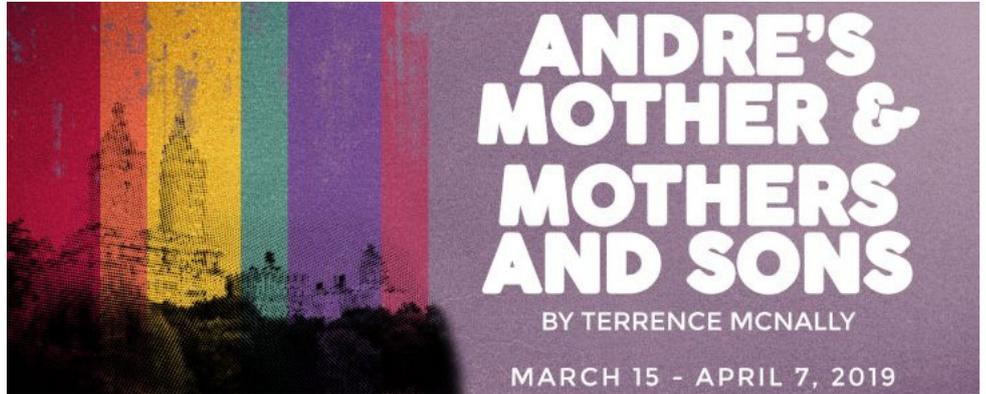


Andre's Mother & Mothers and Sons invite you to explore how we show love, experience loss and define family

What if the ghost of your past appears unexpectedly on your door step and sets up camp in front of your bay window? With no clear indication of leaving any time soon? This is the dilemma for Cal Porter in the upcoming production of *Andre's Mother/Mothers and Sons*. He is left to wonder why Katherine, the mother of his lover Andre, now 20 years deceased, chose this moment to re-enter his life. In fact, enter his life for the first time. Does Katherine even know why? This taut, gripping drama explores the possible answers.

The titles of these two one act plays say a lot about the theme Family. How do we define "family"? With whom can we create a family? Does biology alone make you a parent? If not, then what does? Wrap all this up with alienation, intolerance, prejudice, the need for acceptance, the AIDS epidemic and its aftermath.....and much more!! AND the whole show will take less than 90 minutes.....great theatre distilled into a perfect and potent experience.

The other parallel theme of this production is AIDS: Then and Now. Not that long ago, HIV was a topic never far from the headlines or the public eye. Funding for research was found through star studded fundraisers and the evening news showed touching images of "The Quilt" on tour and the shocking death toll both here and all over the world. There were award winning movies, plays and television series that helped to open the minds and hearts of the nation to an epidemic that many preferred to ignore or cast in bigoted terms.



But as new drugs were discovered to manage the virus and fewer Americans were dying, the spotlight shifted to other issues and an attitude prevailed that we had "wrapped up that problem". Next!

Unfortunately, both the reality of AIDS and the damage done to families and society by the appalling loss of so many bright, talented and brilliant individuals cannot be so easily erased. *Andre's Mother/Mothers and Sons* re-opens that curtain that was closed so precipitately. Helping all of us to place the subject in a very personal and human scale. Not only is the pain still present, but the virus is still a killer and wreaking havoc everywhere!

Little Theater of Virginia Beach has an impressive 71 year history of bringing fun, light and family friendly plays and musicals to the Tidewater area. While wanting to continue in the mission to bring such fare to our stage, we are making an effort to also give a platform for a wider scope of theater that explores thought-provoking and relevant subjects we hope are important to our patrons.

Understanding that the need for catharsis and transformation goes all

the way back to those original ancient Greek plays. Combined with this season's last two productions, *It Shoulda Been You* and *Silent Sky*, *Andre's Mother/Mothers and Sons* completes a trilogy exploring the status of "others" in our society - both by gender and sexuality. These are very timely topics, in the world of recognized gay marriage and the "Me Too" movement. We want to stay meaningful and pertinent to you, our audience, while giving you great and quality entertainment. Let the conversation ensue!

