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MUSICAL THEATRE EDUCATORS' ALLIANCE

OSLO, NORWAY

MUSICAL THEATRE EDUCATORS' ALLIANCE
AUGUST 25-28, 2016



Conference 2016 "BODY & BREATH"

Artistskolen

BÅRDAR

Dans – Urban street – Musikal – Skuespill – Stand up – Pop – Rock

Bårdar Akademiet | Rosenkrantz Gate 22, 0160 Oslo

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Velkommen til Oslo!

Please allow me to begin by using the inspiring words of the recent Tony Award winner, Frank Langella, who, after mentioning the astrologer that said that his greatest success would come late in life, and, after honoring his beloved brother, Andrew, paused and said “There are so many names I wrote down today to thank you, but I hope they will forgive me if I bring in a dose of true reality: What happened today in Orlando. And I found some words that I think will mean more to you than a litany of names: ‘When something bad happens we have three choices. We let it define us. We let it destroy us. Or, we let it strengthen us.’



Today in Orlando we had a hideous dose of reality. And I urge you, Orlando, to be strong because I'm standing in a room of the most generous human beings on earth and we will be with you every step of the way!”

As we create MTEA history here in the glorious and historic city of Oslo by hosting the first ever International Student Showcase, let us take this opportunity to be reminded of our amazing world community of musical theatre artists! Let us use every moment to celebrate who we are and what we do and keep inspiring one another as to how we can become more strong in the coming years!

Lara Teeter

President, Musical Theatre Educators Alliance

SPECIAL THANKS

Bårdar Akademiet

Hilde & Freddy Haugan

Renate Stridh

Ole Anton Thomassen

Kristin Berg

Students from Bårdar International, Dance and
Musical Theatre

Anna Clara Blixt, StagePool, Stockholm

David Hartley, Aida Cruises, Hamburg

Gisle Kverndokk

Øyvind Boye Løvold

Kim Moke, Stage Consult, Hamburg, Germany

Oslo Kommune

Oslo Nye Teaterkjeller'n

Kim-Agathon Blackhill

Karen Meadows

Johan Osuldsen

Ralf Schaedler, Stage Entertainment, Hamburg

Emilie Tverbak

Liv-Unni Larsson Undall

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MUSICAL THEATRE EDUCATORS' ALLIANCE

CONFERENCE AGENDA

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST

12pm-4pm | **Rolling Check-In and Conference Registration**

Bårdar Akademiet, Rosenkrantz Gate 22, 0160 Oslo

**Students will be on hand to offer tours of the school's facilities.

*12:30-4:30pm | **Rehearsal for Student Showcase** | Sal 2/Sal 6

5pm | **“Velkommen Til Norge”**

Oslo Rådhus, Rådhusplassen 1, 0037 Oslo

**Conference 2016 kicks off with Norwegian song and a welcome from the Mayor's office and our hosts.

6pm | **Dinner on Your Own**

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST

8:30-9am | **Check-In and Light Breakfast (Provided)**

9-9:30am | **Welcome Remarks**

9:30-10:50am | **“Presence in Performance: The Vital Interconnection
Between Body, Breath, and Brain”** | Sal 1

Dianna Heldman & Marcia Lesser (NYU Steinhardt, New York, USA)

CONFERENCE AGENDA

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST (cont.)

11am-12:00pm | **“Body Language: Sensuality on Stage”** | Sal 1
Simone Nardini (Musical! The School, Milan, IT)
& Kim Moke (Stage Consult, Hamburg, DEU)

12:10-1:30pm | **“Vocal Positions for Singing Pop/Rock Styles”** | Sal 1
Matt Edwards (Shenandoah, Virginia, USA)

1:30-2:30pm | **Lunch (Provided)** | Cantina

*2:30-5:30pm | **Rehearsal for Student Showcase** | Sal 2/Sal 6

2:30-3:50pm | **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

“Training Transgender Voices” | Sal 1
Brian Kremer (Elon University, N. Carolina, USA)

