

# STAFF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

## “Using Drama to Teach Curriculum”



**Karen De Mauro**  
**Director, Broadway Coach, Teaching Artist**

This workshop provides teachers with hands-on interactive drama and presentation skills exercises that bring the Social Studies, Language Arts and Science curriculums alive. Teachers learn how to structure games, set up simulations, and implement techniques that encourage full class participation for embodied learning of content areas. And the materials packet provides several “ready-to-go” mini lessons.

Creative Drama, as distinct from performance-based theater, encourages the “actor in everyone” to explore ideas experientially. Though the students experience a 5-10 minute “Drama Game” or “Presentation Skills as play, studies show the skills needed to create good presentations are also the skills needed for effective test-taking, live presentation, and academic learning. Among these are: Focus, Motivation, Increasing Language Fluency, Sense of Place and Space, and Problem-Solving. Teachers will learn how drama and public presentation help students to be task-conscious instead of self-conscious in an environment where facts are fuelled by imagination and fun.

### ABOUT THE PRESENTER

Karen De Mauro is Artistic Director of The Acting Center and has been an Artist-In-Residence for over 30 years. Her highly interactive style is drawn from her work with Brian Way, the British child drama expert, from training in Theater Education at Boston University, and from her career as a Broadway acting coach. Prior to her professional career as a director and actress, Karen taught K-12 Drama for 7 years in public schools and also did Faculty Tutorials for Brandeis University and Johns Hopkins. She currently coaches corporate executives, preachers, and ad agencies in “Presentation Skills” throughout the Northeast and South. Karen is also a professional storyteller, and the author of “Acting As A Way”. She has written over 50 original musicals with children and her Creative Drama Workshops reach 3000 students a year. She has directed for the Smithsonian Institution and The United Nations and is the recipient of numerous awards in the United States and abroad. Her international corporate clients include Senior Management teams from Healthcare to Finance.