



Theatre

Artist: Melinda Strobel



Melinda Strobel

Grade Level:

K-12, After School

About the Artist:

Melinda Strobel has been a professional actor for 20 years. Her training began at Willamette University and continued at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. Her stage work in both Atlanta and Portland has included a range of work from Shakespeare to Pinter. In 1991, she began extensive research into Susan B. Anthony's life which culminated in a one-woman show. This production garnered grants from around the U.S. and she has received many accolades for her unique skills.

Objectives:

- To cultivate enthusiastic appreciation of the humanities through the medium of performance art.
- To learn appropriate and confident use of body, voice and imagination as well as functional use of fundamental acting techniques to create a story, speech or presentation with a beginning, middle and end.
- To create a unified story, speech or presentation using optimal choices of material and action to effectively communicate the presentation.
- To practice important life-skills such as: risk-taking, creative problem solving, team work, and communicating effectively and appropriately.

Activities:

Students will explore the physicality of characterization and action through skill building exercises. Students will work on voice production through vocal exercises. Students will then incorporate these techniques through a rehearsal process into presentation of a story, speech, poem or play for one to three weeks, depending on the number of students and type of project.

- Tales to Tell
- Oregon Trail Stories
- Speak Up!
- Shakespeare on Stage
- Renaissance Faire

Workshop Size Limits:

- 25-30 students max

Special Equipment:

- The artist will work with teachers to locate their choice of materials, which usually consist of stories, scripts or research. Minimal photocopy costs.

Space Needed:

- Open floor space with room in which students can move around

Connections to the Curriculum

- History, social studies, art, drama, public speaking and language arts