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IDEA Quarterly Newsletter

September 2025

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International Drama/Theatre and Education Association
Associação Internacional de Teatro Educação
Association Internationale Théâtre et Éducation
Asociación Internacional Teatro y Educación
国际戏剧教育协会

This e-bulletin contains important news and updates about our work at the International Drama/Theatre Education Association, as well as our activities and invitations to IDEA events.

Introduction Letter

The Vital Role of Conferences and Congresses: IDEA Endorsed Events



Young IDEA event at the TAC 2025, Singapore, July 2025

The main component of IDEA activities has been for many years the IDEA Congress, the event gathering IDEA members and the drama/theatre and education global Community.

Liliana Galván, the former IDEA Vice President, wrote a most insightful introduction for one of the Newsletters, analyzing with great care the distribution of the IDEA Congresses, ten of them, worldwide. As we are approaching the next IDEA Congress in 2027, in Ankara, Turkey, I would like to focus in this text about the importance and significance of Conferences conducted by our members, endorsed by IDEA, with a special reflection on the two conducted this year, in Athens and

Singapore. It is also important to remember that at the 2025 GCM in Singapore the members have voted positively for the new Guidelines and protocol for endorsement by IDEA, as we have more and more requests each year, a good sign that members in different regions of the world seek recognition for their event.

We all know that events like conferences serve as dynamic catalysts in the field of drama education—fostering critical dialogue, nurturing innovation, and building community among educators, artists, researchers, and learners. These gatherings ignite fresh thinking by bringing together diverse voices—challenging tradition, interrogating entrenched norms, and encouraging experimentation in pedagogy and performance.

The meeting of theory and practice, the exchange of knowledge and know-how, but most of all advocacy for drama/theatre and education are also some of the main focuses of these events. The International Conference “Theatre/Drama & Inclusive Education” (Athens, 21–23 March 2025) organized by IDEA member TENet-Gr (Hellenic Theatre/Drama & Education Network), embodied all these factors. Hundreds of colleagues from all over the world travelled to Athens to share and experience the rich program of the Conference, to meet and communicate in person.

The conference, endorsed by IDEA, and organized in collaboration with UNHCR, universities, and cultural organisations, celebrated the 10-year milestone of the project “It could be me; it could be you”, also an IDEA endorsed project, and completion of the “Theatre Makes Politics” Erasmus+ initiative.

We could vividly experience the importance of drama/theatre education as a pivotal tool for confronting conflict, a place for socio-political reflection, a way of dealing with situations and events, such as world migration, in creative, and most of all, a humanistic way.

One of the main outcomes of Conferences is also the building of networks and collaborations. The new network, under the name of APDEA (Asia-Pacific Drama and Education Alliance) was conceived soon after the

2024 Congress in China, to be formalized as part of the 2025. „All Aboard!- Navigating Crosscurrents of Theatre Arts Practice and Beyond” TAC Conference in Singapore. The Conference, endorsed by IDEA as an IDEA regional Conference, took place in Singapore from 17–19 July 2025, having as a pre and post Conference event the IDEA General Council Meeting. It was organized by IDEA’s association member from Singapore, SDEA. All IDEA members attending as delegates, were grateful for the well organized and remarkably hosted GCM.

The conference called attendees to "All Aboard" as an invitation into the complex "crosscurrents" of theatre arts, emphasizing hybridity, diaspora, representation, and the critical reevaluation of colonial legacies. It encouraged "un-learning," "de-colonizing," and "un-curating" for a new, inclusive, and globally connected praxis.

This gave the Conference a tone of innovation and freshness, as it included reflections on the keynote speeches, cultural encounters with different parts of the city with local artists and drama educators as guides and many others. It was an honor to learn from educators and artists from South-East Asia, to attend their workshops and listen to their paper presentations, thus encountering the rich arts education and especially the drama/theatre education field that is developed and growing in this part of the world.

Both TAC 2025 and the TENet-Gr Conference reflect how drama/theatre and education conferences create spaces for empowerment and support for all the participants, a pool of fresh ideas, empathy, and innovation. By spotlighting multicultural collaboration, inclusive practices, and responsive pedagogy, they reshape the role of drama in education as not merely artistic, but deeply social and transformative.

