



# BibleTheater

## NEWSBEAT Magazine

Evangelizing Through The Arts

Winter 2014

**THE WOMAN  
WITH THE  
ISSUE OF BLOOD**



Marjorie Cameron

**Backstage on  
Productions**

**Vignettes**  
Texas Style

**Theatrical  
Make Up**

**Academy of the  
Nations**

**Creating Design  
on a Dime**

**BTBN.TV**

**Global Praise**

**Kingdom  
Poets**

# 'Called To Purpose'

**“What manner of love is this that a man would lay down his life for his friends”**



*Coco Thompson*

The harvest is ripe and the work in God’s vineyard is plenteous. Let us walk in the boldness of the Spirit as we present the gospel through dance, drama, music, poetry and creative arts.

We are expanding our reach into new territories. So, **let’s grab the vision of global evangelism in a time** where the world needs the light!

Sit back, buckle up your seatbelts, and get ready to ride into Purpose!



# Behind the Scene @ *B.T. NEWSBEAT*



**Coco Thompson**  
Executive Director  
BibleTheater  
Editor-In-Chief

## Editorial Staff

CEO and Founder



**Apostle Mary Banks** is the founder and global visionary for **BibleTheater** Kingston Jamaica



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Interim  
Editorial Staff Manager  
Baton Rouge, LA



**Mae Robinson**  
Deputy Director  
BibleTheater  
Jamaica



**Phillip Davis, Jr.**  
Creative Director  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

## Tell the Vision!

In this second issue, we share the vision of Apostle Mary and the editorial staff of **BibleTheater** and its artistic evangelistic outreach.

Your feedback is important to us, as this magazine is created with you and the needs of your Academy in mind—to nurture and to grow you up into Purpose! If you are interested in working on this team of dedicated staff, contact Phillip Davis, Jr. at [pdavisjr22@gmail.com](mailto:pdavisjr22@gmail.com) today.

A digital copy of this magazine can be found at [www.bibletheater.com](http://www.bibletheater.com)!



**Janay Shannon**  
Columnist  
Indiantown, FL



**Primes McGirt**  
Deputy Director  
BibleTheater  
Trinidad and Tobago



**Jasmine Johnson**  
Columnist  
Belle Glade, FL



**Sylvia Robinson**  
Columnist  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

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*“And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.”*

—Habakkuk 2:2

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Houston, TX

# Gospel Through The Arts

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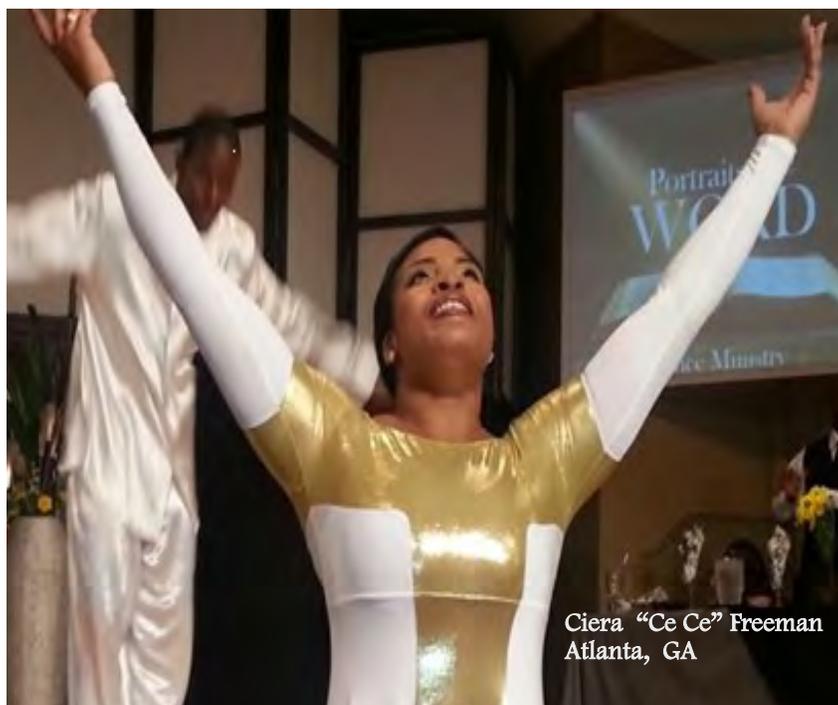
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### FUN

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2014



Ciera "Ce Ce" Freeman  
Atlanta, GA

### From the Director's Desk

This is an all out call out for a core group of global leaders for BibleTheater. We have a great opportunity to advance the Gospel of the Kingdom through the arts: drama, dance, poetry, music, and the creative arts. **Your measure is needed!**

