



# BOND STREET THEATRE

peacebuilding, empowerment & healing through theatre



## March Newsletter

### Greetings!

This month, Bond Street Theatre directors and company members Joanna Sherman, Michael McGuigan, Ilanna Saltzman, and Meghan Frank travelled

to the capital of Azerbaijan, Baku, at the invitation of the US Embassy to conduct a three-week long program with students at the Azerbaijan State University of Arts and Culture. The program, Community Drama for Peace, is a perfect illustration of what Bond Street's work is all about: integrating theatre-making with conflict resolution, and providing communities with the tools and confidence to constructively discuss issues important to them and

create a resolution plan.



**Students in the process of developing the performance, *Moon Cycles*.**

After one week of all-day workshops, eight students were selected by BST to collaborate and devise a piece, culminating in a tour of the performance throughout Azerbaijan. The play, titled *Moon Cycles*, focused on issues chosen by the students, including domestic violence, corruption, and the importance of youth making a positive change in their communities. A tremendous effort on everyone's part was put into making sure this piece was ready to tour, all in just one week! This was a huge challenge, but one that sparked focus, creativity, trust and strong partnerships.



Performance of the show, *Moon Cycles*, at the Yarat Contemporary Art Space

The tour and performances were a great success, with a wide range of communities around the country having the opportunity to see an innovative and compelling work. The topic of violence against women was especially well received and elicited animated discussion in the post-performance Q+A between audience and actors. The project garnered positive press coverage as well as the dynamic response from families, students, university professors, and directors in the audience.

We thank the **US Embassy in Baku** for supporting this wonderful project and we will miss our new friends in Azerbaijan. We are pleased that this talented group of actors will continue with their new name, Maybe Theatre. We are looking forward to working together in the future and seeing how their work progresses. This is their first experience with "social theatre".

Currently, Bond Street members are busy in Beirut coordinating with various organizations, including Zakira, a Lebanese arts organization devoted to the use of photography as a means of self-expression and healing. We are planning a Zakira-BST collaboration to create a multimedia performance aimed at Syrian refugee populations and host communities in Lebanon.

We are looking forward to new work, new challenges and new partnerships.  
These are exciting times!

Below is a video that Azer-b TV produced about the project, *Moon Cycles*, along with a few photos. Follow us on Facebook to see new photos of our work!



Check out Azer-b TV press coverage of the show, [Moon Cycles!](#)



---

Bond Street Theatre initiates theatre-based projects for education, conflict resolution, and healing in areas of conflict and poverty globally, currently in Afghanistan, Myanmar, Kenya and Lebanon.



[Click here to support our work around the world!](#)

Bond Street Theatre is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization,  
and an NGO in association with the UN-DPI.  
Bond Street Theatre 2 Bond Street, New York, New York 10012  
[info@bondst.org](mailto:info@bondst.org) 212-254-4614 [www.bondst.org](http://www.bondst.org)

See what's happening on our social sites!