IDEA is proud to endorse such significant events, and we are looking forward to others in the future.

Sanja Krsmanović Tasić
IDEA President



*IDEA 2027 Congress organizers with IDEA Executive Committee members
Athens, March 2025.*

News from IDEA

IDEA General Council Meeting 2025

The IDEA General Council Meeting took place in July in Singapore. It was hosted by Singapore Drama Educators Association (SDEA). The hybrid meeting took place over two days at Goodman Arts Centre, where our members gathered and discussed various topics including changes to IDEA's Operational Manual, establishing IDEA Awards, future activities and plans of Working Groups, as well as next IDEA World Congress that will be held in Turkey in 2027. Delegates have also joined virtually, via Zoom. Minutes from the meeting will be soon available for all IDEA members.

IDEA is very thankful to all the members who participated in this year's General Council Meeting, as well as to our host, Singapore Drama Educators Association.



Together We Go On Festival 2025

The IDEA Together We Go On Festival 2025 is scheduled to commence at 9:00 GMT+2 on September 27th, featuring an uninterrupted 18-hour program aimed at fostering connections among theatre and drama educators and practitioners. As anticipation builds for this remarkable event, we are pleased to share a message from Miao Bin, Director of Projects at IDEA:

Dear members and friends of IDEA,

As the Director of Projects, I am pleased to extend an invitation to the IDEA Together We Go On Festival 2025, scheduled for September 27th. This longstanding festival has facilitated valuable exchanges among regions and communities within the realm of drama education. Originating in Europe, theater and drama educators will sequentially

share their insights in a relay fashion, spanning from Europe to Africa, Asia, and finally the Americas. Residents in each region are encouraged to invite their acquaintances to participate in the festival online. Your full participation in the 18-hour event over the weekend is highly recommended and promises to be a worthwhile investment of your time.

We express our gratitude to all IDEA members and friends for submitting their proposals and contributing to this festival. The received proposals exhibit exceptional richness in content, posing challenges in scheduling to allow for ample time for each speaker. We are confident that all participants will find valuable and engaging content tailored to their interests at this festival.

*Keep posted for the livestream link posted on the IDEA Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/IDEA.DRAMA>*

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Best wishes,

Miao Bin, Director of Projects

On the next page, a full program of this year's edition of Together We Go On festival is attached.



IDEA

Together We Go On Festival



2025

From 27/9 9:00AM GMT+2

TOGETHER WE GO ON

TOGETHER WE GO ON

- 01 OPENINGSanja Krsmanović Tasić (Serbia), Miao Bin (China)
- 02 We're all Wonders! Celebrating our Differences through Educational DramaDr Edel Fahy (Ireland)
- 03 Helen Finds Her MantleDr. Helen Hallissey (Ireland)
- 04 The Autograph Tree: Poets of rock & revolt Farmakopea Theatre (Serbia)
- 05 From Stage to Screen to the Classroom: An Adaptation of Yaw Asare's Ananse in the Land of Idiots as an Educational MaterialAfricanus Aveh & Solomon Yaw Dartey (Ghana)
- 06 Live-stream of the Popular Participatory Theatre Performance Dr. Miranda Young-Jahangeer (South Africa)
- 07 Drama and Theatre Education in Hungary Dr. Adam Bethlentfalvy (Hungary)
- 08 Project YUANFEN 2025: an embodied exploration of Chinese language and culture through dramaDr. Modesto Corderi Novoa (Spain)
- 09 From Fire to AI: A Children's Theatre Journey from China to Greece Eley Yuan (China)
- 10 Narrative Language and Puppetry Magic in Parent-Child Plays from a Cross-Cultural Perspective: A Case Study of the 2025 Sino-French Collaborative Production "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea"Wang Xinyuan (China)
- 11 Classics Drive Youth Drama Education Practice Deng Hongye (China)
- 12 Drama Assessment in Schools: A Comparative Perspective from England and ChinaLuo Yijia (China/UK)
- 13 The Echoes of the Five Immortals IDEAC (China)
- 14 Fostering Cultural Confidence through Drama in Education: A Rural Innovation Approach with Yi Culture Jiayi Huang & Yijin Wang (China)
- 15 Drama Education In Higher Education (China): taking a non-professional teacher-training programme as an exampleLynn Yanru Liu (China)
- 16 TBN Fredyl Hernandez (Phillipines)
- 17 Now I Read It Like a Novel" _ Theatrical Approaches to Biochemistry Teaching Wanessa B. Machado (Brazil)
- 18 Between Stages and Laboratories: Historical and Philosophical Connections between Science and Theater Ana Clara Dupret (Brazil)
- 19 Plant Play, Grow Meaning-Makers: An introduction to process drama in elementary Tessa Lofthouse (Canada)
- 20 Decolonizing Voice - Whose Voice is it? Matthew Sheahan (Canada)