“Get Out of Your Head: Physical Acting and the Musical Theatre Student” | Sal 7
Carolyn Coulson (Shenandoah, Virginia, USA)

4-5:20pm | **“Directing in Scandinavia: Foreign Points of View”** | Sal 1
Peter Barlow (Director, UK)
& Lynne Kurdziel Formato (Director/Choreographer, USA)

6pm-9pm | **Evening Boat Ride on Oslo Fjord**
Shrimp dinner buffet included; Drinks available for purchase

CONFERENCE AGENDA

SATURDAY 27 AUGUST

9-9:30am | **Light Breakfast (Provided)**

9:30-11:30am | **KEYNOTE: “Musical Theatre in Norway”** | Sal 1
Johan Osuldsen (Director, Choreographer, Translator)
& Gisle Kverndokk (Composer)
Featuring Performances from Norwegian Musicals

11:40am-1pm | **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

“Master Class: Training the Belt Singer” | Sal 1
Christianne Roll (Florida Southern, Florida, USA)
Nancy Wolfgang (Youngstown State, Ohio, USA)
Lone Baltzer (The Danish National School of Performing Arts -
The Academy of Musical Theatre, Fredericia, Denmark)

“Jazz Dance Master Class” | Sal 2
Kristin Berg (Bårdar Akademiet, Oslo, Norway)

1-2pm | **Lunch (Provided)** | Cantina

2-2:45pm | **“A Conversation with the Casting Directors”** | Sal 1
Anna Clara Blixt (StagePool, Stockholm, Sweden)
Ralf Schaedler (Stage Entertainment, Hamburg, Germany)
& David Hartley (Aida Cruises, Hamburg, Germany)

CONFERENCE AGENDA

SATURDAY 27 AUGUST (cont.)

*2:45-6pm | **Rehearsal for Student Showcase** | Teaterkjeller'n

2:45-3:45 | **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

“Get ‘Ouch-able’: Unlocking the Power of Impulses” | Sal 7
Charles Gilbert (University of the Arts, Pennsylvania, USA)

“Steampunk: Sweeney Todd Through Rose Colored Goggles” | Sal 1
David Grapes (University of Northern Colorado, Colorado, USA)

4:15-5:30pm | **GUIDED TOUR OF THE OSLO OPERA HOUSE**

Kirsten Flagstads Plass 1, 0150 Oslo

6:30pm-12am | **SPECIAL EVENT:**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SHOWCASE & DINNER

Teaterkjeller'n, Akersgata 38, 0180 Oslo

*Ticketed Event: Dinner Included

**Cash Bar open 6:30pm-12am

CONFERENCE AGENDA

SUNDAY 28 AUGUST

9-10am | **Light Breakfast (Provided) & “Open Mic” Town Hall
Forum Discussion** | Sal 1

10:10-11:30am | **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

“Integrating Breath for the Singing Dancer” | Sal 2
Stacy Alley (The University of Alabama, Alabama, USA)

**“Climbing the Ladder: Applications of Linklater Technique for
the Singing Actor”** | Sal 1
D’Arcy Webb (University of the Arts, Pennsylvania, USA)

11:40am-1pm | **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

**“Picture, Palpate, Play: Understanding Breath and Body for Musical
Theatre Singing”** | Sal 1
Tanya Kruse Ruck (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Wisconsin,
USA)

“Tap Rhythm: Tap and Dance Seen as a Musical Instrument” | Sal 2
David Wynen (Federation University, Ballarat, Australia)

