



rAiz'n futures

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As apart of our continuing youth engagement, **b current** presents our artists in schools program: rAiz'n futures. A successful spin off of the rock.paper.sistahz 7 pilot program, artists in schools, brings **b current's** dynamic artists of colour to classrooms all over the city.

- We offer a wide variety of workshops in various disciplines ranging from dub poetry to movement and voice for grade 7 to grade 12.
- Our facilitators (from our performance ensemble) have created imaginative and creative classes for one day workshops or for a longer multi week process which could culminate in a final performance.
- We are flexible and open to your ideas, so if you have an idea for workshop, we would be happy to work with you to make that happen. See below for a brief description of all the workshops and instructor profiles.

about **b current**

b current is a small not-for-profit arts company based in the heart of Toronto/Canada. We present and support performance works emerging from the Canadian and international Black Diaspora.

The company emerged eighteen years ago as part of the independent work of Artistic Director, ahdri zhina mandiela – an award winning and celebrated performance artist, writer, and director.

“mandiela... top theatre artist of 2005”- Now Magazine

Each season we present the **rock.paper.sistahz festival** in the spring, run ongoing training activities for young and emerging artists, as well as develop or produce & present at least one work for the theatre stage.

b current has nurtured the talents of many successful performing artists. Some of our alumni include: Trey Anthony and Ngozi Paul (producers and actors in Global television's *Da Kink in My Hair* TV series), dbi.young.anitafrika (Dora award winning performing artist and recent finalist for the RBC performing artist award) Weyni Mengesha (award winning director).

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416 533 1500
outreach@bcurrent.ca



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Workshop Costs

Workshop costs are as follows:

\$85 - 1 workshop session with 1 facilitator

\$115 - 1 workshop with 2 facilitators

\$165 - 1 workshop with 3 facilitators

Negotiable – Multi day workshops with 1 or more facilitators, please inquire for more information

Workshop costs include preparation time. If there are any additional materials required, we will let you know in advance as additional costs may apply. Please contact outreach@bcurrent.ca for more info.

List of Workshops

Senior 1 (Grade 7 – 9)

1. Takes A Whole Village with Marika Schwandt & Sedina Fiati (and accompanist)

Combining music, movement and text, students will create a 5 minute piece together in this multi disciplinary workshop.

2. 1 + 1 = 3?, Movement + Sound = Character with Sedina Fiati

Creating a character, using both their voices and their bodies is the central theme of this workshop. Students will get an introduction to character development through dynamic games and activities.

3. Everyday Play, Improv for Life with Tanya Pillay

Improv isn't just for fun. It has practical skills which are applicable to everyday life. Students will explore fun improv games, build their confidence and learn self awareness in relation to group dynamics.

4. Write right, with your body with Navneet Rai

Who says that writing is only done at a desk? In this movement based creation workshop, students will learn how to use what they are feeling to create an original short story and share it with the class!

5. Dub Yourself with Deidre Walton

Dub poetry, originally from Jamaica, is a poetic form for the people, by the people. Students get an introduction to dub poetry and a chance to create their own dub with poet and performer, Deidre Walton.

6. Voice o matic with Deidre Walton

Raise your voice and speak, sing or just make a noise! Students get an opportunity to explore how to use their voices in a myriad of ways to contribute to a group performance piece.

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7. Shakespeare 2day with Maxine Marcellin

Shakespeare sucks, some students think. Not so! This workshop will make the Bard accessible and fun for students.

8. In the Actor's Studio – Toronto Style

Like the show on Bravo, In the Actor's Studio, students will get the opportunity to interview a real life working performer and learn about the ins and outs of the performing arts industry in Toronto.

9. All in One with Everyone with Amanda Nicholls

Use your voice, your body, use your imagination! Students will be introduced to a multi disciplinary approach to collective creation in this workshop.

10. Improv to Improve that Character with Meghan Swaby

Improv is more than just the game of Freeze. In this workshop, students will be introduced to how to use improvisation to create layered and rich characters.

Senior 2 (Grade 10 – 12)

1. In the Actor's Studio – Toronto Style

Like the show on Bravo, In the Actor's Studio, students will get the opportunity to interview a real life working performer and learn about the ins and outs of the performing arts industry in Toronto.

2. All in One with Everyone with Amanda Nicholls

Use your voice, your body, use your imagination! Students will be introduced to a multi disciplinary approach to collective creation in this workshop. See #8 of workshop descriptions for more info.

3. Improv to Improve that Character with Meghan Swaby

Improv is more than just the game of Freeze. In this workshop, students will be introduced to how to use improvisation to create layered and rich characters. See #9 of workshop descriptions for more info.