The final version shall prevail.
Director of Projects: ideadirectorprojects@icloud.com

Together We Go On 2025 Program

Participation Effect. Perspectives on Theatre and Film in Education

The international conference "Participation Effect. Perspectives on Theatre and Film in Education" will take place between 27–29 October and will gather professors, researchers, and practitioners in the fields of theatre, film and related areas to share practices, research, and projects that highlight the use of artistic expression in educational, community and therapeutic contexts.

The program features paper presentations, workshops, performances and keynote speeches by special guests, offering participants the opportunity to gain new insights, exchange ideas and explore innovative approaches to theatre in education. The opening session will welcome distinguished guests including Daniel David (Minister of Education and Research), Liviu Lucaci (Rector of UNATC „I.L. Caragiale”), Ligia Deca (Secretary-General of the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO), Cristina Cusenza (UNESCO) and Sanja Krsmanović Tasić (IDEA President).

Keynote speakers include Dr. Adam Cziboly (Northwestern University), Thalia Goldstein, Ph.D. (George Mason University) and Shoshi Keisari (University of Haifa), who will address topics such as the impact of drama on learning and citizenship, the science of acting, and the psychological and cognitive processes of improvisational theatre across the lifespan.

Across three days, the conference will host three panel sessions per day with four presentations each, as well as seven interactive workshops, two of them led by international guests Jum Rubin and Robin Pascoe. Moreover, each day will end with a performance.

The conference offers the chance to engage with an active international community dedicated to education, art and collaboration.

Registration: <https://forms.gle/WDEs7V7oCeq6asp29>

Schedule:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rghehjSeOFOP0NuPpV4Oj53FsGPdQSVT/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104508391432489590342&rtpof=true&sd=true>

“Participation Effect. Perspectives on Theatre and Film in Education” is an International Conference hosted by National University of Theatre and Film “I.L. Caragiale” Bucharest, Romania and supported by IDEA.



Young IDEA Lab in Bucharest

Between 30th of October and 1st of November 2025, the National University of Theatre and Film (UNATC) in Bucharest will host an intensive Clowning and Physical Theatre Workshop, an integral part of the IDEA Europe Meeting 2025 programme. The workshop is designed for theatre students, young performers, theatre educators and interdisciplinary artists under the age of 30 and explores the theme “The Participation Effect”, focusing on how art can create authentic connections between artist and audience.

The workshop aims to develop bodily expressiveness, creativity and scenic presence of the participants, while providing an intercultural space for young artists from across Europe to meet and collaborate.

Over the course of three days, participants will work under the guidance of Ioana Rufu and Andrei Atabay, specialists in physical theatre and clowning. The programme includes expressive movement exercises,

contemporary clowning techniques, improvisation sessions and the exploration of the performer - spectator relationship.

Designed for a small group of just 15 participants, the workshop will be held in English and it will culminate in a public presentation of the original material developed throughout the sessions.

For registration - <https://forms.gle/NP3AStJGduvMWRjG6>

Call for applications:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/128ZIPIJKvJAsfH8gT0oH71ohUq5zDGHx/view?usp=sharing>



33rd International Creative Drama in Education Congress

Although creative drama is essentially defined as a process art, this process sometimes evolves into a visible product - sometimes planned, sometimes spontaneous. In this transformation, striking a balance between the experiential nature of the process and the expressive and shareable nature of the product becomes one of the most fundamental questions of creative drama in education:

Is the process important or the product?

