



APPLIED THEATRE CENTER

What and how

Applied theatre employs theatrical methodology

to help people discover and rehearse solutions to their problems.

The Applied Theatre Center investigates these methods, teaches people how to use them, and creates unique programs that incorporate their use.

We do this to address human needs and to do good through theatre and the arts.

We actively engage the communities we serve

to discover and energize people's strengths, both personally and collectively, thus making individual lives and communities healthier.

We are in constant communication

with social services organizations, collaborating with them to develop and implement programs that support their missions and the people they serve.



Programs we offer



Spectrum Theatre Group for young adults on the autism spectrum

is an ongoing program of social skills, communication and emotional management training. Spectrum participants perform for the public twice each year.

In foster care environments

(Excalibur, Venice and Hampton group care homes), ATC leads improvisational theatre, play making, role playing and a variety of expressive arts therapy activities.

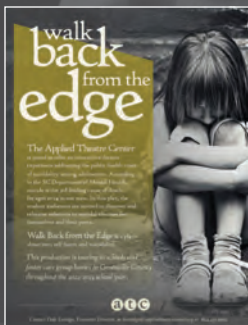
Act it Out! is a theatre program developed for the **special education classes of Greenville County Schools**. During the 2022-23 school year, seven schools are hosting 21 group sessions that focus on social skills, communication, job skills, and school curriculum.



The SC Department of Education's Migrant Education Program

hosts ATC's **Climbing to New Heights** initiative, which uses visual and theatre arts to address topics crucial to the support and development of migrant children.





Adults with intellectual, development and physical disabilities participate in ATC's monthly drama therapy program hosted by **YMCA RECESS** and **Thrive Upstate** that provide meaningful activities, group awareness and job skills role training.

Walk Back from the Edge is a 15-minute play created by teens in a suicide therapy group that addresses **teen suicide**. The script challenges students to understand and respond to the self-harm impulses of their peers, after which they explore solutions during a period of audience interaction.

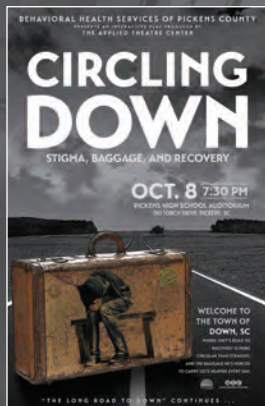
ATC creates and performs **other forum theatre plays** based on community behavioral health needs such as substance use, homelessness, and sex trafficking.

The women of Serenity Place (Phoenix Center) & Jasmine Road

participate in weekly drama therapy groups led by ATC. In these groups, we adopt a

strengths-based approach that combines emotional expression

with role playing, writing, and art therapies. The ladies often create and perform plays about their lives and we facilitate the publication of books of their writing and art.



Other ATC programs include forum theatre plays like **Circling Down** and **A Will to Survive**, the **Living Memories** program for older adults, the **Playback Café** improv group, and work with **at-risk teens**.

Our team leaders



Dale Savidge, PhD., RDT, Executive Director

A Greenville, SC-based theatre director, educator and entrepreneur, Dale holds a PhD in English and Theatre from the University of South Carolina. He is a Registered Drama Therapist under the guidelines of the North American Drama Therapy Association. He co-authored the book *Performing the Sacred*. Dale has created productions, programs and companies, and travels widely, leading and attending conferences and workshops in such far-flung locales as Singapore, NYC and Puerto Rico.

Rachel Rutkowski, Programming Director

Rachel is an Arts in Health Professional based in Greenville, SC. She is a Wofford College graduate with a dual BA/BS in Theatre and Biology and holds a Masters of Arts in Medicine from the University of Florida. Rachel is passionate about utilizing the theatre arts to explore humanity and enhance well-being.



Board of Directors

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Partnering organizations

YMCA Recess, the South Carolina Department of Education, Greenville County School System, the Phoenix Center, Jasmine Road, Picken's Behavioral Health Services, Greenville County Museum of Art, Coffee Underground, the Kroc Center of Greenville, Broadstep Behavioral Health, Aiken Department of Public Safety, Thrive Upstate



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