Build a Better World

2017 LIBRARY SUMMER READING CLUB

Youth Stages

Bibliography of Books for WORKSHOPS
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PERFORMANCES
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PLAY-SHOPS
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WORKSHOPS

$85 per hour (plus travel)

BUILDING IMAGINATION
(babies - elementary school)

Anansi the Spider
Gerald McDermott  4-10 years
Road Builder and his five siblings work together to save their father, Anansi. Children will enact this lovely Ashanti tale under the guidance of a Youth Stages actor-educator.

Big Old Bones
Carol Carrick  4-10 years
Children will attempt to re-build a dinosaur along with Professor Potts in this story of early archeology (and its successes and failures!)

The Big Orange Splot
Daniel Pinkwater  4-12 years
This fun- and funny- story of Mr. Plumbean and his neighbors is a joy to enact. Children love building the house of their dreams.

A Box Can Be Many Things
Dana Meachen Rau babies-10 yrs
Not A Box
Antoinette Portis babies-10 yrs
Sitting in My Box
Dee Lillegard babies-10 yrs
These books provide a great jumping off point for the imagination to soar! Children will explore boxes in many ways with Youth Stages.

The Bremen Town Musicians
various versions  3-12 years
The children will build a vocal ensemble from a rag-tag band of animals; a donkey, dog, cat, and rooster. Children love the vocal cacophony and the joy of actively thwarting the thieves!

Hey! Get Off Our Train
John Burningham  3-12 years
To build a better world, we need to create a better environment for our endangered species. Mr. Burningham addresses this concept in a thought-provoking, hysterically funny way! Kids love becoming the animals in this story.

A House for Hermit Crab
Eric Carle  3-9 years
In this charming underwater tale, Hermit Crab builds a house to perfect specifications...only to outgrow it!

How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World
Marjorie Priceman  6-12 years
On a global trek, a young girl acquires all the ingredients to make an apple pie. We will travel the world and build our knowledge of countries and ingredients- all while never leaving the library program room!

Jumanji
Chris Van Allsburg  4-12 years
Participants will build their own board game, the Youth Stages actor-educator will read the book, and everyone will enact some of Van Allsburg’s adventures (and make-up some new ones as well.)

The Knight and the Dragon
Tomi dePaola  3-6 years
dePaola’s classic story of non-violence and the joy of reading is a delight to enact with children. We will build armor in pantomime, as well as courage and barbecues!

The Lorax
Dr. Seuss  4-18 years
Building a better world begins with environmental knowledge. And who better than Dr. Seuss to introduce it?! Kids enjoy enacting the scenes with the Onceler, the Brown Bar-ba-loats, Swomee-Swans, and Humming-Fish.

Professor Noah’s Spaceship
Brian Wildsmith  4-18 years
Mr. Wildsmith has a new take on the Noah’s Ark story that’s fun to ponder and act out. Can we build a better world?

Mother Goose Rhymes
various versions babies-12 yrs
From parent-child sessions to pre-teen workshops, Mother Goose rhymes provide a treasure trove of dramatic possibilities. A blast to enact!

Mushroom in the Rain
Mirra Ginsburg  3-8 years
This story is a joy to enact with children. The animals seek cover from the storm initially, but also work together to build a safe space to hide the rabbit from the fox.

Old MacDonald Had An Apartment House
Judith Barrett  6-10 years
Children will build a city garden, become landlords, superintendents, a cow or two, & lots of vegetables.

The Princess and the Pea
Hans Christian Andersen  3-18 years
This classic, simple, story can be enjoyed by many ages at different levels. We will build a super- deluxe bed (in pantomime) and explore what a “real” or “fake” princess might be like!

Roxaboxen
Alice McLerran  4-12 years
If you were going to create a town, what would it look like? Where would the houses be? The shops? What would people do? With the guidance of a Youth Stages actor-educator, children will build their own Roxaboxen!

Swimmy
Leo Lionni  3-9 years
This lovely story of the small and meek fish outsmarting the big and ferocious ones is a joy to enact!
The Three Billy Goats Gruff  
Children will build a bridge and then imagine themselves as goats and trolls! This story is a classic for a reason...  
and oh so much fun to dramatize!

The Very Busy Spider  
The children will build a spider web in the library and become spiders, sheep, pigs, cows, cats and more!

**BUILDING ENSEMBLE**  
(middle - high school + adults)

**Acting**  
A Youth Stages actor-educator will lead participants in pantomime, acting techniques, vocal projection, physical character development, and scenework- all of which build ensemble.

**Balloon Animals**  
Youth Stages  
10 years-adult  
Youth Stages founder, Jean Pratt Rosolino, will teach your library patrons the art of balloon-making. The basic shapes; dog, giraffe, and rabbit will be emphasized, but creativity is encouraged! ($25 supplies fee)

**Build Something!**  
Youth Stages  
10-18 years  
Using various recyclable materials (egg cartons, boxes, styrofoam trays...), scissors and tape, participants will build something. What is it? Students will create scenes with these new creations! (participants are asked to bring clean recyclables)

**Build Your Own Story**  
Youth Stages  
10 years-adult  
Using prompts, Youth Stages will elicit stories from participants. These will then be embellished- or not- and converted into improvisational scenes to be shared with one another. What’s YOUR story?

