

The Dancing Curtain, LLC Press Kit



Laughter is contagious. Spread the joy!

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The Dancing Curtain LLC - A Comedy Alternative

Are you **not** interested in the typical comedy scene in a dark bar/nightclub with a two drink minimum listening to an angry foul-mouthed comic? That's okay! We're your **Comedy Alternative**.

Do you love to laugh but fear being ridiculed, singled out, or worse yet **harassed** by a standup comedian? Who needs that?! Who wants to pay for that? We will **never** humiliate you at our shows. In fact we may cheer for our audience because we love you so much.

At times do you find yourself stuck with someone you don't know well and that you feel the need to impress or entertain? This could be your boss, your co-workers, your neighbors, your clients, or even your in-laws. Do you want to let loose after after a hard week but feel the need to make a good impression? Don't lose your job over picking the wrong show! The Dancing Curtain SM is always a safe bet.

Is this your first date and you don't want it to be your last? Don't take your sweetie to offensive comedy!! Come to The Dancing Curtain SM, your Comedy Alternative.

Our shows are not offensive, vulgar, obnoxious, disgusting, stereotypical, derogatory, foul-mouthed, or edgy... Who wants that kind of comedy?!

When you were young did your mother or grandmother make you comfort food when you were down? Didn't it always make you feel better? Well, we're your **Comfort Comedy**. See one of our shows and we'll make you feel good. You'll feel right at home.

Our target audience is those individuals 20-45 looking for fresh, alternative comedy. The Dancing Curtain SM produces sketch comedy, improvisation, and standup. We also offer acting and motivational classes for all ages. We are available for private parties, fundraisers, college and high school performances with talk-backs, live entertainment at hotels, and so much more! We even offer acting workshops and if you ask really nice we'll throw in a free gift.

But What About the Name?

Khristee Rich, president and founder, knew early on that she needed to make her comedy business memorable. The Dancing Curtain SM began with a mission to perform clean comedy. Later acting classes and workshops were added for all ages. Khristee knew that her comedy group needed a gimmick for people to remember them and for group to stand out amongst already established comedy groups and businesses. With her musical theatre background the song in Gypsy sprang to her mind "You gotta have a gimmick!" so she created one. Each show ends with a dancing curtain call and the cast dances their curtain call with fun upbeat music ending the show with energy and on a high note.

Still Not Convinced? More Information for Our Target Audiences

Do you watch reruns of the comedy classics? I Love Lucy...The Carol Burnett Show...The Cosby Show... What's Happening?...Mama's Family...Three's Company... Gilligan's Island etc. Do you yearn for a simpler time? Don't stay at home watching the Tube reminiscing of days gone by. Put down the remote and come see The Dancing Curtain SM. We'll become your live comedy classic.

Are you a college/university or a grade school looking for fresh entertainment for your students? What do kids want to see these days? What will keep their attention? How can you fill these sponge-like minds with something positive? Well, naturally The Dancing Curtain SM is the solution. We'll keep them out of trouble.

Are you health conscious and looking for a new alternative for feeling your best? Sure, everyone knows the saying "You are what you eat." But you are so much more! You are the music you listen to, the people you surround yourself with, and the things you allow your eyes to see and your ears to hear. Have I lost you? If you don't eat junk food, why would you watch trashy reality shows or gross, violent TV or listen to depressing news? Well you could shut off the TV and never watch it again, but there are only so many hours you can do yoga or meditate, only so many hours you can peddle your bike or paddle your kayak, and only so many weekends you can sit around a campfire singing Kumbaya with your friends. Bored? Need fresh entertainment to share with your friends that won't compromise your values? The Dancing Curtain SM is Higher Consciousness Comedy. How many comedy groups can say that? Exactly!

Do you love theatre, but find it too expensive? Our prices are fractions of the price of a Broadway show, Off-Broadway show or even most regional shows. Wow, we're a bargain!

Do you love the campiness of musical theatre? We have camp too!

