BRINGING LITERATURE TO LIFE!  
Workshop Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner  
For Teachers of Grades K-6  
3 hours of instruction time  
Maximum number of workshop participants: 45  

In this workshop, teachers discover how to enhance students’ language development, reading comprehension, thinking skills, and appreciation of literature through drama activities that delight and captivate. This workshop explores story dramatization techniques that allow students to retell and reenact a story or a scene in their own words.

For an additional charge, Ms. Kelner’s books, The Creative Classroom and A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, co-authored by Rosalind Flynn, that extend and reinforce the activities demonstrated in the workshop, may be purchased for each participating teacher at a substantially discounted cost.

Note: Lenore Blank Kelner is combining her Kennedy Center workshop Bringing Literature to Life with Imani Gonzalez’s workshop Exploring World Cultures through Music and More to create a course or summer institute that explores reading comprehension through music and drama. Lenore and Imani are calling this combined effort: Story—A Doorway to Culture and Reading Comprehension Explored through Music and Drama (Grades 1-5).

CHARACTER INTERVIEWS: A DRAMATIC APPROACH TO READING COMPREHENSION  
Workshop Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner  
For Teachers of Pre K-Grade 2 or Grades 3-8  
3 hours of instruction time  
Maximum number of workshop participants: 45  

In this workshop, teachers explore an effective and engaging technique for involving students in examining literature and developing their reading comprehension skills. Participants discover how to use an imaginary talk show format, “Books Alive!,” in which students are interviewed while portraying characters from a book. Teachers also learn how to “become” the talk show host and pose appropriate questions that require students to support their answers from the literature, make predictions and inferences about their characters and analyze the text’s theme.

For an additional charge, Ms. Kelner’s books, The Creative Classroom and A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, co-authored by Rosalind Flynn, that extend and reinforce the activities demonstrated in the workshop, may be purchased for each participating teacher at a substantially discounted cost.

DRAMA EVERY DAY  
Workshop Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner  
For Teachers of Pre K-Grade 2  
3 hours of instruction time  
Maximum number of workshop participants: 45  

In this lively workshop, teachers learn a range of developmentally appropriate drama techniques that will capture the imagination and enhance the learning of young children. Through rhythmic chants, story dramatization, and role drama, students develop language, reading comprehension, and thinking skills.

For an additional charge, Ms. Kelner’s books, The Creative Classroom and A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, co-authored by Rosalind Flynn, that extend and reinforce the activities demonstrated in the workshop, may be purchased for each participating teacher at a substantially discounted cost.
MAKING HISTORY COME ALIVE!

Workshop Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner
For Teachers of Grades 3-6
3 hours of instruction time
Maximum number of workshop participants: 45

This hands-on workshop offers a multitude of strategies for integrating drama into the social studies/history curriculum. Participants learn how to use theater games to teach geography, and role drama to transport students to other cultures and time periods. Incorporating these effective strategies into daily instruction motivates students and deepens their comprehension of social studies curriculum.

For an additional charge, Ms. Kelner’s books, The Creative Classroom and A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, co-authored by Rosalind Flynn, that extend and reinforce the activities demonstrated in the workshop, may be purchased for each participating teacher at a substantially discounted cost.

ENGAGE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS THROUGH DRAMA

Workshop Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner
For Teachers of Grades K-5
3 hours of instruction time
Maximum number of workshop participants: 45

In this workshop, participants explore drama’s power to motivate ELL students to extend their vocabulary, deepen comprehension, and enhance self-esteem. A wide range of drama strategies, including rhythmic chants, story dramatization, and role drama, will be demonstrated. These engaging strategies are designed to encourage participation resulting in students developing their expressive and receptive English language skills.

For an additional charge, Ms. Kelner’s books, The Creative Classroom and A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, co-authored by Rosalind Flynn, that extend and reinforce the activities demonstrated in the workshop, may be purchased for each participating teacher at a substantially discounted cost.

TUNING INTO READING: RADIO DRAMA AND PODCASTS

Workshop Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner
For Teachers of Grades 3-8
3 hours of instruction time
Maximum number of workshop participants: 45

Old-time radio dramas transfixed listeners - young and old - through dramatic stories, music, and sound effects. In this workshop, teachers learn ways to immerse students in the reading for understanding, fluency, and expression that practicing and performing their own radio drama requires. Participants learn to guide students in adding intriguing sound effects as they collaborate to create a dramatic podcast to share on the school website.

For an additional charge, Ms. Kelner’s books, The Creative Classroom and A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, co-authored by Rosalind Flynn, that extend and reinforce the activities demonstrated in the workshop, may be purchased for each participating teacher at a substantially discounted cost.

