

Milwaukee County High School Theatre Workshop Day

March 4, 2009

Dedication

We gratefully and appreciatively dedicate this 10th year event to our three incredible student workshop day coordinators: 1) Kayla Premeau (1999-2004), 2) Michael Cotey (2006-2008), 3) Eva Rebholz (our current phenomenal coordinator extraordinaire).

Thanks Kayla, Michael and Eva!

Keynote Speaker

Robyn Hussa, *Normal In Schools*

Normal In Schools is a true story about the challenges presented by eating disorders and the affect of this problem on family systems. The issue is presented in the form of a family friendly, educational Rock & Roll musical written by Yvonne Adrian, Cheryl Stern and Tom Kochan and developed by Robyn Hussa and Eric Christiansen. *Normal* is designed to serve as a starting point for family and peer discussions about self-confidence, stress management and the importance of family. *Normal* is a nonprofit program that aims to support people who struggle with self and body image throughout the country.

Keynote: 8:30-9:15 AM

Mainstage Theater

Oedipus Rex

Matinee Performance & Director's Pre-Show Talk with Tony Horne

Synopsis: When Oedipus, Prince of Thebes, was born the Oracle warned that one day the child would kill his father. In fear, King Laius, Oedipus' father, abandoned the baby to die on a hillside. But, young Oedipus was saved and became the King of Corinth. Eventually Oedipus did kill Laius (without knowing that Laius was his father) and saved Thebes from the dreaded Sphinx. As a result he was granted the Theban kingdom and given Jocasta (his own mother) in marriage. After four children had been born the truth of his parentage was discovered. In shame, Jocasta committed suicide. Oedipus put out both his eyes. Thereafter, he wandered in exile and was cared for by his daughter.

Pre-show Talk: Session E 1:00-1:30 PM

Mainstage Theater

Matinee: Session F 1:30-3:00 PM

Mainstage Theater

Acting for the Camera

Iain Court, UWM Department of Dance

Description: Students will learn techniques that will help make them more comfortable and experienced with film acting. Students will be invited to participate through demonstrations and examples. *This workshop is limited to 12 students.*

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

WI Room Lounge

Acting Physical: Physical Characterization

Bill Watson, Head of Acting Program, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: We will explore how the physical actor tells a story on stage through the use of rhythm, weight, gesture, tempo, masks, and the physical use of space. Participants will also improvise character scenes.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union Ballroom East

Alexander Technique

Luc Vanier, UWM Department of Dance

Description: The workshop introduces the main principles of the Alexander Technique such as inhibition, direction, and faulty sensory awareness. Students will explore these principles as a group, in one-on-one experiences, and through discussion.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Zelazo 168

Another "View": Contemporary Acting Style

Rebecca Holderness, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: This workshop demonstrates how *the actor, to create performance from a personal perspective, uses Viewpoints and other kinds of improvisational formats.*

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

WI Room East

Audition Coaching

Jim Tasse, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: This workshop will give the student a sense of the audition process. While most of the work will be actual coaching, we will also cover choice of audition material, expectations of the auditor, and tactics for presentation. Students should come to this workshop prepared to demonstrate a two-minute monologue, preferably memorized.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 143

Big Stage, Big Voice

Michelle Lopez-Rios, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: Louder, faster, funnier! This workshop will focus on various vocal techniques to help the actor be loud, clear, and expressive on the stage.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM

Mainstage Theatre

Body Sense

Chris Warner & Ken Williams, UWM Theatre Education Program

Description: This workshop is a participatory introduction to the physical work required of an actor. The workshop consists of an actors' warm up and energy-center exercises. Emphasis is on creativity and spontaneity.