Are you feeling down? Do you need a pick me up? We'll pick you up! We'll make you feel great. We guarantee that you'll have a fun evening or we'll clean your bathroom. Yes, that's right. You read it here. How can you turn that down? Have you been meaning to scrub that toilet bowl but don't feel motivated? Come to our show and the worse thing that could happen is that you'll have comedians cleaning your bowl. Keep in mind we are comedians and not professional cleaners - we don't like to clean, so we'll make sure you enjoy the show.

Do you need a Comedy Alternative? Are you ready for Comfort Comedy? Ready to be cheered? Ready to return to a simpler time? Feel the need to impress? Looking for something fresh for date night? Do you need a pick me up? Looking for Higher Vibrational Comedy? Need incentive to leave your house? Ready to LAUGH?

Look no further, The Dancing Curtain SM is YOUR Comedy Alternative!

HISTORY

How Did The Dancing Curtain SM Begin?

Khristee Rich, the owner/founder, of The Dancing Curtain SM was working in a once exciting but ultimately a dead end administrative job. She was working for a not-for-profit organization that was under-staffed, as many not-for-profit organizations are. She was overworked, frustrated, and exhausted but zealously trying to appease her superiors with her drive and determination.

When one day she went to work and *poof!* she was downsized; her job was eliminated (from the mountain of work overflowing on her desk from sunrise to sunset) into a puff of dust. That day she left her job, not feeling sad, but RELIEVED. Suddenly she had so much free time. It was the summer; it was warm. She could finally take that water aerobics class at the Y in the outdoor pool during the day! These were fun times jogging in water wearing a large inflatable belt with the older retired ladies and hearing the Beach Boys play on the boom box. Suddenly her whole life became hysterical. She no longer had any stress or obligations except for filing for unemployment and trying to find a new job, so everywhere she went she saw a comedy skit unfolding before her eyes.

When she was working full-time, there was no free time in her day for creative pursuits such as her acting and writing which had always been a staple of her life. Now with this new freedom Khristee was writing up a storm and she couldn't stop. Getting gas at the gas station was no longer a normal occurrence, but something that needed to be documented with a smirk. Waiting in line was no longer a nuisance but an opportunity to eavesdrop on hysterical conversations. Everyone and everything around her suddenly became funny. She was laughing all the time, something she hadn't done in a LONG time due to all the needless stress. Most importantly she was **writing** all the time. A pad of paper and a pen were always close to her side.

For several months from sun up to sun down, Khristee was writing comedy skits. It almost became a sickness; she couldn't think about anything else except for comedy. She wrote all day long. At night she slipped into bed fatigued from all the ideas whirling through her brain and then wrote comedy for several hours. Then in the middle of the night she would awaken suddenly, not from a cramp, but from a streak of comedic genius and twist on her desk lamp to jot down a comedic scenario. She couldn't risk forgetting the sparkling dialogues or the humorous scenarios that were racing in her head. Early in

the morning she would awaken and begin writing immediately; each morning began with with a chuckle. When she took the train to New York City the time would race by because she would be writing comedy skits the whole time. She couldn't even walk down the street in New York City without frantically looking for a bench to write on - sometimes she had to settle for writing on the side of buildings. Driving to appointments she started to panic because she couldn't weave and write at the same time. Finally she came to her good sense to would pull the car over to the side of the road. It didn't matter if she was late; comedy had to be written.

Incidentally Khristee had never written comedy skits before the summer of 2008, never in her life did it even occur to her to write comedy skits. She had written plays, and children's stories, but never comedy. At first Khristee thought this addiction was a hobby for her to fill her time as she searched for new work. Perhaps she would start up a troupe for fun and rehearse after work hours. However after months of writing comedy all day and barely sleeping or eating or bathing, she realized that this passion was more than a hobby to fill her days; her passion had become a business, The Dancing Curtain LLC. And so The Dancing Curtain SM began!

Mission Statement:

The Dancing Curtain LLC is a comedy group designed to entertain, amuse, and to inspire individuals of all ages to laugh and to heal by spreading laughter and joy to the all. What could be better medicine?

