryan Holder and Heather Diana, and arrangements by Jose Aponte.

**REGISTRATION:** 1) See course descriptions, on page 2. 2) Check this 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 Thursdays	Jan. 24	7:30-10:00 PM	\$250.00
Monologue Study	7 Thursdays	Feb. 28	7:30-10:00 PM	\$300.00
Beginning Scene Study	8 Thursdays	April 24	7:30-10:00 PM	\$350.00
Character Technique	12 Wednesdays	Feb. 6	7:00-10:00 PM	\$475.00
Advanced Character & Scene Study	12 Tuesdays	Jan. 15	7:00-10:00 PM	\$490.00
The Professional Workshop	12 Tuesdays	Jan. 15	7:00-10:00 PM	\$490.00
Musical Theater Lab	10 Sundays	Jan. 27	6:30-9:00 PM	\$500.00
Teen's Conservatory Theatre	10 Sundays	Jan. 27	1-5:00 PM	\$650.00
Children's Conservatory Theatre	10 Saturdays	Jan. 26	12-3:00 PM	\$475.00
*TV/Film for Kids (8-12 years old)	8 Saturdays	Feb. 2	10:30AM-Noon	\$225.00
Intermediate TV/Film	8 Mondays	Jan. 21	7:30-10PM	\$400.00
Voice Over Technique	8 Mondays	Jan. 21	6-7:30PM	\$250.00

\* New Class at Special Introductory Price. Take this class with CCT and save even more (class will be \$157.50 with the 30% multiple class discount)!

These classes are forming. Student interest will determine when the class runs. Call to be put on the list for the classes that interest you. A director or instructor will contact you as soon as we have enough folks to hold the class. **DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED.** You want the class? Get your name on the list. Sometimes it just takes one more person! Give us your name, phone number and e-mail address. We'll contact you soon! (Class times TBD.)

**Audition Technique    Intro to Musical Theater    Classic Theatre Styles    Improv    Week DAY Acting Classes!**

**DANCE REGISTRATION:** \$25 registration fee covers any number of classes for which you register for the 33 week session. Dance Class Tuition is based on \$15/hour of class/week. Dance Classes are based on a 33 week session culminating in a performance concert in June, and may be paid by the month (9 equal payments). Call for details. An unlimited class package is available. (EXAMPLE: Take 2, 1-hour classes each week from Sept.-June: pay \$110/month for nine months)

**ELITE JANUARY-JUNE 2008 DANCE SCHEDULE**      Effective January 14 for 22 weeks

Acrobatics/Breakdancing	Friday	7:30-8:30	Kid Basic	Saturday	11:00AM-NOON
Ballet 1	Tuesday	5:00-6:00		Monday	5:30-6:30
Ballet 2	Friday	6:30-7:30	Musical Theatre Dance	Sunday	1:00-2:00
Ballet 3	Wednesday	7:00-8:30	Tap 1, Modern (part of CCT)	Saturday	1:00-2:00
Breakdancing/Acrobatics	Friday	7:30-8:30	Tap 2	Wednesday	6:00-7:00
Hip Hop 2	Monday	8:00-9:00	*ADULT General Dance Class:	Saturday	12noon-1PM
Hip Hop 3	Wednesday	8:30-10:00	**Ballroom	Sunday	7:30-8:30PM
Jazz 2	Monday	6:45-7:45			
Jazz 3	Friday	5:00-6:30			

\*New Class Forming. Will Start on Jan. 26  
\*\* New Class Forming. Will Start on Jan. 27

**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. Dance division students pay a \$25 registration fee each year which covers any number of classes taken. Tuition for dance may be paid in full or monthly. **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.

**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 Beginning Scene Study (\$350) and take Voice over Technique for only \$175! 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's Conservatory Theatre feature their own specials and built in discounts: the 30% discount does NOT apply.

**ATC ACCEPTS  
VISA & MASTERCARD!**





# Check your Calendar!

Second Tuesday of the Month  
Meet & Greet: Feb. 12, Mar.  
11, Apr. 8, May 13,  
June 10.

Kids Open House, Sat. Jan. 19,  
11AM-1PM

## WINTER WOES

Isn't winter FUN?!? Like every other school, ATC is effected by severe weather, and classes must be postponed. Sometimes such postponements work to YOUR advantage: the class you are interested in registering for may not have yet begun! Call ATC for more info.

\*NOTE: When weather postpones classes, there will be a message on the main studio number 2 hours prior to start of class. (973-772-6998)



**Action Theatre Conservatory**  
68 Union Avenue  
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973-772-6998  
E-mail: [atcstudios@aol.com](mailto:atcstudios@aol.com)  
[info@atcstudios.org](mailto:info@atcstudios.org)  
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.



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Clifton, NJ 07011

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### REGISTRATION FORM (please print)

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

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

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

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

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

CLASSES) \_\_\_\_\_

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

#### PAYMENT for ATC:

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

OR Payment in Full \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Paying in full 10 days before class starts for 10% discount\*

#### PAYMENT for ATC ELITE DANCE:

\$25 registration (covers ALL classes in session) \_\_\_\_\_

Payment in Full \_\_\_\_\_ 1st month payment \_\_\_\_\_

\*10% Early Payment and 30% multiple class discounts do not apply for the Elite Dance Division.