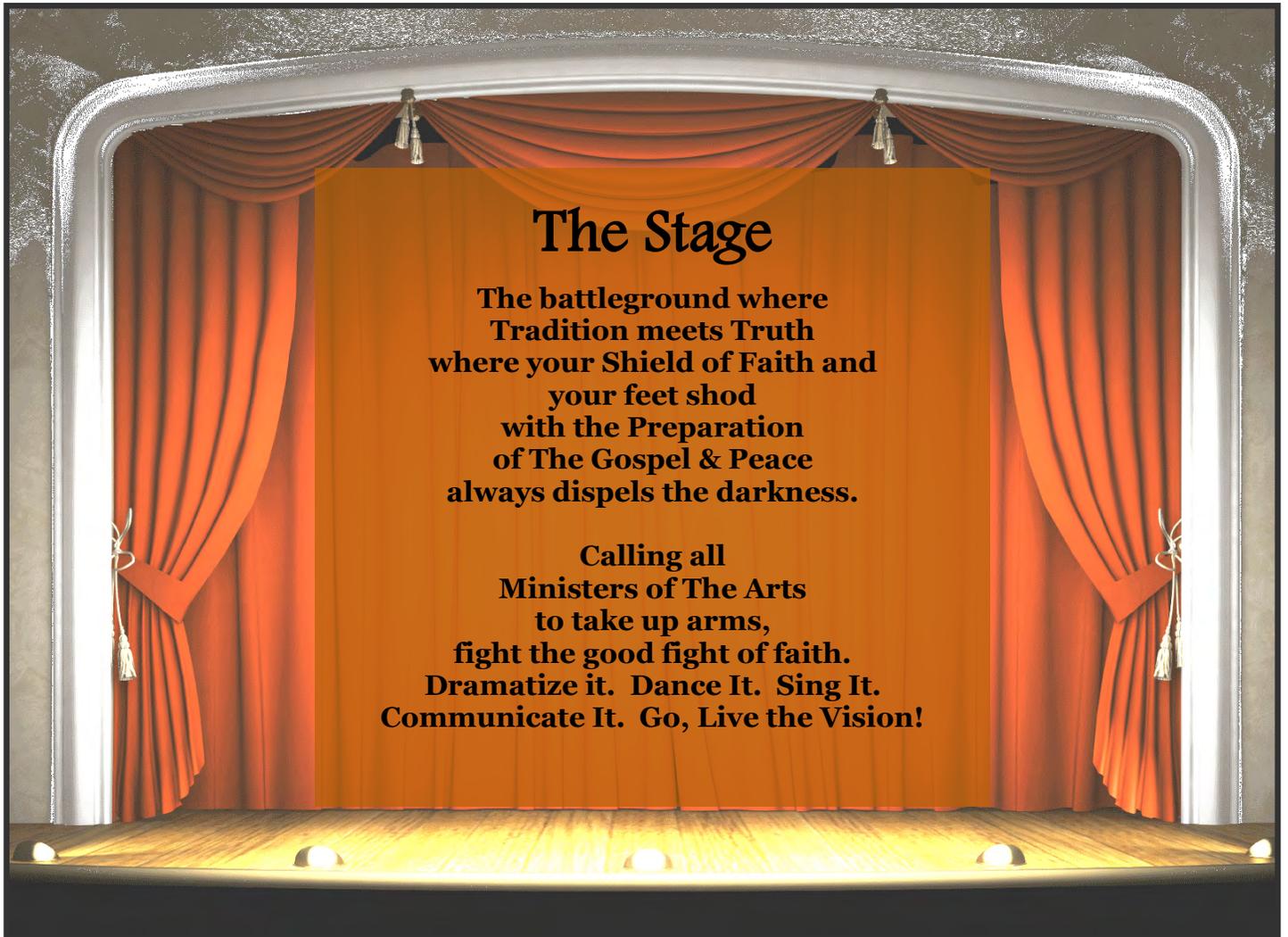
Key responsibilities:

- Commitment to God's agenda in the Arts
- Organizational and management skill sets
- Strong desire to grow in the knowledge of the Arts
- Time-management skills
- Ability to adjust to change
- Possess administrative skills, such as database creation and maintenance, editing curriculum and curriculum design, written and oral communication
- Possess technological skills sets, such as web design and maintenance, social media, and creating online advertising campaigns

If you are interested in any of the above, contact Phillip Davis, Jr., my global administrative assistant, at pdavisjr22@gmail.com.

A digital copy of BibleTheater Newsbeat  
**is available at [www.bibletheater.com](http://www.bibletheater.com).**

**We are Ministers of the Arts**  
**‘Our stage is the world ~**  
**Our script is the Word of God’**



## Jesus Taught the Gospel of the Kingdom

Jesus taught us the gospel of the Kingdom. He took three and a half years to teach and demonstrate God's mind and heart to the disciples and the world. Often, there were principles which He taught that did not include a lot of details.

He came to destroy the works of the devil. Jesus set the boundaries of how the Sons should think, behave, and live before God and man in a hostile environment. Breaking the gospel down into a practical, everyday living kind of manner is what the apostles, the writers of the gospel, did.

Apostle Paul referred to himself as the least of all saints, but his gospel was always on point—sacrificing self and exalting God.

The apostles brought a clearer understanding of the 'how tos' of pleasing God. Apostle Peter taught us about our divine nature. Apostle John taught us about the love of God. All of the apostles built upon the foundation Jesus laid without adding to or taking away from the boundaries of the Faith.

Today, as Ministers of the Arts, we have the honor of demonstrating the mind of Christ in our craft. We too **must build upon the apostle's doctrines where Jesus is the chief cornerstone!** We work the stage to dramatize, dance, sing and paint visual pictures of spiritual principles—always presenting Christ.

The life of Christ is the only life that really matters.

# BTBN.TV

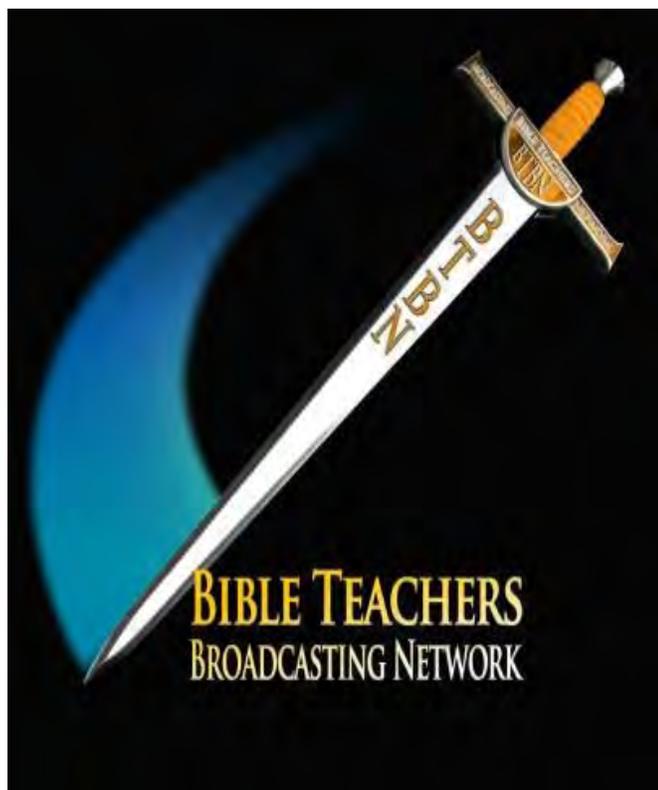
Streaming Live with Truth

## Don't miss the move...

BTBN.TV is being hailed as the network where "no matter what time of day you tune in, you will always entertain the TRUTH of God's Word".

BTBN's purpose is transforming the nations of the world with the Gospel of the Kingdom. It will raise the bar of Christian programming in Jamaica by improving content and quality, and it will present programming that is fresh and relevant. Programs address real life issues that reach all age groups and across denominational lines. BTBN introduces new and fresh vehicles of expression, including various art forms and genres in theater, dance, music and poetry.

We invite you and your family to plug into this network, as it speaks to every area of your lives.



