Summer Break Theatre: an Austin-based theatre company by teachers, for teachers.

By Maggie Meador

We are currently the only theatre company like this in Austin. We provide an opportunity for teachers to perform in our productions and/or come out to support them and in turn, SBT is aiming to be a resource of support for teachers to get what they need: supplies that they would normally pay for out of pocket, access to services that would help maintain their stress levels (such as teacher-themed events that advocate for their hard work and celebrate them), and an outlet through which they can creatively express themselves.

I'm seeking the TxETA membership's help in spreading the word to our teacher community for their stories. We are seeking these stories as material for our next show, "Teacher Confessions," to be performed in August in Austin. This show invites teachers from all over to share stories of teaching from the front-lines, and actor/teachers will perform these stories through scenes and storytelling. The show is not only a way for teachers' voices to be heard, but it is a platform for awareness of what teachers go through and a way to use that platform to connect them with much-needed resources and services. "Teacher Confessions" celebrates teachers and their stories in a way that promotes awareness of what teachers continue to go through - especially during this last year of hybrid and Covid teaching.

I truly think the concept of this show will be great, and we would love to receive teachers' stories! The <u>Google form</u> we provide on the website also allows teachers to send in stories anonymously, so that they can vent/or be heard in a safe manner.