This question leads the educator to a choice that is not only methodological, but also ethical and pedagogical. However, seeing these

two concepts as opposing poles may also mean an incomplete reading of the multi-layered structure of creative drama.

Because sometimes the sincerity of a process makes the end product more authentic; sometimes the goal of a product makes the process more focused and deeper.

This year's congress theme, "Process or Product?", invites us to rethink this fundamental dichotomy in creative drama as an area of creative tension, not conflict.

We will meet on November 13-16, 2025 at Arı Culture and Art Center!

The conference is organized by IDEA member Çağdaş Drama Derneği and supported by IDEA.

dramacongress.org

INTERNATIONAL CREATIVE
DRAMA IN EDUCATION CONGRESS
**33. ULUSLARARASI
EĞİTİMDE YARATICI
DRAMA KONGRESİ**
13-16 KASIM 2025

SÜREÇ Mİ?
PROCESS
OR ...

**SONUÇ
MU?**
PRODUCT?

ATÖLYELER, BİLDİRİLER
ÇAĞRILI KONUŞMACILAR
BİLDİRİLİ ATÖLYELER
WORKSHOPS, ACADEMIC PAPERS
INVITED SPEAKERS
PRESENTATION WORKSHOPS

KONGRE YERİ
ARI KÜLTÜR SANAT MERKEZİ
ÇANKAYA/ANKARA

IDEA

The Journal of Drama and Theatre Education in Asia – IDEA Congress Special Issues

First published in 2010, The Journal of Drama and Theatre Education in Asia (DaTEAsia) is the only academic journal in Hong Kong that focuses specifically on applied theatre/drama education. All articles undergo a peer-review process before publication. DaTEAsia has earned a respected position in the applied theatre/drama education world, especially in the Asian region.

To mark the 10th IDEA (International Drama/Theatre and Education Association) World Congress, DaTEAsia publishes special features on the IDEA Congress 2024 in Volume 13 and Volume 14. Volume 13 includes a keynote speech, an essay and a conference review of the IDEA Congress 2024. The printed edition of Volume 13 is now available, and the online version is freely accessible on DaTEAsia website.

We also welcome submissions of research papers, as well as articles on practice and reflections, for upcoming issues.

For the latest publications and submission guidelines, please visit our website: <https://dateasia.tefo.hk/index.php/dateasia/index>



Yi-man Au 歐怡雯, Hong Kong Drama/ Theatre and Education Forum, member of the editorial team, with Sanja Krsmanović Tasić, IDEA President

SDEA Theatre Arts Conference 2025: All Aboard! Navigating Crosscurrents of Theatre Arts Practice and Beyond

Titled 'All Aboard! - Navigating Crosscurrents of Theatre Arts Practice and Beyond', The Theatre Arts Conference 2025 invited a diverse community of artists, educators, researchers, and practitioners to embark on a journey through the dynamic intersections of drama and theatre education, community engagement, and performance.

Participants explored critical aspects of theatre arts through a multifaceted lens, challenging traditional paradigms and fostering innovative approaches.

Themes such as hybridity, diaspora, and representation were unpacked alongside efforts to dismantle the legacies of colonialism in the practice of Drama and Theatre.

The conference encouraged a balanced exploration of traditional knowledge alongside the creation of new insights, promoting Southeast Asian perspectives and content.

Drawing inspiration from concepts such as 'un-curating', 'decolonizing', and 'un-learning', TAC aimed to ignite conversations that transcend established methodologies and embrace emerging trends. This platform encourages critical reflection, collaborative learning, and forward-thinking dialogue, aimed at shaping the future of theatre arts education and performance practices in a global context.

Full report from the TAC 2025 can be found on the following link:

<https://bit.ly/sdeatac2025-roundup>

SDEA TAC is recognised as an International Drama/Theatre Educators Association (IDEA) Regional Conference.



News from IDEA members

AGITA Training in Naples

Leisure at School- Una Vacanza a Scuola

AGITA Training in Naples – July 2025

In July 2025 AGITA organized in Naples a training course for teachers, educators, and cultural practitioners interested in exploring practices of educational and community theatre. Spread over several days, the program offered participants the opportunity to share and experience active and inclusive methodologies, capable of transforming the educational relationship into a creative and participatory process.