**Dr. Mary Banks**  
Apostle ~ Pioneer  
Ground Breaker  
Teacher ~ Preacher  
Reformer ~ Visionary



## Connect with BTBN.TV

BTBN.TV gives you convenient ways to watch all our programming because choice matters. Whether you want live content or archives of previously aired material, we make it happen!

### How to Find BTBN.TV !

1. **Television:** BTBN is on **channel 747** on the Logic One Cable Network in Jamaica.

#### Not using Logic One?

2. **Roku:** Download the BTBN.TV Channel on your Roku device to start watching unlimited content from all our programs.
3. **Online:** There's lots to see at the **BTBN.TV website**. You're able to watch programs and view pictures from behind the scenes! Get to know the vision and purpose behind this network. Download the **mobile app** for **on the go** viewing on your I-Phone, I-Pad and other mobile devices.

#### Partner With Us!

If you would like to partner, sponsor or support our new TV network, visit [www.btn.tv/donate](http://www.btn.tv/donate) today!

# About the Academy of the Arts



In Creative Arts Workshop, our goal is to enlarge the **students' understanding of spiritual principles through creativity**: learning to connect through visual interpretation. Visual interpretation may be presented inside of banners, flags, signs, murals, mobiles, and **paper mache'. One skill set which forms a solid foundation is painting.** You'll want to explain the objective of the activity and outcome of what the students will produce.

Observe your students, as some students may not hear the directions the first time; they would need to be repeated. Before you distribute materials to the **students, explain 'what the materials are' and 'how to' use them.** For example, when giving instruction in

paint [finger painting or brush painting], explain that students should use paint [using brushes] on canvas or construction paper. Always review clean-up procedures with students. Talk about **the importance of caring for their classroom. Remember, instruct. Don't** assume students know. Teach step-by-step.

## How to Grow Your Church What the Arts can do for you!

Producing opportunities to serve in the lives of God's people through the **Academy of the Arts** can help to grow churches. For many, it has been a place of tremendous training in ministry gifts. Right now, the challenge of the Word in **BibleTheater & Academy of the Arts** will produce those who are 'able' to pastor, evangelize, and produce television programming without any previous or formal training.

### **BibleTheater Curriculum: Training and Global Evangelism**

Executive Director Coco Thompson has taken off all the breaks, and all lights are "go". Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, she has produced a spiritually and technically rigorous artistic curriculum that meets the needs of churches and organizations seeking to glorify God through Jesus Christ in the Arts. This curriculum empowers these diverse entities to promote the gospel.

### **Outreach Productions and Church Growth**

Every Module culminates in a dynamic theatrical production with the students from **Academy of the Arts**. Students have been systematically groomed for evangelistic ministry and outreach. These outreach productions create fresh opportunities for churches or other organizations to open their doors to their local communities. Many souls have joined our ministries because they were invited to an **Academy of the Arts** outreach production. In 2014, let's get a move on!



**TOMEKA RILEY**  
**PORTRAITS OF THE WORD**  
International President

Creative  
Faithful  
Anointed  
Passionate  
Artistic

Stay tuned for a fresh,  
anointed, flow  
of Holy Ghost  
power and creativity  
From Tomeka and Portraits!

# BACKSTAGE ON PRODUCTIONS

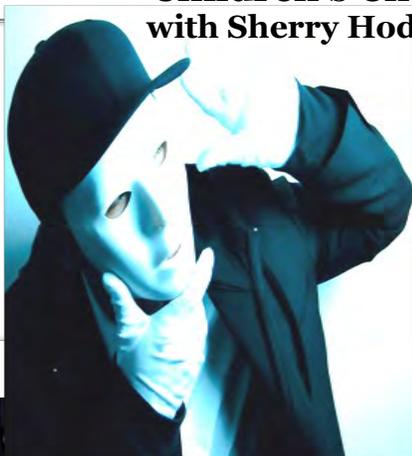
## *World Conference 2013*



**Liturgical Dancing  
& Mime**



**Children's Choir  
with Sherry Hodges**



**Fashion Divas of Praise**



**Apostle Mike & Brian  
Freeman inspired  
Jaw Dropping  
Praise N Rap**



**Portraits of the Word  
B.T.I. Indiantown, FL**

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Tomeka Riley**

Global President  
Portraits of the Word

and

**Coco Thompson**

Executive Director  
**BibleTheater  
& Academy of the Arts**

# BACKSTAGE ON PRODUCTIONS



**Tomeka Riley**  
Global Praise Program Director



## *Praise Him 'Til We Pass Out!*

**PICTURE GALLERY**  
**Byron Williams**  
Mime Portraits of the Word  
**Ciera 'CeCe'**  
Praise & Worship  
**Phillip Davis, Jr.**  
Camera Technician  
**Coretta Deleon & Carolyn Williams**  
Portraits of the Word  
Canada  
**GiGi Riley & Ranodah Swan**  
Technicians



# BACKSTAGE ON PRODUCTIONS



## “The Woman with an Issue of Blood”

### A Dramatic Stage Production

This story is an account of a woman having an issue of blood for twelve years . . . She had spent all of her living on physicians . . . neither could she be healed of any.

One day when Jesus was passing through her town, she pressed through the crowd behind Jesus, and touched the hem of His garment and immediately her issue of blood stanch[ed] [dried up].

And Jesus said, *Who touched me?* When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng [you] and press [you], and sayest thou, Who touched me?

And Jesus said, *Somebody touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.*

And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared to him before all the people.

And He said to her, *Daughter, be of good comfort: [your] faith hath made [you] whole; go in peace.*

### POWER-PACKED DRAMATIC VIGNETTES

Vignettes are short, complete storylines that paint a picture of a spiritual principle or theme.

Luke 8: 43-48  
Marjorie Cameron

**Dusty Snelling**  
**The Woman with an Issue of Blood's**  
 Sister [an adaptation]

In a stirring performance, the audience could feel the intensity of her belief in Jesus to heal her sister



# "Tomorrow"

## A Dramatic Stage Production

"Tomorrow" is a vignette that portrays what happens when nonforgiveness is held in the heart. At the loss of her mother, Stephanie quietly became a functioning alcoholic.

Stephanie would not let go of her pain and disappointment. Brenda, Stephanie's sister, and her husband, both avid believers, work with the Holy Spirit to bring deliverance. Will Stephanie accept Christ today, or will she risk waiting until Tomorrow?



