

Friday 09 January 15

INTRODUCTION : WHY POPArt?

WHAT IS POPArt?

POPArt is a theatre & performing arts centre, based in the city's capital of cool: The Maboneng Precinct. POPArt has established itself as a leading fringe entertainment venue in Johannesburg, as well as become a favourite performance and training venue for some of the country's top performers. POPArt has been owned and operated by two trained performers since 2011.

WHY USE THEATRE & PERFORMING ART SKILLS FOR COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING?

The basis of the craft of acting and being a good communicator are very similar, thus the skills that an actor uses for their every day work, can quite easily be applied to communication challenges in the workplace. These skills include:

- **LISTENING**: Developing a skill of listening to verbal and non verbal communication from others.

- **RESPONDING:** 'Acting is REacting', training that assists with appropriate response to verbal and non verbal communication from others, as well as taking in and responding to stimuli from the environment.

- **COLLABORATION & TEAM WORK**: Acting cannot work in isolation. The success of the actors work hinges as much on his 'team mates' that join him on stage, as it does on his individual performance.

- EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION: Basic skills to get your message across. The job of the actor is to deliver a message to an audience.

- **EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION:** Basic skills and techniques for better delivery and presentation- from making the most of your vocal apparatus to dealing with performance/ presentation anxiety.

- **PRESENCE & PROBLEM SOLVING:** An actor always needs to be present and in the moment to respond to unexpected glitches as 'the show must go on'. An actor is trained to think and respond on their feet- and this is often where the magic happens.

- **PARTICIPATION:** All of our workshop packages will require participation from team members.

- LETTING GO: Acting teaches us to let go, have fun and enjoy the moment.

We have devised several packages that use the above skills to achieve different outcomes. Make sure you choose the one that is most suited to the challenges that you are currently facing & looking to solve within your team.

WORKSHOP OPTION 1: THIS ART OF MIME

This Art of Mime

This workshop focuses highly on **non verbal communication**, **listening** and **effective message delivery**.

The team will be divided into two equal groups for a 40 min session.

Group A will go to a screening venue in Maboneng where they will watch a 30 min video, 5 WAYS TO LISTEN BETTER. The video addresses the fact that In our louder and louder world, says sound expert Julian Treasure, "We are losing our listening." In this short, fascinating talk, Treasure shares five ways to re-tune your ears for conscious listening – to other people and the world around you.

Group B will stay at POPArt where they will do a 30 min crash course in MIME. At its most basic, mime is mimicry performed by an actor who specialises in the art of narration, portrayal of character, ideas or moods by bodily movement alone. Mime can be defined as the art of silent recreation. The instrument known as the human body is the foundation of everything you do. Knowing how to use, manipulate and express the body is the essence of what the art of mime is all about. Basic skills for creating character, illusion, environment and message will be the focus of this creative skills workshop.

Following this session and a 10 min break, both groups will return to POPArt where Group A will be informed that Group B has lost the ability to speak. Members from the different groups will pair up, and Group A's will be given questions that they will ask Group B's to mime the answer to. These questions should be devised together with the company's manager to ask the reasons behind persistent issues within the department. We have found that, in the absence of being able to talk, the answers to problems are often found through a new form of expression.

This session will be monitored by the facilitators, after which, a 20 minute de brief will follow where we unpack the findings from the Q&A session. We will also chat a bit more about each group's communication experience.

TOTAL DURATION: 2 hours **GROUP SIZE:** 10 pax (min) - 30 pax (max) **COMMUNICATION SKILLS OUTCOMES:** Interpretation, empathetic communication, articulation, effective emoting & physicalisation, patience & listening.

COST: R 13 000

WORKSHOP OPTION 2: IMPROVISATION INTERPRETATION

Improv Interpretation

This workshop focuses highly on interpretation & understanding gaps in communication.

Following a brief introduction to improvisation and the rules of improv, the group will be instructed to 'find a partner' in the room- where one participant will be person A & the other person B.

The pairs will be called up one by one. Person A will be asked to read out a Question for person B. These questions should be devised together with the company's manager to ask the reasons behind persistent issues within the department. Person B will have under 1 minute to give their answer which they will whisper to the improvisors in the "Truth Booth". The improvisors will then create a silent scene or scene in a made up 'foreign' language based on this information. Person A must then interpret the scene and tell the 'audience' what meaning they were able to make from the scene. Members of the 'audience' will also be allowed to give their interpretations.