**Improvisation**  
Youth Stages  
10 years-adult  
By working on the W’s (Who? Where? What? and Why?), students will take characters and put them in various situations, improvising as they go along. Individual and ensemble work will be explored.

**Inventors and Inventions**  
Youth Stages  
10-18 years  
Who came up with such things as the Bandaid, the Frisbee, the vacuum cleaner, the Toll House cookie? And how? Students will create scenes based on these objects and build some of their own.

**John Henry**  
Ezra Jack Keats/Julius Lester  
10-18 years

**Mike Fink**  
Steven Kellogg  
10-18 years

**Paul Bunyan**  
Barbara Emberley/Steven Kellogg  
10-18 years

**Pecos Bill**  
Steven Kellogg/Brian Gieson  
10-18 years

**Swamp Angel**  
Anne Isaacs  
10-18 years

Students will learn about the Tall Tale genre as the actor-educator reads some of the heroic feats of one or more of these classic characters. Kids will build railroads, wrestle wild animals, dig the Grand Canyon, and many more outlandish feats. They’ll even build their own exaggerated tales!

**Mask Work**  
Youth Stages  
10-18 years  
Using “neutral masks” students will focus on their bodies and physicality of character. When facial emotion is taken away, the body has to compensate and convey meaning through posture, stance, and gesture. Build your own character- FUN!

**Teen Scenes**  
Youth Stages  
10-18 years  
Participants will work on scripted two-person and small group scenes- making character choices vocally and physically, devising blocking, rehearsing, and sharing these scenes with one another.

**The Mysteries of Harris Burdick**  
Chris Van Allsburg  
10-18 years

Using Van Allsburg’s simple illustrations & sentences as a jumping off point, participants will build their own characters and plot, rehearse scenes in small groups, then share the scenes with one another.

**Whose Library Is It Anyway?**  
Youth Stages  
12-18 years & adults

Students will participate in improvisation games just as in the well-known cable show. We’ll play gibberish-based games such as “Expert,” deductive acting games such as “Party Quirks” and “Press Conference,” mind-benders like “Questions” and, of course “Whose Line.”

**You’re Never Too Old to PLAY**  
Youth Stages  
Adults

This session gives adults the opportunity to work on both scripted and improvisational scenes which they then share with one another during the session.

**BUILDING A BETTER BODY**

**Yoga for Kids!**  
6-8 years & 9-12 years

Yoga for Kids introduces children to the practice and science of yoga in many fun, creative, and exciting ways. Yoga postures focus on proper body alignment. Through practicing these poses children develop a basic awareness of the human body and anatomy. There are also a number of partnering activities where children learn to work together with each other toward a common goal. The social skills they learn on the mat transfer to life off the mat and these skills are invaluable in the theatre world, where one must work together with many individuals on a production. We will play games such as “Yogi Says” (like “Simon Says”) and more.

**Yoga for Teens!**  
13-17 years

Yoga for Teens introduces young people to the practice and science of yoga. Yoga postures focus heavily on proper body alignment. Through practicing these poses, teens will develop a basic awareness of the human body and anatomy. For an actor, body and spatial awareness are very important. Yoga can help hone this awareness. Teens will also develop simple meditation skills, which prove very useful for calming nerves before an audition, a performance, or even an exam. Yoga is a great way to reduce stress and develop stress management skills, increase happiness, and improve interpersonal relationships.

Youth Stages instructor: Jaclyn Spoleti  
min 6/max 18 children  
Available weekends  
$135.00 per hour (plus travel)
What is the difference between a WORKSHOP, a PLAY-SHOP, and a PLAY?

A WORKSHOP is an intimate creative drama experience where a maximum of 20 participants are fully engaged—imaginatively, vocally and physically—with a Youth Stages actor-educator in the dramatization of a story. The session includes physical and vocal warm-ups and the reading of a book. The children then choose which character they wish to play and the story is enacted with the children physically moving around the playing space as the characters in the story. Workshops are limited to a three year age-span. (See blue oval below.) Kids LOVE the freedom of making decisions about character walks and lines of dialogue within dramatic structure!

A PLAY is a fully scripted and directed performance piece with two actors*, sets, costumes, and props. The children are seated on the floor in front of the performers, play a distinct role in the plot of the story, and participate from their seats at key moments in the script. Five of Youth Stages seven touring shows have been commissioned by Youth Stages and written specifically with audience interaction in mind. (Youth Stages is one of very few theatres in the United States that writes and performs theatre specifically for preschoolers.) Audience sizes range from 100-150 children, depending on the show (Please view the specifications for each PLAY.) *The Three Bears features one performer.