1-2pm | **Lunch (Provided)** | Cantina

2-3pm | **Conference Wrap-Up and Closing Business** | Cantina

PRESENTER BIOS

Stacy Alley is Associate Professor of Musical Theatre/Dance at The University of Alabama (UA) as well as a professional director and choreographer whose recent credits include work at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland, the Festival Internacional de Teatro y Danza in Chile, SummerTide Theatre, Forestburgh Playhouse, and the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival. Recent UA directing/choreography credits include *Young Frankenstein*, *42nd Street*, *Urinetown*, and *Chicago* as well as many pieces in Alabama Repertory Dance Theatre concerts. Stacy has been performing professionally for thirty years, including five years as a featured dancer in *Radio City Music Hall's Christmas Spectacular*. She is a member of SAG-AFTRA, The Southeastern Theatre Conference, SDC, The Alabama Conference of Theatre, and is the Southeastern Representative for MTEA. She holds an MFA in Acting from The University of Alabama and a BA in Theatre from the University of Southern California and is a Certified Movement Analyst through the Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies in NYC.

Lone Baltzer is head of studies at The Danish National School of Performing Arts - The Academy of Musical Theatre. As a voice teacher, Lone graduated from the leading world-class Complete Vocal Institute in Copenhagen and has worked with international students on the highest level for many years. As a musical theatre performer, Lone has worked at leading theatres in Denmark and performed as a concert soloist all around the country. She believes that technique is merely a tool to liberate the artist.

Peter Barlow is currently Vice Principal at Laine Theatre Arts and the Coordinator of the International program for Bårdar Academy. For Bårdar, Peter has directed the musicals *Nine* and *Spring Awakening* in Norwegian and the international showcase for Oslo and London each year from 2011-2016. Peter has also directed *West Side Story* and *Romeo and Juliet* in Italian for the Bernstein Academy in Bologna. He was Director and Chief Executive of Guildford School of Acting from 2001-2010 where he directed over 30 plays and musicals as well as being responsible for the merger of the School with the University of Surrey and the building of the new £12 million School and Arts Centre on the University campus. He worked as an actor, director, and producer for 15 years prior to joining GSA in 1994. Peter is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Senior Fellow of the University of Surrey.

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Kristin Berg is educated at Bårdar Dance Academy. She has done numerous musicals and dance productions in Norway and abroad. She was last seen as Sheila Bryant in *A Chorus Line*, Brooke Wyndham in *Legally Blonde* (Sweden), and Bombalurina in *Cats*. She has also done *Peer Gynt*, *Sophie's Choice*, *Billy-The Liar*, *Frendelaus*, *My Fair Lady*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Hair*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Producers*, *Spamalot*, *Cabaret* (Norway and Germany), and *Chicago*. She worked as ensemble and assistant choreographer in *Markus and Julie*, *Cabaret*, and *Grease*. She has also appeared in four Bollywood movies as a dancer in Mumbai, India. Kristin is now teaching jazz and theatre dance classes at Bårdar Academy. She is also a pilates and yoga instructor.

Carolyn Coulson is an Associate Professor of Theatre at Shenandoah Conservatory, where her classes include Acting Shakespeare, Movement for Actors, and History of Theatre. Carolyn has performed, taught, and directed across the US and in England and Canada. She trained at Santa Clara University and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, holds an MA and PhD in Medieval Studies from the University of Connecticut, and is an internationally known specialist in staging Medieval Drama. Recent directing credits include *My Fair Lady*, *The Addams Family*, *Illyria*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Crucible*, and *Marat/Sade*.

Matthew Edwards is currently Associate Professor and Coordinator of Musical Theatre Voice at Shenandoah Conservatory and Artistic Director of the Contemporary Commercial Music Vocal Pedagogy Institute. His current and former students have performed on Broadway, Off-Broadway, on national and international tours, at theme parks, on national TV (including *American Idol*), major motion picture soundtracks, and have appeared on the Billboard music charts. He is the author of "So You Want to Sing Rock 'N' Roll" as well as numerous book chapters and journal articles. His pop/rock workshops have been hosted by numerous collegiate musical theatre programs throughout the United States. Online at EdwardsVoice.com, CCMinstitute.com, and AuditioningForCollege.com.

