

Prime Stage Theatre



Bringing Literature to Life

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Prime Stage Theatre Hosts a Series of Professional Development Workshops That Explore Creative Inquiry**

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**Pittsburgh, PA, August 31, 2011** – Prime Stage Theatre, who for the last 15 years has been entertaining and educating adults, families, students and educators has announced a new series of workshops that explore Creative Inquiry for Literacy Learning.

Their new Education Director, Christina Farrell, will lead the workshops which will provide teachers with the tools to create interactive lessons that excite, engage and expand their students' love of learning. Participants will actively explore theater techniques that can be used in the classroom to spark curiosity and personal meaning-making for teen readers. Teachers will learn how to develop their own inquiry-based lesson plans and attain resources to support ongoing creative questioning in the classroom.

By supporting educators, Prime Stage Theatre is helping connect students to literature by building bridges to their own world. This puts literature into a framework that encourages students' appreciation and understanding.

### **More about Prime Stage Theatre's Education Programs:**

Prime Stage Theatre has been working with teachers and students since 1998 through a variety of programs: student field trip matinees, in-school workshops, resource guides, professional development workshops for teachers, and their Adopt-a-School Program.

### **Creative Inquiry for Literacy Learning Series**

Event: **Introduction to Creative Inquiry**  
Date/Time: Saturday, September 10, 2011 8:30 am — 3:00 pm  
Location: Allegheny Intermediate Unit, 475 East Waterfront Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15120

*How do theater artists use inquiry to explore character, plot and context?* During this workshop explore how actors, directors and designers use questions to guide their dramatization of stories and discover how to use these techniques in your classroom. Participate in interactive explorations of Prime Stage's 2011-12 Season (*The Scarlet Letter*, *The Elephant Man* and *A Wrinkle in Time*) and begin to develop your own inquiry-based lesson plans.

Event: **Engaging Disengaged Adolescents**  
Date/Time: Monday, November 7, 2011 8:30 am — 3:00 pm  
Location: New Hazlett Theater, Allegheny Square East, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

*What does this story have to do with me?* Discover how to spark personal connections with literature by guiding students on a path of discovery. Use literary themes as beginning points for students to form their own judgments and explore theater skills to motivate self-expression. This workshop is held on the set of *The Scarlet Letter* at the New Hazlett Theater.

Event: **Scientific Inquiry Is Not Just For Science!**  
Dates/Times: Monday, April 23, 2012 8:30 am — 3 00 pm  
Location: Carnegie Science Center, 1 Allegheny Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

*What comes first—the science or the fiction? How can we apply scientific inquiry in a language arts classroom?* Prime Stage's production of *A Wrinkle in Time* showcases the intersection between science, art and literature. The exhibits at the Carnegie Science Center will inspire your own scientific questions which will be used as prompts for creative writing. Apply the scientific method to developing literary analytical skills.

Website: <http://www.primestage.com/>

Ticket Info: \$40 per individual workshop  
\$30 per workshop if you attend 2 or more workshops  
\$25 per workshop GROUP RATE for 3 or more teachers from one school

To register, please contact Christina Farrell at 412-805-3308 or [cfarrell@primestage.com](mailto:cfarrell@primestage.com). Please provide your name, school, phone number and the workshop(s) you would like to attend.

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