Laughter is contagious. Spread the joy!

CAST BIOS



Khristee Rich has acted in character roles in dramas and comedies, directed one-acts and full-length plays, stage managed for drag queens in the West Village, written plays about her life, and dreamt about being an actress since she had the revelation in her parents' laundry room as a child. Khristee earned a BFA degree in Theatre Performance with honors from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She also attended the British American Drama Academy in London, England. She has performed in Connecticut, Michigan, Illinois, New York City, New York, and London, England and hopes with her comedy group that she will perform and travel to many more places around the globe spreading laughter and joy. As an actress, Khristee is known for making indescribable facial expressions, her piercing scream, and for being a natural comedienne and character actress. Some of Khristee's favorite roles include Miss Adelaide in *Guys & Dolls*, Grandma in *The American Dream*, and Rummy Mitchens in *Major Barbara*. In addition to being one of the performers of The Dancing Curtain LLC, Khristee is one of the writers, as well as president, director, production stage manager, producer, publicist, booker, and acting instructor. As a teacher, Khristee is known for her sensitivity and nurturing spirit and her ability to get along well with all ages from kids, to adults, to seniors. Khristee is encouraging and inspirational and would like everyone to recognize their talents, be confident, and happy every day. For more information about The Dancing Curtain SM, please visit www.thedancingcurtain.com

Writer, Director, Actress (Sketch & Standup)



Freia Canals Freia is originally from Barcelona, Spain. She studied music theory and piano at the Royal Conservatory of Music of Barcelona and musical theatre in Barcelona, Madrid and London. She studied at the Central School of Speech and Drama at the University of London.

Freia has performed character roles in such musicals as *Snoopy!*, *Pippi Longstockings*, *Nunsense*, *Operación Terapia*, *Blood Brothers*, *Singing in the Rain* and *The Producers* (directed by BT McNicholl and Jerry Zaks). For her performance of “Hold Me, Touch Me” she received a nomination in the Premios Gran Via de Madrid. Freia has acted in numerous television shows in Spain including the award-winning *Hospital Central* and *Aquí no hay quien viva*. Freia is also an acting teacher and a nurse in her spare time. Her goal as an actress is to entertain, interact, and to make people enjoy the moment.

Actress (Sketch Comedy)



Matthew Krob Matthew is very excited to be performing with The Dancing Curtain SM! Matthew is a Princeton graduate with degrees in Molecular Biology and Vocal Performance. He balances his love of science with his love of performing by tutoring science and math by day and acting by night. Most recently he completed the Musical Theater Intensive at Circle in the Square and Advanced Improvisation with the HB Studio in New York City.

Matthew has sung all around the world (including Bermuda, Western Europe and across the United States) with his college a cappella group -- they even performed privately for Sir Paul McCartney! Matthew is known for his impersonations of Dr. Claw, Gollum, and an Elf. In his spare time, Matthew ponders the English language's more beautiful words: Vicissitude, Phosphorescence, and Booger. Favorite roles include: Marius from *Les Miserables*, Leo Frank from *Parade*, King Arthur from *Camelot*, and Pillsbury Crescents.

Actor (Sketch Comedy & Improv)

Press

Ridgefield Press

June 18, 2009

New Comedy Group Starting Up

A new sketch comedy group in Connecticut, The Dancing Curtain LLC, is seeking new cast members. Auditions will be held at the Peaceable Barn Studio in Redding, on Saturday, June 27, from 12 to 5 pm. To schedule an audition, please email pictures and resumes to Khristee Rich of Ridgefield at Khristee@TheDancingCurtain.com

Candidates should prepare a short comedic monologue (less than three minutes) and also prepare either a short joke, a comedic song (a theatrical song sung in character) or present a special skill.

