

NEWSLETTER

CLASSACTION ARE

'ACTING UP'

WE ARE STORYTELLERS

Where powerful stories find their voice.

Season 1.2 - AUTUMN 2025

From the very beginning, people have gathered to celebrate big moments - together, and at ClassAction, we keep that tradition alive. Milestones in the college calendar become a chance for our practitioners to create bold, exciting performance work. This diverse mix of performance shows how far our students are willing to push themselves, bringing truth, authenticity, and real emotional insight to the stage. We want them to surprise themselves, to discover what they're capable of, and as tutors, we're right there with them, witnessing that growth firsthand. As they share their work in our studios, they surprise us all over again.

In the autumn term, ClassAction celebrated Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion through our Equality Show, showcasing some of the amazing talent that our students have. A mixture of spoken word, songs, and stunning aerial work, enabled a full house in STUDIO816 to celebrate and come together for a heart-warming shared experience.



ClassAction marked Remembrance Day with our first-year dance practitioners taking the room with their performance of LEST WE FORGET. We also launched a one-of-a-kind community performance



project. Our practitioners recorded a series of powerful monologues on remembrance, then shared them with the community and local businesses, the library, and the museum through a virtual platform. A simple QR code gave everyone instant access, turning the whole project into a hub of shared storytelling.

Our 19:12 Festival saw the Upper Sixth Dance and Performing Arts practitioners 'ACTING UP'; riding the wave of contemporary performance. The festival explored a wide range of influential theatre and dance works from the 20th and 21st centuries. Our approach embraces thoughtful artistic risk, selecting material that extends beyond the familiar repertoire typically offered elsewhere. In turn, we expect our students to engage boldly and creatively in their own artistic processes, challenging themselves to innovate and push the boundaries.

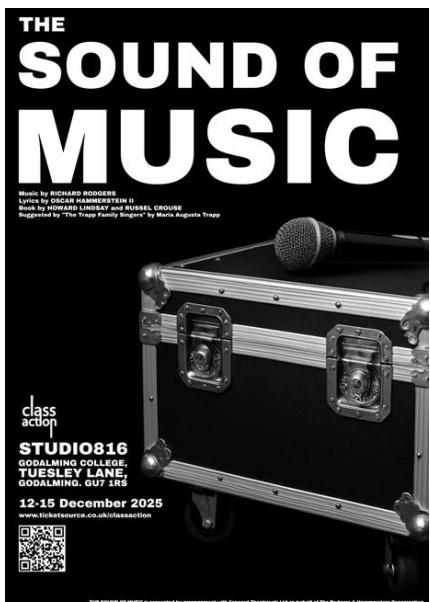


Alvin Ailey's Revelations fervently explores the places of deepest grief and holiest joy in the soul. More than just a popular dance work, it has become a cultural treasure, beloved by generations of fans. It is a celebration of culture, origins, and understanding the impact that history has on the future. Our second year Dance practitioners presented Ailey's infamous repertoire with sensitivity and energy - **"Sometimes sorrowful, sometimes jubilant, but always hopeful"** Ailey's infamous

choreography was given a new lease of life in Studio816 in November.

Our second year Performing Arts practitioners presented their own interpretations of classic naturalistic performance texts. In this festival of theatrical history, audiences saw versions of the shocking and controversial '**Hand to God**' and '**Our Ladies of Perpetual Succour**' were transported to '**Sheila's Island**' and saw the poignancy and beauty of Florian Zeller's '**The Son**' a wonderful and evocative text chosen in response to the College's focus on **male mental health** in December. Again, our practitioners pushed themselves beyond what they thought initially possible, to achieve performance work with truth, authenticity and understanding. Performance preparation underpinned with academic rigour sits at the very heart of what we do here, as the ClassAction tutors facilitate strong performance work by being critical judges and simultaneous supporters, pushing our training practitioners to be the best versions of themselves as performers that they can be - and then nudging them beyond!

Here at Godalming College, ClassAction works to ensure all our training practitioners; actors, dancers, singers, and technicians work within a realistic industry model, which allows them to experience, explore and achieve at the highest level. On top of all the regular production work we also run a weekly Dance Lab for everyone to hone and develop their dance skills, and our own acapella and improv group who meet weekly to develop their vocal skills. Our industry links are strong, and this term we welcomed Fourth Monkey and PAA Drama Schools into our studios, and dance practitioners have talked with representatives of Laban Dance and Liverpool Media Academy. Our practitioners were profoundly moved by the masterclass with international vocal coach Julia Carey **"possibly the best workshop I have ever taken part in"** on top of a recent theatre visit to Chichester Festival Theatre to see the National's **Dear England**.



At the end of the autumn term, a large ensemble celebrated 66 years of the musical **THE SOUND OF MUSIC**, which was the climax of our Season 1 programme of work. **"We want to thank our company who have been so playful and experimental during this joyful process. Our production aims to bring a fresh perspective to this iconic musical, with a focus on themes and narrative rather than spectacle. In a world cracking at the seams, what threads do we choose to hold on to? In the chaos, it's music and performance that brings us back together."**

Andrew Pullen Head of Drama, Dance and Performing Arts.

The Sound of Music celebrates the power of song to lift us beyond fear, reconnect us with hope, and remind us of our shared humanity. For a contemporary audience, it's a story about finding your voice when the world feels uncertain, and discovering freedom in the simple act of singing together. Music becomes a refuge, a rebellion, and a spark that transforms lives. It shows us that even in turbulent times, joy can be created, from the moment we dare to let our voices be heard.

This production burst into STUDIO816 in December. To see The Sound of Music photos, please visit our [Student Showcase](#).

TICKETS and FURTHER DETAILS are on our box office site as we approach scheduled performances:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/classaction

Or check our socials: Instagram @classaction01