

WASHINGTON DC'S LARGEST INDEPENDENT DRAMA SCHOOL

# THE THEATRE LAB

SCHOOL OF THE DRAMATIC ARTS

**2,705**

ENROLLMENTS YTD

**\$171,200**

IN SCHOLARSHIPS  
AWARDED TO 171  
LOW-INCOME YOUTH

**3,458**

AUDIENCE MEMBERS  
AT THEATRE LAB  
PERFORMANCES

**NAMED A TOP DC  
ACTING PROGRAM**

BY *BACKSTAGE*

**DESIGNATED AS  
A CRITICAL LOCAL  
NONPROFIT**

BY *SPUR LOCAL*

# SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

In 2025, over 150 Theatre Lab parents and students have rated the quality of our training and community programs an average of **4.8 out of 5**.



2025 LIFE STORIES® PERFORMANCE



2025 AICA APPRENTICES



THE ADDAMS FAMILY YOUNG@PART PERFORMED BY OUR 2025 MUSICAL THEATRE CAMP FOR TWEENS

## LIFE STORIES®

Life Stories® is The Theatre Lab's **award-winning, tuition-free outreach program** that has helped over 4,000 individuals create original works based on their lived experiences — including incarcerated and vulnerable youth, women in recovery experiencing homelessness, veterans, LGBTQ+ adults, and more.

## ARTS INSTITUTE FOR CREATIVE ADVANCEMENT

The Arts Institute for Creative Advancement (AICA) is a **year-long paid technical theatre apprenticeship program\*** that provides intensive education, hands-on training, and work experience for young adults facing barriers to livable-wage careers, preparing them for employment as professional theatre technicians in DC.

## YOUTH CAMPS & SCHOOL YEAR CLASSES

The President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities has recognized The Theatre Lab as one of the **50 "top arts- and humanities-based programs in the country serving youth beyond school hours."** Each summer, we are the artistic home to over 550 young people in the DC region who take part in our acclaimed theatre camps.



MIDNITE PERFORMED BY OUR 2025 SUMMER ACTING INSTITUTE FOR TEENS



MAN OF LA MANCHA PERFORMED BY OUR 2025 CREATING A MUSICAL ROLE CLASS



2025 HONORS SHOWCASE

## TEEN TRAINING INSTITUTES

Our renowned summer teen training institutes are among the **best teen theatre programs in DC** — producing alums of Juilliard, NYU Tisch, Carnegie Mellon, and more. The Musical Theatre Institute for Teens (MTIT), our flagship program, consistently plays to rave critical reviews and sold-out houses at DC's Atlas Performing Arts Center.

## ADULT CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

We offer a comprehensive dramatic arts curriculum taught by a **distinguished faculty** of over 50 respected actors, directors, and playwrights working in the DMV's professional theatre community. Our classes are carefully designed to fit all skills, backgrounds, and experience levels, with an **unparalleled teacher-to-student ratio**.

## HONORS ACTING CONSERVATORY

The Honors Acting Conservatory is an **intensive, one-year professional actor training** program. Our Honors Alumni act in professional productions at many of the best theaters in the DC region, including Arena Stage, Constellation Theatre, The Keegan Theatre, Mosaic Theatre, Round House Theatre, Studio Theatre, and more.

\*The AICA is an initiative of the DC Arts Education Alliance led by The Theatre Lab in collaboration with the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop and Life Pieces to Masterpieces.



**"[The Life Stories®] program changed our son's life....it showed him that his voice, his grief, and his story have the power to change others' lives — and his own life in the process."**

— PARENT OF LIFE STORIES® "HEALING VOICES" PARTICIPANT

"I was incredibly impressed by the talent and hard work of these young performers...[they] exceeded my wildest hopes for the show."

— RORY LEAHY, CO-WRITER OF *MIDNITE*, ON THE THEATRE LAB'S PRODUCTION OF HIS PLAY

# OUR IMPACT IN 2025



THE FATEFUL PERFORMED BY OUR SPRING 2025 YOUNG ACTOR'S COLLECTIVE CLASS



2025 AICA APPRENTICES  
PHOTO COURTESY OF NATALIE PERTZ

## NOTABLE ALUMNI



PHOTO COURTESY OF EVAN LAGOSTINI / AP

### BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS

PLAYWRIGHT  
*PURPOSE* (2025), *APPROPRIATE* (2023)  
2024 & 2025 TONY AWARD WINNER  
2025 PULITZER PRIZE FOR DRAMA



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROADWAYWORLD

### JOSH HALLOWAY

WRITER & PRODUCER  
CO-HEAD WRITER, *JIMMY KIMMEL LIVE!*  
2025 PRIMETIME EMMY NOMINEE  
WITH 5 PRIOR NOMINATIONS



PHOTO BY R. AN PLETT

### JAYME LAWSON

ACTOR  
*SINNERS* (2025), *THE BATMAN* (2025),  
*THE WOMAN KING* (2022)

**THEATRE LAB ALUMNI HAVE APPEARED IN NUMEROUS BROADWAY SHOWS AND NATIONAL TOURS, INCLUDING:**

*THE NOTEBOOK MUSICAL*,  
*PARADE*, *LIFE OF PI*, *FIDDLER ON THE ROOF*, *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR*, AND MANY MORE

## THEATRE EDUCATION FOR ALL

In 2025, we've awarded **\$171,000+** in scholarships — our biggest year of giving yet — to ensure we can support as many families in our community as possible. We welcomed a record-breaking **550 young people** into this year's summer programs, our largest camp enrollment season to date.

