

Martha Enson

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Performing Arts

Residencies Offered:

PHYSICAL BASIS FOR CHARACTER AND VOICE: Start with the body. Every character inhabits a body. By transforming posture, vocal expression and physical habits, we can become anyone at all. This class is targeted for middle or high school students. We will use movement, mask, speaking and other theater exercises to access character from the inside out.

IMPROVISATION SKILLS FOR THEATRE AND LIFE: We all improvise every day, and the skills used in improvisation are applicable to all places of learning and engagement. This theatre form allows students to practice group listening, The art of agreeing, and the making of effective proposals for driving a process forward while having enough detachment from the ego to allow an event or creative collaboration to unfold. There is no skill as useful or variable applicable as the skill of improvisation.

RED NOSE CLOWN: Unearth your own most ridiculous self. This class focuses on the performer, stripping away all shields and habits to arrive at the most vulnerable and real connection between actor and audience. This class is targeted at high school level.

Preferred Age/Grade Level: 1-12

Space and Time Considerations:

Need space to move. I prefer to have two hour blocks to work with the students, but can manage with one hour blocks.

Teaching Experience:

I have taught in the Vashon Artists in Schools program for many years, working with grades 1-12 at Vashon and Chautauqua Elementary, McMurray and Vashon High School. In addition to teaching on my own in the visual and performing arts, I have done extensive work in the schools with the UMO Ensemble in literary/performing arts. I have taught sculpture, mask-making, self-portraiture, mask-performance, and improvisation. In appropriate settings I have worked in a very curriculum-based manner, as well as teaching specialized residencies in theater for older ages.

Description of Artist's Work:

I am a creator, performer and director of theater, a founding member of UMO Ensemble, and have taught all ages (K-Adult). I have performed and enjoyed residencies with UMO in elementary and high schools throughout the state of Washington.