

Fellow Name: Paige Goodwin
Department: TFDP

Title: “Hey! Give Me That Back!”: Writing Your Own Mini Play

Abstract: Arguments and conflict are not only the driving forces in stories, but in our everyday relationships. In this DIY workshop, students will create characters with compelling motivations and understand that every character has desires that they’re trying to meet. Students will learn ways in which to build verbal conflict in a scene that escalates and keeps the audience engaged through workshops and writing a dialogue that considers emotional arcs and compromise. Students will have the opportunity to write their own scenes that enhance emotional literacy and understanding of story concepts such as rising action and climax. Students can share their scenes and provide feedback for others.

Target Audience: 3rd-6th grade,

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

By using this Digital DIY Curriculum students will use the vocabulary of theatre such as protagonist/antagonist/objective to identify character motivation, create their own characters, write scenes with escalating conflict, perform them for their classmates and share their constructive responses to classmates’ scenes.

Paige Goodwin is a current MFA Student at UC Riverside studying playwriting. She earned her B.A. in English Literature at University of Maryland and spent 5 years helping young artists in the D.C. metropolitan area learn the power of their voices as a Teaching Artist for both Young Playwrights Theater and Imagination Stage. She has served as a Dramaturg for UCR’s Henry V as well as two seasons of YPT’s New Play Festival. She is a reader for the Arena Stage and Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, DC.

Elements of the Digital DIY Curriculum

“Hey! Give Me That Back!” Writing Your Own Mini-Play Syllabus.pdf

“Hey! Give Me That Back!” Writing Your Own Mini-Play.pdf (workbook)