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MoCo Arts to host acting workshop series for high schoolers



KEENE, NH -- Area high school students are invited to join professional working actors Bridget Beirne and Tom Frey for a hands-on [acting workshop series](#) at MoCo Arts. Draw from their **real-world experience** and immerse yourself in the fundamentals of acting over the course of this 10-week acting intensive. The focus will be on **developing acting techniques** and **honing auditioning skills** to equip students with the tools they need to succeed in the world of theatre. The workshops will be held on Wednesdays from 3:30 – 5:00 pm beginning on February 5 and running through April 15.

The series will begin with establishing goals, participating in a few different exercises, and preparing for things to come. As the weeks progress, students will participate in mock auditions, during which they will receive feedback including specific things they can do to improve and increase their chances of success. Subsequent workshops will include cold reading, scene work, monologues, and much more.

These workshops offer students an experiential learning environment in which they will learn by doing, receiving valuable tips and tricks along the way from working actors who understand what it takes to succeed in today's world. Students can expect to be exposed to cutting-edge ideas that are rooted in modern techniques and validated by years of experience.

Bridget Beirne began working with MoCo Arts in September 2018 as Co-Director of MoCo's High School Play, part of their brand-new straight play program, along with her partner Tom Frey. Bridget is a professional actor that has performed on well-known stages in NYC and across the country. She's been seen at places like the York Theatre, Symphony Space NY, the Norma Terris Theatre at Goodspeed, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Stages Repertory, the Peterborough Players (and many, many more) and as a soloist with organizations like the Boston Pops. After nearly 16 years in NYC, she switched her commute to Manhattan from Astoria, Queens to Peterborough, NH. She's represented by the Krasny Office in NYC and can be heard on the original cast recording of "That Time of the Year" on Jay Records. Bridget is a member of Actors' Equity Association and a graduate of the Boston Conservatory.

Tom Frey began working with MoCo alongside Bridget in September of 2018, co-directing the High School Straight Play. Tom has an extensive career as both an actor and a director throughout the US and Canada. He is the US Resident Director of the hit Canadian play 'Two Pianos Four Hands', having directed over 20 productions, as well as performing the show nearly 700 times. He's been seen in a myriad of roles at theatres across the United States, including Hartford Stage, Pittsburgh City Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, 7 Angels Theatre, Stages Repertory Theatre, Penguin Rep, and many more. As a long-time company member with the



Peterborough Players, he has been seen in shows like 'The 39 Steps', 'Arms and the Man', 'The Producers', 'Outside Mullingar', and many more. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, a member of Actors' Equity Association, and represented by The Krasny Office in New York.

This workshop series is designed for students in grades 9-12 who are ready to push the limits of their own unique talents, and who wish to learn more about the art of acting. No previous acting experience is required.

Cost for this workshop series is \$250. Drop ins are welcome at a rate of \$25 per class. As with all MoCo Arts classes, workshops and camps, tuition assistance is available for those that qualify. For more information, or to register, visit MoCo Arts at 40 Roxbury Street in Keene, or call (603) 357-2100. You can also visit them online at www.moco.org.

MoCo Arts is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, multi-arts educational organization located in downtown Keene offering dance and theatre classes and multi-arts vacation and summer camps for children ages 18 months to 18+ years. As part of the educational process, MoCo Arts provides professional quality performance experience for students and family-friendly performances for audiences of all ages throughout the year. MoCo welcomes all students, beginners through advanced, and tuition assistance is available. MoCo Arts is sponsored in part by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information please visit MoCo Arts, 40 Roxbury Street, Keene, NH 03431 or www.moco.org

Photo caption: Bridget Beirne and Tom Frey offer guidance to high school students at MoCo Arts. Photo by Colleen Manzi.

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