

# Theater of Possibility

for neurodivergent individuals and allies



Come explore the possibilities!

Theater of Possibility (TOP) is seeking neuro-divergent actors and allies to join the teen/adult troupe.

Using improv and self-generated scripts, we will imaginatively confront issues in our community in ways that are playful, thought-provoking and sincere.

TOP has performed for schools, universities, Seattle Children's Hospital, the World Affairs Council, International Visitor Leadership Program, the North American Drama Therapy Association, and the Intersections Festival.

Join us in this groundbreaking adventure...ages 15 and up.

- Imaginative, playful and non-didactic
- Theater activities designed to highlight relationship skills, collaboration and leadership
- Many different ways to shine. Do you express yourself best verbally, through writing, music or art, by solving problems, or by giving hugs? Whether you're an introverted dreamer, an extroverted class clown or somewhere in the middle, your talents will be appreciated!
- Culminates in an interactive performance of ensemble-created short plays



**Who:** Teens and adults, ages 15 and up. TOP is an inclusion program, serving neurodiverse participants, including those with Asperger's, autism, or other learning differences, as well as typically-developing peers. Participants must be able to participate independently in structured group activities or come with an adult aide.

**When:** Saturdays, 11 AM-1 PM, March 5-June 11, 2022, plus a free public showcase 1-3 PM on June 11. (No class April 16.)

**Where:** University Heights Center, 5031 University Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105

**Fee:** \$150; partial scholarships and pay-what-you-can available.

**How:** For registration/information contact Lauren at (206) 321-4923 or [Lauren@LaurenMarshall.com](mailto:Lauren@LaurenMarshall.com).

Theater of Possibility is a contracted DSHS/DDA Community Settings Respite Care Provider.

## Rehearsal for living

*The real triumph for me was watching Alex. Thought you'd like to know that he has had an INTENSE fear of speaking or even appearing in front of other people. When he was stage manager in high school he would even refuse to be acknowledged on stage at the end of a performance. I cried through his entire performance. He even improvised...pure magic! -Jonibeth Whitney, mother of a 20-year-old TOP actor.*

*[My son's] mental rigidity has given way to flexibility and a new found ability to function within a group. His self-esteem is soaring and the class has become an anchor for life. He marveled aloud that "Lauren could bring together such different kinds of kids and have us get along so well."*

-Susan Moffitt, mother of a 17-year-old TOP actor.

*My daughter was able to actually see and experience choices for turning a potentially hurtful social interaction into a beneficial one.*

-Ann Morrow, mother of a 13-year-old TOP actor.

*"Lauren became a teacher I could trust and be open with. She could really change things around for me because we were in a small group. Lauren scribed for me because I could not handwrite as fast as the rest of the class. She made sure that everybody else stopped and listened to my ideas even though I was not yelling or crying about them and my voice is very soft so my words do not always come out right." -Becca Zions, 15-year-old TOP actor.*



**Founded in 2010 by Producing Artistic Director Lauren Goldman Marshall**, TOP uses techniques adapted from Augusto Boal's Theater of the Oppressed. Boal's methods are used around the world for social activism, community-building, therapy and education. <http://www.LaurenMarshall.com/TheaterOfPossibility.htm>

**This session will be led by "Producing Autistic Director" Jackie Moffitt, along with Susan Moffitt.** Lauren Marshall will serve in an advisory role.



**Jackie Moffitt** (lead teacher) is a 25-year-old actor, writer and musician on the autism spectrum who goes by any pronouns. They first started participating in Theater of Possibility in 2012 as a student and became an assistant teacher for the kids' class several years later. They are passionate about neurodiversity representation in education and the arts and excited for their first session as lead teacher. In addition to their work with Theater of Possibility, Jackie also volunteers at Books to Prisoners and writes media reviews for the Northwest Film Forum and Redefine Magazine. Some of their interests include synthesizers, linguistics and tabletop games.

**Susan Moffitt** (assistant teacher) graduated from Connecticut College as an award-winning dancer. Upon moving to Seattle, she was an independent choreographer who combined scripts and movement in experimental ways. She studied drama at the University of Washington and choreographed children's theatre. Susan attended Lauren Marshall's TOP teacher training master class and assisted her in teaching drama to seniors in assisted living from 2017-2018. She and Jackie are current participants in the Washington Teaching Artist Training Lab.



Theater of Possibility has four times been supported by a Youth Arts Award from the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture. TOP is a member of the [University Heights Center Theatre Alliance](#).