The focus of the training was the concept of boundary/limit, explored as a pedagogical and theatrical resource: not only as an obstacle, but as a possibility for encounter, dialogue, and transformation. Through practical workshops, theoretical reflection, and the sharing of experiences, the trainers guided the groups in discovering the value of theatre language as a tool for both personal and collective growth.

The course represented an important stage in AGITA's training journey, reaffirming the association's mission: to spread theatre culture as an educational, social, and cultural resource, capable of creating bonds and shaping the future.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram (AGITA TEATRO), or visit our official website: www.agitateatro.it

<https://www.agitateatro.it/una-vacanza-a-scuola/>



News from Drama Australia

Drama Australia welcomes international colleagues to join us for our national conference 28 Feb-1 March, 2026 to be held in Perth, Western Australia and hosted by Drama West. The conference theme is PLAY. The theme of PLAY includes playing with design, practitioners, process, and play texts of all kinds. The conference will also begin the celebrations of Drama Australia's 50th year. The [call for contributions](#) is now open, so please consider coming to PLAY in WA.

If you'd like to know a little about the richness of conferences down south, you can read about last year's combined conference held in partnership with Whakaari Aotearoa / Drama New Zealand in Paul Gardiner's recently published article: [A Reflection on the Kia Tonui –](#)

[Flourish Conference Through Found Poetry](#). This and other recent drama research publications can be accessed online in [NJ: the National Journal of Drama Australia](#).



PRESENTER
EXPRESSION OF
INTEREST NOW OPEN

A Theatre Camp at the enchanting Mount Pelion

From August 26 to 31, 2025, the 22nd Theatre Camp of the Hellenic Theatre/Drama Education Network was held at Pelion.

150 artist-teachers, educators of all levels, actors, dancers, theatre scholars, musicians, visual artists, theatre educators, and teenagers shared unforgettable moments in the Agios Ioannis campsite!

Experienced facilitators accepted our invitation and organized morning and afternoon workshops.

The 4 morning Adult Workshops were led by Simos Kakalas, Dimitra Syrou, Socrates Pappas and Polina Kremasta. The morning Teen Workshop was led by Nikoleta Dimopoulou and Sonia Mologousi.

The afternoon Adult Workshops were led by Aglaia Naka, Anna Stavromitrou, Gianna Tsokou, Sylvia Misirlis, Christina Stouraitis, and the afternoon Teen Workshop was led by George Moschos, Dimitris Konetas.

In addition to the workshops, the program included storytelling, performances, activities, trekking, games, music, dance, morning yoga, and discussions.

We met, created together and discovered that we all fit everywhere!

This journey of connecting art with education and life does not end... we will meet again!

Hellenic Theatre/Drama Education Network



News from CODE

Art Fusion First Five

In its effort to support elementary generalist teachers in Ontario, Canada who have been tasked with teaching drama and dance, the Council of Ontario Drama and Dance Educators (CODE) has released Art Fusion First Five – a series of 5 drama lessons for Primary (age 6-8), Junior (age 9-11), Intermediate (age 12-14) and Senior (age 15-18) students. The lessons are designed to support teachers in launching their program in a way that is anti-oppressive and which provides guidance for new teachers about the foundations of drama, classroom management and assessment.

Find them here: <https://www.code.on.ca/dramatic-arts-art-fusion>



Full steAm Ahead CODE Conference 2025

In a world that urgently needs critical thinkers, creative problem-solvers, and bold innovators, Drama and Dance are more vital than ever. Yet, these essential disciplines are often overlooked in education systems dominated by STEM. This October, CODE calls for a shift to steAm—where the Arts play a central role in shaping the future.

At this conference, we invite educators and artists to explore how Drama and Dance can lead the way in imagining and building inclusive, creative futures that are not dystopic, that remove barriers and create space for everyone, and how critical these arts are to making sense of our world.