## THE WORKFORCE OF TOMORROW

The Theatre Lab proudly co-leads the AICA, a groundbreaking workforce development program for young adults. **Over 84% of our AICA graduates are steadily employed** as theatre technical professionals at leading performing arts and entertainment venues in the DMV.

**"But perhaps most moving is the way this production showcases what arts education can achieve."**

The MTIT's four-week intensive doesn't just culminate in a musical — it results in a fully realized work of art where young performers are empowered to take on mature material with integrity and artistry. **The Theatre Lab has long been a leader in this space**, and this staging of *Hadestown: Teen Edition* reinforces why."

— DC THEATER ARTS REVIEW

HADESTOWN: TEEN EDITION PERFORMED BY THE THEATRE LAB'S MUSICAL THEATRE INSTITUTE FOR TEENS AT ATLAS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

## LEADER IN PROFESSIONAL-CALIBER STUDENT PRODUCTIONS

Our production of *Hadestown: Teen Edition* premiered this July to sold-out houses and became the best-selling show in Theatre Lab history. Performed by our renowned Musical Theatre Institute for Teens (MTIT), this show represented not only the exemplary training we provide to students of all ages and experience levels, but the quality productions we make accessible to the greater DC region. At a time when arts funding is especially vulnerable, we are proud to serve as an increasingly **prominent independent performing arts center serving our community.**

# SUSTAINING OUR MISSION

“There's a difference between our potential being **available versus accessible**. Sometimes, intentional support is the only thing stopping a person from reaching said potential. Someone saying, ‘I've been where you are, and whatever path you choose to take, we are in full support.’”

**And I truly believe that's what AICA did for me. It felt safe here... It felt safe.”**

— GRADUATE OF THE ARTS INSTITUTE FOR CREATIVE ADVANCEMENT (AICA), CLASS OF 2024

## WHO WE SERVE

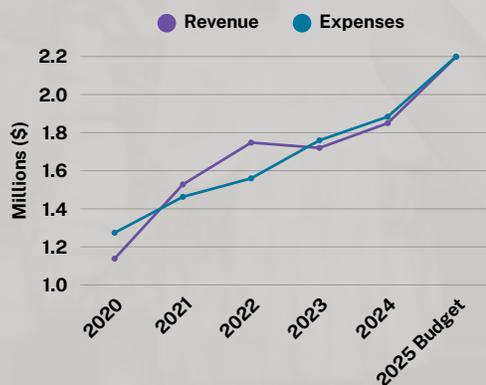
- Beginners interested in the theatre craft
- Artists training to be professional actors
- Children with an interest in the arts
- Teens pursuing a formal arts education
- People lacking access to the arts due to financial or other barriers
- Members of the LGBTQ+ community
- Incarcerated and at-risk young people
- Women and children experiencing homelessness or other crises
- Adolescents and women in recovery
- Immigrant children, teens, and adults
- Seniors in assisted living
- Veterans returning to civilian life
- Critically ill children and their families

## WHO SUPPORTS US

### Major Sponsors (\$10,000+):

Paul M. Angell Family Foundation, DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, the Beech Street Foundation, Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, John Edward Fowler Memorial Foundation, Philip L. Graham Fund, Harman Family Foundation, Lillian Kamen Fund, The Dena Kohn Memorial Scholarship Fund, George Preston Marshall Foundation, NEA/Creative Forces, The Osprey Fund, The Share Fund, Rob Stein Scholarship Fund, Elizabeth Merrill Brown and Kevin Cullen, Congressional Sports for Charity, Events DC, Greater Washington Community Foundation, Denise Hanna, Ibbey Jeppson, The Joseph E. & Marjorie B. Jones Foundation, The MEB Charitable Foundation, Alan and Amy Meltzer, Nora Roberts Foundation, Megan Robbins and Michael Berger, Cummins-Levenstein Charitable Foundation

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



## RECOGNITION FOR THE THEATRE LAB

- Selected 4 times by **Spur Local** (formerly the Catalogue for Philanthropy) as a critical local nonprofit serving DC
- Recipient of the **Mayor's Art Award for Innovation in the Arts**
- Recognized by **The President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities** as one of the nation's top 50 youth arts programs
- Named by **Backstage** as one of DC's top acting programs
- Front page feature by **The Washington Post** on Life Stories®
- Selected as one of 47 Washington-area cultural institutions for the **Arts Innovation and Management** training program
- Co-Founder Deb Gottesman named a 2023 Washingtonian of the Year by **Washingtonian** magazine
- Co-Founders Deb Gottesman & Buzz Mauro awarded the prestigious **Linowes Leadership Award**