“Accentuate your talents and your uniqueness and come prepared to have fun!” said Ms. Rich, founder of The Dancing Curtain SM. “Actors auditioning should feel comfortable dancing in public.” Ms. Rich said, “The Dancing Curtain LLC is whole-some comedy, a twist of I Love Lucy, The Carol Burnett Show, and In Living Color – performing in various venues in Connecticut and New York City. The skits, short scenes about 10 to 15 minutes long, are based on real people, conversations, and events.

“Each show ends with upbeat music and a dancing curtain call. The music blasts as if it is a party and each of the actors dances their curtain call in a humorous way instead of a simple bow. If the audience so desires to dance with the cast, they are welcome – as long as everyone leaving the show feels good and much happier than when they arrived.”

Ms. Rich is experienced in various aspects of the theater from acting, directing, stage managing, to playwriting and various production work. A graduate of the University of Michigan with honors in bachelor of fine arts theatre performance, she has performed in Ridgefield, Ann Arbor, Michigan, New York City and London, England.

She is the writer of all of the comedy skits for The Dancing Curtain LLC, as well as director and actress.

The Hour

June 25, 2009

New Live Sketch Comedy Troupe Forming in County

<http://www.thehour.com/story/471305>

By KATE MARCAL Hour Staff Writer

When Khristee Rich lost her job last August, she was unsure of what to do next. “Unfortunately, they had to downsize because of the economy,” she said of the contemporary art museum where she had worked. “But I was very unfulfilled there because it was an administrative job and I wasn’t allowed to be creative.”

Rich, who holds a degree in theater performance from the University of Michigan, decided to head in a new direction by creating a brand-new sketch comedy group called The Dancing Curtain SM.

“I’ve been dabbling in the idea since August, but I really took off with it in the spring,” she said.

Rich will be holding auditions for The Dancing Curtain SM at the Peaceable Barn Studio in Redding on June 27 from noon to 5 p.m.

“I’m looking for strong actors with good comedic sensibilities,” she said. “They should be able to dance, act, sing, and make wild facial expressions.”

In the casting process, Rich considers variety to be as important as talent. “I’m looking for all ethnicities, all ages, all sizes, and all shapes,” she said. “I want a very diverse cast that’s committed to staying with me.”

After the full cast is assembled, the group will perform at different venues throughout Connecticut and New York. Eventually, Rich hopes the group will tour internationally. The hour-long show will be comprised of several 10- to 15-minute skits written entirely by Rich.

“The skits are about everyday people, conversations, and events,” she said. “They’re all based on real life, and then exaggerated a bit to bump up the humor.”

Rich counts television shows such as “I Love Lucy” and “The Carol Burnett Show” among her most significant comedic influences.

“Those shows have really inspired me,” said Rich. “Lucille Ball is one of my idols; I think she’s hysterical. I really like ‘In Living Color’ as well because they incorporated dance into their shows,” she said.

While looking to comedians like Ball and Burnett for motivation, Rich said she believes her own live show will ultimately distinguish itself from others.

“It’s not your normal sketch comedy show like ‘Saturday Night Live,’” she said. “My show is very theatrical.”

According to Rich, The Dancing Curtain SM is also unusual because its brand of comedy stays appropriate for the whole family.

“Some comedy shows can be vulgar, gross or offensive,” she said. “Mine is just very wholesome and uplifting.”

Another unique characteristic of Rich’s project is outlined by the title; instead of having a traditional curtain call, each performance will conclude with the entire cast dancing on stage. “Our gimmick is a dancing curtain call,” said Rich. “That’s what will make people remember us.”

As someone with firsthand experience of the recent economic crisis, Rich believes comedy is now more important than ever.

“At the end of every show, we’re just going to dance, have a great time and be very silly,” she said. “Hopefully, the audience will want to start dancing too.”

Anyone interested in auditioning for the group should contact Rich at Khristee@TheDancingCurtain.com.

Ridgefield Patch (Patch.com)

April 3, 2010

Ridgefield Theater Company Loves To 'Make 'Em Laugh'

Ridgefield resident Khristee Rich turns comedy into a career.