### TWO SISTERS

#### Stephanie Taylor & Brenda Williams

Unsaved

A true Christian

# “PRODIGAL CHILD”

A Theatrical Stage Production



**Starr Groff**

Morning exercise and cool down gives Momma Clara time to talk to God about her children: a once close-knit family that fell apart after her husband [who loved God and his family] died. One daughter was seduced by a man who used and abused her, and the other went the way of doing everything that a person full of hurt and confusion does.

All is not lost! Momma is a praying woman who never lost faith that God would save her children. We see how God has set up situations and circumstances to bring the family back together again.



**Stefanie Mitchell  
& Jalyn Taylor**

**If the Lord doesn't help me,  
I don't know where I will be!  
- 'Prodigal Child'**

# “MY NAME IS MULANA”

A Theatrical Stage Production

**Aletheia Cameron  
& Bernadette Marks**



## HOSTING



**Charlane Mattox  
Desmond Cameron**



As hosts, they set the stage for these powerful productions inspired by real life situations.

## Character Analysis

We see Mulana first as a promising college student who comes from privilege and wealth. However, riches can't fill the void in her life. Great joy comes when Mulana was gloriously saved. Then, her heart is moved off course from God [backslides] when she meets the 'man of her dreams' and moves God to the back burner so they could live the American dream. As her dreams fall apart, we witness the love, mercy and restoration of the Lord in her life. A production for all who look for love and fulfillment [in the arms of flesh] that only God can give.



# Academy of the Arts Open House

In an *Open House*, we invite the community to check out their BibleTheater Academy of the Arts. We offer spiritually uplifting, character building, artistic drama and dance workshops. Pick up a copy of the **Academy of the Arts Administrative Manual** at [www.bibletheater.com](http://www.bibletheater.com).

Be sure that your staff is prepared and has registration forms, dates of availability, workshop offerings handouts, and an agenda handy. And whatever you do, pray ahead. Make sure that the prospective students will be interacting with you!

## DRAMA TOOLBOX

### Cue

A signal, either verbal or physical, that indicates something else, such as a line of dialogue or an entrance

### Monologue

A long speech by a single character

### Costume Design & Management

Learning to create costume to fit the characters

### Theatrical Makeup

Enhances or creates the character you are portraying. Aging makeup advances a character in years

## Community Outreach

Use **BibleTheater's Training Curriculum** as a launching pad to reach 'the lost' in your community. Find out how to get an **Academy of the Arts** off the ground in your town. Contact us at:

[www.bibletheater.com](http://www.bibletheater.com)

Order the **Community Outreach Training Manual**. It includes the basic information you will need to *start and maintain* an Academy.

# *Bible Teachers International*

## **PORTRAITS OF THE WORD**

### **Dance Ministry**



**Let Us Praise and**

*Worship The King!*

*Across America and around the globe*

# Bible Theater Workshops

World Conference 2013

## Theatrical Makeup Coco Thompson

You really missed it if you did not attend our **2013 World Conference Theatrical Makeup Workshop!** Why is this skill set so important? Characters in **Bible Theater** plays can be created using the right makeup application. With this skill, cuts, scars, wounds and gashes are needed to create 'character'. Learn "how to" transform a 16 year old and make them look 60 years old. Need a bald or balding character? Use the bald cap and accomplish just what you're looking for. There are so many small [a scar or moustache] and large [add a wig and change the placement of the lip line] things that can be done to enhance or recreate your person.

At the workshop, everyone was excited to learn all they could about **makeup and hair pieces**. Here's a slide show for you to follow. These artfully designed scars, gashes, mustaches and black eyes were applied by students without any previous experience, under the instruction of Coco Thompson.

Theatrical makeup is not like everyday makeup and takes patience and skill to apply so that it looks realistic, *or believable*. You can get many tips and techniques from my **THEATRICAL MAKEUP AND COSTUME Manual 101** at [www.bibletheater.com](http://www.bibletheater.com). It breaks it down and makes it simple to do.

Students in the Academy will learn to master the art of makeup as they embrace purpose and the reality that they must experience many characters in becoming a Minister of the Arts.



## Scars, Gashes Mustaches, & Black Eyes



Primes Mc Girt [top] is transformed by using a bald cap and a thick mustache. Ketha Edmondson [this page] demonstrates a gash or wound to the forehead—[next page top] bruising and black eye makeup has been added. Marjorie Cameron [left] applies makeup for bruising on Shirley Bridgette. Janay Shannon [right] wears an open facial cut with swelling and bleeding.

You can see how theatrical makeup adds depth, dimension, and greater believability to the character being portrayed. A total transformation of character takes time, patience and skill, but is well worth the effort!

## Workshops



This primary color pallet wheel allows you to create a wide range of character looks, expressions, and conditions as seen in these photos



Ketha Edmondson's bruised and black eye looks very believable. This makeup shows what could happen in an abusive relationship.

**Thank God it's not though!**



# Creating Design On a Dime

Teach, coach, build, pioneer and lead the way. "If you're going to serve, then serve. Refuse to work half-heartedly. God doesn't accept junk."

**- Coco Thompson**



**Heather Wendel**  
**'Recreating the Flintstones'**



Don't have a huge budget? There's no need to forgo the fun, creativity and costume making ability that your students have. Introduce them to plastic: plastic bags will become one of your greatest assets. Use this material in the elementary stage of design concepts *before* they advance to real, wearable designs. Garbage bags can be purchased at local stores.

1. Flex bags—30 gallon or more with drawstring
2. Regular smooth bags with draw string
3. Regular smooth plastic bags without drawstring
4. Smaller trash can size bags for sleeves, flowers, legs, etc.
5. Black and white can be basic colors with many other colors available

*Cont. next page*

# Fashion Cents

**Kendylin Davis**  
**'A Hint of Southern Charm'**



**Jasmine Johnson**  
**'The Look of Leather'**



# DESIGNING



## DESIGNER

Makiya Thomas, thank you for showing us how it goes in this costume design workshop!  
[Handclap]

**"Please don't stick me!"**

Coco Thompson fits Makiya Thomas in this Designer Fashion. How cute!



### Design on a Dime

cont. pg. 17

6. Saran Wrap for clear attachments and other needs
7. Double-sided and one-sided tape for attaching and binding
8. Rolls of colored tape like red, blue and green
9. Scissors for cutting plastic, poster board, paper and other materials
10. Fabric and regular tape measure [s]
11. Poster board and tissue paper for hats or caps.
12. An assortment of attachment ideas



## ARTISTRY

Ms. Mayah Thomas receiving a **Certificate of Completion** in **"Costume Basics"**

[Handclap]

# with **PLASTIC**

## **COSTUME LOGIC**

Be creative . . .  
Just create !

