

EAST WEST PLAYERS

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For Immediate Release January 10, 2011 Los Angeles, CA Contact: Christine Huynh (213) 625-7000 ext. 12 chuynh@EastWestPlayers.org

East West Players Offers Acting Class for Teens

East West Players, the nation's premier Asian American theatre, opens it doors once again to young, emerging artists. The Teen Acting Class offers students an acting theatre adventure by working with a professional who is passionate about teaching acting in a creative, nurturing, and safe environment. Led by Jose Urbina, this 10-week course for ages 10-16 will focus on the fundamentals of acting. Students will develop acting skills through improvisation and theatre games which will improve and promote communication and creativity as well as team work and self-esteem.

"The Teen Acting Class is a great beginning for students interested in acting, allowing them to express themselves freely and creatively," says Arts Education Director Marilyn Tokuda. "By participating in group exercises and interacting with other students, they develop team building skills and confidence. The Teen Acting Class allows students to not only learn but to have fun. It has been really rewarding seeing several of our students grow not only creatively but on a personal level."

Jose Urbina is a drama teacher and director with more than fourteen years experience teaching and coaching students in the Los Angeles Unified School District, Bell Gardens (GATE) and Montebello Unified School District (GATE). A creative, proactive professional with demonstrated expertise in teaching acting, cold reading skills, script writing, set design and directing, Jose brings extensive experience coaching working actors to develop their craft. Jose is an invaluable member of the artistic community who prepares young students for a future in the performing arts.

The Teen Acting Class will be held on Saturdays, February 5 – April 9, 2011 from 1 pm – 3 pm at St. Francis Xavier Chapel (Maryknoll), 222 S. Hewitt St., in the Little Tokyo District of Downtown Los Angeles. The program fee is \$175 per student. Space is still available. Special discounts are available for siblings

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who enroll together. For more information about the Teen Acting Class, contact Arts Education Director, Marilyn Tokuda at mtokuda@eastwestplayers.org or (213) 625-7000 x15.