This fun session will be followed by a debrief focused on the answers to the questions, as well as communication skills learnt.

TOTAL DURATION: 60- 90mins
GROUP SIZE: 10 pax (min) - 30 pax (max)
COMMUNICATION SKILLS OUTCOMES: Interpretation & understanding gaps in communication.
COST: R 13 000

WORKSHOP OPTION 3: IMPROVISATION LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Improv Leadership Course

This workshop focuses highly on **interaction, collaboration, participation, team building** & **overcoming shyness**. In addition, the process should drive creative brainstorming, stimulate problem solving & drive behaviour change through trust and agreement.

The principles of Improvisation and the training games used by improvisors can be very useful in the work environment. For this course, we bring in some of our top friends in improv to run their customised workshop. The workshop format uses short form improvisation and games and exercises to actively engage and develop all participants. Additionally, workshops can be tailor made to deal with specific workplace scenarios and business objectives.

Format as follows:

- Introduction & Explanation 5 min
- Ice breakers / Team building exercises- 10 min
- Agreement- The art of saying yes- 45min
- Listening and responding- 20 min
- Spontaneity & creative brainstorming 20 min
- Summation & Conscious take away.

TOTAL DURATION: 60- 90mins (may run longer in larger groups) **GROUP SIZE:** 10 pax (min) - 30 pax (max) **COMMUNICATION SKILLS OUTCOMES:** Interaction, group participation & team building

COST: R 15 000 - R 17 500 based on size of group.

WORKSHOP OPTION 4: THE ART OF COMMUNICATION & PRESENTATION WITH FIONA RAMSAY



FIONA RAMSAY One of SA's leading actresses, voice coaches, MCs and speakers.

The Art of Communication & Presentation

This workshop focuses highly on communication & presentation skills & techniques

In addition to being one of the country's leading actresses, Fiona Ramsay is South Africa's premiere vocal coaches having worked with names such as Leo Di Caprio, Hugh Jackman, Tim Robbins, Jennifer Hudson & Don Cheadle during their filming in South Africa. She has also recently appeared on the international hit TV series, "HOMELAND".

The thrust of Fiona's workshops is to explore 'how we communicate' - and how to enhance this for optimum results for public speaking and includes:

- Introduction to vocal apparatus
- Why we all speak differently
- How cultural heritage influences communication
- Non-verbal communication and interpretation
- Appropriate communication tools
- The importance of microphone technique and how to use this

The workshop includes a presentation, interactional exercises and improvisational games and can be contained to fit any time frame.

There are several formats for these workshops:

- 2 day intensive workshops (senior management) priced at R 36 500
- 1 day workshop (middle management) priced at R 18 250
- Morning or Afternoon workshop priced at R 14 350
- 2 hour workshop (more general) priced at R 9 350

The workshop can be designed around the specific needs of the company or staff where information on the company - manifesto/policy/ work ethic/pillars of foundation/ etc - is provided.

GROUP SIZE: 10 pax (min) - 30 pax (max). Individual sessions charged separately.

COST: from R 9 350 - R 36 500, inclusive of a light beverage station on the 1 & 2 day workshop

More Information

- All workshops take place at POPArt Theatre in the heart of The Maboneng Precinct (central Johannesburg)

- Workshops can be arranged at your company's offices, but we recommend coming offsite for a full and new experience

- Light snacks and lunches can be arranged through one of 25 restaurants in the surrounding neighbourhood. This will be at an additional per head rate.

- These workshops can be incorporated into full day experientials on request. Experientials can be created and executed by our neighbourhood event partners, SPAZA. They can be devised around the company's corporate and strategic objectives.

FOR BOOKINGS:

- A minimum of 5 days notice are required to book the venue and personnel.

- For company's agendas and objectives to be incorporated into the workshops, a brief is required a minimum of 2 days prior to the workshop.

- A 50% deposit is required to book the date, with the balance of the payment due no later than the day before the workshops.

- For bookings, please email Hayleigh on popartjhb@gmail.com/ call +27 83 245 1040 for more information

- For more information on the work of the POPArt theatre, please visit www.popartcentre.co.za