Founded by Sir Tyrone Guthrie in 1963, the Guthrie Theater is an American center for theater performance, production, education and professional training. The theater presents a mix of classic plays and contemporary work, and continues to set a national standard for excellence in theatrical production and performance. In 2006, the Guthrie opened a new home on the banks of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, housing three state-of-the-art stages, production facilities, classrooms, restaurants and dramatic public lobbies.

Artistic Director Joseph Haj
From performer to director to artistic director, Haj is a highly respected visionary with a reputation for exceptional leadership, notable collaborations and partnerships with the industry’s leading artists and influencers, and award-winning productions of classic and contemporary plays. He made his Guthrie debut as an actor in the 1989–90 season production of *The Screens*, and performed with the theater’s foremost directors including Garland Wright, JoAnne Akalaitis, Anne Bogart (as an original member of SITI Company), Peter Sellars, Sir Peter Hall, Robert Woodruff and others.

Emily Swallow 2003 alumna
"After two years of training with a small group of actors at NYU, it was invaluable to break away from the familiarity of that environment and spend a summer in Minneapolis with thirsty actors from other conservatory programs. It was a joyful experience that made me bolder and showed me where I still wanted to grow. And I knew I wanted to someday return to the Guthrie's warm embrace to collaborate on a full production – I've done so three times and have loved it every time!"

Photo: Emily Swallow as Flo in the Guthrie's 2013 production of *Nice Fish* (Richard Termine)
A Guthrie Experience for Actors in Training is an eight-week training program that brings together graduate student actors (between second and third years) from across the United States for the summer. Our program is designed to build a bridge between training and the profession while introducing participants to a preeminent American regional theater. Our hope is that alumni will return to our stages and work in the Twin Cities throughout their careers.

Guthrie Experience participants attend workshops and discussions with Guthrie staff, guest faculty and visiting artists. The curriculum includes seeing and discussions with Guthrie staff, guest faculty and visiting artists. The Guthrie Experience company also devises a piece of theater to be performed for the public in late July.

- No program fee ($150 admin fee only)
- Offers made in March
- Housing provided
- Participants responsible for transportation to Minneapolis and food and entertainment expenses

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Marcela Lorca currently serves as the director of the Guthrie Experience. She has directed and choreographed productions at the Guthrie, McCarter, Milwaukee Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Goodman Theater, Syracuse Stage and others. Marcela has taught actors at NYU, Juilliard, LISPA, and is the Head of Movement for the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor Training Program. Marcela originated the work on devised productions for the GEx program and has directed 10 of them.

Sun Mee Chomet is a St. Paul-based actor, dancer and playwright. As an actor she has worked with the Guthrie, Cincinnati Playhouse, Hartford Stage, Kansas City Repertory, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Syracuse Stage, Charlotte Repertory, Lincoln Center, and numerous other Twin Cities theaters. She received an M.F.A. in Acting from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts.

Michelle O’Neill has worked with the Guthrie since 1997. She has worked on Broadway, in TV and film, and is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Drama. She has been working with the University of Minnesota for many years, teaching and directing.

Thomas Prattki is the Founder and Director of the London International School of Performing Arts/LISPA, a world renowned training center in the field of devised theater and performance. Before founding his own school, Thomas has been the artistic director of the Jacques Lecoq International School of Theater in Paris. He is a guest faculty member with the Guthrie Experience since 1999.

Randy Reyes is a Guthrie Experience alumnus (1998) and now serves as Artistic Director of Mu Performing Arts and works as an actor and director in the Twin Cities. Randy has performed in 10 main stage shows at the Guthrie. Randy most recently served as the director for the 2016 Guthrie Experience showpiece.

JD Steele is a singer/composer and choral director who performs and records with his internationally known family the Steeles. He has also recorded and performed with Prince, Donald Fagen, Mavis Staples, Morgan Freeman and many other artists. He has performed on Broadway and stages around the world. His music is published and administered through Universal/Rondor music.

Andrew Wade worked at the Royal Shakespeare Company as Head of Voice from 1990 to 2003. He is the Voice and Speech Director for The Public Theater, Voice Director for Theatre for a New Audience, and Adjunct Faculty at Juilliard.

Ken Washington (1946-2014) served the Guthrie Theater for 20 years (1996-2014) as Director of Company Development, and was instrumental in the development of A Guthrie Experience for Actors in Training and the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor Training Program. Ken was a valued mentor, teacher and friend to countless young actors who flourished under his careful and caring mentorship. We continue to build on his legacy of deep artistic investigation and the generous nurturing of relationships in the national and international theater community.

Ricardo Chavira 1999 ALUMNUS

“My time at the Guthrie, both in the Guthrie Experience and later, onstage professionally, are due specifically to one man ... Ken Washington. He helped make me into the actor I am today. For that, the Guthrie will always be a part of me.”

Photo: Ricardo Chavira as Stanley Kowalski with Gretchen Egolf in the Guthrie’s 2010 production of A Streetcar Named Desire (T. Charles Erickson)