Elizabeth Dickerson
Assistant Director

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IN THIS ISSUE

DIRECTORS NOTE

EYECONS

AUDITIONS

LGBT NIGHT

SCHOLARSHIPS

GET PAID TO VOLUNTEER

MISSING LISTENING DEVICE

COMMUNITY PRODUCTIONS

\$13 Opening Weekend All Seats \$13

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Watch our Facebook page for
more info!

All are welcome to attend

It pays to work for a company that pays you to volunteer

Being of service to others can also help you get ahead in your career.
-Isabel Thottam



There's only one thing better than doing a good deed, and that's getting paid for it. Offering employees paid time off to volunteer is becoming an increasingly popular perk in the corporate world, and both businesses and employees are feeling the benefits. Not only does paid volunteering get you out of the office and into your community, but it also provides you with a chance to see your co-workers and company in a new light. To learn how you can maximize the benefits of your volunteer experiences, Monster spoke with companies that offer paid time off for volunteering and the employees who eagerly participate.

You'll feel good about where you work

The biggest benefit to paid volunteer time—aside from the benefit to those you serve, of course—is likely the impact it can have on your morale as a company employee. There's a sense of pride associated with volunteering as a representative of your company. From an employee perspective, it feels good to know you have the opportunity to make a difference through your work. Additionally, a company that emphasizes volunteer work usually is trying to put forward a culture of caring. One example of that is Timberland, a manufacturer and retailer of outdoor wear based in Stratham, New Hampshire, which has offered its employees paid time off to volunteer since 1992. The company's Path of Service program provides employees with up to 40 paid community service hours each year. Since the program's initiation, the spirit of service has become palpable inside Timberland headquarters, and giving back has become a core part of their company culture, says Atlanta McIlwraith, senior manager of community engagement and communication. Similarly, Salesforce, a cloud computing company based in San Francisco, says its paid-volunteer program, 1-1-1, has seen a participation rate of 82% from its 20,000 global employees. Ebony Felix, senior vice president of philanthropy and engagement at Salesforce, says volunteering is embedded into the corporate DNA, noting that every employee is given seven paid days off, or 56 hours, to volunteer. "Part of our onboarding process is to arrange large-scale volunteer activities for new employees," says Felix, "so from day one, they do something that introduces them to our culture."

You'll get to hone new skills

Employees who have used their paid time off to volunteer report that their experiences taught them new skills and solidified their work ethic. Choose a volunteer opportunity that will push you slightly outside of your comfort zone. At Timberland, the organized volunteer projects are employee-led, which provides team members with opportunities to gain new leadership and project management skills that they may not have had experience with otherwise. Danko Barisic, manager of business development of NuStar Energy in San Antonio, personally benefited from spending his time off volunteering with United Way through NuStar's Loan Executive Program, which sends one employee per quarter to volunteer for a three-to five-month period. Barisic says he learned direct skills in giving presentations and pitching to groups of five to 100 people.

You'll strengthen your team and grow your network

Grab a group of co-workers and go as a team—you may find you'll work more productively with your colleagues afterward. Employees at Salesforce occasionally volunteer in groups, and Felix notes managers have reported an improvement in teamwork because volunteering alongside one another helps co-workers see each other in a new way. "It gives you a different understanding of how a co-worker operates," says Felix. "Managers see their team members bonding, and even though conversations about work happen, it's from a new perspective." Additionally, if your company offers organized volunteer activities, you may have the chance to meet new people within the company, at all different levels, whom you otherwise never would have met. Doing an activity together gives you a chance to build an authentic connection with them. And hey, you never know—you could one day find it very useful to have a friend in payroll or the CEO's office.

Ask your Employer if they participate in programs like
Benevity's *Dollars for Doers* program.



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The Little Theatre of Norfolk

Agnes of God

March 8 - March 31, 2019

Little Shop of Horrors

May 24 - June 16, 2019



*A Funny Thing Happened on
the Way to the Gynecologic ...*

March 1 - March 24, 2019

Chess

June 21 - July 14, 2019*

**Dates subject to change.*

Peninsula Community Theatre

*The Great American Trialer
Park Musical*

Feb. 22 - March 10, 2019

The Nerd

May 3 - May 19 2019