

London Friday 01 February 2019

**Keynote**  
educational

# A LEVEL DRAMA

## CONFERENCE FOCUS

*This NEW conference, is designed in the light of the 2018 examinations. The revamped conference will focus on challenging areas, how to boost grades and how to meet the demands of the questions for examination success in 2019.*

This NEW conference is designed to support and inspire students to achieving outstanding grades at AS and A Level. Through a variety of practical tasks, quizzes, reflection and opportunities to explore brief written tasks, students will develop and consolidate the knowledge and skills required to meet the demands of the A level specifications offered by OCR, EdExcel, AQA and Eduqas.

## KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

### Susie Ferguson

Susie has taught Drama for 18 years, and was a Head of Drama for 8 years. She works regularly with the Learning departments of the National Theatre and Old Vic, as well as designing GCSE and A Level production and practitioner notes for Disney Theatrical Group. This year Oxford University Press will publish 5 National Theatre play texts for which Susie has written the classroom notes and activities.

### Tara Elie

Tara is senior lecturer in Secondary Drama Education at the University of East London, as well as an experienced teacher of Drama in secondary schools both in England and abroad. She has a proven record of achieving outstanding examination results. She is a highly experienced presenter and is also currently Artistic Director of Swedart Productions.

## BENEFITS

- A fully interactive day: watch and participate in practical rehearsals and performance
- Gain insight and confidence in how to approach the written exam to meet the demands of the mark scheme with high quality exam responses
- Understand how to improve answers about set texts and live productions
- Take away a comprehensive set of notes which can be used as part of your revision
- Learn devising techniques that can immediately be applied to practical work in school or college



## PROGRAMME

## TIME

### What the examiners want

10.15 – 10.30am

- The examiner's perspective: what examiners are looking for in each component – an overview
- What we actually mean by social, historical and cultural context and how to use it – a whistlestop tour!

### Exploring Live Production Analysis

10.30 – 10.45am

- Actors will perform a short extract from a published play

### After the performance, we will explore

10.45 – 11.15am

- What to look for in a performance and how to focus on the demands of the question
- How to use drama-specific vocabulary correctly and impress the examiner
- How to analyse and evaluate, as well as describe, what you saw to get top marks
- Increasing confidence in structuring a response to a question: ideas that work
- The evaluation challenge: how to make really effective judgements

Break

11.15 – 11.30am

### Devising Skills – practical workshop

11.30 – 12.30pm

- Develop new devising skills in response to a stimulus and theatre you've seen during the course
- Top tips on how to record valuable information during the devising process to make written reports evaluative and analytical

### Your set text

12.30 – 1.00pm

- How to develop a confident and creative overview of a set text
- Top tips for approaching an extract in rehearsal
- From rehearsal to exam room: writing about your ideas to impress the examiner

Lunch

1.00 – 1.40pm

### Fixed Post-Lunch Session

1.40 – 2.00pm

- A Level – Ask the Expert

### Design skills – developing confidence for every student

2.00 – 2.45pm

- Creating effects for the audience: how contemporary designers are engaging and challenging today's audiences – examples from key theatre designers of the past 30 years
- How to use social, historical and cultural context to inspire high quality designs
- On your marks, get set, MAKE! Creating a design concept in 15 minutes

### Performance skills

2.55 – 3.30pm

This final practical session allows students to experience exercises used by professional actors and directors in the rehearsal room to develop the practical skills required to achieve highly in AS and A Level performance

- The Director's perspective – using examples from contemporary practitioners to approach a scene and get the best from performers
- Understanding the examination criteria to improve marks in performed devising and scripted work

### Plenary and next steps

3.30 – 3.45pm

- Next steps – effective revision strategies for AS and A Level exams

## GCSE Drama

London 18 January 2019

Code: 7217

## GCSE Dance

London 24 January 2019

Manchester 31 January 2019

Code: 7117



## IN-SCHOOL

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