



DRAMA NEW SOUTH WALES

WOLLONGONG

Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts

Conference at a glance

Saturday 15th May 2021

8:30 Registration, Tea & Coffee

9:00 Live stream

- Acknowledgement of Country
- Welcome from Drama NSW President, Sonia Byrnes and Conference Co-convenors, Rhéma Tieu and Hannah Bamford
- Keynote – *Raise your voice, A conversation between Shari Sebbens and Jessica Arthur*
- Awards

10:30 Morning Tea

11:00 Workshop #1 *Boal's Image Theatre and 'we don't know how to start' with Bro Reveleigh*

The focus of this workshop will be exploring more advanced techniques of Augusto Boal's *Image Theatre* as a way of exciting and engaging Stage 6 students in the process of the Group Performance. Most importantly, these activities will help students articulate and capture their own voices and concerns in the theatrical images, encouraging them to raise their voices in dynamic moments of performance. Underpinning Boal's techniques is a concern that theatre can deal with cultural critiques of power. Being a contemporary of Paulo Freire and his *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, Boal's *Theatre of the Oppressed* is a powerful tool for students to reflect on their lives and relationships. It allows a creative questioning of social and cultural situations that is inclusive and many-voiced.

Ultimately, this workshop will aim to equip teachers with Boal's *Image Theatre* activities as well as a brief summary of the unpinning theory. Teachers will learn through participation in these activities, taking on the guise of an HSC group and considering the application of the *Image Theatre* activities for their students.

Bro Reveleigh is a high school Drama and English teacher currently employed at Smith's Hill High School in Wollongong. He is also teaching the English method to second year Master of Teaching students at the University of Wollongong, which he's enjoyed doing for the past four years. He is passionate about the Approaches to Acting topic in the HSC Drama prescriptions as a way of extending

high potential and gifted students. Especially in developing their thinking about how making, performing and appreciating Drama can enhance their engagement with the social, cultural and political aspects of their lives. He's facilitated this critical thinking beyond the classroom through wholeschool, student-written comedy revues, providing a chance for student voice and opinion to be showcased to the school community on the stage. He is currently completing a Master of Education (Research) at the University of Sydney exploring the application of Drama pedagogy to the professional learning of teachers. He is especially interested in critical pedagogies -- like Paulo Freire and Augusto Boal – that examine the fundamental value of teaching and learning for students and teachers, and how we can engage in our cultures more ethically and inclusively.

1:00 Lunch

2:00 Workshop # 2 *Creative Connections with Paul Gardiner*

In this session you will have the opportunity to raise your own VOICE through collaborating with others. We recognise that every Drama teacher has something to say and something worth listening to. We want all these voices to be heard and have devised a learning opportunity for this to happen. Throughout the session you will participate in activities that ask you to share how you organise your scope & sequence, what plays you teach and what units/resources work for different stages. This sharing will occur through structured reflections facilitated by your Hub Leader. We hope through raising everyone's VOICES that we can assist in building strong and lasting Drama networks, enhance the learning for Drama Students and support teachers in confidently planning programs. Whether you have taught for a term or a lifetime, Drama NSW is excited to run this session to ensure all our voices are heard.

3:00 Conference close