Session C 11:40 AM-12: 10 PM & Session D 12:15-12:45 PM

WI Room Lounge

ComedySportz

ComedySportz Team Members

Description: This workshop uses Improv! and ComedySportz games to emphasize the importance of teamwork. The ultimate goal is to have fun and learn through the process.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

WI Room West

Crafting the Play

Anne Basting, Timeslips & UWM Department of Theatre

Description: Why write a play when you can make a million selling a screenplay? This workshop looks at the unique qualities of writing for the theatre. Students will play with playwriting through a series of exercises focusing on dialogue, character, and plot.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 346

Creative Movement

Rachel Kunde & Sarah Dolens-Moon, UWM Theatre Education Program

Description: Create and explore movement that tells a story. Participants will explore improvisationally and will be encouraged to use gesture and physical engagement as a way to tell a story and perform for others.

Session C 11:40 AM-12: 10 PM & Session D 12:15-12:45 PM

WI Room West

Directing

Tony Horne, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: Students will use interactive exercises to deepen their understanding of a story. They will look at ways to make director/actor interaction more successful. This is also a chance for participants to talk about what they can do to improve their productions.

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 191b

Improv: Setting the Scene

James Peck, UWM Theatre Education Program

Description: Using a variety of fun theatre games and scene-formats students will unlock their ability to play and work together. Students will focus on finding patterns and themes within scenes and learn to be funny without “trying.”

Session C 11:40 AM-12: 10 PM & Session D 12:15-12:45 PM

Zelazo 250

Improv as a Rehearsal Tool

Jenny Kostreva, Milwaukee Repertory Company

Description: Improvisation can give actors insight into the play beyond the words on the page. It can be used to kinesthetically to explore character histories and relationships. In this workshop we will explore improvisation exercises that can help actors to bring the text alive in a fun and exciting way.

TEACHER WORKSHOP Session A 9:30-10:30 AM
STUDENT WORKSHOP & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 191a
Union 191a

Improv for Team Building

Conflict Resolution Crew Alumni

Description: Using a variety of applied theatre methods and role-plays students in this session will have an opportunity to explore social justice and real-life-issue exploration with the experienced alumni of the Case High School Conflict Resolution Crew.

Session C 11:40 AM-12: 10 PM & Session D 12:15-12:45 PM

Union 250

Improv Through Design

Rick Graham, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: Improvisation is a result of inspiration: Students will use and manipulate the elements of light, color, texture, sound and set to inspire the imagination to create a compelling scene.

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Music B12

Intro to Resumes & Headshots

Sandy Ernst, Milwaukee Repertory Company

Description: This workshop focuses on the basics of looking like a professional in your headshot. It will give participants skills to evaluate choices and resume layout– as well as providing was to transform the audition process so that students can go from amateur to pro.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 147

Lighting for Dummies-An Illuminating Experience!

Steve White, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: Want to learn the secret ‘electric’s handshake? How about the best way to tie up a pigtail, or how to look your best standing in a pool of light? Come to this workshop and you shall be *enlightened!*

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM

Theatre T6

Lighting Games

Steve White, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: After a quick review of the essential lighting skills, a handful of lucky "volunteers" will be asked to complete these skills against the clock for amazing prizes while the rest of us cheer them on.

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Theatre T6

Mask Making: Thermoplastics

Jeff Leider, Utah Shakespeare Festival & UWM Department of Theatre

Description: Create fun and colorful masks using thermoplastic materials. This workshop will give you a quick way to create unique characters! *This session is limited to 16 participants.*

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Theatre A17

Mock Dance Audition for Musical Theatre

Adam Steffan, UWM Theatre Education Program

Description: For many, the dance portion of a musical theatre audition can be a nerve-wracking experience. In this session, students will learn ways to boost their confidence and calm their nerves before entering a dance audition. Everyone is welcome! Dance experience is by no means required.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Zelazo 177

Musical Theatre

Tony Horne, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: This workshop covers the basic elements found in musical theatre productions and reviews the actors' craft through scene study, developing a character, and delivering a song. It will also cover major musical works from the past fifty years and explore the genre generally.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM

Union 191b

Normal in Schools

Robyn Hussa, Normal in Schools

Description: *Normal in Schools* workshop will focus on how the show was created and produced. This workshop is also designed to serve as a starting point for peer discussions about self-confidence, stress management and the importance of family.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Zelazo 171

Our Voice, Our Story: Latino Theatre

Michelle Lopez-Rios, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: How does a multicultural school do multicultural theatre? This workshop will include ideas for creating new inclusive theatre as well as ideas for producing contemporary multicultural playwrights.

