

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2019

The Actors Gymnasium presents "Case Study," its 2019 Professional Training Program Showcase.

CHICAGO • EVANSTON, IL – For nine months, guided by Co-Founder and Artistic Director Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi, students have trained intensively with some of America's top circus instructors. From "Chicago's Queen of Mischief and Mayhem" Molly Brennan, to Cirque du Soleil's *Michael Jackson ONE*'s Amanda Crockett and the multi-award-winning dance theater, Lucky Plush Productions.

"Case Study" explores the ways in which athleticism, grace, spectacle, and storytelling combine to form the vibrant world of circus theatre.

The culmination of our nine month professional training program, it recognizes the incredible dedication that went into an intensive year of training, and celebrates the beginning of the next phase of these performers' careers.

What makes this program unique? Artistic Director Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi says, "It gives our students the tools they need to form their own artistic vocabulary. Developing that vocabulary in a collaborative environment helps artists deepen their skills in profound ways they may never have even dreamed of."

Performance dates are Saturday, June 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday June 2 at 3:00 p.m. with a reception to follow. Recommended for ages 13 and up. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and can be purchased at actorsgymnasium.org. For group reservations and general questions, please call 847-328-2795. The on-location box office opens 1.5 hours prior to the start of each performance.

Graduating students include Stefan Brundage, David Chervony, Molly Hernandez, Kai Hirota, Amma May, Jordan Reinwald, Arielle Giselle Rogers [Clitora Leigh ((i))] , Michele Stine, Sasha Vulovic, Erin Williams.

Core program instructors include Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi, Molly Brennan, Amanda Crockett, Flora Bare, Michel Cintra, Jean Claudio, David Corlew, Megan Mallouk, Raheim White, and Oyuna Yadamjav.

About the Professional Training Program:

A nine month intensive training, consisting of 27 hours per week of circus arts, physical theatre, and dance led by award winning master teachers Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi, Molly Brennan, and Amanda Crockett. The program is intended for performing artists looking to take their circus training and performance to the next level.

About the Actors Gymnasium:

Since 1995, The Actors Gymnasium has dedicated itself to expanding human and theatrical potential through the vital forms of circus arts by providing artistic and educational programs that push the limits of physical, emotional, and creative expression. To that end, Actors Gym has supported the education and development of multi-skilled performers, specializing in circus skills. Actors Gym offers some of the most unique classes in Chicago and has a comprehensive series of courses designed for students of all ages and skill levels. Along with classes, Actors Gym produces original, daring circus-theatre productions, including nine productions a year at Noyes Cultural Arts Center. The Gym also provides award-winning entertainment for private, public and corporate events, and on-site parties are a favorite in the community.

Listing Information

Case Study

Under the direction of Molly Brennan, Amanda Crockett, and Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi Opening and press night is Saturday, June 1 at 7:30 p.m. with an additional performance on Sunday, June 2 at 3:00 p.m.

General admission tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at www.actorsgymnasium.org, on site, or by calling 847.328.2795.

All performances are at Noyes Cultural Arts Center at 927 Noyes St., Evanston, IL.

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Please note – there is **no apostrophe** in the company name, The Actors Gymnasium.