Resources for Theatre

Creative Drama in the Classroom and Beyond, 8th edition, by Nellie McCaslin, is a classic text that assists future teachers integrate drama into the classroom and introduces students to a variety of genres and strategies, including mime, play structure, improvisation, and using drama in the special education curriculum. Unlike other texts, McCaslin focuses on drama as an art form as well as a teaching tool.

Drama Structures: A Practical Handbook for Teachers, by Cecily O'Neill and Alan Lambert, is a teacher's manual, providing fifteen developing lesson structures on different themes involving students in a range of drama and learning activities. This book is for both non-specialists and specialists in drama. The lesson structures take the approach of process drama/drama integration, so can be used to complement other subjects in the curricula.

Drama of Color: Improvisation with Multiethnic Folklore, by Johnny Saldana, is a book for teachers who wish to use folk literature and informal classroom drama to promote multiethnic awareness among elementary students. Saldana presents twenty folk tales drawn from the oral traditions of Hispanics, Native Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, Africans, and African Americans. He encourages teachers to use the literature as a springboard for pantomime and verbal improvisation with follow-up activities in the social studies and language arts.

Devising Theatre: A Practical and Theoretical Handbook, 1st edition, by Alison Oddey, is a practical handbook that combines a critical analysis of contemporary devised theatre practice with descriptions of selected companies, and suggestions for any group devising theatre from scratch.

Improvisation for the Theatre, by Viola Spolin, is an acclaimed handbook of improvisation and game techniques widely used by teachers and directors.

Respect for Acting by Uta Hagen with foreward by David Hyde Pierce, is a blueprint for the actor, Hagen's design for "enlightened stage acting." This classic book has helped generations of actors hone their craft, and its advice is as useful now as it was when it was first published.

Games for Actors and Non-Actors, by August Boal, founder of Theatre of the Oppressed, sets out the principles and practice of Boal's revolutionary Method, showing how theatre can be used to transform and liberate everyone – actors and non-actors alike! Contains lots of useful games, exercises and techniques.

Theatre: Art in Action, by Dr. Robert Taylor and Dr. Robert Strickland, teaches theater through hands-on performance-based exercises that have students assume the roles of actor, director, designer, technician, producer, stage crew, publicist, etc., to gain an appreciation for and understanding of theater as an art form, today and through history.

Take Ten: New 10-Minute Plays / Edition 1 edited by Nina Shengold and Eric Lane, this anthology includes a range of plays from monologues to an eight-character farce. Take Ten is a

marvelous resource for teachers and students of drama, as well as a stimulating read for lovers of the theatre. In this edition, contributors include: John Augustine, Cathy Celesia, Laura Cunningham, Joe Pintauro, Mary Sue Price, Megan Terry, Jose Rivera, Romulus Linney, David Mamet, Jane Martin, David Ives, and many others.

Sanford Meisner on Acting, by Sanford Meisner, follows a Meisner acting class for fifteen months, beginning with the most rudimentary exercises and ending with affecting and polished scenes from contemporary American plays. Written in collaboration with Dennis Longwell, it is essential reading for beginning and professional actors alike.

Freeing the Natural Voice by Kristen Linklater is a voice-training book for actors, teachers of voice and speech and anyone interested in vocal expression.

"American Theatre," a publication of Theatre Communications Group, is published in both a print and online version. Both contain current and relevant articles about happenings in the theatre.

Electronic Resources

National Core Arts Standards

Improv Encyclopedia

Drama Hub

TheatreFolk Original Plays

American Alliance for Theatre and Education

Classroom Lesson Plans

Drama Notebook

Pioneer Drama Service