

ACTING & PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

First Semester

Starting Date: October 5, 2009
End Date: December 14, 2009
Classes: Monday at 6:30pm to 9:30pm

Workshop Fact Sheet

Class

Classes are to be held at St. Augustine Church 292 Henry Street New York, NY 10002-4804.

Attendance

NFT asks that if you are going to be late or not attending class, please notify: Ajene D. Washington (Workshop Coordinator) at 212-353-1176 or e-mail a.newfedajene@yahoo.com. Allow enough time to inform each instructor.

Sit-In

Writers will have an opportunity (once a month, or whenever the instructors decide) to "sit-in" on the acting class for approximately a half hour to forty-five minutes. This is designed to help writers in develop their work.

Show Policy

Students will have an opportunity to attend New Federal productions at no cost while attending the Acting & Writing Workshops. We strongly urge students to see the show in the first two weeks of its run. Students will sign-up in writing at least 48 hours for tickets, unless otherwise specified. There will be no exceptions.

Writers' Schedule

Cassandra Medley Oct. 5, 19, 26
Michael Dinwiddie Nov. 2, 9, 23
Laurence Holder Nov. 30 /Dec. 7, 14,

Final Class Project

At the end of the second semester all students will participate in NFT's student recital, May19, 2010.

No classes Oct. 12th Columbus Day or Nov. 16th Audelco Program

Second Semester

Registration Deadline: February 1, 2010
Starting Date: February 1, 2010
End Date: May 10, 2010

No classes President's Day Feb. 15, 2010

INSTRUCTORS PROFILE



ALICE SPIVAK having trained at HB studio with Herbert Berghof and Uta Hagen, Alice Spivak was made a teacher there in 1962, and taught on their faculty for fifteen years. Since that time, she has been a popular free-lance teacher and acting coach, teaching advanced classes in NYC, and coaching on a numerous feature

films, Broadway shows, regional shows, TV mini-series, pilots, etc., receiving technical credits on a few. She also taught Film Directing Workshops and was granted the Indie Award by the Association of Video and Filmmakers in 1977. In 1981, she was on the faculty of NYU Film Grad School, teaching the course, Directing Actors in the 2nd year. In 2003-04, she again taught this course, this time at Columbia Film Grad School. As an actress, she has worked on Broadway, off Broadway and in the regional theatres (receiving the Joseph Jefferson Award in Chicago in 1975 for Neil Simon's PLAZA SUITE). Most recently, she appeared off-Broadway in Ossie Davis' play LAST DANCE FOR SYBIL. On television, audience has seen her in LAW & ORDER, SEX & THE CITY, LAW & ORDER CSI, etc., as a regular on Sidney Lumet's 100 CENTRE STREET. Her book: HOW TO REHEARSE WHEN THERE IS NO REHEARSAL-ACTING AND THE MEDIA" is currently on the shelves.



CASSANDRA MEDLEY

is the recipient of the New York Foundation for the Arts Grant and New York State Council on the Arts Grant. She was a finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Award in Playwriting, and won the 1990 National Endowment for the Arts Grant in Playwriting, the New

Professional Theatre Award, the Marilyn Simpson Award, the Theatrefest Regional Playwriting Award for Best Play in 2001, 2002 Ensemble Studio Theatre 25th Anniversary Award for Theatre Excellence, the 2004 "Going to the River Writers" Life Achievement Award and AUDELCO'S August Wilson Playwriting Award in 2006. Most recently produced plays include: NOON DAY SUN, RELATIVITY. MS. MAE is one of several individual sketches, which comprise the Off-Broadway musical, A... MY NAME IS ALICE. ALICE was first produced at the "Women's Project and Productions," received the 1984 Outer Critics Drama Award, the show continues to play in regional theatres across the U.S. Other works include DEARBORN HEIGHTS, WAKING WOMEN, MAIDEN LANE, and MA ROSE. Her works has been published in Broadway Play Publishing, Samuel French "Best Plays of 1995-96 by Dramatists Play Service and Faber and Faber. She teaches playwriting at Sarah Lawrence College and New York

University, also served as guest artist at Columbia University, the University of Iowa



MICHAEL DINWIDDIE teaching interests include cultural studies, African American theatre history, dramatic writing, filmmaking, and ragtime music. A dramatist whose works have been produced in New York, regional, and educational theatre, Florida A&M University, SUNY Stony Brook, California State University at San Bernardino, and

