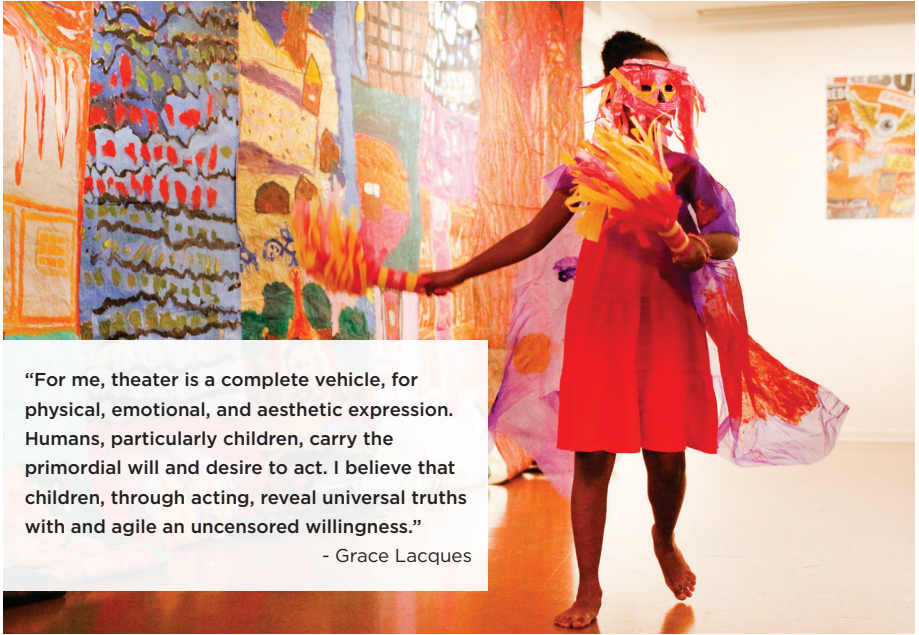


# Faculty Spotlight: Grace Lacques



“For me, theater is a complete vehicle, for physical, emotional, and aesthetic expression. Humans, particularly children, carry the primordial will and desire to act. I believe that children, through acting, reveal universal truths with and agile an uncensored willingness.”

- Grace Lacques

## Grace Lacques

### Armory Studio Program Manager

Grace has been teaching drama at numerous So Cal venues for over thirty years and has been the children’s drama teacher at the Armory Center for the Arts since 1999. Grace’s specialty is physical theater, emphasizing physical expression through universal gesture. Grace draws upon years of acting training with teachers hailing from France, Italy, Argentina, Poland and Mexico and credits corporeal mime master Etienne Decroux as her principle influence.

From writing original plays for students based on short stories or myths to teaching improv and short scene writing, to passing on her knowledge of theater without words to young students, Grace is constantly challenged and inspired by the passion and creativity of her young students. At the Armory, she has written over 100 one-act plays that cater to the needs, ability and interests of her students. Her students also create original costumes and backdrops in order to have a more complete experience of play production.

Grace is a founding member of local Samai Theater Group. Original performances include such venues as CSU LA, UC Irvine, UC Santa Barbara, LA River Center, East LA College, La Verne University, Wilshire Ebell Theater, El Rey Theater, Marsh Theater, La Casa del Mexicano, Self-Help Graphics, Watts House Project, and numerous original radio programs at KPFK Pacifica Radio.

In June 2018, Samai Theater is proud to present, *Disconnected* an original one act to be performed at the Armory. This play, about a family on a seaside vacation and the absurd surprises that they encounter, is performed without words and incorporates elements of physical comedy, corporeal mime, and original choreography. Keep an eye out for updates regarding this coming production!



**Want to take an Art Class with Grace?**

Grace teaches several art classes for **Children** including Creating Characters and Fun with Drama.