



**CYNTHIA
ELEK**



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**THE POWER OF CHANT:
BUILDING ORAL FLUENCY AND READING COMPREHENSION**

Workshop Leader: Cynthia Elek
For Teachers of Grades K-2
Available as a 3-hour or 6-hour workshop
Maximum number of workshop participants: 30

Reading aloud with expression and confidence relies on students’ abilities to comprehend a text and develop their oral skills. Through the creation and presentation of chants—rhythmic text—students can extend their understanding of literature and increase fluency in their oral delivery. In this workshop, teachers learn how to build on an author’s text to develop chants, create chants of their own, and guide students in the use of simple movements (drumming, clapping) to enhance text delivery. Participants will enjoy this low-risk, collaborative learning experience that has great benefits for student learning.

Cynthia Elek also offers the following services* for:

Students

- Performances/Lecture-Demonstrations
- Workshops
- Residencies

Teachers

- In-Depth Courses
- Demonstration Teaching
- Coaching in the Classroom

Parents

- Workshops for Parents
- Workshops for Parents with their Children

School Administrators

- Workshops

Others

- Workshops for Librarians
- Teaching Artist Training

*Not all services have been designed or presented by the Kennedy Center.

CYNTHIA ELEK is a musician, actor, writer and arts educator. She holds a Master's of Music in opera performance from the University of Maryland College Park, where she studied in the Maryland Opera Studio under Leon Major, and a Bachelor's in art history from Oberlin College with musical studies in the Oberlin Conservatory. Ms. Elek has been a featured soloist internationally, recorded commercials and voice-overs, designed award-winning brochures, and written arts features and visual arts criticism for regional newspapers. Her five years as a company artist with InterAct Story Theatre, a Maryland-based educational theatre company, introduced her to work with children and teachers. A Roster Artist with the Arizona Commission for the Arts, she conducts residencies and lecture demonstrations for all ages and provides professional development for teachers, parents, librarians and arts educators nationally. Ms. Elek is a Master Teaching Artist with the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts and a member of the Arizona Reading Association.