Universidad de Palermo in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He spent a year at Touchstone Pictures as a Walt Disney Fellow and worked as a staff w he has been playwright-in-residence at Michigan State University and St. Louis University and taught writing courses at the College of New Rochelle riter on ABC-TV's HANGIN" WITH MR. COOPER. In 1994 he was a Sundance finalist, and in 1995, he was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Playwriting. A Gallatin graduate, Professor Dinwiddie earned his M.F.A. in dramatic writing from the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. His course offerings include Migration and American Culture; Dramatizing History I and II; Poets in Protest: Footsteps to Hip-Hop; James Reese Europe and American Music; Sissle, Blake, and the Minstrel Tradition; Guerrilla Screenwriting; and the study abroad course Culture, Art, and Politics in 21st-Century Buenos Aires. Professor Dinwiddie received NYU's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2005.



LAURENCE HOLDER

is noted for writing historical, biographical plays such as ZORA NEALE HURSTON and WHEN THE CHICHENS COME HOME TO ROOST starring Denzel Washington as Malcolm X and Kirk Kirksey as Elijah Muhammad, at The New Federal Theatre (New York City) in 1981. Mr. Holder has won a numerous playwright awards including the Audience Development Committee Award for

Excellence (AUDELCO) twice for WHEN THE CHICHENS COME HOME TO ROOST and M: THE MANDELA SAGA. For the body of his work, The National Black Theatre Festival presented him with both the OTTO for Political Theatre and The Garland Anderson Award. Mr. Holder is also noted for his experimental works including the multilingual BIRD OF PARADISE in 1972 with Ornette Coleman and the URBAN DECALOGUE in 1974 with Jacque Berger. In addition to his work as a dramatist Mr. Holder is the author of several volumes of poetry and 7 novels. He has also acted in ZORA: WHU, which featured Yvonne Southerland as the famed novelist. Mr. Holder is a member of the faculty at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY) where he has taught English in the SEEK Department for the past 25 years.



WOODIE KING JR. New Federal Theatre (NFT) founded by Woodie King, Jr. in 1970 launched in the basement of St. Augustine's Church on Henry Street. In 1974, the construction of the Henry Street Settlement's Louis Abrons Arts Center located at 466 Grand Street was completed. The physical plan included three theatres, rehearsal studios and

modern stage equipment-all of which were made available to NFT. In March 1996, New Federal Theatre's administrative offices returned to St. Augustine's Church, but maintain its production and training programs at Henry Street Settlement's Abrons Arts

Forty years later, it is almost impossible to turn on a television and not see a former student from NFT. Writers first presented at NFT are now part of the literary mainstream of American playwrights. Because of the work of NFT, such playwrights as: J.e. Franklin, Ron Milner, Ed Bullins, Amiri Baraka, Joseph Lizardi, Ntozake Shange, David Henry Hwang, Damien Leake, Genny Lim, Laurence Holder, Alexis DeVeaux, and several others have been brought to national attention. Many actors are starring in television series as well as motion pictures: Jackée Harry, Morgan Freeman, Denzel Washington, Debbie Allen, Phylicia Rashad, Dick Anthony Williams, Glynn Turman, Taurean Blacque, Samuel L. Jackson, Laurence Fishburne, Garrett Morris, Robert Downey, Jr., Sam MacMurray, Debbie Morgan, Lynn Whitfield, Reginald Vel-Johnson, Vondie Curtis-Hall, Ruby Dee, Leslie Uggams, Ella Joyce and so many more who, at one time performed in an NFT production. New Federal Theatre provides educational workshops in playwriting and drama workshops for adults and teens

NEW FEDERAL THEATRE'S MISSION is to integrate minorities and women into the mainstream of American theatre by training artists for the profession, and by presenting plays by minorities and women to integrated, multicultural audiences-plays, which evoke the truth through beautiful and artistic re-creations of ourselves.

STAFF

Producing Director..... Woodie King Jr.
 Company Manager..... Patricia White
 Administrative Assistant.....Herb Donaldson
 Workshop Coordinator..... Ajene D. Washington
 Bookkeeper..... Jessica Schein
 Attorney..... Jay Kramer
 Accountants..... Lutz & Carr CPA/Martin Berkowitz
 Public Relations..... Roger's Artist Media Inc./Charles E. Rogers

PLAYWRIGHTS:

LAURENCE HOLDER, P.J. GIBSON, KERMIT FRAZIER, LEE HUNKINS, NTZONKE SHANGE, PAUL CARTER HARRISON, MICHEAK DIWIDDLE and CASSANDRA MEDLEY

Woodie King Jr.'s

NEW FEDERAL THEATRE HEADQUARTERS

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