Jonathan Flom was the head of Musical Theatre at Shenandoah Conservatory for the last nine years before moving to Oslo, where he is now teaching Acting and Musical Theatre at Bårdar. Along with his books, *Act Like It's Your Business* and *Get the Callback*, Flom has

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developed curriculum to empower students to be artistic entrepreneurs. He has developed international study partnerships around the world, connecting students globally, and he has served as Vice President for Conferences for MTEA for the last three years.

www.jonathanflom.com

Lynne Kurdziel-Formato is currently an Associate Professor of Performing Arts at Elon University while maintaining a busy professional career as a director/choreographer. A proud member of SDC, Lynne has hundreds of productions to her credit. She served as director/choreographer for the European premiere of *Disney's Aladdin*, as well as the Scandinavian premiere of *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, the professional Danish premiere of *Young Frankenstein*, and the Danish premiere of *Edges*, all for the Fredericia Teater. This season she will serve as choreographer for *Disney's The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, directed by Thomas Agerholm. In addition, Lynne has directed and choreographed seven showcase productions for the Danish Musical Academy, including *Chicago*, *Legally Blonde*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, and the world premiere of *Beatsville*.

Charles Gilbert is an educator, writer, composer, and director who has spent nearly 40 years making provocative original work for the musical stage and training young artists for professional careers in musical theatre. He headed the Musical Theatre Program at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia from its inception in 1990 until 2008, and served from 2008-2013 as Director of the Ira Brind School of Theatre Arts at UArts. His innovative SAVI System of Singer Actor Training emerged out of decades of studio teaching at UArts and other schools in the US and abroad, and his upcoming book, the SAVI Singing Actor, develops many of the concepts he has explored on his website, www.savisingingactor.com. Gilbert has created a wide range of works for the musical stage, including *Assassins* (1979, source of the idea for the Sondheim musical of the same name) and *Gemini the Musical* (with playwright Albert Innaurato). His activities as a guest artist, teacher, and consultant have taken him to Denmark, Sweden, Germany, The UK, Hong Kong, and Australia. He is a founder and past President of MTEA, and currently serves as its treasurer. www.chasgilbert.com

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David Grapes is the Director of the School of Theatre Arts and Dance at the University of Northern Colorado. He is a published playwright (500 productions worldwide) and a member of SDC, AEA, DGA, and has directed 250 LORT productions.

Dianna Heldman has been on the faculty at NYU Steinhardt for the past 20 years. As the Associate Director of the Program in Vocal Performance, she is noted for writing and teaching integrated curriculum concentrating on the holistic training of the singing actor in classical by means of fostering a community of teachers that work together. Currently she is on faculty at NYU New York, NYU Shanghai, and the Shanghai Conservatory.

Brian Kremer is an Assistant Professor of Voice and Music Theatre Styles at Elon University (Elon, NC). Previously Brian worked as the Coordinator of Voice for the Ira Brind School of Theater Arts at the University of the Arts and was the Asst. Director of the American Musical Theater Ensemble at Manhattan School of Music. Brian has guest taught at Temple University and Folkwang Universität der Künste (Essen, Germany). He maintains a private voice studio, "Kremer Voice Design." His current and former students can be seen performing on Broadway, Off-Broadway, on tours, and at various concert and commercial venues. Brian is a member of MTEA, The Voice Foundation, and NATS. BFA, Carnegie Mellon University; MM, Manhattan School of Music.

Gisle Kverndokk studied composition with Olav Anton Thommessen, Lasse Thoresen, and Alfred Janson at The Norwegian State Academy of Music, where he received his Master's Degree in 1994, and with John Corigliano and David Diamond at the Julliard School in New York. In 1994, he attended the BMI Earl Hagen Film Scoring Workshop in Hollywood. He also studied film music composition at the University College of Lillehammer with Halldor Krogh in 2013-14.

