

ADEI

Association for Drama in Education in Ireland

Drama In Education and Theatre Practice: What can we learn from past tensions and disputes? An interactive talk led by Mike Fleming and
Struggling with Shakespeare? Developing interest and engagement with the works in upper Primary and lower Secondary classes. A workshop led by Martha O'Shaughnessy

Date: Saturday, 17th April, 2010
Time: Registration 10.30 a.m.
Session 1: 11.00am – 1.00 p.m. (Mike Fleming)
Session 2: 2.00 p.m – 4.00 p.m. (Martha O'Shaughnessy)
Venue: Froebel College of Education, Blackrock. (*directions below)

Professor Mike Fleming is one of Drama in Education's best known and highly regarded authorities in the field. He had fifteen years experience of secondary school teaching before he joined the School of Education in Durham, UK where he is Professor of Education and Director of Postgraduate Studies. He has published books and many papers on the teaching of Drama as well as books and papers on the teaching of English. Some of his most noted works are: *Arts Education and Creativity* (2008); *Starting Drama Teaching* (2003) and *Teaching Drama in Primary and Secondary Schools: An Integrated Approach* (2001). His research interests are in the area of the teaching of Drama and English, aesthetics and arts education, and intercultural education. He is currently part of a group at the Council of Europe producing a language education policy.

This is a chance for us who work in the field, or are just starting, to meet, discuss, ask questions and reflect, under the guidance of a superb practitioner and thinker – something we are not always able to make time for. Indeed, feedback from participants in earlier workshops have asked for just this kind of opportunity.

Martha O'Shaughnessy is a **primary school** principal in Co Mayo and has taught at primary level for more than thirty years, usually with 5th and 6th classes. She has a Master of Studies in Drama in Education from Trinity College, Dublin, and is currently pursuing a PhD there, examining the value of teaching good quality literature in the primary school, using DIE as a methodology. She also teaches Speech and Drama to children aged four to eighteen years.

Martha recalls: *"I remember hating Shakespeare in secondary school and it wasn't until I visited Stratford upon Avon and attended some wonderful productions of his plays that I developed a love for his work. I decided to share that experience with my young pupils. I have brought my classes to visit both Shakespeare's birthplace and The Globe Theatre in London.*

From talking to pupils in secondary school I learned that they perceived Shakespeare as difficult and uninteresting – just reading the prescribed text for examinations and never actively engaging with the language or the wonderful characters. My research showed that by using a Drama in Education approach combined with high quality literature in the form of the works of Shakespeare, 5th class pupils adopted a positive attitude to Shakespeare's works and became actively involved with the language, characters and themes. It is my hope that this appreciation of Shakespeare and his diverse themes and characters will develop when the pupils encounter Shakespeare in 2nd and 3rd level education.

ADEI

Association for Drama in Education in Ireland

Many of us were unaware that such expertise was here on our own doorstep and we are excited that Martha is going to share it with us in her workshop on April 17th.

Cost: If paid in advance: €45/£40
If paying on the day: €55/£50
Full-time students and concessions: €25/£20

Booking: It is always advisable to book early. To book your place please fill in the form below, cut out and post with cheque or postal order to: Dr. Celine Healy, School of Education, UCD, Dublin 4

NOTE: Full-time students and concessions may pay on the day with no penalty *but should still post (or email celine.healy@ucd.ie) the booking form below*. The form is an indication of your intention to attend on the day. *If you later find that you cannot attend, it is important that you please let us know in good time by **texting only** to **086-8206509 (from UK 00-353-868206509)** so that the place can be given to someone else*. If texting, please make sure to give your full name exactly as you put on the form. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £ _____ € _____ (made payable to: ADEI – Sterling cheques accepted).

With thanks to this event's host institution, Froebel College, Blackrock, Co. Dublin

* Link to the Froebel College website which has a map and relevant bus numbers.
<http://www.froebel.ie/contact-us>

* Directions walking from Blackrock Dart station: follow the road around to the traffic lights. Turn right - Café Java is facing you, continue along until you come to Rock Road. Cross at the lights (beside Frascati shopping centre) and turn left onto Mount Merrion Avenue. Froebel College is on the corner of **Mount Merrion Avenue** and **Cross Avenue**, across from McCabes off licence and Straney's shop.