**1**



**2**



**4**



**3**



You don't have to break the bank to begin learning 'how to' create costumes. Creating costumes provides learning opportunities for students to sharpen their motor skills and explore hidden gifts or talents they may possess. Designing with plastic takes the stress out of 'messing up' costly material, fabric, and appliques; giving students more liberty to explore their personal creativity.

Costume design also provides chances for students to work with others, enhancing not only their spirituality, but their social skills too.

Interestingly, creating designs without a pattern is quite simple. All you need is an idea. Then, sketch your idea and plan. Measure accurately [body parts] before each step. Now, cut your costume to bring your character to life.

These costumes were created using some of the following:

- |                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Plastic bags                   | Scissors     |
| Measuring Tape                 | Glue         |
| Tissue paper                   | Cotton balls |
| Buttons                        | Yarn         |
| Artificial Rose Petals         | Beads        |
| Pins                           | Hangers      |
| and other creative attachments |              |

### **Showing Their Fashion Sense**

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> Azzizi Brown | <b>2</b> Makiya Thomaas                 |
| <b>3</b> Bonny Dyer   | <b>4</b> Ketha Edmondson & Mayah Thomas |

# Quick, Easy Projects

Creating interactive platforms for students



**Sachiko "Happy" Rhudd and Gayle Dessaw**



**Ketha Edmondson, Yonique Page, and Clair Baker**



*Use Your Imagination*

Heather & Azzizi Brown  
Working Together

educational  
and fun!

A time  
for students  
to create  
and work  
together  
in the  
unity of  
Purpose



The Message...

## “FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD”

God has taken the Sons to another dimension. We are no longer looking at ourselves or others in the Body of Christ after the flesh; we will do the greater works of Christ in these glorious end times. Apostle Mary Banks has taught the Boundaries of The Faith in a way which we have never heard before. We are the Sons of God right now; As He is, so **are** we. Surely, we have access to a Father who will answer us even as He did Elijah.



**Apostle Mary Banks**  
Bible Teachers International

Now that we live in the Spirit, we must become the partakers of Jesus’ testimony of Himself in the scriptures. We have all things pertaining to life and godliness. All we need is faith! Now more than ever, we must hold fast to the promises of God. God tells us that if we stay true to the blueprint for **BibleTheater**, He will do something which is unprecedented. We believe His report! Saints, now is the time for us to take up arms, believe God, and purposely go after souls.



There is no more time. Use your **BibleTheater & Academy of the Arts** outreach ministry to evangelize, to dramatize, to use dance as an expression of God’s love for humanity, and work the Academy using the spoken word in poetry—allowing the Holy Spirit to minister through our vessels.

As witnessed during **World Conference 2013, the vision is now!** It’s moving by the Spirit at warp speed, and there is no indication of its slowing down. Prayerfully communicate with God on a day-to-day basis allowing Him to be your guide! Go, live the vision! Tell somebody about Jesus!

### SHOUT OUT!

#### A BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR APOSTLE MIKE

The Virtual Professor as he rides cool and his students all over the globe are sweating bullets. Ride on Apostle Mike, ride on. When our churches are full, we want you to ride over and work them with us.

LOVE,  
YOUR GLOBAL CLASS

P.S. We know you’ve been in ‘The Book’ too.

# BibleTheater on the Scene

## Walls Came Tumbling Down

By Janay Shannon

Seventeen years ago a young female minister—Pastor Wanda—came to a small town in Florida, Indiantown. Little did she know she was being sent there as a lighthouse. This minister faced a lot of adversity and persecution, but she hung in there. She raised up a core group of young people, and God set their hands and feet to His ministry. After the ministry had been established for quite a while, members began street services. At first, they were out there alone; at least it seemed like they were, but there were listening ears from passing cars and those that were in earshot from the comfort of their own homes.

In the beginning, this church wasn't welcomed in this town. To the townspeople, "these people" were everything but sent from God: "Lesbians, hypocrites, a cult" you name it. They were called it, which none of the above was true. But Friday after Friday, **BibleTheater** production after **BibleTheater** production, cars started driving up like they were at the drive through movies.

Around six at night when service started, neighbors to the church were seated in chairs outside their homes, and young men and women stopped to hear The Gospel of Jesus Christ.



People couldn't deny the power, conviction, and presence of God on those streets Friday nights. And regardless of what they had said about the people playing those characters, they were miraculously compelled to come and witness God in characters in productions like "A Heart That Forgives".

Through the working of **BibleTheater**, the members of BIBLE TEACHERS INTERNATIONAL, Indiantown became tangible to the people; human. We were no longer just "those people from Wanda's Church," but we became a unified body of believers who love God. In the moments after the small productions, we would experience the

experience the once skeptical audience walk over and exclaim "That was awesome!" or "The Spirit of God was working through you!"

It was in those moments that the walls built by the enemy came tumbling down!

## BIBLE THEATER IS A TOOL

God, in His great wisdom, gave **BibleTheater** as an evangelistic tool to reach His people.

In today's world when there are so many opinions, philosophies, doctrines of men, reasonings, and strongholds on the minds of God's people trying to combat the Word of God—not that they could ever win—God gave us something that no expression, idea, or discussion could ever come up against—His Anointing.

He said "His anointing" would break the yokes off the minds of His people. Through the living organism that **BibleTheater IS**, God breaks every chain!



# Kingdom POETS

God,  
you are so  
awesome!!

**Kingdom Poet:** One whom God has gifted with the ability to minister His Word, the truth, using the Art of Poetry.



**In the Kingdom of God,** the gift of poetry is unique in its ability to encourage, build up, tear down, motivate, convict, & inspire with the strategic use of words.

**A Kingdom Poet** incorporates visual, verbal, & written expressions to convey the heart & mind of God.

**Poetry in the Kingdom** of God is different from poetry in the world, in that its intention is to deliver 'Truth' to the heart of its hearers, thereby affording an opportunity of freedom from sin & darkness.

**Remember:** God has created all things for Himself, for His own pleasure. 'He' has to be satisfied with not only our use of the gift, but our attitude concerning the gift as well. *That is His original intent when He gave us gifts!*

## ARE YOU A POET ?

Phillip Davis, Jr.

