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**MONTANA
 REPERTORY
 THEATRE
 PRESENTS:**



WRITING WILD

THE ADVENTURES OF JACK LONDON

A play by JAY KETTERING

FALL 2011 EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH TOUR

“With hair bristling, mouth foaming, and a mad glitter in his bloodshot eyes, Jack London sprang into the twentieth century and grabbed the complacent reader by the jugular.

He sailed us out to the open sea and carried us on his back through mile after mile of frozen wasteland. With freezing fingers and a single match, he lit a fire where no other man could light one—and in our collective imagination, that fire still burns bright.”

JAY KETTERING

Our 50-minute one-man show, *Writing Wild: The Adventures of Jack London*, offers just such an adventure. Come hear French Frank, the gritty oyster pirate; Wolf Larsen, the demon captain of the *Ghost*; and others share the tales of America’s greatest storyteller. You’ll feel the fangs bite deep as you run alongside a boy who, by age fifteen, already looked on the world through the eyes of the wolf.

We take special care in choosing our fall tour plays, selecting works that captivate the imaginations of our young audience and speak to issues they face. To that end, we review Montana high school curriculum and solicit suggestions from our community liaisons throughout the year.

Reserve the best dates for your performance and workshops today.

Because our goal is to book this tour by the end of May 2011, we encourage you to call or email soon to reserve the best dates for your venue. Your early reservation is greatly appreciated.

Please contact:

Teresa Waldorf
 Educational Outreach Coordinator
 (406) 243-2854
teresa.waldorf@umontana.edu

www.montanarep.org

WRITING WILD

THE ADVENTURES OF JACK LONDON

The Author

JACK LONDON fought his way up out of the factories and waterfront dives of West Oakland to become the highest paid, most popular novelist and short story writer of his day. He wrote passionately and prolifically about the great questions of life and death and the struggle to survive with dignity and integrity. He wove these elemental ideas into stories of high adventure based on his own firsthand experiences at sea, or in Alaska, or in the fields and factories of California. As a result, his writing appealed not to the few, but to millions of people all around the world.

In addition to his fame as a writer, Jack London was widely known for his personal exploits. He was a celebrity, a colorful and controversial personality who was often in the news. Generally fun-loving and playful, he could also be combative and was quick to side with the underdog against injustice or oppression of any kind. He was a fiery and eloquent public speaker and much sought after as a lecturer on socialism and other economic and political topics. Despite his avowed socialism, most people considered him a living symbol of rugged individualism, a man whose fabulous success was due not to special favor of any kind, but to a combination of unusual mental ability and immense vitality.

Strikingly handsome, full of laughter, restless and courageous to a fault, always eager for adventure on land or sea, he was one of the most attractive and romantic figures of his time.

Jack London ascribed his literary success largely to hard work—to “dig,” as he put it. He tried never to miss his early-morning 1,000-word writing stint, and between 1900 and 1916 he completed over fifty books, including both fiction and non-fiction; hundreds of short stories; and numerous articles on a wide range of topics. Several of London’s books and many of his short stories are classics of their kind, critically acclaimed and still popular around the world.

Today, countless editions of London’s writings are available, and some have been translated into as many as seventy different languages.

Plagued for years by a variety of ailments, including a kidney condition that was extraordinarily painful at times, Jack London died in 1916 at the age of 40. Right up to the last day of his life, he was full of bold plans and boundless enthusiasm for the future.

Expressions of grief poured in from all over the world and from a wide variety of people:

“He will be missed around here, all right, for he was mighty good to us, and there never was a man who came here who went away hungry.”

A WORKMAN ON JACK LONDON’S RANCH

“No matter what he said or did, his ever-present kindness held you. He could say the rashest and brashest things, hurt your feelings and make you like it ... because there was no personal sting. He was one of the most lovable characters of his age.”

ED MORRELL, EX-CONVICT AND PERSONAL FRIEND

“His greatness will surge triumphantly above race and time.”

