

DIANE WASNAK

TEACHING RESUME

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Teaching and Workshop Leadership Roles

Diverse curricula developed for hours to months-long workshops suitable for specific age groups

- 2019 Circus Smirkus, Greensboro, VT • Summer Camp Clown Coach, Ages 5 to Adult
- 2018 Kaifung, China • Acrobatic & Comedy Festival, Guest Speaker/Mime Workshop
- 2018 Marin Shakespeare Company, Marin, CA • Mime Movement Intensive for Intern Company
- 2018 SORA Circus, Lexington, KY • Physical Acting Coach
- 2017 Suspend Aerial Arts Studio, Louisville, KY • Physical Acting Workshop
- 2017 Indianapolis Children's Museum, Indianapolis, IN • Creative Movement Workshop
- 2016 Lexington Children's Theatre • Directing Associate/Movement Instructor for Touring Show
- 2016 Sayre School, Lexington, KY • Guest Mime/Movement Instructor
- 2016 Nanjing, China • 15th Wuqiao International Circus Festival • Western Mime/Movement/Clowning Workshop
- 2015 University of California Fullerton • Mime/Movement intensive for cast of "Comedy of Errors"
- 2015 Kinetic Theory Studio, Los Angeles, CA • Mime/Movement intensive
- 2015 Sophia Isadora Circus School of Arts, San Diego, CA • Mime/Movement intensive
- 2014-15 Lowell & Urban High Schools, San Francisco, CA • Guest Theatre Instructor
- 2014 Kinetic Arts Center, Oakland, CA • Mime/Movement Intensive for pre-professional youth company
- 2013 Circus Mojo, Ludlow, KY • Mime/Movement workshops
- 2013 Frazier Museum, Louisville, KY • Mime/Movement workshop for youth
- 2012-2015 Circus Harmony, St. Louis, MO • Mime/Movement & Chinese Pole Instruction
- 2012 My Nose Turns Red Youth Circus, Cincinnati, OH • Mime/Movement workshop for company
- 2001-2011 Clown Conservatory, Circus Center, San Francisco, CA • Guest Instructor
- 2010 888 Monkeys Circus Summer Camp, San Jose, CA • Guest Instructor
- 2009 Nanjing, China • Master Teacher for 2-month workshop in Western Mime/Movement/Clowning
Selected by Master Lu Yi, Circus Center San Francisco
- 2007 Clown Conservatory, Carolina Coastal University • Guest Instructor
- 2006 Sea World's Cirque de la Mer, San Diego, CA • Conductor Character Workshops
- 2003 Marin Shakespeare Company, San Raphael, CA • Conductor Summer Clowning Workshop
- 2002 OddFellows Circus Summer Camp, Middletown, CT • Guest Instructor for Advanced Performers Class
- 2001 Motionfest, San Francisco, CA • Guest Instructor at national conference
- 1994 DelArte School, Blue Lake, CA • Guest Instructor for professional clowning program
- 1989-1996 Pickle Family Circus, San Francisco, CA • As a principal performer of the Pickle Family Circus, conducted workshops in mime, creative movement and basic acrobatics to high school and college students

Education & Training

Mime and acting classes began in 1971. Diane briefly majored in theatre and music at Wright State University in Dayton, OH, leaving to become a professional performer in 1978. Training continued at the Antic Arts Academy at SUNY, Purchase, NY under Michael Moshen, Bob Berky, Daniel Stein and Fred Garbo. 1985-1988 Diane was invited to study with Master Mime Tony Montanaro at the Celebration Barn in South Paris, ME. In 1989, Judy Finelli hired Diane to be Joan Mankin's clown partner in the Pickle Family Circus. They were the first female clown duo in American circus. In 1990, Lu Yi of the Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe was named master trainer of the Pickle Family Circus. Mr. Lu Yi coached Diane in Chinese Acrobatics - teeterboard, hoop diving and pole climbing. According to Master Lu Yi, Ms. Wasnak was the first woman in the western hemisphere to perform certain tricks on Chinese pole. In 1992 Lu Yi trained Jeff Razz and Diane in partner acrobatics and the duo became nationally known as the acrobatic clowns Pino and Razz. In 1993 Mr. Lu Yi trained Diane the technique for the bicycle/bowls act that she performs to this day. Diane's many performer contacts will prove invaluable in providing guest instruction.

Professional Expertise

Diane Wasnak has extensive experience in circus, variety performance and stage. Her many talents include musical instruments, stunt performing, animal training/handling and prop design and construction. In 2006, Diane and her canine companion, Bonzer, made their Broadway debut in "Busker Alley" starring Glenn Close and Jim Dale. Diane also starred in Palo Alto Humane Society's "It's A Dog's Day" Educational Video which won a 2015 Telly Award. Her career spans four decades with many more credits in Stage, Film and TV.