

Conducting 1 Competencies (Updated Apr 10, 2019)



(a) Readiness

1. Has taken Core Training or has been an active company member for six months.

(b) Performance

1. Is audible on stage.
2. Has presence onstage.
3. Awareness of sightlines: teller, performers & audience.
4. Can give, take & share focus.
5. Confident grasp of basic forms: fluid sculptures, pairs and stories/scenes.
6. Familiar with other forms: tableau, 3-sentence story, etc.
7. Can express self physically with effectiveness.

(c) Conducting

1. Has experienced conductor role.
2. Knows basic questions in conducting story: Where, when, who, what happened, and how does the story end.
3. Can ask follow-up questions during interview to uncover essences, shape the story, inform and inspire the actors.
4. Can create rapport with teller and audience.
5. Can maintain connection to performing team during interview.
6. Able to manage simultaneous focus of audience, teller, actors, musician.
7. Understand the difference between the functions of emotion-based short forms (warming up the audience), narrative-based short forms (begin exploring narrative experiences), and narrative-based long forms (inviting fuller stories).
8. Has understanding that different types of questions invite and shape the content into the various forms.

(d) Music

1. Knows the basic functions of PT music.
2. Willingness to use instruments and voice at music station.
3. Can execute basic music for set up of scenes (long form).

(e) Ritual

1. Understanding stage set-up: position of teller chair, actors' line, music station, etc.
2. Appropriate use and timing of "Let's Watch."
3. Understand the arc of the playback show: Intro, short forms, long forms, reflections, closing.

(f) Personal

1. Can communicate with integrity from a place of curiosity and honest communication.
2. Can accept deep emotion from others.
3. Can connect self to context, relating to the audience using intuition and spontaneity.

(g) Social Change

1. Acknowledges own privilege or lack of privilege.
2. Understands how difference affects stories.
3. Has awareness of and listens for different voices in the group.

(h) Theory

1. Understands basic values of Playback.
2. Understands rules of ritual.
3. Has been exposed to concept of red thread and narrative reticulation.
4. Awareness of social dynamics and subgroups.
5. Familiar with the basic components of a narrative: story-sense, beginning, middle, end, turning point, etc.
6. Understand the spectrum between safe - unsafe, relevant - irrelevant and how it affects openness and trust in a group.
7. The different roles and functions of conductor: communicating between audience and performer, determining pace and highlighting emergent themes, and guiding the collective journey of the audience.

(i) Ethics

1. Understands the importance of respectfully attuning to the context.
2. Review code of ethics: inclusiveness, emergence sections.

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