



## **High School Theater Workshop Symposium: High School Students Learn New Skills**

Theater arts education is not prevalent at our local high schools. Many schools do not offer classes, and extracurriculars do not receive adequate funding. As a result, high schoolers have few affordable opportunities to learn about various aspects of performing arts.

We organize an annual one-day event that features a series of workshops and presentations by local industry professionals and active members of the performing arts scene in Clatsop County. We invite the local high schools (Astoria, Warrenton, Jewell, Knappa, and Seaside) to bring students to attend the event for free. Students can choose which workshops they want to attend during the day. A meal is provided.

Local high school students are the main beneficiary of our theater workshop. They learn new skills and information around various facets of performing arts, including acting, light/sound design, costuming, playwrighting, etc. The entire performing arts community benefits by making connections and networking, as well as bolstering interest and passion in theater and music. It is an opportunity for local theaters to get connected with some young talent, which is a demographic that they struggle to reach. The schools benefit by having access to a supplemental program that augments their arts education offerings.

Sponsors, 2023: Coaster Theatre, Imogen Gallery, Liberty Theatre, Sarah Andrews-Collier, Ten Fifteen Theater

Sponsor, 2024: Clatsop County Cultural Coalition

Workshop Presenters, 2023: Mick Alderman, Karen Bain, Deanna Duplechain, Sondra Gómez, William Ham, Margaret Hammit-McDonald, Olivia Johnston, Patrick Lathrop

Workshop Presenters, 2024: Karen Bain, Samuel Dinkowitz, Deanna Duplechain, Margaret Hammit-McDonald, John Hoff, Shelleyene Lionhart, Marcus Liotta

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