At the age of 15 he wrote a radio opera commissioned by the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation. The Norwegian State Academy of Music premiered his first full-scale opera *The Falcon Tower* in 1990. His next opera, *George's Marvelous Medicine* was premiered by The Kristiansund Opera in 1995 and was awarded Work of the Year by the Norwegian

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Composers Society. In the 1999-2000 season he was "Composer of the Year" with the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra.

He has written musicals for children, music for plays, revues, and ballets. He has a regular collaboration with Øystein Wiik, and their first musical, *Sophie's World* was premiered at The Schlossfestspiele Ettlingen, Germany in 1998. The Norwegian premiere was in Oslo in 1999, in Hangar 4 at Fornebu, in a theatre specially built for the occasion. Additional musical works include *Vincent* (2001), *Dangerous Liaisons* (2002), and *Homeless* (2003). Theatre Erfurt premiered the musical *Martin L.* at the Domstufen Festspiel in 2008. This work was nominated for The Nordic Music Prize. Wiik and Kverndokk's musicals have been performed in numerous theatres all over Germany.

Kverndokk's newest opera, *Easter*, based on Strindberg's play, with libretto by Aksel-Otto Bull, was commissioned by Bergen National Opera, and had its premiere in April 2014 at Opera Sør in Kristiansand. For more information, please visit www.kverndokk.com.

Marcia Lesser specializes in working with musicians, actors, and singers and is the founder of Body as Instrument (www.bodyasinstrument.com), a model that encourages body/mind consciousness in the performer. Engagement of the whole body from the inside to the outside, the feet to the head, deeply enhances the performer's ability to discover his/her unique voice. She guides her students to tune into their physical sensations, a crucial step in connecting to one's feelings, creativity, and ultimately to the audience. She helps students deconstruct and change their habituated posture; energy blocks, both physical and psychological, that may prevent this connection.

Kim Moke is an entrepreneur, artistic director, consultant, owner of Stage Consult International; Founder of Stage School Hamburg and the Young Talent Program. She is an advisor for educational development in Musical Theatre. She has presented international master classes, workshops, and theatre exchange programs in Italy, USA, Korea, Russia, and China. Kim is an Executive Education Expert at London Business School, and she is the European Vice President of the Musical Theatre Educators Alliance.

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Simone Nardini is Artistic Director of Fabbrica dello Spettacolo and MTS Musical! The School in Milan, Italy. Nardini has directed *Wiri*, *Canned Meat*, *LORCA* *baret* in Italy and Los Angeles. Nardini is also a graduate in Costume Design from The Fine Art Academy of Brera in Milan. Additional directorial credits include *Midsummer Night's Circus*, *La Fiaba nelle Fiabe*, *Crazy for You*, *Anything Goes*. And as Associate Director: *Three's Company* (The Musical), *High Society* at Teatro La Scala in Milan, *Angel Fire*, *Notting Hill* (The Play), *Run For Your Wife*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Promises Promises*, *Evita*, *Saturday Night Fever*, and *An American in Paris*.

Johan Osuldsen is a classically trained pianist, dancer, and Landscape Architect and educated NLP-coach who was a stage performer of musicals for 10 years, and is now one of Norway's most popular directors, choreographers, and writers in musical theatre. *Company* at Den Nationale Scene, the world premiere of the musical *Hellemyrsfolket*, also at Den Nationale Scene, which was the most popular show in the theatre's over 150 year's existence; *The Last Five Years*, Edderkoppen Theatre; *Chess in Concert*, Arctic Philharmonic; *Mamma Mia!* and *We Will Rock You*, Folketeatret (Resident Director), where he worked closely with the English, German, and Swedish teams. He's written, directed, and choreographed *Showgirls* and *It's Showtime*, Chat Noir, which was based on the careers of Norwegian stars and the American Songbook. He has also written and directed for television: *Skrimmel-Skrammel*, *Piano Piano* with Ingrid Bjørnov, and over 50 live broadcast TV shows in Norway and Scandinavia. He also works as a songwriter and author, the children's novel *Bråkeboka* and the musical theatre book *Musical Artist! Entertainer eller rolleformidler*, which is the textbook at Bårdar Akademiet, where he was head of musical theatre from 1996-2002. Osuldsen is also widely used as a translator of English-language musicals: *Company*, *The Last Five Years*, *West Side Story*, etc.

