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EnActe Arts -America's only national theatre company focused on Jouth Asian stories with universal appeal

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# Our Mission & Vision

EnActe has a two-fold mission:

- To embrace Eastern and Western traditions of storytelling by developing and presenting thought provoking stories that put Jouth Asian voices in a global context.
- A comprehensive platform for developing wide ranging talent in the performance arts.

Our Vision

EnActe aims to be the go to creative home for artists across America, fostering new work, new ideas and new talent and breaking boundaries in the way art is presented and consumed.

## Our Values



At EnActe, we value all identities, backgrounds, and abilities.

We are highly collaborative and understand the truly reciprocal nature of partnership.

#### Our work embodies our values of:

**Belonging** | Works that explore identity and acceptance.

**Challenging** | Thought-provoking work that inspires conversation.

**Empowering** | Amplifying the stories, experiences, and voices of the underrepresented.

**Collaborating** | Harnessing the creative power of diversity.



In all that we do, we strive to stay true to these guiding principles -

We amplify creative voices through storytelling.

We commit artistic rigor of thought, action, and representation.

We foster multi-disciplinary talent.

We strive for excellence in production, programming, and education.

We innovate in art and in education.

We provoke dialogue.

We promote the benefits of theater to our society.

We celebrate the past, are mindful of the present, and give voice to the future.



## Raison D'être



#### **Genesis:**

EnActe was born one balmy evening in Paris when our founder Vinita Jud Belani serendipitously met the legendary, lifetime Oscar winning playwright and scriptwriter John Claude Carrière. A conversation about reviving his iconic Mahabharata resulted in Belani giving up her tech career to start EnActe, which for 2 years toured The Modern Vyaasa: A Re-Telling Of The Mahabharata with Carrière himself in the role of Vyaasa.

#### **Evolution:**

In 12 years, EnActe has grown to be America's largest Jouth Asian and it's only national Jouth Asian theater company, with over 40 productions, 80% of which are New Works. We are a proud member of CAATA (Consortium of Asian American Theaters and Artists), and an elected member of NNPN (National New Play Network). Over 400 artists call EnActe their home, including playwrights, directors, actors, designers, dancers, musicians, music composers, teaching artists, and arts administrators. We are an incubator and our talent has gone on to Broadway, Hollywood, and beyond. The EnActe Jchool of Drama (EJOD) educates over 1000 students annually. Jome of our EJOD studens are now employees of EnActe, running innovative creative programs for the next generation.



We believe that one plus one brings an exponential gain to all and are committed to collaboration as a pathway to growth and to reaching ever wider audiences.

## Jome Key Collaborators

#### THEATER COMPANIE!

Children's Theater of Charlotte North Carolina Perseverance Theater - Alaska
Theatreworks -- Jilicon Valley
JFJhakes - Jan Francisco

### DANCE COMPANIE!

Noorani Dance | Antara Asthayi
Navarasa Dance Company | Jan Jose Dance Co

## MU/EUM/

Asian Art Museum - Jan Francisco
Menil Collection - Houston
Jeattle Asian Art Museum

#### UNIVER/ITIE/

Pace University | Stanford University University of California, Berkeley University of California, Santa Cruz

## PRESENTING ORGANIZATION

Arts Emerson - Boston | Asia Jociety - Houston Jamskriti - Houston | ICC - Milpitas Indo-American Association - Houston Mosaic America - Bay Area | Hammer Theatre Jan Jose What Makes

## **EnActe**!



ESOD offers theatre and life skills through theatre training courses to schools and community centers across the Bay Area and beyond.

The EnActe curriculum is developed wholly in-house and our teachers are highly qualified and rigorously trained.



EnActe offers corporations and community organizations bespoke theatre-skills based leadership training courses and workshops for their management and staff. From creativity, empathy and self-analysis to critical thinking, negotiation, collaboration, improvisation and more, theatre can offer some of the best tools for success.



A national, fully professional, traveling theatre company focused on developing new works. We produce two plays per year, a New Works Festival showcasing new plays and films, and we run an incubator in New York for new works development as well as a multi-generational Conservatory program that transforms a novel into a play script which is then produced by EnActe.



A community theatre initiative that offers the local performing arts community the opportunity to produce theatre in regional languages, running the gamut of classics to local new works.

In addition the EnActe Radio show offers our community in-depth conversations with local, national and international movers and shakers in the Arts and radio plays for all ages.