A PLAY-SHOP is a hybrid of the two forms listed above. One Youth Stages actor-educator dramatically tells a story with minimal props and visuals for children ages 3-9 years and their parents (up to a maximum of 80 audience-participants). The children are seated on the floor before the actor-educator and, from their seats, participate in theatre warm-ups, answer questions, provide necessary lines of dialogue, engage in finger-plays, and sing songs. This engaging way of interpreting stories is new and exciting to this age group. Even if they are familiar with the story, they will not have heard it the way Youth Stages tells and acts it! (Please view the description for each PLAY-SHOP.)

FAQ
(Frequently Asked Question)

**WORKSHOPS** are $85 per hour.
- A travel fee of 55¢ per mile round trip travel will be charged from the actor-educator’s home to the workshop location.
- Workshops are usually conducted for a minimum of 6 participants and a maximum of 20 participants. (The maximum number of children is 15 when working with preschoolers.)
- Workshops are usually conducted for a maximum three-year age-span in one session.

Suggested age breakdowns are: parent & infant, parent & toddler (2-3 years), 4-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-11 years, middle school (11-13 years), high school (14-18 years) and adults (19+ years).
FOR AGES 3-5 YEARS • running time 30 minutes • Study Guide provided

The Three Bears: $350 one show / $575 two shows (same location, same day) maximum audience 100 children
Little Red Riding Hood, Stubby the Elephant, The Elves & the Shoemaker:
$425 one show / $750 two shows (same location, same day) maximum audience 150 children

These shows can be performed in a program room, all-purpose room, cafeteria, or gymnasium with the audience seated on the floor.

Travel charge: 55¢ per mile round trip travel (minimum $45)

FOR AGES 3-9 YEARS • running time 40 minutes • Study Guide provided

Two Marys, Five Jacks, & One Very Big Shoe; Genies, Lamps, & Dreams; and Aesop & the Bully: A Fable for Our Times
$425 one show / $750 two shows (same location, same day) maximum audience 150 children

These shows can be performed in a program room, all-purpose room, cafeteria, or gymnasium with the audience seated on the floor.

Travel charge: 55¢ per mile round trip travel (minimum $45)
A Youth Stages PLAY-SHOP is part workshop, part storytelling performance. One actor-educator dramatically tells a story with minimal props and visuals. While seated on the floor, the children participate in theatre warm-ups, answer questions, provide necessary lines of dialogue, engage in finger-plays, and sing songs. Even if audience members are familiar with the classic story being told, they will not have heard it the way Youth Stages tells and acts it! maximum 80 audience-participants

### The Little Red Hen
The classic story reimagined by Youth Stages

The children-as Little Yellow Chicks-dig, plant, grow, and reap wheat with the Little Red Hen. After building a garden, they make and eat bread... without the assistance of the other lazy animals!

### Who's in Rabbit's House?
retold by Verna Aardema

Various animals help Rabbit discover who The Long One is in this humorous story. The children are the voice of the mysterious creature causing trouble!

### Farmyard Follies
classic animal-themed songs & stories reimagined by Youth Stages

Farmer Jessie will lead your children through farm songs such as Old MacDonald and There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly. They will learn house-building as they dramatize The Three Little Pigs and thwart the hungry wolf. They will even experience a hoedown!

### Bugs, & Insects, & Arachnids, Oh My!
well-known bug songs & stories reimagined by Youth Stages

Dr. Katy Did or Dr. Alder Fly dispels fears about bugs through stories and songs including: The Itsy-Bitsy Spider, The Ants Go Marching, Little Miss Muffet, I’m Bringing Home a Baby Bumble Bee and Eric Carle’s The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

### Sing a Song, All Day Long!
A sing-a-long/play-a-long with Youth Stages’ Emily Vorp

This engaging sing-a-long will include interactive and fun songs every child knows like Little Bunny FuFu, If You’re Happy and You Know It, and It’s Raining. It’s Pouring as well as a few they might not know. infant - 7 years•Available through June, 2017

### Stone Soup
The French folktale reimagined by Youth Stages

What are the villagers to do? Everyone is preparing for a town-wide celebration and a hungry soldier has just showed up. With the soldier’s help, the children build a community meal worth remembering. This is a tale with a tasty ending!

### Anansi & the Moss-Covered Rock
retold by Eric Kimmel & reimagined by Youth Stages

Using simple props, your children and our actor-educator reenact the story of the trickster spider who plays a joke on animal friends. Kids love to “KPOM” on cue!

### The Gingerbread Kid
The classic story reimagined by Youth Stages

“Run, run, as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the Gingerbread Man” is the repeated phrase in this fabulous story of the cookie that comes to life. Youth Stages sets the story in Florida and retells this classic story with a cunning alligator!

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$160 one PLAY-SHOP
$275 two PLAY-SHOPS
$390 three PLAY-SHOPS
same location, same day
Travel charge: 55¢ per mile round trip travel (minimum $20)

manager@youthstages.com
call Youth Stages
609-430-9000