GEORGE STERLING, AN OLD FRIEND

Source:

<http://www.parks.sonoma.net/JLStory.html>



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MONTANA REP
 EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH
FALL 2011

Learn more at: www.montanarep.org

TERESA WALDORF / Educational Outreach Coordinator / (406) 243-2854 / teresa.waldorf@umontana.edu

**"YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR INSPIRATION.
YOU HAVE TO GO AFTER IT WITH
A CLUB."** JACK LONDON



IN LONDON'S OWN WORDS

**"I WOULD RATHER BE
ASHES THAN DUST!"**

**"LIFE IS NOT A MATTER
OF HOLDING GOOD
CARDS. BUT SOME-
TIMES, PLAYING A
POOR HAND WELL."**

**"IF CASH COMES WITH
FAME. COME FAME; IF
CASH COMES WITHOUT
FAME. COME CASH."**

**"ONE CANNOT VIOLATE
THE PROMPTINGS
OF ONE'S NATURE
WITHOUT HAVING THAT
NATURE RECOIL UPON
ITSELF."**

The Playwright

JAY KETTERING was born and raised in Montana, making him one in a million (approximately). Jay earned his BA in English/creative writing at The University of Montana in 1982 and currently lives and works in Missoula. Local productions of his work include staged readings of *The Mushroom Cloud Container* and three other plays at the Missoula Colony, as well as various independent productions. Recently Montana Public Radio produced two of his radio plays, *My Dad and Pre-Socratic Thought* and *How I Learned to Tell Time*. In addition to writing for the stage, Jay has written short stories, children's books, poems, advertising copy, and radio commercials. He has also worked as a bartender, house painter, and shoe salesman.

AT AGE 15, Jack London was an oyster pirate in San Francisco Bay.

AT 17, he sailed on a schooner bound for Japan.

AND AT 21, he prospected for gold in the Klondike.

What amazes me about

Jack London is not so much that he survived fantastic adventures, but rather the relatively brief time he spent at these adventures in relation to the massive amount of material he was to produce from their inspiration. In writing over 50 books in 18 years, he was as much a powerful force of nature sitting at his writing desk as the typhoon he weathered aboard the *Sophie Sutherland*.

I love that he can take me to places I've never been and make me feel like I just came ashore. When Jack describes a fight, I feel bruised; when he trudges through Alaskan snow, I put on a sweater; and when he pulls up anchor, the air around me turns salty.

He pushes me into the story in the time it takes to read the first sentence. After the first paragraph I am no longer looking at the page, but all around me at the new environment where I have suddenly landed—confronting the face of a hungry wolf, looking out from the crow's nest at a fifty-foot wave, or running alongside a dogsled gliding over endless white.

JAY KETTERING



WRITING WILD

THE ADVENTURES OF JACK LONDON



Schedule a Performance

Our 2011 tour runs from September 8 through November 19. **The cost this year is \$500**, which includes the performance and one workshop. Additional workshops are \$75 each. As always, we do not want money to be an issue and will do our best to accommodate everyone interested in this theatrical and educational opportunity.

As we intend to book this tour by the end of May 2011, we appreciate early performance reservations.

Please call soon to get the best dates for your venue.

(406) 243-2854

Teresa Waldorf
Educational Outreach Coordinator

“You included everyone—we all got to participate.”

Student, Wibaux High School

Acting Workshops

These 45- to 75-minute workshops are designed to fit into your school schedule. Each can accommodate up to 35 students and is best held in an open space, but can also be conducted in a typical classroom setting. We try to be as flexible as possible.

WORKSHOP ONE: **CALL OF THE WILD**

Are you a cool cat who's dog-tired of being told you're sly as a fox? Well, be the early bird and order up this Animal Exploration Workshop. Find out how actors use “animal studies” to inform their character choices in both physical and vocal ways. Howl like a wolf! Slither like a snake! More fun than a barrel of monkeys!

WORKSHOP TWO:

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Act out stories of Adventure, Rescue, and Survival and explore the drama of Man versus the Elements! Students will utilize props, suggestions pulled from a hat, and the help of our workshop coordinators to create their own short scenes. If your students previously enjoyed creating mysteries inspired by Poe or ghost stories in the vein of Washington Irving, they'll love this workshop!

WORKSHOP THREE:

IMPROV 101

In this workshop, students will learn the basics of improvisation through warm-ups, games, and short scenes. A vital step in helping students feel more comfortable when speaking in class, giving reports, or interacting with their peers, Improv 101 is great for students who may be taking to the stage for the first time.



Tour Actor Cody Hyslop leads students in a Monster-Maker warmup activity.

WRITING WILD

THE ADVENTURES OF JACK LONDON



The Tour Actor

CODY HYSLOP is honored to be working with the Rep for the third year in a row and is excited to share his love of literature and theatre with the rest of Montana. You may remember Cody from his performances in *The Real Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (2010) and *ThePoeProject* (2009). Cody graduated from The University of Montana's MFA acting program in 2009. He has appeared in many UM School of Theatre & Dance productions, including *Coyote On a Fence*, *The House of Blue Leaves*, and *Big Love*. Inspired by his teaching experiences at The University of Montana and Montana Rep, Cody plans on pursuing a career as a university professor in theatre. He lives in Missoula with his wife Lisa and sons Dakota and Hayden.