As a part of the larger New York Collective, the New Works Incubator will serve to uplift and develop new theater that centers South Asian stories and artistry. Each year, one play and one musical will be selected to be developed and fostered as part of the incubator.



EnActe Productions is home to over 400 theatre-makers with varied talents!

- EnActe Productions is a professional production house
- We are a new play incubator that hosts a playwriting competition and new works festival
- Our playwrights come from all over the world U/, India, Jouth Africa, UK, Jingapore and more!

We not only produce thought-provoking stories under our own banner, we collaborate with Regional theaters and local non-profit Arts organizations to co-produce stories from a fouth Asian viewpoint for universal audiences. Once a year, we present the work of other Uf and international theatre companies by invitation.



#### K-12 Education:

In a landscape where funding for arts education is progressively getting sparser, E/OD offers innovative, cutting edge, bespoke Arts Enrichment programs that not only teach theatre skills but also life skills through theatre. Currently roughly 300 students avail of our programs across 20 schools each quarter!

#### **Adult Education:**

We offer bespoke workshops and classes designed and led by experts in film and theater that serve writers, actors, and other creatives. Our EnActerium space is enjoyed by a myriad of local artists. We collaborate with artists in the community to offer dance, music, and yoga lessons.



Community building is at the heart of every non-profit and we consider this not only our serious responsibility but a true privilege. Aspire is:

- A talent building community theatre for amateur artists
- A home for community initiatives like talent contests, community workshops, and conversations with international artists.
- A radio station for conversations with international artist with radio plays by youth and seniors

#### **FunFact:**

- Our radio play for seniors won eight county and state of California awards.
- In 2024 we recieved the Aspire award from ICC for the work we do in the community.



There is no better training for life than theatre! And that applies to corporate life too.

If you don't believe us just ask all the MBA programs that are now offering theatre-based learning as part of their curriculum.

We at EnActe bring our expertise into the corporate world to teach these skills in intimate, bespoke workshops for executive leadership development in corporations large and small. An atmosphere of mutual respect lays the groundwork for learning empathy, collaboration, presence, self-exploration, negotiation and more.



#### EnActe Collective & Incubator

The EnActe New York Collective serves as the first platform based in New York City for Jouth Asian theater-makers (actors, musicians, directors, and designers) to find professional community, artistic collaborators, and a range of developmental resources to help them create a sustainable and successful career.

As a part of the larger New York Collective, the New Works Incubator will serve to uplift and develop new theater that centers Jouth Asian stories and artistry. Each year, one play and one musical will be selected to be developed and fostered as part of the incubator.

## Founders



Vinita Jud Belani
~ Austin - Jilicon Valley



Ajay Chowdhury ~ London



James Gunderson ~ New York

## **Board of Directors**



Vinita Jud Belani EnActe Arts



**Ajay Chowdhury**Boston Consulting Group



**Inverse Goyal**Atlassian



Jushma Jharma
Core Clarity Consulting

## **Past Board Members**

Jim Gunderson | Governance and Transactions Raju Reddy | Entrepreneur AGK Karunakaran | MulticoreWare Noreen Raza | Law Offices of Noreen Raza Aparna Pujar | Zemplee Prerana Vaidya | Kidizens

## Advisory Board



**Robert Kelley**Theatreworks Founder



Aroon / hivdasani
Indo-American Arts Council (IAAC)



**Dr. Roberta Katz**Stanford Univerity's CASBS



**Dr. Kathy Foley**Professor UC Janta Cruz



**Tanuja Bahal**Consultant/Creative Catalyst



Dr. Patty Gallagher
Professor UC Janta Cruz

## Advisory Board











## **Community Impact**

400+

Wide ranging creatives and theatre makers have made EnActe their home

Thought-provoking plays by 36 playwrights have been produced at EnActe in only 12 years

1000+

Itudents take courses at the EnActe Ichool of **Drama K-12 Enrichment** program per year

80%

Of all productions are New Works and we are a proud member of the National New Play **Network** 

**All this** in only 12 Years!

8+

Awards have been given to EnActe by the cities of Cupertino and Jan Jose, the County of Janta Clara and the **State of California for our** work in the community

Only 1

Professional, American, national theatre company focused on amplifying Jouth Asian viewpoints in global storytelling!

## Donate or Jonsor Us Contact EnActe Arts

www.enacte.org | info@enacte.org | (408) 691-2084 EnActe Arts is a 501(c)3 organization FIN: 45-5339903