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 340

From Page to Stage

Mike Q. Hanlon, Etude Arts School

Description: Did you ever want to take something you've read and make it into a dramatic scene or script? If so this workshop is for you, it gives participants opportunities to utilize improvisation, tableaux, peer collaboration and other tools to work towards a deep understanding of the text, allowing their adaptation to be accurate to the plot and true to the themes.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 347

Participatory Theatre Games

Jenny Waneseck, Center for Applied Theatre

Description: Play theatre games that use mind and body to challenge your ways of seeing, moving, and thinking. Based on the techniques of Brazilian theatre maker Augusto Boal, this workshop provides participants an opportunity to laugh and learn at the same time.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Zelazo 250

Plays Well With Others

Randall Rehberg, Combat Theatre

Description: This workshop focuses on how to develop and write a play that both entertains and educates. Students learn practical tips and shortcuts and will also write a short scene during the workshop.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 344

Project Runway For Theatre

Pam Rehberg & Laurie Brockman, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: Come explore how a designer works, learn how to support character development with clothing, how to communicate with the design team, and skills you might need to be a costume designer.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Theatre T35

Prop Special Effects: Guns, Blood, & Safety

Sandy Strawn, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: This workshop is an introduction to special effects, prop use, and construction. Participants will examine prop weapons and their correct handling and also mix a recipe for blood. *This workshop is limited to 16 participants.*

STUDENT WORKSHOP: Session A 9:30-10:30 AM
TEACHER WORKSHOP: Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Theatre 95 Scene Shop
Theatre 95 Scene Shop

Puppetry

Julia Newby, First Stage Theatre Company

Description: Using simple objects in combination with one another, students will create basic figures. Based on their construction, students will address manipulation and control, movement, and character development.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 345

Set Design: Principles and Projections

Rick Graham, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: This workshop focuses on the development of design sensibility for stage set design from initial concept to final implementation.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM

Music B12

Shakespeare goes to the Movies

Jessica Maerz, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: He loved ghosts, violence, naughty jokes, and tragic love stories: if he were writing stories today, Shakespeare would make a terrific screenwriter! Through clips and discussions, we will learn more about how film directors use the cinema to bring Shakespeare's plays "to life" for contemporary audiences.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Mitchell 341

Shakespeare in Action!

Katie Shorer, Stephanie Sell, & Christine Kuramoto, UWM Theatre Education Program

Description: Learn exercises to make you feel physically and vocally empowered—you will be ready to take on the Bard. Play with Shakespeares' words and phrases and improvise Elizabethian conflict as well.

Session C 11:40 AM-12: 10 PM & Session D 12:15-12:45 PM

WI Room East

Social Drama

Nancy Gibson, Director, Case High School Theatre Arts and Conflict Resolution Crew

Description: Social Drama offers a safe place for students to explore their views with dignity, respect, and freedom. Through collaborative theater exercises, participants will explore strategies, choices, and methods of communication for dealing with today's most critical social issues.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 260

Speaking in a Irish Dialect

Raeleen McMillion, UWM Department of Theatre & Renaissance Theatre Works

Description: Sláinte! This workshop will focus on learning how to speak in an Irish dialect for the stage. We will focus specifically on the Northern Irish vernacular.

