

**WHO WE ARE:** Founded in 1974, CAT is an educational outreach program at The City University of New York (CUNY), and in partnership with CUNY's School of Professional Studies, offers the nation's first M.A. in Applied Theatre – using theatre to facilitate, educate and activate.

**WHAT WE DO:** Theatre cultivates a unique skill set that is indispensable for the 21st Century – primarily communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity. CAT enriches the lives of our participants through a pedagogy which combines educational drama strategies with research-based educational theories and practices to create participant-centered, interactive drama experiences. The needs, strengths and learning styles of participants inform the actual content of workshops. CAT offers a diverse array of programs for traditional and non-traditional populations.



After-school Adolescent Literacy

With over **four decades** of dedicated school and community partnerships, youth and professional development programs, and our award-winning Youth Theatre, CAT has reached over a million students, educators, parents, community members and teaching artists in New York City, across the nation and around the world.

CAT is a 501(c) 3 Nonprofit Organization.  
To support CAT's work, visit: <http://bit.ly/SupportCAT>

Lynda Zimmerman  
Executive Director

[www.creativeartsteam.org](http://www.creativeartsteam.org)



*"I believe that this program should be an integral part of the ELA curriculum. It helps to bring concepts that may be abstract in nature to a more tangible concept that students can relate to. I believe it impacts their social-emotional as well as academic growth."*

Literacy Teacher



*"I come to CAT for the chance to create real, powerful, raw theater for a purpose - a chance I couldn't get anywhere else in NYC."*

Youth Theatre Member



*"CAT helped our students think about the economic consequences of NOT going to college."*

High School Teacher



*"I am positive that this program has helped each and every one of my students become better readers, better writers, better speakers, better communicators, and more well-rounded individuals."*

Shakespeare Festival Teacher

# CREATIVE ARTS TEAM

**CUNY** THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



## THEATRE FOR CHANGE

*"So many of the activities encouraged teamwork and positive peer interactions... the interplay between the students was great to see. I think they really learned how to work together and be tolerant."*

- NYC Teacher



## CREATIVE ARTS TEAM

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## Interactive Drama Workshops & Residencies for STUDENTS

### ANTI-BULLYING INITIATIVE

**Elem/MS/HS • In/After-school • PW • PD**

Explore bullying prevention and conflict resolution by promoting a more inclusive, respectful community.

### EMERGENT & ADOLESCENT LITERACY INITIATIVES

**EC/Elem/MS/HS • In/After-school • PD**

Enhance students' literacy, communication and critical thinking skills while supporting NYC Common Core Learning Standards.

### HEALTH & WELLNESS INITIATIVE

**HS/Alt/Coll • In/After-school • PW • PD**

Promote healthy choices and risky behavior prevention, including Mandated HIV/AIDS Curriculum and Evidence Based Interventions.

### COLLEGE READINESS & SUCCESS

**HS/Alt/Coll • In/After-school • PW • PD**

Explore the "soft skills" that are crucial to succeed in college and in life; including setting realistic goals, balancing priorities, effective communication, and the "4 A's": *Attitude, Aptitude, Accountability and Adaptability.*

### SOFT SKILLS FOR WORKPLACE SUCCESS

**HS/Alt/Coll • In/After-school**

Explore interview skills, setting realistic expectations, balancing priorities, managing stress, effective communication, and more.

### NYC STUDENT SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

**Elem/MS/HS • In/After-school • PD • Performances**

Teachers & students build theatre and literacy skills through Shakespeare and come together for an annual Festival in an off-Broadway theatre.

### CAT YOUTH THEATRE

**MS/HS • After-school • Performances**

Young people work with professional theatre practitioners to create original theatre in this free afterschool program—*no audition required.*

## Interactive Learning Opportunities for EDUCATORS & PRACTITIONERS



Early Learning Mentoring Residency

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*On-site or at CAT's Training Center:*

- Approaching the Common Core through Drama
- Using the Danielson Competencies in Your Classroom
- Introduction to Drama Strategies for the Classroom
- Exploring Social Issues through Drama
- Understanding Diversity/Promoting Cultural Tolerance through Drama
- Exploring Violence/Bullying Prevention through Drama
- Approaching Literacy through Drama
- Exploring Literature through Drama
- Shakespeare in the Classroom
- Storytelling & Emergent Literacy in the Early Childhood Classroom
- Puppets & Puppetry in the Early Childhood Classroom
- ...AND MORE!

### M.A. IN APPLIED THEATRE

*CUNY School of Professional Studies*

Sequential, ensemble-based program for students interested in the use of theatre to address social and educational issues in a wide range of settings. The program stresses the unity of theory and practice and is linked to CAT's professional applied theatre work.

CAT is an approved NYC DOE Vendor.  
CAT is an approved NYSED CTLE Sponsor.

## Engagement and Achievement: Indicators of CAT's SUCCESS

- **IMPROVED LITERACY:** 94% of participating teachers reported an increase in students' vocabulary, writing and speaking skills, as well as empathy, collaboration, self-expression and creative problem-solving.
- **IMPROVED CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS:** 75% of teachers reported an increase in their non-traditional students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- **HIGHER RETENTION:** 95% of participating CUNY students reported that they are more aware of the resources available to help them achieve their academic goals and stay in school.
- **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** 100% of Shakespeare Festival teachers reported an increase in their students' self-expression, empathy, ability to collaborate and solve problems creatively.
- **CALLS TO ACTION:** More than 200 HIV prevention program participants seek HIV/STI testing each year.
- **PARENT ENGAGEMENT:** 100% of Parent Workshop participants said CAT helped them better understand their child's development and felt more prepared to talk to their children about sensitive issues.
- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** 97% of participating teachers said our workshops helped them address diverse learning needs in their classrooms.



College & Adult Program

### POPULATIONS & OPTIONS

EC: Early Childhood, Head Start, Pre-K  
Elem: Grades 1-6  
MS: Grades 6-8  
HS: Grades 9-12  
Alt: Alternative/Non-traditional  
Coll: College  
PD: Professional Development  
PW: Parent Workshops

For more information about our programs, contact:

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In 2015-2016, 17,600+ young people, teachers and parents from every community in New York City benefited from CAT programs. Share this information with your school and bring CAT to YOUR classroom!