



Delaware Institute for the Arts in Education

Aesthetic Education Lesson Plan

School: Wilber Elementary. **Teacher Professional Development Workshop**

Address:

Schedule: Tuesday, July 9, 2019

Experience: Theatrical production of *Distant Voices*.

Residency Title: "Levels and Layers": ***Distant Voices***

Overall Goals: Teachers will experience what a classroom Drama residency may look like and be convinced that it is an engaging and worthwhile endeavor for their students..

Artistic Objectives: Teachers will gain an intrinsic understanding for the experience of having a diary or journal with a personal connection to themselves interpreted and dramatized by others.

Lesson Plan:

Line of Inquiry: How do we help the teachers feel they have produced a journal entry(s) which is poignantly descriptive of an event in their personal or family history?

Session Goal: Teachers will have produced 1-2 journal entries and heard them read aloud or dramatized by a workshop partner or group.

Key Vocabulary: Diary; Story; Setting; Point-of-view; First Person; Historical Context (i.e. WW II); Internment Camp; Citizen;

Materials: Notebooks/pens.

Opening: Stretch/Breathe (2 mins.)

Introductory Activity: **(1)** “Liza Minelli”: In a circle, walk toward person on opposite side and they will mimic your walk as they cross to another. Repeat until gradually walk becomes organically elevated, dramatic and silly until reaching full “Liza Minelli”. **(2)** “Walk About”: Randomly walking in prescribed area emphasizing different energies, attitudes and emotions. (Walk freely and happily; distrustful and fearful; etc.) **(3)** “Enemy/Defender”: Each person secretly choose from the assembled, an enemy and defender. Running or moving about, keep your “defender” between you and your “enemy”. (No one knows whom you’ve chosen for these roles but you) (10-15 mins.)

Main Activity: Teachers will create 1-2 Diary entries in which they assume the role of a family member speaking in the first person about events that the Teacher has heard directly or indirectly about a piece of their family history. (20 mins.)

Closing/Assessment: Teachers will share, hearing their entries dramatized by another or read aloud themselves. Teachers will share thoughts about their experience.

Notes: Most Teachers continued with a family story relevant to WWII which they used to create graphic novel illustrations during the Visual Art portion of the workshop. This was helpful in that they had already been reflecting in depth in regard to their individual story.