“We appreciate the many ways that Geva reaches out to the classroom and helps make literature come alive in a most positive way.”
-Participating Teacher

**How to arrange your Touchstone Workshop**

Select a couple of dates and times that suit your schedule. Proposing more than one available date will help us to accommodate your request. Workshops will be scheduled subject to availability, and we recommend requesting a workshop at least three weeks in advance.

The cost per workshop is $175. Workshops are limited to 30 participants. If you have a larger group, please be prepared to schedule multiple workshops. It is possible to add additional workshops on the same day for $125 per workshop.

For more information, or to request a workshop, please contact:

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*Education Administrator*

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Keeping the arts alive, and inspiring students to connect theatre to their classrooms, is part of Geva Theatre Center’s educational mission – yes, even in today’s difficult economic climate – and we think we’ve found an exciting, affordable answer.

Our Touchstone Workshops provide unique Geva experiences for elementary, middle and high school students to feel the pulse of living, breathing theatre, and use those theatre skills to inspire them in their other subject areas. We hope that these workshops can be used as “touchstones” to introduce students to the powerful role that theatre can play in all of our lives.

“Each of these interactive workshops sparkles with wonder. Students experience art differently when they are up on their feet and active. They take ownership of the art, viscerally feel its success, and more readily apply it to other areas of their lives.”

Skip Greer, Director of Education

In addition to supporting New York State Learning Standards in English Language Arts and the Arts, each of the programs enhances the understanding of the work done on the Geva stages. Geva’s workshops are facilitated by a roster of professional Artist Educators.

Workshops range from 45-60 minutes to fit within a school-day period. The cost per workshop is $175 and participants are limited to 30 per workshop.

**Storytelling Through Theatre**
*Grades 4-6, 60 minutes*

What are the ingredients of a story? Where do stories come from? What is the audience’s role in the creation of a story? Using Chris Van Allsburg’s *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* as a springboard, this workshop introduces the actor’s tools for creative and expressive communication. Students will investigate character through movement, voice and action and imagine a story with beginning, middle and end. As they express ideas on their feet, both visually and verbally, students discover the joy of reading, writing and performance.

**Shakespeare’s Words Are Action**
*Grades 7-12, 45 minutes*

“How can I understand what it means?” This workshop is designed to help teachers and students “Speak the speech,” breathing life into some of the greatest words ever written. This workshop explores Shakespeare’s language and gives students new approaches to interpreting and delivering text as well as uncovering textual clues to discover more about Shakespeare’s fascinating characters.

**Improvisation**
*Grades 7-12, 45 minutes*

“But how am I supposed to know what to say?” Improvisation improves focus, cooperation, trust, spontaneity and attentiveness. These tools can be used to invent and explore characters and stories, enhance communication skills, build teamwork and deepen a performance. This workshop aims to build confidence for individuals and groups by introducing simple guidelines for improvising effectively.

**Behind the Scenes with Geva**
*Grades 7-12, 45 minutes*

Ever wonder what goes into producing a play? This workshop takes a peek at the magic behind the scenes, revealing many of the elements that go into the full production of a play. Students follow the creation of a performance, from the initial selection of a script through the conception and realization of the scenic, costume, lighting and sound design that ultimately enhance the performances of actors bringing a play to life on the stage.