

# dialogue



The newsletter of London Drama

## An Active Drama Teaching Community!

London Drama is running a successful year.

**MEMBER SERVICES.** We have made key improvements to the services we provide. Chris Lawrence is currently working to extend the London Drama Website. Shortly you will be able to book and pay for courses and books online. He has also developed the E-News providing rapid information on events and theatre promotions.

**COURSES AND WORKSHOPS.** We have explored classroom drama, and a range of creative approaches with Key Practitioners. We have also run much appreciated courses with member theatre companies - Adam Annand/Bubble Theatre, Tim Webb from Oily Cart.

**BRINGING THE MEMBERSHIP into an ACTIVE ROLE.** The next key area we want to develop is active member involvement - putting members in active contact to share skills and ways of organising drama in the present context.

**Member-run Improvisation Workshops.** A key feedback has been members saying how stimulating and rewarding it is as a teacher to take part in an improvisation session at your own level - re-animating the creative skills that attracted us to drama. The very positive response to the Swap-Shop Sessions which Chris Lawrence has set up - where members have participated in

drama activities run by other members - is the value members place on sharing ideas and approaches. There is a wealth of skills among members - both new and experienced practitioners. We plan to extend this into a Saturday Session with a Workshop Leader - but with practical drama run by members - aimed at reconnecting members with their own creative talents, and sharing teaching skills.

**Sharing Our Teaching Experience.** A second key area is the expertise members have in devising and implementing drama across the range of contexts. The next phase of Drama in Schools has various unknowns in terms of curriculum changes - which we shall keep you up-to-date on - but the experts on how to operate creatively within these changes are YOU - the members. We could set up sessions where members share their methodologies in running drama with key groups.

Member-run sessions combining creative drama and practical lesson plans primary/secondary/SEN. There would only be a nominal charge to cover the room hire. We would take notes and issue a series of London Drama Members Resource Booklets.

Reinvigorating the drama network / creating an ACTIVE SELF-SUPPORTING DRAMA TEACHER COMMUNITY.

*Stuart Bennett*

### for your diary



#### LONDON DRAMA Courses & Workshops Summer Term 2009



Sat 16 May; 10-3.30pm

Full Day Workshop:

*Mask Workshop*

*with*

*Trestle Theatre*

led by

**Olly Jones**

at Oval House Theatre

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Sat 20 June; 10-3.30pm

Full Day Workshop:

*Workshop with*

*Complicite*

led by

**Catherine Alexander**

at Oval House Theatre

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We are preparing our courses for the Autumn Term including the *Sharing Our Teaching Experience* event outlined in the piece on this page. Please tell us what courses you would like us to run for you next term. Email us at [londondrama1@gmail.com](mailto:londondrama1@gmail.com)