



Curt Columbus, Richard L. Bready Artistic Director • Tom Parrish, Executive Director
201 Washington Street • Providence • Rhode Island 02903 • www.trinityrep.com

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CONTACT: Philippa Boyes, Marketing Manager, (401) 521-1100 ext. 226 pboyes@trinityrep.com

BROWN/TRINITY REP MFA PROGRAM INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Master's degree programs in acting and directing receive acclaim as alums succeed on stage and screen

PROVIDENCE, RI: Trinity Repertory Company is proud to celebrate the recent **accolades of its Brown University/Trinity Rep MFA programs and the successes of the programs' alumni**. The master's degree in acting was recently ranked as the sixth best program in the world by *The Hollywood Reporter* and in the top twenty-five best programs across the U.S. and U.K. in *Backstage*. Lauded for its holistic approach to theater—both directing and acting students are required to study playwriting and dramaturgy, directing students must study acting and acting students must study directing—the alumni of the programs have successfully created acclaimed theater companies.

The interdisciplinary approach to theater education “enables the program to graduate well-rounded artists who work with greater intelligence and insight on Broadway, regionally, in film and television,” said head of the MFA programs and Trinity Rep acting company member, **Stephen Berenson**. “The collaborative nature of Brown/Trinity has led to the creation of several successful theater companies including **Fiasco Theatre, Fault Line Theatre, The Williams Project, and The Light Fantastic Theater Company.**”

Many Brown/Trinity Rep alums are currently enjoying successes on Broadway (**Peter Mark Kendall** in John Guare's *Six Degrees of Separation*), the West End (**Andrew Polec** in Jim Steinman's *Bat Out of Hell*), and on television and streaming services (**Olivia Khoshatefeh** in Netflix's *The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*).

Fiasco Theatre's *New York Times Critic's Pick* production of Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods* has toured the country and been produced at many regional theaters nationwide. They are currently performing their production of Moliere's *The Imaginary Invalid* at The Old Globe in San Diego. Fault Line Theatre's recent production of Bekah Brunstetter's *The Oregon Trail* was called "a feisty, formally inventive comedy" by *The New York Times*. The Williams Project, which strives to make theatrical excellence accessible to diverse and engaged audiences while paying artists a living wage, will remount their successful production of James Baldwin's *Blues for Mister Charlie* this summer. The Light Fantastic

Theater Company brings theater to non-traditional audiences throughout NYC in shelters, low-income senior centers, and correctional facilities, most recently, Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*.

Brown University/Trinity Rep MFA Programs provide a three-year professional training program for eighteen students under the auspices of an Ivy League University and Rhode Island's Tony Award-winning theater company. Brown University's Department of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies is internationally recognized for the quality of its faculty and instruction. Trinity Rep, with its deep tradition of resident artists, provides powerful artistic assets and creates a firm foundation for a new generation of theater artists.

TRINITY REPERTORY COMPANY

Rhode Island's Tony-Award winning theater, Trinity Rep explodes with activity that feeds the soul and inspires dialogue through unparalleled theatrical experiences. Recognized nationally for excellence and innovation, and cherished locally for high quality and diverse programming, we are proud to be a creative home for Rhode Island's artists, audience, students, and community partners.

Subscriptions for the 2017-2018 season now on sale. The season includes *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, *Skeleton Crew* by Dominique Morisseau, *Into the Breaches!* by George Brant, *Othello* by William Shakespeare, *Native Gardens* by Karen Zacarias, and *Ragtime* by Terrence McNally, music by Stephen Flaherty, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, based on the novel by E.L. Doctorow. **For more information and to purchase tickets, call the box office at (401) 351-4242 or visit Trinity Rep's website at www.trinityrep.com.**

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