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 183

Speaking Shakespeare

Raeleen McMillion, UWM Department of Theatre & Renaissance Theatre Works

Description: Participants will examine Shakespeare's use of poetry as a guide for interpreting character. We will look at scanning verse, use of punctuation, and poetic devices as tools for clarifying meaning and emotion. This workshop will use examples from several plays, including *Othello* and *Romeo & Juliet*.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM

Union 183

Speak the Speech I Pray You: Dramatic Forensics

Adam Jacobi, National Forensics League & Ripon College Forensics

Description: Dramatic (or humorous) interpretation in forensics requires a performer to play several characters and bring text alive with voice and body alone — without props or costumes. Exercises with pre-cut scripts will guide students through “popping” from character to character and using sound effects and other techniques to craft a memorable performance.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 250

Stage Combat I: Unarmed

Richard Hedderman, Dramatic Conflict

Description: This workshop introduces the student to safe and effective unarmed combat techniques for the stage including slaps, punches, grabs, pulls, chokes, and kicks. In addition to the practical application of technique, such skills as discipline, responsibility, partnering and ensemble work will also be presented.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM

Mitchell 385

Stage Combat II: Weaponry

Richard Hedderman, Dramatic Conflict

Description: This demonstration in safety and technique will explore how to properly handle stage weapons. The workshop emphasizes control, communication, and respect for the weapon. and will reinforce stage combat safety/techniques and weaponry “anatomy.”

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Mitchell 385

Stage Makeup: Basics

Louella Powell, Milwaukee Shakespeare & UWM

Description: This workshop is designed to show actors the value of using stage makeup as a tool for defining their characters. Basic corrective techniques will be demonstrated. Makeup products used to achieve a basic corrective makeup will be introduced. *This session is limited to 12 participants.*

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM

T35 - Makeup Room

Stage Makeup: Bumps and Bruises

Louella Powell, Milwaukee Shakespeare

Description: This workshop will introduce several techniques for achieving realistic wounds and bruises using makeup products and other commonly found ingredients. *This session is limited to 12 participants.*

Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

T35 – Makeup Room

Teacher Lunch: Teacher Forum

*Ralph Janes, Milwaukee High School of the Arts, Chair, Theatre Program
Association of Wisconsin Theatre Educators (AWTE) Executive Board Members*

Description: Connect with other educators at a special luncheon in honor of theatre teachers who are attending this event. Please join us for food and fantastic conversation.

Session C/D 11:40 AM – 12:45 PM

Union 345 b+c

TeenWrites! The Skylight Project

Becca Neilsen & Ray Jivoff, The Skylight

Description: This workshop gives students a chance to engage in the *TeenWrites* model where student generated stories are chosen and then composed and performed by selected high school students in a musical theatre show. Theatre games, writing, and performance construction will also be addressed.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Theatre T7

TeenWrites! In Progress

Becca Neilsen & Ray Jivoff, The Skylight

Description: This workshop presents some of the highlights of the past two *TeenWrites* seasons. Excerpts from this student composed and performed show will be explored.

Session C 11:40 AM-12: 10 PM & Session D 12:15-12:45 PM

Theatre T7

Theatre for Social Change

Jenny Vitrano

Description: Theatre is more than a form of entertainment it is also an avenue to open a dialogue about social issues. This workshop will introduce participants to the various forms of theatre for community action and will also look at various projects that have been implemented around the country and the world.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Union 342

Theatre Games

Amber Ante & Katie Whittaker, UWM Theatre Education Program

Description: Theatre Games were developed to encourage group interaction and emotional freedom. This is the place to play and improvise through theatre games and role-play exercises.

Session C 11:40 AM-12: 10 PM & Session D 12:15-12:45 PM

Union Ballroom East

Upgrading Your Sound - Chris Guse

Chris Guse, UWM Department of Theatre

Description: The workshop begins with a demonstration of how to effectively upgrade a theater's sound capabilities. This session also focuses on techniques for playback, reinforcement and design with common PCs and other consumer electronics.

Session A 9:30-10:30 AM & Session B 10:40-11:30 AM

Mitchell 375