



National School of Drama Theatre in Education (TIE) Course

PROSPECTUS

2013-14



[T.I.E WING] TRIPURA



National School of Drama

Theatre in Education (TIE) Course (2013-14)

Theatre in Education Company: Introduction

The National School of Drama started its Theatre in Education Company to work with children in 1989. This theatre with children differed from earlier endeavours as the TIE principle was grounded in reflection on processes of participation and awareness of theatre as a mode of education involving experiential learning. TIE is an essentially an interdisciplinary approach, with inputs from theories and techniques of child development. Besides working with children directly with a focus on opportunities for spontaneous responses,

improvisation, story-making and performance, the mandate of TIE has been to promote the value of drama as a classroom teaching methodology. With over 30 productions, several workshops in schools with children and teachers and annual summer theatre workshops, the TIE Company has grown and become a visible presence in the field of working with children.

Theatre and Education

With a growing importance on getting children to classrooms and the international emphasis on universal education, it is imperative that we address the multiplicity of learner interests and the reality of classroom diversity. In addition to being inclusive and moving away from a 'one size fits all' model, classroom processes need to link with individual learners despite large numbers. Theatre is a useful medium as a class room resource. Theatre, in the educational context, can be a lively and enjoyable method of exploring and learning about a number of other subjects, while simultaneously being a

separate subject and discipline in its own right. As a process in the curriculum it offers unique educational opportunities thus opening up the learning space to participation beyond the printed text. Besides being a method and a subject, theatre is both a process and a form. At its core it encourages inquiry and critical thinking in children and essentially approaches all issues from the child's perspective. Theatre allows educators to learn ways that allow children to grow naturally with freedom to enquire, explore and experiment.

The Tripura Project

The Tripura Project is a unique effort of NSD to make theatre in education an independent discipline that encompasses several other disciplines while relating to a child's education and creative expression.

The idea of developing a course for theatre in education is to enliven the education experience by preparing professionals who are well versed in theatre methods having a deep understanding and knowledge about children. Through the course content student teachers will learn that theatre can aid in understanding personal and human experiences and they will also learn how to allow children to enter into the reality of imaginary situations and characters. Besides subject matter children can explore emotions, attitudes, opinions and relationships and can accommodate these abstract concepts more readily by representing them in a dramatic and therefore more concrete form.

The course will teach that drama makes constant demands on a person's imagination and develops a child's ability to think more effectively. A student involved in a theatre activity engages in several thinking skills, such as: inventing, generating, assimilating, discriminating, inducing, deducing, reasoning, analyzing, accommodating, selecting, refining sequencing,

and judging. Such an experience will enable theatre artistes to contribute in socially responsible ways to the growth of children. The course has been designed in a multi-disciplinary manner to equip students with theatre expertise while they are familiarised with the basics of theatre history, design, content and stagecraft. What makes this course different is that alongside foundation courses in child development, the student of theatre is provided with linkages between the potential of drama and the classroom. There is a strong attempt to provide holistic training by rich, field-based experiences where prospective student teachers will be guided to integrate their learning and create mediated environments and understand applicability for children. The guided fieldwork and hands-on work will enable students to experience the significance of theatre as a tool for communication and a medium that addresses multiple competencies, making learning enjoyable for children.

Objectives

The course will enable students to:

- Learn the fundamentals of theatre
- Teach theatre at the elementary school level
- Create theatre with children in different contexts
- Be familiar with characteristics of children and the multiplicity of childhood
- Use theatre as a learning resource and enliven parts of curricular content
- Perform for children and open opportunities for dialogue
- Use elements of theatre and local folk traditions for childhood concerns and contemporary issues
- Work with differently-abled children
- Act as children without infantilizing or diffusing childhood concerns
- Work with teachers in workshop situations to promote the use of theatre in the classroom.
- Work with children and conduct workshops
- Be eligible for higher studies in applied theatre overseas

One Year Residential TIE Course

- It is a one year post-graduate certificate course in Theatre in Education
- It is a course that balances an understanding of education, child development and theatre and attempts an interface between them.
- Classes will start at 8 am and go on up to 6.30 pm. Class timings could extend if and when required.
- Training will be divided into two terms.
- Basic qualification required for admission to the course is graduation in any discipline with experience of theatre or education or both.
- 20 students will be admitted to the course from within Tripura and rest of the country (Minimum 50% from Tripura).
- The medium of instruction will be Hindi and English but the performance languages could be these and/or local languages.
- Those selected for the course will be given a monthly scholarship of Rs.4500/- per month, for a period of one year.
- The early morning sessions will largely be dedicated to physical work, voice, music and related skills.
- Morning (forenoon) sessions will be largely assigned to theory classes.
- Post-lunch sessions will be for practice oriented work.
- Training will include reading, watching theatre, films, video programmes and analysis of these on a regular basis.

- It will also include regular visits to schools, observation of and interaction with children and teachers.
- Students will be required to take some work-in-progress based on a curricular subject in schools on a regular basis. These would include story-telling, puppetry, Grips theatre performance, Participatory plays or performances.
- In the final term they will have to intern with a school where they will be required to take classes which will be monitored by instructors, which would be the basis for suggestions, improvements and further progress.
- They will also have to plan and conduct summer theatre workshops with children under the guidance of mentors. These workshops will include devising a play that will be performed, with children.
- The assessment will be ongoing, based on written exams, projects, demonstrations and viva with evaluation of practice-oriented work by subject experts.
- Students will be required to have 90% attendance throughout the course, failing which they might be asked to discontinue the course.
- It is a residential course hence all students will be provided hostel accommodation for which they have to pay a certain amount. Staying in the hostel is compulsory.
- Students are required to bring loose working clothes for practice classes.

Syllabus Outline

The Core subjects in the one year programme would be

1. FOUNDATION IN THEATRE	Total Marks- 100
2. ACTING AND DESIGN PRACTICE	Total marks- 350
3. CHILD DEVELOPMENT	Total Marks- 200
4. CONTEMPORARY INDIA & CHILDHOOD	Total Marks- 100
5. THEATRE FOR CHILDREN	Total Marks- 200
6. DRAMA IN EDUCATION	Total Marks- 250
7. PERFORMANCES	Total Marks- 200
8. THEATRE WORKSHOP WITH CHILDREN	Total Marks- 100

Most of them would have both theoretical and practical inputs and would be divided into two parts to be taught in different terms.

Faculty

Experts in the respective field of specializations will be conducting the course. They will be drawn from National School of Drama and other related institutions.



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