



"Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but we rather have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit."

-Aristotle

Overview

In a world that appears to have forgotten how to tell compelling stories, the solution rests not in the escalation of spectacle, but, rather, in the guiding of young artists in their call to become more fully human. To that end, StoryStrong boasts a unique dramatic acting/writing training process that can be integrated into the intellectual, human, apostolic and spiritual formation efforts already taking place within Catholic or Christian high schools, homeschooling communities and Newman Centers. With this training, students will learn to infuse their lives and their stories with a fresh, powerful vision of humanity.

Furthermore, by using story structure as a lens through which they may more easily evaluate their lives and the world around them, students will be encouraged to undertake a difficult journey with us—one that will likely deepen their entire notion of reality.

StoryStrong brings together groups of teens and young adults who will meet several hours a week for one semester or a full academic year. Once able to self-identify as the hero of their own personal stories, students will be asked to engage in a series of increasingly layered improvisational exercises inspired by the late Sanford Meisner. These exercises are intended to help each participant grow in craft, in virtue, and in their capacity for authentic relationship.

Our approach is unique insofar as we strive to give equal if not greater attention to the spiritual and moral development of the teenager as we do to the cultivation of dramatic craft. We believe that for one to be a good dramatic storyteller, he must first desire goodness for himself. And since the whole person, body and soul, is the actor's instrument, and the very subject of the dramatic writer's craft, it follows, then, that the more human an artist is—the more she lives in harmony with her transcendent

purpose—the more resonate her performance and her words will be to a world starving for some reminder of its own humanity.

Summer Dramatic Acting/Writing Intensives in Phoenix

If you are looking for a unique experience for yourself or for your high school age teen this summer, look no further. StoryStrong, a newly founded dramatic arts apostolate in Phoenix, will offer three two-week acting and writing training programs, grounded in the work of Sanford Meisner and deepened by a distinctly Catholic view of the human person. You may register online at StoryStrong.org

DATES

June 4-15th from 9:00am to Noon (High School Teens)

July 16-27 from 9:00am to Noon (High School Teens)

July 16-27 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm (Young Adults)

PLACE

Mount Claret Retreat Center

466 N. 54th Street

Phoenix, AZ 85018

PRICE

\$325.00 for two weeks/ten days of classes; three hours per day.