“[In the workshops] I saw a side of people that I have never seen before. They kind of let their wild side out. They were having fun!”

Student, Troy High School

The Director

TERESA WALDORF Our touring show is directed by Teresa Waldorf, Montana Rep's Educational Outreach Coordinator. Teresa earned her MFA in acting/directing at The University of Montana in 1991 and is an adjunct professor in UM's School of Theatre & Dance. Her UM directing credits include *Gypsy*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Bat Boy*, and *Still Life with Iris*.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do we need to provide a stage for the performance? No. We have performed in libraries, lunch rooms, gyms, and larger classrooms.

Do we need to provide lights and sound? No. We arrive with our own set, lights, sound, and crew.

Do you need help setting up and tearing down? We greatly appreciate student help with load-in and load-out.

How many people can attend the show? Any number can come to the performance, depending on your space. However, the workshops are designed for a maximum of 30-35 participants, please.

Who determines the times of the performance and the workshops? You do. We can accommodate almost any schedule. In schools, we often present a morning performance, eat lunch with your students, and then conduct one or two workshops in the afternoon. Community performances are usually in the evenings, and the workshop is optional.

“When you get us up and out there, it helps with stage fright. Thank you for coming and putting on a great play!”

Student, Wibaux High School



A young actress rounds out her character with the help of the Costume Trunk.





Reviews: What Others Say



2010
The Real Legend of Sleepy Hollow

The Real Legend of Sleepy Hollow / 2010

"I am an exchange student from the Netherlands. I have never seen something as good as this, and Europe has a lot of art and theatre performances. My favorite part was the dance-off."

Student, Rosebud Schools

"The production was filled with laughter and wonderful entertainment. We enjoyed it immensely."

Staff member, MSU-Northern, Havre

"The actors always seemed to be having fun. We could tell they were excited to be here. That draws the audience in."

Student, Wibaux High School



PROFESSIONAL THEATRE-IN-RESIDENCE
COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS



MONTANA REP is funded in part by a grant from the Montana Arts Council (an agency of state government), with support from the Montana State Legislature, The University of Montana, the Montana Cultural Trust, and Dr. Cathy Capps.

ThePoeProject / 2009

"I didn't want it to be over!"

Student, Malta High School

"[The workshops] had everyone involved and the things they had us do were really fun. It helped introduce us to what the play was going to be about, and also helped us develop our acting skills and our understanding of different genres."

Student, Malta High School

"Our community enjoyed this play so much. It was delightful, and the whole audience was totally immersed. [It was] a real treat to have the company come to our rural area. Thank you! The script, writing, play, acting, costumes, accents, and set were terrific!"

Teacher, Chief Dull Knife College, Lame Deer

Mark Twain's Diaries of Adam and Eve / 2008

"Within a short time, the workshop leaders had moved from instruction to actually involving the students in acting some comedy of their own. As a teacher who works to get students involved, this was very impressive."

Teacher, Webster-Garfield Alternative High School, Butte

Frankenstein / 2007

"Thank you for your gift of theatre. It is always a treat when someone so kind brings a little joy and artistic value to these halls. People like you make the difference. Thank you."

Student, Webster-Garfield Alternative High School, Butte

"The production had our drama students absolutely captivated. I think it was a success school-wide. The workshop they put on was a learning experience."

Teacher, Seeley Lake

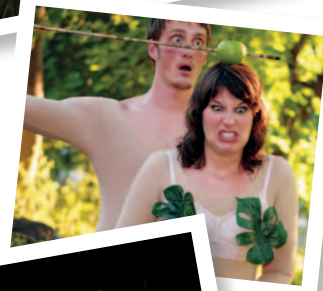
Antigone: 2026 / 2006

"We appreciate classic theatre presented in a teen-friendly way. The students were entranced; the show was very well received."

Librarian, Miles City Public Library



2009
ThePoeProject



2008
Mark Twain's Diaries of Adam and Eve



2007
Frankenstein



2006
Antigone: 2026



2005
The Hemingway Project: It Just Catches



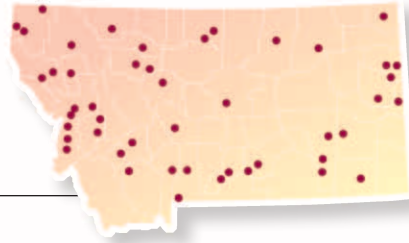
2004
The Beat Generation



2003
My Children! My Africa!

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MONTANA REP EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH



In 2010, *The Real Legend of Sleepy Hollow* toured to the following communities, presenting performances and workshops.

