Workshop - Shape and spatial relationship in story

March 6, 2018

Participants will:

Develop a heightened awareness of how shape and space work together to tell stories.

Experience a movement-based exploration of the themes related to the ceiba tree. Create short pieces of text to contribute to a collaborative movement piece.

Introduction

Share names, responses to a quick icebreaker question, highlight goals for the session.

Physical exploration of whole-body movement

- Energy sharing game
- Moving with a part of the body leading
- Moving with a given energy in body (fire, water, steam, electricity, wind, darkness, sunshine)
- Forming a "shape" to embody roots, trunk, and branches
- Building to group's peak then slowing down then coming to a stop.

Viewpoints exploration: kinesthetic response, spatial relationship, shape

- Open viewpoints in a "flow" (can only follow, move between people, start, stop, and turn away) introducing the idea of kinesthetic response, spatial relationship, and shape, as the group is ready for it; half the group watches.
- Discussion: What stood out to us? What moments reminded us of the ceiba tree?
- The other half of the group explores these viewpoints.
- Discussion: What stood out to us? What moments reminded us of the ceiba tree?

Group decision making

Participants choose a part of the ceiba tree (roots, trunk, or branches to explore)

- Open viewpoints together in a flow
- Participants form three groups ending in a shape.
- Participants voice words that come to mind when they look at each of the other group's shapes.

Creating short text

- Participants write four lines expressing their thoughts, feelings, desires, and ideas that come from their experience in the shape their group formed.

Incorporating text and movement

- Each group creates and rehearses a short movement piece, using the shape, movements that flow from it, and a piece of each participant's text.

Performances and sharing

- Each group performs.
- Discussion follows: What moments of the performances could we really connect with? What did the shape add? How did the texts fit in?

Devising a travel moment

- Participants join in to perform other group's shape while two (?) characters travel through. (Have a beginning space and an end space, have them do it several times as necessary with different speeds). Try out each other group's shape. Have audience members too. "One word" feedback sharing in between.

*Discussion*What do we want to keep?

Closing "game"

Forming a final group shape for today's experience in open viewpoints.