With an incredible slate of presenters, an insightful keynote, and a boundary-pushing Masterclass, we hope you'll consider making the trip! Join us in Kitchener, ON, Canada from October 17-19 for the Full steAm Ahead CODE Conference.

www.codeconference.ca

2025 CODE CONFERENCE



10/17-10/18 • DoubleTree by Hilton • Kitchener, ON

12th Children and Youth Theatre Festival Mater Terra

The 12th Children and Youth Theatre Festival MATER TERRA will be held on 22–23 November 2025 at the Czech Centre in Belgrade, Serbia. The festival gathers teachers, theatre and drama pedagogues, experts, children, and all who believe in the power of theatre to nurture personal growth and enrich society.

MATER TERRA provides a platform for drama groups from elementary and high schools, as well as non-formal drama studios, working with children aged 5–19, to share their creative work. The festival is non-competitive, aiming to foster collaboration, support, and development rather than rivalry. Leaders and teachers receive constructive written evaluations from the festival's expert team.

In addition to performances, the program includes workshops, expert training for teachers, and a presentation of the book on Czech Drama Education, edited by colleagues from the Creative Drama Association (Sdružení pro tvořivou dramatikou). Members of this association will also join the expert team. It is an example of possible collaborations between IDEA members.

The festival is organized by the Centre for Drama in Education and Art (CEDEUM).



Launch of the Asia Pacific Drama Education Alliance (APDEA)

At the Theatre Arts Conference in Singapore this July, Kelly McConville (Drama Victoria) and Yonglun Liu (SDEA) spoke on behalf of a dedicated team of colleagues from Drama Australia, Drama New Zealand, and TEFO to introduce this exciting new initiative.

APDEA is designed to support and enhance Drama education across the Asia Pacific, creating opportunities for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and professional growth. This alliance aims to spotlight the transformative power of Drama in classrooms and communities throughout the region.

For more information and to learn how you can get involved, visit: <https://www.dramavictoria.vic.edu.au/asia-pacific-drama-education-alliance-apdea/>



News from IDEA Director of Projects Miao Bin

Drama Education for Children in the Community in Chengdu

For the fourth consecutive year, Muse Drama Education Lab founded by Miao Bin, Director of Projects of IDEA, brought drama workshops to

Luxelake Community in Chengdu, a city located in Southwest China. July this year, 18 children from different schools in this community spent seven half-days under Eley Yuan's guidance, creating the puppet play "The Dragon's Journey" from scratch. Continuing the environmental theme from the previous two years, the production incorporated four elements of traditional Chinese intangible cultural heritage, enriching both its content and form. These children, ranging from first-grade elementary to second-grade middle school students, included some with no prior theatre experience and others who had participated in these drama workshops for three years. Their growth through drama reaffirmed the value of theatre in children's development and demonstrated how such projects can engage young people in community action.



Drama Education for Rural Teachers and Students in Henan Province

The Guixin Charity Foundation's inaugural drama summer camp held a rural teacher drama education training program in Ruyang, Henan Province from August 11-13. Miao Bin and Eley Yuan, both members of IDEA, provided systematic drama education training to 20 rural teachers

from the provinces of Henan, Guizhou, Hunan, Jilin, and Shandong. The camp officially commenced on August 14, where 100 children embarked on a four-day drama creation journey guided by rural teachers. The 20 teachers were divided into five groups, each leading 20 children in collaborative drama creation. Over four days, these rural children created five plays: The Ugly Duckling, The Magic Brush, Learning to Play Chess, Moving Mountains, and Pulling Up Seedlings to Help Them Grow. In recent years, drama education has been gaining traction in rural areas. Miao Bin has provided training support in drama education to nearly 200 rural teachers across 8 provinces.



A Drama Education Workshop for Primary School Teachers in East China

Zhejiang Zhipu Public Welfare Foundation has provided three years of drama education support to Tongpu Town Central Primary School in Ruian City, Zhejiang Province. It has appointed Miao Bin, Director of Projects of the IDEA and Director of Drama Education Research Center at Tianfu No.7 High School, as the drama education mentor. The project has now completed the first phase of training seed teachers and has entered the

second phase, with the number of participating teachers increasing to 12. In early July, Miao Bin conducted a two-day intensive training session in Hangzhou for these 12 teachers, systematically training them in drama curriculum design and drama creation. Miao Bin activated the teachers' bodies through Qingcheng TaiChi and drama games, then guided them through autonomous drama curriculum design. After these two days of learning and building on the practical experience accumulated over the previous year and a half, the teachers were able to efficiently achieve the learning objectives. The project will continue for another year and a half. With the support provided over the past year and a half, the school has now incorporated drama education into its curriculum and will host its inaugural Drama Education Forum in the second half of this year.