Christianne Roll is an expert on the female belt voice and a member of AEA. She studied musical theatre at NYU and received her doctoral degree from Columbia University, researching musical theatre vocal pedagogy. She is the head of the BFA Musical Theatre program at Florida Southern College and was the music director for Norwegian Cruise Lines.

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Tanya Kruse Ruck is Assistant Professor of Voice and Opera, Musical Theatre Faculty at The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She received her BA, MM, and DMA in vocal performance, after having grown up on country, musical theatre, pop, and big band music, and she recently completed the three-part series in CCM at Shenandoah's Vocal Pedagogy Institute. Her students have received prizes from the Metropolitan Opera, Lotte Lenya Competition, and more.

D'Arcy Webb a.k.a. the Speech Diva, is a member of the voice and speech faculty of the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, where she recently received the President's Award for Distinguished Teaching. In the course of her career as an actress, she has played a large number of roles, ranging from soigné society dames to deranged housewives and toothless old crones, all with passion, humanity, and panache. She has narrated *A Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* with the Pittsburgh Symphony, and has voiced motivational and training videos as well as commercials for clients like Best Western Hotels, File, and Gore. The creator of the whimsical online web series "Tuesday Morning Two-Minute Tune-Ups for Your Tongue," D'Arcy specializes in speech production and accent reduction, and offers private coaching to actors, singers, and professional speakers. www.darcywebb.com

Nancy Andersen Wolfgang runs the Musical Theatre program at Youngstown State University in Ohio. Her areas of expertise include the belt/mix voice in the young singer and acting the song. Before beginning her teaching service, she resided in New York City where she worked as a professional musical theatre performer. She will be directing *Forum* this fall at YSU. Her students have been seen in numerous productions, including Disney, national tours, and major motion pictures.

David Wynen's performing credits include *42nd Street*, *Billy Elliott*, *The Australian Opera*. Directing and choreography credits include Rachel Rak at the Luigi Tribute Concert, *The Addams Family*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Cabaret*, *42nd Street*. Educational achievements include EJ Barker Fellowship, The Dean's Award, The Vice Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Leadership, and the Australian Government Citation for Learning and Teaching for Tap Rhythm.



MUSICAL THEATRE EDUCATORS' ALLIANCE

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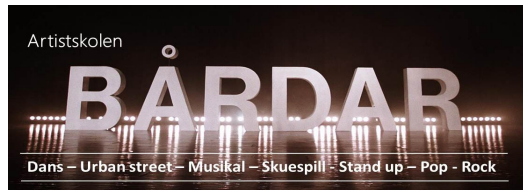
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Western US | Gayle Lockwood, Brigham Young University, Salt Lake City, UT, USA

AustralAsia | Crispin Taylor, WAAPA, Perth, Australia



Since 1937 Bårdar has played an important role in educating, training and inspiring Norwegian dancers and musical artists. Bårdar started out as a dance institute focusing on teaching dance to children, youths and adults. Since then Bårdar has evolved into one of the largest Norwegian educational institutions for musical theatre, acting and dance. The Bårdar Academy started up in 1995 and has since then educated many of today's most popular Norwegian artists and dancers. Bårdar is focusing on being a global presence and enjoys many partnerships with other international schools and institutions. As a result of this Bårdar is offering two international study programs:

Bårdar International Dance and Bårdar International Musical Theatre.

We wish you all a great conference and a nice stay in Oslo!