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Title: Group Introduction/Storytelling

- I. AGE: Most appropriate for 9th grade students and up
- II. GOALS: Participants will be introduced to drama warm up games, the basic elements of storytelling, and group collaboration.
- III. MATERIALS: Flip Chart Paper, markers, Cd Player
- IV. MANAGEMENT DEVICES: Expectations will be established through group discussion during the first session.
- V. PROCESS:
 - A. MOTIVATION: Contemporary music will be playing before the session to set the an inviting atmosphere. Theatre Games/Icebreakers will be used to warm up the group and create a safe space.

Warmup 1: Two Truths and a Lie (Alrutz)

Students choose a partner and separate themselves into pairs and find space in the room. Each person shares a few facts about themselves, and the partners decide on three facts about their partner that they will share with the group. The only rule is that the two facts must be the truth and one fact must be the lie. The group reconvenes and each pair introduces their partner, telling the three facts. The rest of the group must guess which facts are the truths and which fact is the lie. The game continues until all participants have shared with the group.

Warm up 2: 3 Changes

Students pair up, again with a different partner than in the first activity. They have two minutes to observe each other as closely as possible, trying to memorize their partner's physical appearance. (i.e. color of clothing, types of shoes, earrings, etc.) The pairs are then asked to face back to back and change one thing on themselves. When they turn around, their partners must guess what piece of their physical appearance has changed. The game continues with each person changing two things, three things, etc making it harder for the participant's partners. Transition: "What is theatre?"- We ask the group what knowledge or experience they have in the theatre arts or what theater means to them.

B. PRESENTATION:

Assessment of Dramatic Knowledge/Background

1. Group Discussion of Theatre: Participants will be asked and respond to the following questions (answers will be recorded on flip chart paper):
 - Have you been to the theatre?
 - What plays/performances have you seen?
 - What about them do you like/dislike?
 - If you haven't been to see a play, what kinds of movies do you enjoy?
2. As a group, participants will create physical or vocal actions to represent words on the list. (i.e. Comedy, simulating a comedy moment or circumstance)
3. Participants will then split into pairs and choose a word from the list, create a tableau to represent it along with a word or phrase (created or from an existing text/performance) to aid in representation to the audience. The word tableau will be explained and defined before the group splits up.

Transition: "All theatre/performances tell a story."

Devising Through Storytelling

1. The group decides on a storytelling topic. Leaders provide examples of the topic. (i.e. love, departure, fear, trust, an apology, etc.)
2. Participants are divided into new pairs. Each person has 3 minutes to tell a true story they are comfortable telling to their partner based on the topic chosen by the group.
3. After all pairs have finished the group returns to circle center and ask for volunteers who are willing to share their story.
4. The group decides on the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Volunteers come to the front and the group begins to create a series of three tableaus based on the beginning, middle, and end of the story that was discussed.
5. After the tableaus are set, the volunteers present them to the rest of the group.

C. REFLECTION/ASSESSMENT

Group Reflection/Discussion:

1. What things did you learn about theatre that you did not know before?
2. What is a tableau?
3. What are the three parts of a story?
4. How did you feel telling a story about yourself?
5. What was it like to play as a group?
6. What is the purpose of theatre/movies? (to tell a story)
7. What did you like/dislike about what you did today? Was it easy or hard for you? Why?
8. What other activities/topics would you like to address in future sessions?