

About Tara

Tara is a theatre artist and international workshop leader. An experienced director and actor, she specializes in improvisation, physical comedy and modern clown, with an interest in playwrighting and singing. Her areas of expertise as a workshop leader are in devising original works and in unleashing an actor's sense of honest and spontaneous play.

Tara received her theatre training from the University of Alberta (B.Ed. Drama) and Grant MacEwan College (Theatre Arts). Furthermore, she has enriched her knowledge of world theatre traditions by travelling to study with renowned theatre practitioners. She loves comedy and has studied the art of improvisation extensively with the internationally acclaimed Rapid Fire Theatre Company in Edmonton, AB and The Upright Citizens Brigade in New York City. Tara is very passionate about the art of clowning and has studied with The New York Downtown Clowns, Christopher Bayes, Mick Barnfather and some of Canada's celebrated clowns: Jan Henderson, Shannan Calcutt and Sue Morrison.

Tara has taught various styles of theatre and numerous forms of dance. She has led workshops and extended intensives with all levels of participants, from junior high to university, as well as educators and theatre professionals. A former IB theatre instructor and staff development leader, Tara implemented and trained staff in cross-curricular practice, thinking maps/learning strategies and best practices. Currently, she is freelancing as a workshop leader with ISTA (International Schools Theatre Association) and is an examiner for the IB theatre curriculum. An award winning educator, Tara's students have received numerous provincial awards and have participated in national competitions. In addition, Tara is writing a resource guide for educators entitled **Permission to Play!**

Currently, she is most excited about her role as the Artistic Director of **Break the Wall Productions**, a devising company that specializes in creating works that explode the conventional audience-actor barrier, and *Break The Wall* between us.

breakthewall.ca

Tara Brodin

Workshop Leader

*Tara's class was fantastic. She created a wonderful safe environment for the students to play and discover in. **If you are ever looking for a physical theatre teacher, Brodin should be at the top of your list.*** ~Chris Lueck, Founder & co-producer of The New York Downtown Clown

*Tara is an incredibly energetic instructor who breathes life and love into the world of clowning. **Your students will be asking when she will come again even before the session is over. Absolutely amazing workshop!*** ~Patty Schubert, Garland High School, Texas

*Tara's workshops are amazing! **My students left breathless with excitement!*** ~Jackie Gordon, Sol C Johnson High School, Georgia

*Not only did my students receive amazing workshops; Tara made sure **I was left with enough material to continue and build upon her work.*** ~Randy Moss, International School of Penang, Malaysia

Tara is a master teacher! ~Anthony Cunningham, The American School of The Hague, The Netherlands

tarabrodin.com

tara.brodin@gmail.com

Workshops

Booking

Please contact Tara directly to book a workshop. All workshops can be anywhere between a few hours to several weeks depending on your needs.

Unleash Your Inner Clown (Modern Clowning)

Year 8-adult

Explore the clown world: honor the now, obey impulse, create, and unleash inhibitions all while wearing the smallest mask in the world. Take pleasure in being ridiculous and find out what is uniquely funny about YOU! **Note: Clown noses cost \$1USD/nose.**

Not Your Mama's Improv! (Keith Johnstone Based)

Year 8-adult

Participants will learn the meaning of the mantra: Listen! Care! Drive the story! Play! as they gain an understanding of basic improvisation concepts, such as building a platform, breaking the routine, raising the stakes, reincorporation, sidetracking, shelving and more.

You Can't Handle the Truth (Unlocking the Text)

Year 10-adult

In this active workshop participants will engage in a plethora of techniques from the teachings of Grotowski and Stanislavski to explore the truth "behind the text."

What Do I Do with My Hands? (Character Incarnation)

Year 8-adult

Participants will learn to let their character inhabit their full body through a series of improvisations and movement exercises.

Playing with the Time-Space Continuum

(Devising/Playwrighting)

Year 10-adult

Using the stimuli of time and space, participants will explore devising techniques and non-naturalistic theatre styles to create their own pieces.

The Four Seasons: Not a Vivaldi Concerto!

(Creative Movement)

Year 7-adult

The body is the actor's most powerful instrument! Participants will develop a new understanding of their ability to express and engage an audience without saying a word.

It's All Greek to Me! (Choral Speech/Physical

Theatre/Voice) Year 7-adult

Participants will sing, act and even dance to explore the expressive power of their voices. A poem will be realized using physical theatre to further free the voice.

Happily Ever After... (Story Building/Devising)

Year 6-12

Learn how stories and scripts are constructed through a series of playful improvisations and exercises.

What Lies Beneath (Understanding Subtext & Text)

Year 5-9

We will uncover what lies beneath the text through exploring the given circumstances, gibberish, and open scenes.

KA POW! (Stage Combat for Beginners)

Year 10-adult

Learn basic brawling techniques: Slaps, grabs, chokes, punches, kicks, falls and rolls. Awareness, balance, control, distance, speed and safety will also be covered.

Sing It Out, Louise! (Musical Theatre)

Year 9-12

Learn how to put the elements of singing, acting and dancing together! Your song will soar as you learn vocal technique, text analysis, and simple movement. This workshop can be designed for large ensembles or soloists.

English On Your Feet! (English Teacher Enrichment)

Year 7-12

This workshop is designed for English teachers that are looking for theatre exercises to enrich their curriculum. We will practically explore Shakespeare, short stories and/or poetry.

Bag of Tricks! (Theatre Teacher Enrichment)

Renew and refresh your teaching practice with this fun and innovative workshop. Participants will practically explore new exercises and units of work.

Spa for the Day (Staff Development)

A reinvigorating professional development experience designed for creating a sense of team in the workplace. This workshop can also be tailored to meet your staff's unique needs.

Visit tarabrodin.com for additional workshops!