The Newly Established Department of Drama Education at Northeast Normal University

Northeast Normal University has discontinued its former Broadcasting Department and established a new Department of Drama Education. The

university invited Miao Bin, Director of Projects of IDEA, to Changchun, Jilin Province, to conduct workshops for the undergraduate, master's, and doctoral students in the Department of Drama Education. Located in Changchun, Jilin Province, Northeast Normal University is a university directly under the administration of the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. Currently, an increasing number of universities in China are placing greater emphasis on drama education, aiming to cultivate talent in this field, yet there remains a shortage of outstanding faculty. Northeast Normal University has demonstrated firm resolve and taken concrete steps in developing its drama education program. Miao Bin delivered a lecture titled "Building a Foundation for Holistic Development Through Drama Curriculum", introducing students to the global evolution of drama education from a "Global Perspective on Drama Education" and analyzing current trends and challenges in the field. Subsequently, he conducted a workshop titled "Dramatic Creation Based on Classic Texts", enabling participants to practically grasp the concepts and methods of drama education through hands-on learning. Miao Bin also taught a specialized course on drama in education to undergraduate students in the Elementary Education Department at Chengdu College of Arts and Sciences.



The Project "Acting for Climate Change" On Stage

"Acting for Climate Change" is an environmental project that aims to discuss the theme of climate change in a creative way, using Drama as a pedagogical tool. In July, a group of students from different parts of Brazil performed the original play "Neverland" to put this important issue on stage. Written and directed by Elaine Lavezzo, the play performance happened at the Célia Helena Theatre, one of the most prestigious Brazilian Drama institutions. The project won the Creativity in Education for Climate Change Award and is supported by the Global Institute of Creative Thinking and Unesco.



Project YUANFEN

Project YUANFEN 缘分 2025 is an embodied exploration of Chinese language and culture through drama, led by Modesto Corderi Novoa, Ph.D., a member of IDEA. In July 2025, he conducted a series of in-person drama education workshops in Beijing and Shanghai, grounded in his 2024 publication (<https://doi.org/10.3390/arts13010002>). This pioneering research engages with China's evolving cultural ecosystem by

integrating performative inquiry into language and heritage education. Rooted in the concept of *yuánfèn* 缘分—a deeply felt philosophy of interconnected destiny—the project leverages drama to bridge linguistic divides, foster intercultural intimacy, and reclaim embodied knowledge in an increasingly digital world. It also proposes innovative pedagogical frameworks for transmitting intangible cultural heritage. By situating drama at the intersection of language, culture, and lived experience, Project YUANFEN 2025 reimagines education as a transformative, relational practice—one that honors tradition while embracing contemporary modes of expression.



The Zavosh Theater Group: From Training to Performance

With fifteen years of continuous activity, the Zavosh Theater Group has established itself as a pioneering force in theater education and production in Isfahan. By founding a specialized academy, the group

trains acting students by integrating teachings from world-renowned masters and synthesizing performance traditions from both Eastern and Western cultures. Zavosh's distinct artistic identity is shaped by its strong focus on Persian mythological, cultural, and narrative themes.

Following extensive training programs, the group engages in dramaturgical work with classical Persian texts, reinterpreting them through contemporary approaches. One of their recent productions, titled "Zero Day," was directed by Mohammad Javad Sajjadi, the group's head and director. Created in collaboration with ACCR France, this work addresses the water crisis in the Middle East and is inspired by "Tishtryasht," an ancient Persian literary and sacred text dating back centuries before the Common Era. Another notable production, "Proto-Eon: The Emergence of Identity," directed by Erfan Ayati, offers a physical theater adaptation of "Aja'ib al-Makhluqat" (The Wonders of Creation and the Oddities of Existence) by Mohammad ibn Mahmud Hamadani, a 6th-century Persian writer. This performance draws on ancient Persian bodily rituals and cryptographic traditions.

