



#YouthTheatreTuesdays is an initiative of Youth Theatre Ireland. Due to the restrictions of movement and the gatherings of large numbers due to the COVID19 health emergency, this is a way for our community to stay connected and share practice.

Each Tuesday, youth theatre leaders come together through video conferencing to share ideas, insights and inspirational ways to keep their programmes on track.

These facilitated discussions are open to youth theatre leaders, facilitators and assistants. Each week a new area of discussion is proposed and guests are invited to submit ideas and exercises to be shared with the cohort. A volunteer takes the notes and then they are then shared with the group. These notes are more of an aid memoire rather than an extensive write up of any exercise or idea. Using the medium of Zoom software, the exercises make reference to the functionality of that app. i.e. chat boxes etc.

These are the notes from:

#YouthTheatreTuesdays – Tuesday, May 11th at 12pm

Skillshare: Adapting Workshop Exercises for the Online Space Part 3

Proposal: Our last two sessions looked at ways for us to create meaningful work for the online space.

Returning to our membership, we are looking for facilitators to share some of your favourite workshop exercises used in the online space.

We will look at a skills share model and create for 10-minute slots for participants to road test or share some of their workshop ideas with the group.

Contributors:

Christina Matthews & Taylor Byrne - Droichead Youth Theatre, Drogheda.

Another interactive exercises for your online workshop toolkit

Anna Galligan - Kilkenny Youth Theatre

Three exercises for your online workshop toolkit

Jack Reardon - Stagecraft, Clonmel

Jack will talk about their LOL project. Please view here <https://tinyurl.com/y9bte47m> and demonstrate some editing techniques and run an exercise.

Christina Matthews & Taylor Byrne - Droichead Youth Theatre, Drogheda.

Adapting games to work online

MAFIA

This game involves privately assigned roles and use of varies zoom functions.

Zoom functions required:

CHAT function

RAISE HANDS in PARTICIPANTS/MORE on a mobile

STOP VIDEO - bottom left hand corner

NAME CHANGE -participants can change their names by clicking on the three dots and RENAME themselves

Summary:

The citizens of Bardsville have a terrible problem. CHANGELINGS come to the village every night to murder someone. The group needs to identify who the changelings are.

Some characters include:

Hamlet - can find out people's roles

Friar Laurence - chooses one person who cannot die each night

Romeo & Juliet- cannot live without each other

Puck - has the ability to change character

Facilitator leads the game:

Turn off cameras

Changelings privately decide who to murder & let facilitator know.
Hamlet finds out someone's identity
Friar Laurence chooses someone to save

Cameras on:

Facilitator informs the group who has been murdered: "Someone in Bardsville has been poisoned..."

Everyone gets to vote who it may be. People get to defend themselves. Whoever gets the highest vote goes on trial. – RAISE YOUR HAND is x is guilty. When your guilty or murdered, change your names to DEAD.

Anna Galligan – Kilkenny Youth Theatre

1.HEADWRECK

In order to do this exercise you need to be able to see participant's hands. There are four moves involved in the exercise, using your hands.

FORWARD point your hand forward

UP point your hand towards ceiling

FIST place your hand in a fist close to chest

FORWARD close to chest and bring forward

Practice the four-sequence movement with right hand, then left hand, and then both hands together.

When competent with the moves the HEADWRECK begins.

Your right hand (RH) is one step ahead of your left hand as you complete the sequence.

E.g.:

1.

RH FORWARD

LH (left hand) FIST FORWARD

2.

RH UP

LH FORWARD

3.

RH FIST close to chest

LH UP

4. RH FIST FORWARD

LH FIST close to chest

Began with 8 counts between moves, move to 4, 2, 1. Building speed and precision.

2. PASS THE PEN

Note: Everyone needs a pen for this activity.

This exercise looks at TIME, SPACE and FLUIDITY of movement giving the illusion of one pen passing between all the participants.

The three movements of the pen are UP, LEFT & RIGHT.

Start by passing the pen up until it's out of screen shot. As it moves UP the person who it is passed to moves their hand DOWN to get it.

OPTIONS:

1. Simple version. Person passing the pen calls who it is passing to.
2. Participants can ask for the pen by calling their own names.

If you pass the pen on the right you should receive the pen from the left.

3. HANDS TOGETHER

Standing if possible in front of screen.

Place hand on edges of your visual Zoom screen, as though you are pushing a wall.

As a group bring your hands together at the same time. You should all be moving in sync.

Play with tempo.

This is a nice led-in activity before moving onto more advanced work as Mirrors/French Telephone etc.

It also gets people off their seats, working together on group movement to become more cohesive as a group.

Jack Reardon – Stagecraft, Conmel

LOL by Lee Mattinson. A short film shot through zoom, adapted from the play of the same name by Stagecraft YT.