Are you a poet,  
a cup that God can fill with His thoughts?  
Can you paint a picture with your words?

Are you a poet,  
someone which the Gospel can be  
spoken through?  
Can you peel back the pages of this life  
to reveal the presence of Living Water?

Are you a poet,  
a called and chosen one to speak  
to this generation?  
Can you relate to the souls of mankind?

Are you a poet?

## Truth is Sufficient • It Liberates • It Inspires

With the ever-increasing, evolving Ministry of **BibleTheater**, God has brought forth the gift of Poetry as another creative mechanism to promote the truth of his Word. We are excited about this great move of God, as **Kingdom Poets** everywhere are discovering and perfecting their artistic gift of ministry.

As with every other ministerial calling & gift within the Body of Christ, training becomes a necessary & integral part of developing and producing the type of ministers whom God can trust and use in this end time Reformation of the Church.

If you have recognized poetry as a gift that God has placed within you and you seek to serve Him, then you are strongly encouraged to submit yourself to the training, guidelines, and disciplines laid out in **Kingdom Poetry manuals** and various forthcoming workshops.

As with the pastor, teacher, prophet, evangelist, and apostle, our purpose is the same: to deliver the word of reconciliation to a lost & dying world.

### NO WORDS

By Annestta Samuels

Desperately gripping pen  
 Trying to write meaning,  
 Typing the right synonyms but nothing speaks  
 words are no longer enough  
 to express the depth of these sentiments  
 So here i am-  
 clenching pen, smoothing paper,  
 praying vocabulary will come to release me  
 from the agony of another 'almost' work of art  
 heart  
 pulse  
 beat  
 race.  
 Telling me this is more than mere muse or music  
 this is more than rare poetry  
 it's -  
 it's my life;

with impressions engrafted,  
 serifs imprinted on the calendar of my days.  
 And instead of me making poetry, he's writing:  
 tales of longsuffering  
 piping me closer and closer  
 whispering kindness in between lines  
 lacing grace with truth  
 here is proof  
 that nothing i write will ever mean  
 or read  
 or speak  
 as much as your silence said at Calvary  
 you owed me nothing, but gave everything.  
 so you deserve every last drop of me.  
 Desperately gripping pen trying to write meaning.  
 Typing the right synonyms but nothing speaks  
 words are no longer enough  
 to express the depth of these sentiments  
 so i clench pen, smooth paper and write three letters -  
 I-O-U



# Kingdom POETS *Speak*



## DAYS OF VICTORY

By LaShondra Robinson

Sitting looking out over the darkness  
Over the rubble and the silent hush of the city  
Envisioning a time of once greatness  
Seeing the vision of a God who can not lie  
We Americans must finally goodbye

Good bye to our old sinful way  
Gone are our excuses and self-pity  
Believe it or not, today is a new day  
Hello to a land that flows with milk and honey  
Hello to lives ruled by the Spirit – not money

From our seats in Heavenly Places  
Do not think our secret sins witty  
**When in fact, we've unknowingly tied our laces**  
Pray that we hold fast to the Light  
Before our souls should fall into the Night

A new day presses fast upon us  
Days of victory and not defeat  
**It is already here . . . Jesus' promise**  
The Kingdom of Light is already manifest  
**In Christ alone, we always expect God's best**

## WOMEN OF THE ONE GOD

by Marjorie Cameron

Women of The One God - we are one  
One with the Father, the Spirit, and the Son  
**Let's come together** – get the work done  
Work that the Father has begun

Our issues, our concerns, are etched deep in our  
heart We feel the burden, the pain and all the dart  
That life throws at us from the very start From  
birth, through growth, and until we depart

But do not despair; our God is always near  
He is the comfort for the ones who hold Him dear  
He says, come to Me all you who live in fear  
And I will give you rest and great, awesome care

So, my sisters, here we are  
We have come from near and far  
**Let's not return to our homes in war**  
**Because God's testimony we will mar**

**Let's rise up in victory, and let the world know**  
We sisters have bonded in God – and we will flow  
No matter what comes: rain, sleet, or snow  
We will stand, having done all, for this is not a show

Rise up sisters! The Lord is on our side  
Rise up sisters! For we will be His bride  
Rise up sisters! Our ministries have not died  
Rise up sisters! For we will not be denied



# Theater Q & A

## CHARACTERIZATION

- Q: What is the best way to ‘get into character’ ?
- A: Read the script. Draw upon any experiences you have had dealing with the personality challenges of your character. Most importantly, listen to the Holy Spirit and your director for guidance.
- Q: What can you do if you are given a character which you can’t relate to?
- A: Ask the Holy Spirit to show you *how* a certain character feels when they do what they do. You may also ask your director or assistant director for help.
- Q: What is characterization in a nutshell?
- A: Characterization is the act of personifying or becoming a character in a play; ‘taking on’ the way that person acts, feels, thinks, and speaks. It is taking on the disposition, manner, and relational viewpoint of a character in a play or vignette [skit].
- Q: Is there a way to get the ‘feel’ of a character?
- A. Yes, be led of the Lord, using observation to get a feel for the mindset and motive of persons. **Practice the emotions that ‘your character’ would operate in.**
- Q: What are two ways a Minister of the Arts can use to bring depth and flavor to their character?
- A: Use a different accent or tone of voice and use **nuances**: those little things that make it real.
- Q: How do you flow on stage if you all of a sudden lose or forget your lines?
- A: Study your lines as a whole unit and study each scene to see what the spiritual objective is and the end result. Speak out of your heart within those boundaries connecting with other **character’s dialogue. Don’t panic. Listen for your cue.**

- Q: What are two or three nuances that many can do?
- A: Repetition of certain words, a funny laugh, twisting the hair, speaking slowly or quickly, adjusting eye glasses often or a dialect change.

## Vignette ~ Script ~ Improvisation

**An Academy of the Arts Administrator can choose from three different formats to present a play: vignette, script or improvisation.**

What is a vignette? It is a drama which has all of the elements of a regular stage play, except it is usually shorter in length. The audience will see the conflict and the issues a whole lot quicker.

