

MASTERS SERIES

Lifelong Learning

2025 Fall Term Tuesday, October 21 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.



PASADENA PLAYHOUSE: A DREAM ON A DIME

Presented by Ross Clark, Pasadena Playhouse Archivist

ilmore Brown had a dream to build a community theater in Pasadena, California. His vision came to fruition in 1925 with the best equipped theater west of the Mississippi, and a "star factory" college that provided Hollywood with actors, directors, and choreographers. Ross Clark, archivist for the Pasadena Playhouse, takes us on a journey from the theatre's opening to its closing in 1969, rebirth in the 1980s, and to the present when it is once again a powerhouse in regional theater with a Tony Award for excellence.



Ross Clark started his performing career with the National Ballet in Washington, D.C. at the age of seven in the Nutcracker. He was cast in his first Broadway show, "Take Me Along" starring Jackie Gleason two weeks before his 10th birthday and continued to work on Broadway through his teen years. He attended Northwestern University, Purdue University and The Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts as part of the last graduating class. He continued his studies

at USC in directing. After graduation he began writing and producing shows for amusement parks as well as producing product introductions. Ross is currently the Director of the Musical Theatre/Children's Theatre Ensemble at the Pasadena Civic Ballet. He developed the archive computer program for the Pasadena Playhouse where he is the archivist. He recently returned to the Pasadena Playhouse stage as Grandfather Lawrence in the "Little Women Ballet".