Laying A Foundation: Defining Arts Integration

For Administrators, Arts Specialists, Teaching Artists, and Teachers of All Grade Levels

Many of the Kennedy Center’s professional development offerings are based on a philosophy and practice of teaching called arts integration. So what is arts integration? This session unpacks the Kennedy Center’s definition and gives you the opportunity to uncover the characteristics of quality integration. In addition, the session includes your participation in an arts-integrated lesson and examines how arts-integrated instruction aligns with current learning principles and best practice.

Multiple Kennedy Center Teaching Artists offer the Arts Integration presentation.

An 8-hour version of this presentation is available as a Seminar for Teaching Artist Development. Please contact the National Partnerships office at (202) 416-8621 for more information, or visit www.kennedy-center.org/seminars.
CHARACTER INTERVIEWS: A DRAMATIC APPROACH FOR DEVELOPING HIGHER-ORDER THINKING SKILLS

Course Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner
For Teachers of Grades 1-6
Four-Session Course (sessions are 2-3 hours each)

The drama strategy, Character Interviews, makes predicting, inference and synthesis accessible to students and is even fun. In this four-session course led by drama educator, author, and playwright, Lenore Blank Kelner, learn various acting skill-building activities that lead students to portray characters from a story. Students then answer questions from the characters’ and the author’s perspectives on an imaginary TV talk show. The questions encourage the students to make predictions, draw inferences, and examine the theme of the text. Teachers learn how to create a host for their own imaginary TV talk show and write questions that promote higher-order thinking skills. The course will include fiction and non-fiction texts. A copy of Lenore’s book, A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, is provided to all participants.

ONLINE WORKSHOP

Now sponsors can offer a Kennedy Center workshop that participants can experience together in the same room or access from the comfort of their homes!

CHARACTER INTERVIEWS: A DRAMATIC APPROACH FOR DEVELOPING INFECTION

Course Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner
For Teachers of Pre K-Grade 2 or Grades 3-8
1 hour

In this webinar led by drama educator and author Lenore Blank Kelner, learn a drama strategy, Character Interviews, which allows students to portray characters/objects in a fiction or non-fiction text. Students take on the role of a character, object, or author and then answer questions on an imaginary TV talk show hosted by the teacher. The questions encourage the students to make predictions/inferences, draw conclusions, and examine the theme of the text.

During the webinar, teachers explore an audio-visual, step-by-step guide to the character interview process; observe and discuss photos and videos of the work in the classroom; engage in live interactions with the workshop leader and other participants; and receive a link to the PowerPoint slides. The webinar will be recorded and made available to participants for reviewing after the live session.

Technical Requirements: High Speed Internet access, microphone (built-in or separate), speakers or headphones.

Special Note: Because this is an online offering, two or more sponsors can join together and make this workshop available to their teachers.

COURSES
A DRAMATIC APPROACH TO READING COMPREHENSION

Course Leader: Lenore Blank Kelner
For Teachers of Grades K-2 or Grades 3-6
Four-Session Course (sessions are 2-3 hours each)

Dramatizing a scene or story from a book actively engages students with a text. In this course led by drama educator and author Lenore Blank Kelner, explore short drama activities and simple story dramatization strategies that promote language development and reading comprehension. Students develop the ability to retell the story in the correct sequence, paraphrase the story in their own words, infer appropriate dialogue for characters, and demonstrate their understanding of the author’s intent and theme. These techniques also work well with English Language Learners and students in language immersion programs. Both fiction and non-fiction texts will be used in the course. You’ll receive a copy of Lenore’s book, A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, to take home with you.

This course can be tailored to focus on teaching English Language Learners.

Lenore Blank Kelner also offers the following services* for:

Students
n Performances/Lecture-Demonstrations
n Workshops in Preparation for
  Performance/Exhibit Attendance
n Other Workshops
n Residencies

Teachers
n In-Depth Courses
n Demonstration Teaching
n Coaching in the Classroom
n Action Research Coaching

Parents
n PTA/PTO Presentations/Speeches
n Workshops for Parents
n Workshops for Parents with their Children

School Administrators
n Speeches

Partners in Education Teams
n Program Planning Advice

Other
n Study Group Resources
n Ongoing E-mail Support
n Study Questions and Goal-Setting Coaching

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

LENORE BLANK KELNER is a professional actress, director, author, and educator. Ms. Kelner directed her own educational theater company, for 28 years and for 4 years. served as an actress and director for the Young People’s Theatre at Baltimore’s regional theatre, Center Stage.

In addition, Ms. Kelner serves as an education consultant to the Maryland State Department of Education as well as school systems and schools nationwide. She has trained thousands of teachers in how to integrate drama into everyday classroom instruction. She has worked with students in all grade levels from Pre K through college. She has written three books on drama and education.

Her most recent book, A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, which she co-authored, was published by Heinemann in 2006. She is the recipient of the 2004 Creative Drama Award from the American Alliance for Theatre and Education.