What is a script? A script is a type-written storyline where spiritual principles are manifested by multiple characters, usually longer than a vignette or skit. In comparing the two, they are the same in terms of their goals inside of **BibleTheater & Academy of the Arts.**

- Q: Which format of ministering a play should our location perform? We have limited staff and fewer than 10 students.
- A: Read the script. If you have enough staff and students to support the thrust of the play, minister the entire script. If not, modify [shorten] the script to create a vignette.
- Q: How do you modify a script to make it into a vignette?
- A: Ask the Holy Spirit how to do it. Guidelines: Read the entire skit with your class. Identify the **spiritual principles together. And as a leader, preselect various scenes which are necessary to clearly display those principles. Be sure to include the scene where ‘deliverance’ is shown. Remember to keep a highlighter, notepad and pen handy to highlight, add or delete lines. Connect the dots in your storyline from the beginning to the end to help make ‘the act of working together’ a memorable training experience in excellence for staff and students!**

'He Gave Me Music,

He Gave Me Song'

Time is Winding Up  
HELEN MILLER  
featuring New Anointed

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## THE VIRTUAL PASTOR Care Enough to Share the Gospel

Some ministers have the wrong motive for evangelizing. They believe that real ministry only takes place when someone has a microphone in their hand and people rally behind them.

Others may be running around trying to create speaking engagements so they can finally teach 'their' new revelation, while overlooking daily opportunities they've had to share the gospel. They seek to glory in 'their own flesh' and in their own 'way'. But, there is a solution.

Perhaps, these ministers and would-be ministers are simply missing the tools and the spiritual leadership and training which has been proven to produce solid Believers who consistently please God by hearing and obeying Him everyday.

BIBLE TEACHERS INTERNATIONAL new **Virtual Pastor** online course is dedicated to that Purpose. . . developing leaders with diverse backgrounds and ages with a burden for souls, teaching them 'how to' effectively reach 'the lost' without fear and intimidation.

Apostle Michael Thomas and his staff are passionately teaching and demonstrating the foundational blueprint for building ministry from Ground Zero [bible study and one-on-one witnessing], to a full fledged church flowing inside of truth, love, mercy, and the power of the Spirit.

The training truly empowers ministers to share their personal testimonies [live and using social media] with people who are either unsaved or those who have strayed away from the Faith.

Apostle Mike encourages his global student body to be vigilant and wise—purposely taking every *opportunity* to share the gift of salvation and hope. The Virtual Pastor course teaches the Mind of Christ, ministerial skill sets, and the work ethic needed for ministry, where fellowship with God is life.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2014!



“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you” saith the Lord, “thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”

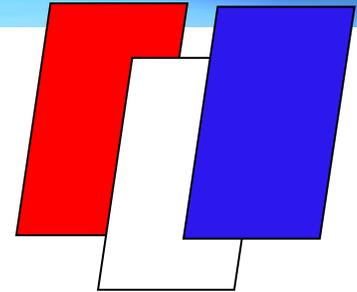
Jeremiah 29:11



A  
New  
Beginning

# FOCUS ON

## Academy of the Nations



**By Melinda Hurley-Bush**

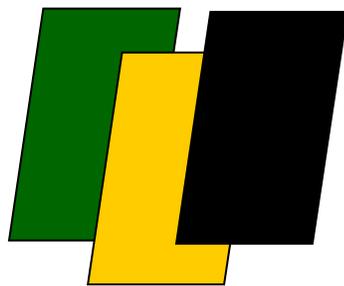
Sarasota, Florida

### In the House

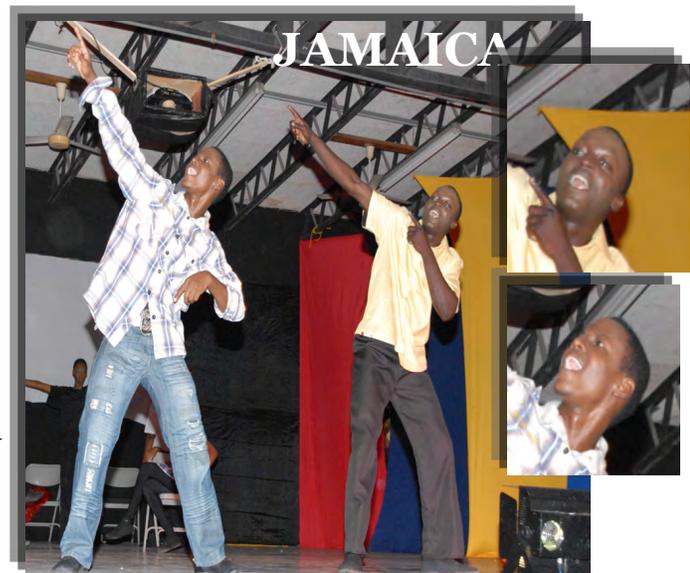
## AMERICA: More Than One Way To Give!

When I think of **BibleTheater**, I think there are so many ways to get involved. No matter what your age, there is room for you! **BibleTheater** is not just for members of the church, but for anyone in our community. Believe me, I know you have a talent, or gift. Oh, you have that something special that GOD can use in BibleTheater. We have warmed the pews long enough. **It's time to save all we can save, to reach the unreachable, and to allow GOD to captivate hearts through HIS Word in BibleTheater.**

So just a note of encouragement . . . whatever you have going on, get it going for our Savior. Some give money, while others give their time and ability. If you love makeup, get busy and become a **BibleTheater** makeup artist. If you are a seamstress, get busy sewing for **BibleTheater** in wardrobe. If you love to decorate, become a Set Designer for the ministry. The list continues. Whatever you can do for GOD, do it with a pure heart so that it counts to HIM.



A shout out to brothers in Jamaica who are not afraid or ashamed to praise our God in dance. We are *amazed*, delighted, inspired and excited to see men of the Kingdom leading the way in all areas of ministry.



# Fun Page

By Sylvia Robinson



## ACTING INSIDE OUT

s s c p n c o s t u m e s e n  
k n r r a o t d y g t x v u y  
d o o s e u i g r e n a f t r  
p i t i d a r t a o n i i y e  
v t r y t e t m c g w l t d t  
b i e e n c w i e u i e e c c  
e s m e c o e l v b d t h d a  
l o o a r t i r i e t o e t r  
i p t k p z o s i a l r d a  
e e i r e p n r m d z r a p h  
v g o z a o l m e z e n t e c  
a a n y p e o y u m c g t s s  
b t s s v c h p r e h c a e t  
l s e n o i t o m p o t s t s  
e r b i b l e t h e a t e r s

**Word Find:** Find each of these words above.

acting	believable
director	production
apply	<b>BibleTheater</b>
emotions	prop
arts	cast
evangelize	stage directions
character	stop motion
committed	study
costumes	teacher
creative arts	the Word
stage positions	teamwork

### 30 Minute Challenge

Can you complete this page in 30 minutes? Photocopy this page and use it at a youth function, at church, or at home with your children.

