

Center Theatre Group 2010 Chase Fellows

Center Theatre Group values the hard work and dedication of educators, and with the support of Chase, is committed to making a sustained investment in theatre educators - as instructional leaders, artists and theatre-lovers. The **Chase Theatre Educators Fellowship Program** provides support for professional development needs and artistic revitalization for outstanding theatre teachers in Los Angeles County. Center Theatre Group is proud to acknowledge the 2010 Chase Fellows.



Brian Patrick Byrne is the resident Technical Director and Technical Theatre teacher at Milken Community High School. With a BFA in Theatrical Lighting Design from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, he developed a love for teaching young people about technical theatre while working in theatre venues at the

Kingborough Community College in Brooklyn. Brian will investigate the following key research question: "How can I incorporate theatrical design instruction (specifically in the areas of lighting, sound, and projection design) into my middle school and high school technical theatre classes?" His fellowship activities include attending the LiveDesign Broadway Master Classes in Lighting, Sound, and Projection Design and the Music Theatre International (MTI) Broadway Teachers Workshop in New York.

New Orleans for a four-week workshop at the Lower 9th Ward Village community center. In collaboration with James LeCesne of *After the Storm Foundation*, she will conduct theatre workshops for teens wishing to tell their stories from Hurricane Katrina.



Brandon Rainey is the Drama Director of the Inner City Education Foundation Public School's Fernando Pullum Performing Arts High School and Lou Dantzer Middle & High School. A graduate of Morehouse College with a BA in Drama, he started teaching in 2007 when he accepted a position at Washington Preparatory High

School, making him one of the youngest full-time teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Brandon will investigate the following key research question: "If we can build gangs in our communities then why can't we build a gang that uses the arts as their weapons?" His fellowship activities include partnering with a mentor at Success Through the Arts Foundation, attending the South Coast Repertory playwriting workshop and participating in the Music Theatre International (MTI) Broadway Teachers Workshop in New York.



Joanne Karr is in her tenth year of teaching drama at Walnut High School in the Walnut Valley Unified School District, having taught previously for the Los Angeles Unified School District at Hollywood High School and Westchester High School for over twenty years. She is a 2009 Music Center Bravo Award recipient and a two time

Fulbright Exchange Teacher to the UK. Joanne will investigate the following key research question: "How does approaching a play text as an actor differ from approaching it as a director/designer/teacher?" Her fellowship activities include attending "Acting for Directors" at the Utah Shakespeare Festival in Cedar City, Utah, viewing productions, touring facilities, visiting museums, and conducting interviews at the Tuachan Amphitheatre in St. George, Utah, and the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego.



Patricia Sciortino is the middle and high school drama teacher at Bridges Academy, an independent school that educates Twice-Exceptional or "2e" students – students who are gifted or highly gifted and have some form of learning difference or disability. She began teaching over ten years ago at a school for students with language-

based learning differences. Patricia will investigate the following key research question: "How will the process of sketch comedy writing positively impact the personal self-efficacy of "2e" learners and motivate them to produce in all forms of written expression?" Her fellowship includes participation in a three-week sketch comedy writing intensive at the Peoples Improv Theatre in New York.



Jane McEaney is the Performing Arts Coordinator for Turning Point School in Culver City. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a Master's of Music in Voice Performance, currently serves as a Board Member-at-Large for the California Educational Theatre Association and was a 2009 finalist for the Music Center

Bravo Award. Jane will investigate the following key research questions: "How do we tell universal stories? What happens when students actually meet and interact with the characters in the stories they tell?" Her fellowship involves traveling to

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