

TEACHER TESTIMONIALS

“WRITE A PLAY is a great experience for both, teachers and students. The activities you do with the students and the eagerness and enthusiasm you approach them with is amazing. Your energy level was so high that I was exhausted just watching you, but I loved it and so did the students. It's very rare to see my students so engaged, and it is very difficult to keep them as energized and engaged as you guys did. I think WRITE A PLAY is an awesome and rewarding experience that every Language Arts teacher would benefit from.”

– Sheila Almanzar, Educator – Rickards Middle School

“We just returned from our third and final phase in the "Write a Play" program. What an amazing program! The first step going, to see a "real" play, "Androcles and the Lion", was a first for most and those who had seen a play before had never seen it so intimately. The theater allows the audience to feel as if they are part of the action.

The second phase, coming to our school, FST demonstrated that students can be authors. Our students watched FST perform plays written by students. The actors even had the students write a play by adding lines one right after the other. What a confidence builder! We went upstairs to our rooms and the actors taught a lesson about characters, setting, plot. and play format. After they left, that is all my students could talk about so we started writing. What fun. They shared. They acted. They critiqued. They complimented. They couldn't wait for their turn.

This week was the final phase and there was no keeping them down, because they were so excited. They watched the plays and all the way home they we discussing how to improve their writing. Comments such as: "I had too many characters," "they all had a message, I like that," and finally "You could understand the plot so easily."

This program has added so much to my writing program, and as a 4th grade writing teacher, that's saying a lot. See you next fall.”

- Cheryl Harkins, Educator – Willis Elementary

“We had a fantastic day with your "Playmakers" group. Your team is so talented and right on target. Our kids are charged up and writing whenever they get the chance.”

– Nancy Marmesh, Educator – Coconut Grove Elementary

“Students in my class are deeply involved in writing. They write about what they know, feel, and love. They enjoy using their imaginations to create a "masterpiece" that is truly their own. That is why each year the Write A Play program is part of my writing workshop curriculum. It is a motivating program that allows students to write plays about what catches their hearts. They know each submitted play they write will be enjoyed, treasured, and celebrated at Florida Studio Theatre. Participating each year is a joy!”

- Doris Byal, Educator – McNeal Elementary

“I just wanted to take a minute to let you know what a great job your performers did at our school yesterday. I have received many "thank yous" today from both faculty & student body. The students enjoyed the program and are excited about writing and submitting plays. The actors were wonderful and not only did a great job performing and keeping the students involved & interested, but also gave excellent classroom workshops. We all feel that this was definitely a worthwhile activity for our students.”

- Joanne Stankoski, Educator - Port St. Lucie Elementary