Missoula / Masquer Theatre
Box Elder / Stone Child College
Havre / Havre High School
Havre / MSUN Northern Showcase
Malta / Malta High School
Glasgow / Glasgow High School
Plentywood / Plentywood Public Schools
Sidney / Sidney Middle School and High School
Savage / Savage High School
Lambert / Lambert High School
Glendive / Dawson Community College
 Student Center
Miles City / Miles City Public Library
Wibaux / Wibaux High School
Broadus / Powder River Extension
Rosebud / Rosebud Schools
Colstrip / Colstrip High School
Lame Deer / Chief Dull Knife College
Lewistown / Lewistown Arts Center
Billings / Billings Parnly Library
Columbus / Columbus High School
White Sulphur Springs / Meagher County
 Arts Council
Absarokee / Absaroka Fine Arts / High School
Joliet / Joliet High School
Livingston / Sleeping Giant Middle School
Twin Bridges / Twin Bridges High School
Butte / Webster Alternative High School
Bozeman / Bozeman High School
Gardiner / Electric Peaks Arts Council
Boulder / Jefferson High School
Hamilton / Hamilton High School
Pablo / Salish Kootenai College
Conrad / Public Library
Browning / De La Salle Blackfeet Middle School
Power / Power Schools
Great Falls / Great Falls Public Library and
 Paris Gibson Alternative High School
Choteau / Choteau High School
Libby / Kootenai Heritage Memorial Center
Eureka / Sunburst Arts / Lincoln County
 High School
Troy / Troy Arts Council / Troy Schools
Thompson Falls / Thompson Falls High School
Plains / Sanders County Arts Council / High School
Missoula / Big Sky High School
Missoula / Willard Alternative High School
Lolo / Lolo Middle School
Victor / Victor High School
Darby / Darby High School
Philipsburg / Flint Creek Valley Arts / High School
Drummond / Flint Creek Valley Arts / High School
Potomac / Potomac Middle School
Missoula / Hellgate Middle School
Stevensville / Stevensville High School

2010

The Real Legend of Sleepy Hollow

Author: Irving Washington
 Playwright: Ron Fitzgerald

2009

ThePoeProject

Author: Edgar Allan Poe
 Playwright: Ron Fitzgerald

2008

Mark Twain's Diaries of Adam and Eve

Author: Mark Twain
 Playwright: Ron Fitzgerald

2007

Frankenstein

Author: Mary Shelley
 Playwright: Jonathan Yukich

2006

Antigone: 2026

Author: Sophocles
 Playwright: Jillian Campana

2005

The Hemingway Project: It Just Catches

Author: Ernest Hemingway
 Playwright: Carol Hemingway

2004

The Beat Generation

Authors: The Beat poets
 Playwright: Rebecca Knickmeier

2003

My Children! My Africa!

Author/Playwright: Athol Fugard

2002

Mark Twain's Diaries of Adam and Eve

Author: Mark Twain
 Playwright: Ron Fitzgerald

2001

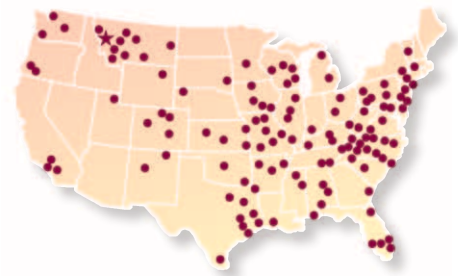
The Turn of the Screw

Author: Henry James
 Playwright: Jeffrey Hatcher

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MONTANA REP NATIONAL TOURS

Montana Repertory Theatre's mission is to tell the great stories of our world to enlighten, develop, and celebrate the human spirit in an ever-expanding community. To that end, we also mount a professional national tour each year, traveling to rural and urban communities throughout the United States. We strive to present plays of high literary quality with strong entertainment appeal.



Our current touring production is William Inge's *Bus Stop*. Past productions include *Leading Ladies*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Lost in Yonkers*, and *Steel Magnolias*.

Montana Rep is in residence in The University of Montana College of Visual and Performing Arts, which includes schools of art, media arts, music, and theatre & dance. BA, BFA, MA, and MFA degrees are offered.

To learn more about our theatre seasons and academic programs, please visit these websites:

MONTANA REPERTORY THEATRE

www.montanarep.org
montana.rep@umontana.edu

SCHOOL OF THEATRE & DANCE

www.umt.edu/theatredance
www.umtheatredance.org
umtheatredance@umontana.edu

COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

www.umt.edu/umarts

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

www.umt.edu