By [Wendy Mitchell](#)

Khristee Rich loves to make people laugh. In fact, she is making a full-time career out of it.

The Dancing Curtain SM is her sketch comedy group that performs throughout Connecticut and New York. The group writes and presents skits based upon real-life occurrences. In the style of "The Carol Burnett Show" or "I Love Lucy," this troupe lives to laugh.

The Dancing Curtain SM Theater Company started in May of 2009. After years of acting and performing, Rich decided to harness her constantly-flowing story ideas.

Originally from Virginia, Rich moved to Connecticut at age five and grew up in Ridgefield.

From ages eleven through 18, she was involved in a now-defunct Ridgefield Parks and Recreation program called Spotlight Theatre, where she acted in productions such as "Oliver," "Annie" and "Bye Bye Birdie" A very shy child, Rich said being involved in theater helped her overcome it. "Through theater, I really broke out of my shell," she said.

After college, Rich pursued her love of the theater by earning a BFA at the University of Michigan. She studied abroad in London during her junior year, where she shared a flat with seven other young women and wrote a play about their wacky adventures. Upon returning home, Rich produced and directed her play, called "Seven People and a Grain of Rice." This was when her love of comedic theater began.

In 1997, she moved to New York City to focus on auditions. She lived in the Village and soon became involved in [Tweed Theater Works](#), which produced drag queen shows and spoofs on old cinema.

After staying in Manhattan for a few years but not having much luck with theater, Rich chose to return to Connecticut, where she redirected her creative ambitions towards writing and tried to get her plays and children's books published. Strike two. Time to refocus.

After a stint working at a mental hospital and then at the [Aldrich](#), Rich decided to return to her first love, comedic theater.

She chose the name The Dancing Curtain, because she wanted a unique name that people could remember.

"I thought of the musical 'Gypsy' and the character who said, 'You gotta have a gimmick,' and I decided on our gimmick," Rich said. Each of their shows ends with a dancing curtain call.

Besides performing, The Dancing Curtain SM also teaches acting classes for children and adults at the Recreation Center, as well as various locations throughout the state.

Rich is currently looking for more actors, singers and performers to join The Dancing Curtain SM and is holding auditions on Saturday, April 17 in New York City and in mid-April (date and location to be determined) in Connecticut. Interested actors and comedians should e-mail pictures, resumes, and reels to info@thedancingcurtain.com.

Comments (4)

[Kira Goldenberg](#)

[9:58am on Monday, April 5, 2010](#)

Rich is on tomorrow's Board of Selectmen special meeting agenda, being interviewed for a spot on the Ridgefield Arts Council.

[Kira Goldenberg](#)

[3:54pm on Tuesday, April 6, 2010](#)

And... her application for the position was unanimously approved by the selectmen.

[Wendy Mitchell](#)

[4:04pm on Tuesday, April 6, 2010](#)

Excellent! Way to go Khristee!

[Khristee Rich](#)

[11:50am on Thursday, April 8, 2010](#)

Thanks, Kira! I am excited to be on the Ridgefield Arts Council.

Thanks for the great article, Wendy!

Auditions have been announced! Auditions will be Thursday, April 22 and Saturday April 24 at the Ridgefield School of Dance, <http://patch.com/bjNQc> If anyone would like to audition, please email me at info@thedancingcurtain.com with your picture and resume to schedule an audition time.

Audience Feedback

“Phenomenal!” Audience Member

“Khristee is a natural comedienne. She is sure to make a good career for herself as a standup comedienne. I laughed so hard, I started crying!” - Hank Smith









We look forward to seeing you at the show!

Still Not Convinced? Wow! You're Tough!

Check out our videos on YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqIJY1ENzy0>

MORE VIDEOS COMING SOON!

Fan us on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/The-Dancing-Curtain/362578110259?ref=ts>

Follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/DancingCurtain

Sign up for our e-news! www.thedancingcurtain.com/contact

Book Us Today!

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SPREAD THE JOY!