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A Warm Welcome

The North American Center for the Actor-Creator.



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DAI's Programs

/Professional Training Program

DAI's signature training, The Professional Training Program (PTP) is a one-year program for those ready to undertake a journey into the realms of physically dynamic actor-created theatre. The PTP begins with foundational training in physical awareness, play, movement, and mask, and continues with an in-depth study of Commedia Dell'Arte, Heightened Acting and Clown. Students in the PTP engage in ongoing research into the process of making theatre through weekly assignments presented in Performance Lab. DAI's commitment to diverse, equitable and inclusive theatre is reflected in the content of the training which includes classes in cross cultural competency, antiracism, and community building. The program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and is open to all performers, with or without a college degree.

/ Summer Intensive

The DAI Summer Intensive is a three-week immersion into the actor-training methodology of the Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre. The training aims toward the creation of dynamic theatre in which the embodied actor plays with freedom, authenticity, and visceral power within the living, poetic space of the stage. This rigorous and joyful investigation of theatrical movement is appropriate for all actors, dancers, directors, teachers, designers, and performers with any level of prior stage experience.





/ Performance Intensive

The Performance Training Intensive is a two week workshop designed specifically for pre-collegiate students interested in developing their skills as actors for the stage. This intensive provides serious young actors with an opportunity to study play, mask, movement and the creation of original work with a team of dedicated professional artists.

/ DAI Online

A selection of specialized online workshops accessible from anywhere in the world. Featuring an exciting range of both classical and cutting edge somatic and creative topics, these workshops are designed for an online platform and offered by a diverse group of DAI faculty. Open to performers, writers, directors, teachers, designers, actors and dancers with any level of experience.

/ Bali

The program is an intensive study of the Balinese performing arts: Mask, Dance, Shadow Puppetry and Kecak Chanting. It is designed for those who want to participate in the family and ceremonial life of outstanding Balinese master teachers, during an intensive study month. Our Study Abroad: Bali program is open to actors, musicians, designers, dancers, mask-makers, directors, teachers, and anyone who is interested in the Balinese culture and performing arts."

Training Actor-Creators since 1974

The foundation of the Dell'Arte training – and our theatre practice – is the work of the creative actor, whose imaginative command of space, gesture, dynamics, and an articulate body/voice gives expression to passions, characters, relationships and worlds. The training is founded on observation and identification with nature, the physical investigation of the body and its poetry, and an imaginative inquiry into the forms of culture and theatre.

The Dell'Arte School is located in the small town of Blue Lake, surrounded by the majestic wilderness of California's North Coast. For over 40 years, Dell'Arte has welcomed students from all over the world to our home in this unique natural setting, to train, research and discover what is possible in the theatre.