By producing dozens of works and training hundreds of students, Zavosh has transformed Isfahan into a vibrant and knowledge-driven center for theater in Iran.

IDEA's individual member Erfan Khatibzadeh has been involved with the Zavosh Theatre Group through their educational and performative workshops.



Counter-Narratives by Chetna Mehrotra

Chetna Mehrotra, an Artist-Researcher and an Applied Theatre practitioner and IDEA member from India, led a micro-credit program for B.Sc. II Psychology students at Kumaraguru College of Liberal Arts & Science, Coimbatore, India (KCLAS) "Applied Theatre in the Intersectionality of Healing and Education." Grounded in embodied learning, it integrated participatory theatre and dialogic methods to interrogate systemic structures, caste, patriarchy, colonialism, that shape psychological well-being in India. The program foregrounded community-based healing through the articulation of silenced traumas, while addressing under-recognised domains such as geriatric care within shifting socio-cultural landscapes.

Through public presentations, participants examined structural inequalities including caste-based trauma, colonial epistemologies,

menstrual stigma, and pedagogical hierarchies. Decolonising strategies incorporated folk songs, regional music, and community-oriented Playback and Forum Theatre adapted to local contexts. The theoretical framework drew from Homi Bhabha, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Augusto Boal, Paulo Freire, and Wilhelm Reich, situating applied theatre as a critical praxis for psychosocial transformation, cultural affirmation, and the dismantling of hegemonic educational models.



COUNTER-NARRATIVES

Investigating power, beliefs and postcolonial futures through participatory theatre and performance arts

Ethics and Values x Psychology

Open to all faculty and departments



JULY
25

TIME
2PM - 4PM

Venue
DANCE FLOOR

Drama Boreale Conference in Helsinki: Call for Presentations

Drama Boreale Conference in Helsinki, Finland Call for presentations is open now!

“Drama Boreale” is a triennial conference on drama and theatre pedagogy. The 2026 conference’s theme will be “Forces and F(r)ictions.” The conference will take place from 6th to 8th August 2026 at the Theatre Academy, University of Arts in Helsinki, Finland.

We welcome all forms of performing arts consisting of presentations, workshops and combinations of these to join us to represent as many kinds of operational contexts as possible. We will get together and share our views and practices that bring the relevance of artistic activities and research into sharp focus. We will also reflect on experiences of friction-filled processes, risk-taking and failures.

Call for Presentations is open until 30 November 2025. Please read the full call [here](#), where you can find the link to the submission form.

The Drama Boreale2026 conference is organised by Uniarts Helsinki’s Theatre Academy in cooperation with FIDEA, Arts Academy of Turku University of Applied Sciences, the City of Helsinki Education Division and Laajasalo Institute.

For more information: [Drama Boreale 2026 | Taideyliopisto](#)



News for IDEA Members

Welcome to New Members!

IDEA is happy to welcome to our community our new member – **Yijia Luo** from China.

We are looking forward to many years of successful collaboration and mutual engagement.

IDEA Website Reconstruction

In the recent period, IDEA has been involved in a thorough reconstruction of its website, to make it more user-friendly and accessible to our members around the globe.

Please bear with us, and for any information you need, please write to the IDEA Administrator at ad.ideadrama@gmail.com



Membership Fees

IDEA depends financially only on its members. We invite all our members (associations, organisations or individuals) to pay their 2025 membership fee through two easy steps explained on the following link: <https://tally.so/r/mBIW5N>

FAQ about membership fees can be accessed [HERE](#).

If you have any questions, please contact IDEA Administrator: ad.ideadrama@gmail.com

Not an IDEA member but interested in becoming one? For this inquiry contact IDEA Administrator at ad.ideadrama@gmail.com

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For further information visit the IDEA website: www.ideadrama.org

Contact: IDEA Administrator: ad.ideadrama@gmail.com

This message was sent to you by IDEA International Drama/Theatre and

Education Association