

Amman HS artist biographies

Artist biographies



Pete Benson – Rep

I am an experienced performer, playwright, theatre director and qualified (BEd) teacher. I've written pantomimes, musicals, comedies and dramas. My theatre company worked closely with the Prince's Trust touring drugs-awareness theatre programmes. A feature film I wrote and directed won the London Independent Film Festival award for best sci-fi/horror film.

I believe in the philosophy of the performer as creator and in the pursuit of imagination. Some loves are: Shakespeare, clowning, mime, directing, devising writing and technology. Drama taught me the best lessons at school – it set me free.

Directing and project management have always been at the core of my life. Although I am performance and technically driven, I also have visual art skills which means I speak most theatre languages. I have completed the current TaPS Cat 1 training and have run TaPS master classes and workshops.

Student ensemble leaders (SEL)



Aileen Gonsalves

I am passionate about empowering actors to discover and express their authentic, unique selves. I've developed a new way of training actors: The Gonsalves Method (rooted in Meisner). A methodical, replicable approach which creates truthful, alive performances moment to moment. Building a trusting ensemble, awakening permission, inspiring risk taking and true connection.

I directed an MA acting course, taught BA acting, direct courses and do many workshops for young people internationally. I have done extensive CPD teacher training with the Royal Shakespeare Company over a decade of working across all ages. I am very used to working with other practitioners to create events, programmes and workshops.



Emily Jane Grant

I am a bilingual facilitator, director and performer and run my own company Join the Dots Theatre as well as working freelance. I trained at Middlesex University, E.N.S.A.T.T in France and then with Moon Fool company with whom I work with as an associate artist. This collaboration has been instrumental in shaping my physical work and building on my musicality.

I have been lucky enough to work across the world touring shows and workshops. I am always amazed at how theatre opens the mind – creating spaces in which we question, dream, create and share and connect. I thrive on the magic of

masks, the power of ensemble work and the rhythm and music that exists in everything we do.

External workshop leader biographies

Ceris Everleigh

I trained at London Studio Centre, University of the Arts London. I have worked in a variety of fields including musical theatre, dance, choreography and acting. I have choreographed and directed several productions including *Billy Elliot* (school version), *Rent* and *School of Rock* (school version). As an artist I find the performing arts has allowed me to explore concepts and topics that interest me but also are often hard to express any other way and I want to share my experience and expertise with others to allow them the same opportunity.

Leah Bramley

I am a Kiwi and I currently living in Doha, Qatar — a long way from home. I have taught in eight countries and in doing so found my love for theatre, rubber chickens and puppets named Bob. I love collaboration and creating original work with students on issues that matter. I am an experienced IB Theatre teacher and have taught MYP drama.