



ROSALIND  
FLYNN



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## WORKSHOPS

### DRAMATIZING THE CONTENT: CURRICULUM-BASED READERS THEATRE ❖

**Workshop Leader: Rosalind Flynn**

**For Teachers of Grades 5-12**

**3-6 hours of instruction time**

**Maximum number of workshop participants: 30**

Readers Theatre is a rehearsed group presentation of a script that is read aloud rather than memorized. This workshop's activities involve teachers in planning, writing, rehearsing, staging, and assessing of Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre scripts. The focus? Creating and presenting a short script that fulfills a dual purpose—it must inform about a curriculum topic and entertain an audience! Repeatedly reading and rehearsing scripts based on curriculum content increases the likelihood that students will practice fluent reading, retain information, and perform better on assessments. Theatrical skills of vocal volume, expression, and effective use of gestures are also among the goals of this arts integration activity that merges drama, theatre, writing, reading, speaking, listening, and content learning. A workshop packet that contains sample scripts, guidelines for developing scripts and directing presentations, and other resources is included. For teachers who wish to use Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre as a form of performance-based assessment, assessment criteria and tools are also part of the packet. (Special note to Math and Science teachers: Yes, even you will leave this workshop with definite strategies and materials to merge drama with the content you cover!). Sharing ideas and ways to connect artwork to curriculum themes is part of the workshop.

❖ **Note:** Professional Development workshops for teachers listed with this symbol are available to accompany the Seminar, "Planning and Presenting Effective Teacher Workshops."

ROSALIND FLYNN is an educational drama consultant who conducts arts integration workshops and residencies with teachers, artists, and students nationwide. Her Ph.D. research focus was the use of drama as a learning method. At The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Dr. Flynn is the head of the Master of Arts in Theatre Education (MATE) degree program. Her articles on educational drama have been published in *Language Arts*, *Dramatics*, *Youth Theatre Journal*, *Stage of the Art*, *English Journal*, *Teaching Artist Journal*, and *The Reading Teacher*. Dr. Flynn is also the author of two books on the educational uses of drama—*A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension* (co-author Lenore Blank Kelner) and *Dramatizing the Content With Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre, Grades 6-12*.



## COURSES

### DRAMATIZING THE CONTENT: CURRICULUM-BASED READERS THEATRE

**Course Leader: Rosalind Flynn**

**For Teachers of Grades 4-12**

**3-5 Sessions**

Readers Theatre is a rehearsed group presentation of a script that is read aloud rather than memorized; its emphasis is on spoken words, not on staged actions. Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre, or CBRT, is an instructional strategy that combines traditional Readers Theatre with creative writing to increase students' reading fluency, comprehension, and retention of information in any content area—English language arts, foreign language, social studies, or even math and science. With CBRT, students and teachers take the contents of a textbook, work of literature, or any collection of facts and create scripts on these topics, allowing students to learn information outlined in learning standards in a way that is fun and engaging. CBRT is also an arts-integrated instructional activity—participants dramatize content learning by infusing basic performance elements with classroom subject matter. This course's activities involve teachers in the planning, writing, rehearsing, staging, and assessing of CBRT scripts that fulfill a dual purpose—they must inform as well as entertain! Rosalind Flynn, author of *Dramatizing the Content With Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre, Grades 6-12* (The International Reading Association, 2007) presents this three-to-five session course. Participants will receive a copy of Rosalind's book as well as copies of the CBRT scripts generated during the course.

Sponsors must purchase *Dramatizing the Content with Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre, Grades 6-12* for each participant. (A special 35% discount is available through the International Reading Association.)

## ONLINE COURSES

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

### DRAMATIZING THE CONTENT: CURRICULUM-BASED READERS THEATRE

**Course Leader: Rosalind Flynn**

**For Teachers of Grades 3-12**

**4 Sessions**

In this online course, teachers learn how to use Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre (CBRT) in the classroom. CBRT uses readers theatre—a style of theater in which the actors do not memorize their lines, but, instead, sit or stand and read through the script together. With CBRT, students and teachers create scripts using any text or collection of facts from other subject areas and then dramatize the scripts by infusing basic dramatic performance elements. CBRT can help increase students' reading fluency, comprehension, and retention of information in any content area.

In this course, teachers explore an audio-visual, step-by-step guide to the CBRT process; observe and discuss photos and videos of CBRT in classrooms; engage in live interactions with the instructor and other course participants; and share scripts, PowerPoints, and videos of their students' work in CBRT. All online sessions will be recorded and made available to participants for viewing or reviewing after the live sessions. Participants purchase Rosalind's book, *Dramatizing the Content With Curriculum-Based Readers Theatre*, at the discounted price of \$15 to use for this course.

*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 forces and make this course available to the teachers they serve.



## Rosalind Flynn also offers the following services\* for:

### **Students**

- Workshops in Preparation for Performance/Exhibit Attendance

### **Teachers**

- In-Depth Courses
- Demonstration Teaching
- Coaching in the Classroom
- Workshops in Preparation for Performance/Exhibit Attendance

### **Parents**

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

### **School Administrators**

- Speeches
- Workshops

### **Schools**

- Strategic Planning for Arts Integration Schools

### **Partners in Education Teams**

- Program Planning Advice
- Strategic Planning

### **Other**

- Online Workshops for Teachers
- Teaching Artist Training

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