<https://tinyurl.com/y9bte47m>

Two- thirds of this play is set online. It's about a group of young people discussing the death of their friend by Sudden Death Syndrome. It looks at how they go through grief and how they deal with it in different ways. They decide to have their Graduation and a notification appears from their dead friend on Facebook to say he is attending. Who is taking over is profile?

Stagecraft adapted this play to an online short film. They used Zoom, recorded the sessions and downloaded it, to edit and made title cards to make it look like they were talking on Facebook.

Software used:

Premiere Pro from Adobe Creative Cloud Software from €19.99p.m – includes *Premiere Pro*, *Photoshop*, *Illustrator*, *InDesign* and more...

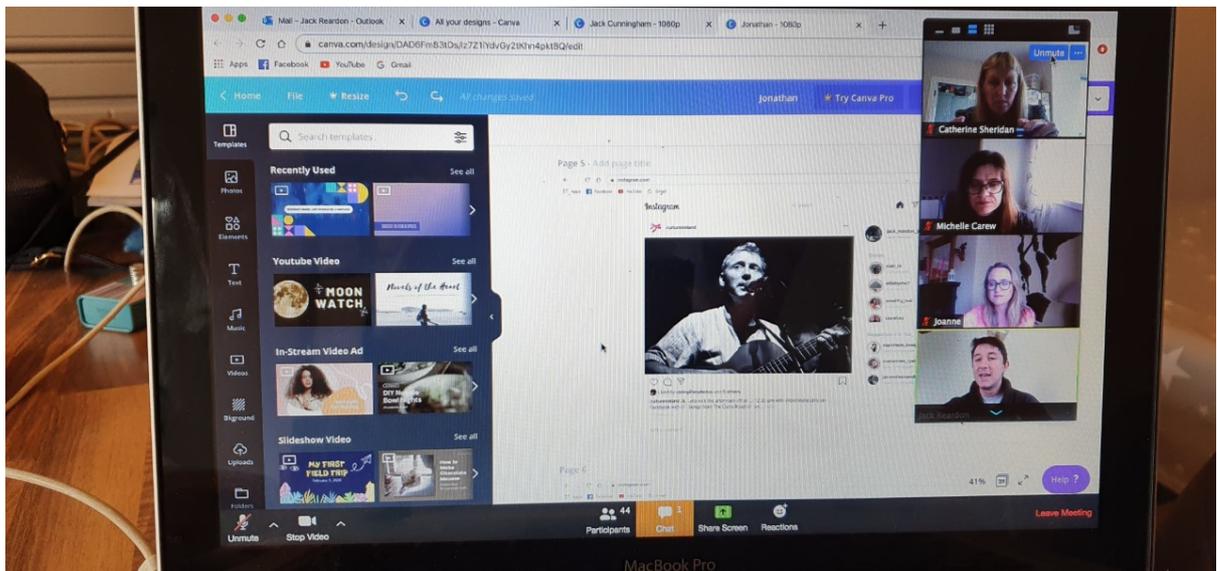
<https://www.adobe.com/ie/creativecloud/buy/students.html>

The Zoom file runs throughout the film, only the top layer is seen by the audience. Then they inserted various other clips, music and they edited and cut.



CANVA free <https://www.canva.com/>

With Canva they could drag shapes and pictures and add text. They were able to mask over photos and images to make it look like the characters' accounts.



For Stagecraft, it's about making work that makes sense to be online.

Work does not have to be quarantine related.

Exercise:

Decide a WHO and a WHERE

Decide three things that happen in the scene.

E.g.:

Leaving cert got cancelled, there is an argument and the scene ends with one saying, "You never understood me anyway."

Something needs to propel the scene forward.

Repeat the exercise and three new things have to happen.

We can tell stories in different ways.

Coming soon - 10yrs old group news Channel.

<https://www.facebook.com/stagecraftclonmel/videos/1656198224544007/>

It's a news channel completely dedicated to good news. It includes movie reviews (The Little Rascals), things to keep you busy in quarantine etc.

Inspired by *Some Good News (SNG)* John Krasinski

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5pgG1M_h_U

Alan King

"You don't have to be perfect at everything."

Michelle Carew

"Look at who is in your group, utilise their skills."

BREAKOUT ROOMS

Initial thoughts on what the future might hold for youth theatres; practical and artistic implications.

Resources

Social Distancing & Hygiene Checklist

Fears and Concerns

Notes from rooms:

Some not looking at starting back until Jan 2021

Others waiting and have to follow Local Authority Guidelines

Others looking at potential of using outdoor spaces over the summer.

*Realistically looking at shorter sessions, more hours and higher rents which then in turn brings along other issues; finance, parental concerns, division of membership, personal time, reimagining of work.

Note:

Tuesday 26th May workshop with *Theatre Uncut*

<https://www.theatreuncut.com/>

Please watch *Bubble* by Kieran Hurley they made in a social distance way.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEIZ63DvRwQ>

Notes kindly taken by Catherine Sheridan, Roscommon County Youth Theatre. Additional information supplied by Alan King from Youth Theatre Ireland.

