



**BRYAN COLLEY, Publicist**  
3051 Central in Penn Valley Park  
Kansas City, Missouri 64108  
816-784-5020 • bryanc@kc.rr.com

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## **GORILLA THEATRE OFFERS “AN APPROACH TO ACTING”**

Gorilla Theatre will be offering a special theatre instruction series during February and March called “An Approach to Acting” that will provide intensive training for actors in voice and movement. Instructors Beth Byrd and Caroline Oates have combined their talents to create a comprehensive program designed to improve the actor’s performance and sharpen the actor’s total physical awareness. The classes will culminate in performances at a fundraiser for Byrd Productions on March 29.

“An Approach to Acting” addresses common problems and situations that actors face, such as: Making the invisible visible, changing the context of space or time through the quality of their movement, staying in volume through difficult emotional transitions, giving the appropriate energy to the audience and fellow actors reliably, expanding power and range to make the voice heard, and focusing the actor’s performance.

Classes will be held Monday and Tuesday evenings at 7 pm, Feb 4 - Mar 26, at the Apehouse, 517 E 18th Street, Kansas City, MO 64108. Class tuition is \$250 per student. Students may enroll in single classes for movement (Monday nights with Beth Byrd) or voice (Tuesday nights with Caroline Oates) for \$160. To enroll or for more information, contact Gorilla Theatre at 816-471-APES or visit their website at [www.gorillatheatre.org](http://www.gorillatheatre.org).

Beth Byrd is the founder of Byrd Productions and produced the Kapoot Clown Theatre at Just Off Broadway last year. Her experience includes the School for Mimes, the Margolis/Brown Movement Theatre Lab, director of the New Dance Series for City in Motion since '98, and co-director of Dance in the Park.

Caroline Oates recently relocated here from New York and made her Kansas City debut as the lead in Gorilla Theatre’s *Major Barbara*. She also created and produced *The Demon: A Love Story* at the Apehouse. She has studied acting in Indiana, New York and London.

Gorilla Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer-based organization that offers Kansas City audiences a unique combination of entertaining and enlightening theatre unlike any theatre company in town; ranging from classic drama, new playwrights, avant-garde theatre, and alternative musicals.

Gorilla Theatre is a member of the Just Off Broadway Theatre Association, a 501(C)(3) non-profit collective of community and non-professional theatre companies that manage the Just Off Broadway Theatre.