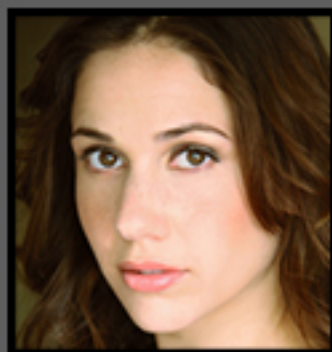


December Spotlight On...



Erin Gorski, Wingspan Teaching Artist



Q. When did you begin working with Wingspan Arts?

A. I began working with Wingspan Arts 5 years ago. I returned to New York after two years as part of the Berkshire Theatre Festival's resident acting company, where I was not only a performer but a teaching artist. I still remember my first interview with Wingspan. I was so excited to find a place in New York City that shared the same belief in theatre education that I had discovered in the Berkshires. I have been lucky enough to work with Wingspan Arts ever since.

Q. What classes have you taught for Wingspan?

A. I have co-taught the Summer Conservatory's Musical Mania program, High School Acting Techniques, Middle School Acting, High School Monologues and Audition Technique, 2nd Grade Drama and Social Studies Integration, High School Playwriting and Performance Collaboration with Wingspan and The Irish Repertory Theatre, Improvisational Comedy, and Suzuki Acting Technique.

Q. What do you find most rewarding about working with Wingspan Arts?

A. Watching the students apply their work outside of the theatrical realm. Of course, it's exciting to see the growth and bravery in their performances, but what really gets me is when they don't know I am watching. When I catch them looking out for their ensemble members outside of the rehearsal room, or when a parent tells me that their child has found a new sense of self or commitment or play in other areas of their life, that's when it really feels worthwhile. I love that Wingspan fosters not just great artists, but great human beings.

Q. Why did you start working as a teaching artist?

A. The professional theater world is amazing, but it is easy to get caught up in the excitement and the business and forget that the simple art of storytelling is what makes theater universal, important and necessary to society. Watching someone discover that for the first time is extraordinary and it pushes me to be a better artist. There is nothing better than seeing a student overcome their fears and surprise themselves in the moment. It's just as addictive as performing.

Q. What are you currently working on as an artist?

A. Right now as an artist I am writing two collaborative plays and one on my own. I am performing in readings of a new play with The Scandinavian American Theater Company as well as sight specific monthly performances with Project: Theater, and as always, auditioning, auditioning, auditioning!

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