

K. Brian Neel

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Educator Résumé

(selection)

- Improvisation
- Playwriting
- Movement, Physical Theater, Mime
- Stage Combat
- Solo Performance
- Extreme!Theater
- Acting
- Story Theater, Creative Drama
- Physical Poetry
- Team / Ensemble Building
- Physical Challenge

"Thank you for a great week here. Your humor, energy and love of theater all combine to give kids a wonderful experience. They are lucky to be drawn out by a teacher who has the skill and care to ground them in the art!" - *Martha Worthy, Education Programs Director, Centrum*

"Thank you for your enormous commitment and contribution to South Australia's growing youth arts audience." - *Andy Packer, Education Coordinator, Adelaide Festival, Australia*

"Best workshop we've had at the festival this year!" - *Linda Florence, Education Coordinator, Edinburgh Festival Fringe*

"The class had a wide variety of students, and Brian's teaching style worked well with everyone. He approached students with humor, but always expected them to work hard and take risks." - *Barbara Lachman, Drama Director, Shorewood HS*

"We got to speak our minds, something our parents don't let us do." - *Eric Kelly, Improv II, Sitka Fine Arts Camp*

"The best program we've ever had." - *John McCleanor, Urrbrae School, Adelaide, Australia*

"Brian makes safety a priority when working stage combat, which is very important, especially with middle schoolers." - *Molly Pritchard, teacher, Islander MS*

"I had a blast in your class and I learned sooo much from you!! You are an amazing teacher and actor." - *Annie (8th Grade)*

"Thank you for coming to my classroom today. I thought you were great. After school, I went home and showed my family. I believe I need to practice more, but my family thought I put on a good act." - *Derek, 4th Grader, Spruce Elem.*

"Andrea went strait to her writing book at CenterTime and this is what she wrote: 'I LOVE THE SHO MY FAFRET PORT WOS OL THE PORTS.' Afternoon kindergarden loved the theater." - *Carol Kruckeberg, Bryn Mawr Elem.*

Young Playwrights Program. 10 to 20 week programs through **ACT Theatre** in Seattle. Unique, crowd-developed curriculum addressing all aspects of play creation and leading to every student writing a short play. Predominantly at NOVA and Lakeside Schools from 2010 to present, as well as Garfield HS, Ballard HS, and Bainbridge HS.

Generate. One week to create a new show with nine youth at risk, through **Foundry 10**, 2019. Lots of food and a non-traditional theater structure where every voice in the room is writing, performing, constructing, directing, reflecting. Co-directed with Ana Maria Campoy.

Parkwood Elementary Residencies. Integrating theater exercises to learn science and math curriculum in fifth and third grade classes, 2018-19.

Perseverance Theatre, Alaska. New work development at the **STAR Program**, 2016-2018. Directed ensemble-devised student plays amidst the stunning beauty of Juneau, Alaska. Two years of **Extreme Theater** and a year of **Vaudeville** cabaret. Culmination was full run in rep with two other plays, and a radio play broadcast on KTOO.

Lincoln Theater Residency. Xperiment in Theater, 2012. A week-long collision of acting, character improv, dance, mime, music, and writing with twelve teen-aged artists. Culminated in the creation of an interdisciplinary performance piece that was ridiculous, serious, zany, and thoughtful.

Centrum Arts Camp. Extreme Theater Residencies, 2005-2007. Week-long improvisation and physical acting workshops for 7th-9th graders at Fort Warden State Park, WA. Final performances ranged from long-form improv ('Purple Platypus') to acting scenes to self-generated plays.

Islander Middle School. Residency Teacher, 1998 to 2005. One and two-week stage combat and physical theatre residencies every semester to the advanced drama classes. Choreographed hand-to-hand, sword, and dagger Shakespeare fight scenes. Goals: to introduce students to physical control and self-direction.

Edinburgh festival fringe. Extreme Theater Workshops, 2003. Physical theatre master classes and stage combat workshops sponsored and organized by the festival.

Australia Tour. Extreme Theater Workshops, 2002. Physical theatre and improvisation workshops in middle schools, high schools, fine arts colleges, and university master classes from Perth and Sydney. Part of the *Adelaide Festival*. Given highest rating from host teachers.

Seattle Mime Theatre. Course leader from 1995 to 2010. Programs include: **Youth at Risk** (Seattle Youth Detention Center, transitional homes, drop-in facilities, and drug rehabilitation centers such as Ryther and Blade/Ace), **Corporate Team Building** (clients include Microsoft, WorkHaus Design, Target Stores, and Red Bull where I assisted developing their interviewing system for North America and training all field reps), and **Disabled Youth** (teaching specialized movement workshops for the deaf, hyperactive, ADD, and children on the autism spectrum).

Sitka Fine Arts Camp. Taught acting, improvisation, playwriting, stage combat, and physical acting from 1998 to 2000 in an immersive environment for middle and high school students. Teachers also perform a concert of their own work, and are required to collaborate with other teacher/artists from other disciplines.

Shoreline high school. Steel Drum Residency. Choreographed movement and taught physical theatre techniques for a performance about the history of the steel drum. Gave students a repertory of techniques so they could create and direct their own scenes, then supervised and guided them into final performance. Included live music from the music department.

Seattle Children's Theater. Conducted a three-week acting residency at *Tillicum Middle School* in Bellevue, April 1997.

Kings' Elephant Theatre. Conducted improvisation workshops in the Seattle area between the years 1988 and 1993. Various locations including the theatre department of Garfield High School, Annex Theatre, and AHA! Theatre. Also taught adult workshops at Pilgrim Center for the Arts, and a series of ensemble-building workshops for the *Purple Crayon Ensemble* from *Yale University*.