

Core Training Competencies (Updated Apr 10, 2019)



(a) Readiness

1. Motivated to learn.
2. Adequate language skills.

(b) Performance

1. Knows how to perform the basic PT forms: fluid sculptures, pairs and stories/scenes.
2. Has ability to collaborate with other actors by accepting and giving offers on stage.
3. Can use body and voice to express feelings and situations.
4. Is familiar with the geography of the stage with awareness of sightlines for both teller and audience.
5. Willingness to be playful and open to the unknown.
6. Has a basic understanding of storytelling composition.

(c) Conducting

1. Has tried conductor role.
2. Be familiar with the basic interview questions: Where, when, who, what happened, and how does the story end.
3. Awareness of conductor's basic functions shaping and capturing the essences of the stories.

(d) Music

1. Knows three basic functions of PT music - framing, story-shaping, and emotional expression.
2. Has explored use of voice and instruments.

(e) Ritual

1. Always honor and respect the narrative from the teller's perspective.
2. Familiarity of PT stage: music station, conductor and teller chairs, actor neutral area, performance area, cloths station, audience, etc.
3. Knowledge of arc of show: Opening, short forms, long forms, reflective closing
4. Awareness of actors' presence: Neutral positions, transitions between forms, not asking questions during show, acknowledgment after forms.
5. Familiar with five-part sequence of enacting story: Interview, set-up, enactment, acknowledgment, and check-in.

(f) Personal

1. Connects with others.
2. Self-awareness of feelings & expression.
3. Willingness to be the teller.
4. Willingness to take risks and to accept imperfection.
5. Maintains curiosity of alternative perspectives.

(g) Social Change

1. Awareness and acceptance of difference.

(h) Theory

1. Basic PT history and application
2. Importance of warm-up and group process
3. "Three circles" of Playback Theatre: Social Interaction, Ritual, & Artistry

4. Educational path of PT proficiency.

(i) Ethics

1. Awareness of PT code of ethics
2. Review code of ethics: Respect section.

For reference: [Code of Ethics for Playback Theatre Trainers and Practitioners](#)

*Note: Core training is not enough to be proficient in Playback Theatre.