### Winter Fun Unscramble: unscramble

01. LOCD
02. ETAHER
03. ATCO
04. AOENSS
05. WOSN
06. ICCRAT
07. CIE
08. SARFC
09. IDLAZRZB
10. EZREFE
11. LKNEFWSAO
12. TRSFO
13. KSI
14. IABRETHEN
15. OSDNWARBO
16. FREI
17. IECILC
18. SGEOLV
19. SNNWMAO
20. SREATWE

**Answers**  
cold, heater, coat, season, snow, arctic, ice, scarf, blizzard, freeze,  
snowflake, frost, ski, hibernates, snowboard, fire, icicle, gloves,  
snowman, sweater

# The Martha Graham Dress

By Sylvia Robinson



As I started my research on Martha Graham dresses, I started to learn a lot about Martha Graham the woman. She was a great and well sought after choreographer and dancer, so much so that she opened her own dance company in New York City. Graham was criticized for her dance style and the contortions that she did with her body. Critics would describe her dances as “ugly” but her style caught on and became more respected over time. **Graham’s advances in dance are considered by many to be an important achievement in America’s cultural history.**



This noteworthy choreographer continued to dance into her 60s and choreographed until her death on April 1, 1991, leaving behind a legacy of inspiration not only for dancers but for artists of all kinds. The one thing that I could not find in my research was what a “Martha Graham dress” was. **I did find out some interesting facts that would shed more light on my research.**

Martha designed and wore an enveloping tube of stretch fabric in 1930. But still, when I searched for Martha Graham dresses, praise dance dresses came up as well as pictures of Martha in her different dresses and dances. So I called a local company that sells praise dance dresses and asked **them for a Martha Graham dress. They advised me that they do not have any dresses called “Martha Graham”. So I called a dancer friend and asked if she knew what a “Martha Graham” dress was. “A loose fitting dance dress of many styles”. Her answer explained why when searching for Martha Graham dresses, so many different styles and dresses were shown.**

Martha Graham inspired dresses, like other costumes, help to create a certain mood, set a scene, and transform performers into all kinds of characters. **BibleTheater** takes inspiration for dance attire that would not only adorn a woman’s bodies, but does so with chastity, respect, and elegance!

*Know ye that the Lord is God: it is he that hath made us,  
and not we ourselves.*



# GLOBETROTTER

with Janay Shannon

## Vamos a Guatemala!

*So this was the Globetrotter's dream!! Go to a Spanish speaking country . . . And she did it!*

Well, let's be honest. **He did it. God sent me** somewhere I honestly didn't believe I'd get to go. I was blessed to travel to The Republic of Guatemala. Let me start with saying it was the **trotter's longest plane ride yet! And this time, I was** on my own—no family, no friends and no Bible Teachers location. Thank God for technology and **www.bibleteachers.com!**

I had a blast!!! Climbing volcanoes on horse-back, boating across waters from village to village, and zip lining from mountaintop to mountaintop through the forest. I really enjoyed **God's creation. I remember being out in Caribbean** sea jetting through the water singing "How Great Is Our God"!

Let me tell you, Guatemala is where I learned the wisdom, cleverness, importance, and power inside of **BibleTheater** and **Portraits of the Word**. God showed me this without me dancing or acting, or even witnessing someone else minister in the arts. Guatemala is a predominantly Catholic nation, and there is a tremendous amount of idol worship. My stay in Guatemala led me into many conversations about my faith. Some people were receptive and blessed, some didn't want to hear at all, and then there were some that their own tradition and knowledge wouldn't let them **hear 'truth'**. **It was in those moments when I** realized something truly amazing—**when I'm on** stage ministering in drama or dance, there is no discussion, there is no debate, **just** the audience coming face-to-face with God's anointing. And that is precious!

**BibleTheater** and Portraits may not be the most traditional way to bring souls into the Kingdom, but they are quick, they are strong, they are power unto salvation...they ARE the Word of God, and Its through them that people will be introduced to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be gloriously converted from false religion.



Janay Shannon inside a cold volcano . . .  
Thank you Lord!



**[Above]** The volcano pictured in the photo is the Pacaya Volcano. The volcano is active. It sits on the outskirts of Antigua, Guatemala. Pacaya rises to an elevation of 8,373 ft. This is the volcano I climbed on horse back in Guatemala City!



## STAGE PRESENCE WHAT IS IT FOR THE CHRISTIAN MINISTER?

By Bonny Dyer

BTBN

The 'world' has given theater its definition of stage presence and charisma. According to the latest authorities in theater, certain performers have the "IT" effect and others simply lack that certain demure that is required for a particular acting role. In fact, one actress long ago was named the "It Girl". She was the epitome of what directors and producers long to see in stars of the stage: that special *high quality* that makes you stand out above others. Notice the word, 'above'. It's the so-called "star quality". It's an understood artistic standard that many performers strive for.

In the spiritual world of theater, there is an opposing *Christ centered perspective* of stage presence. Many don't desire it, because it doesn't cause their personage to stand out apart from the group. The Christian perspective of stage presence is the

showing forth of Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. Ministers of the Arts are to be yielded vessels through which God can express His heart and mind about situations, circumstances, and relationships. It is operating in ONENESS of God's purpose within 'the cast'. This is chief among Christian theater's goal. The harmonious balance between each part always produces a radiant reflection of Christ—*center stage* in **BibleTheater & Academy of the Arts** productions.

Our purpose is to present the reconciling message of The Hope of The Gospel to the world. For us, stage presence IS the creation of an holy environment where the Spirit of God can flow freely!

*Sunday Morning Live*

Let's work with one another and with God to tell the story of how we have overcome before a dying world in need of a Living Savior!

*"I'm sorry. Could you repeat that again? I didn't hear you clearly."*

## PROJECTION

By Mae Robinson



Projection is a drama skill that involves speaking loud and clear enough to be heard by everyone.

These exercises will begin to free you from your special comfort zone of speaking. From childhood, we are trained to speak within a space **that's comfortable for you and your partner**. Now, you will be required to break free of that space restraint and **project** your voice.

Your voice is one of the most important tools in your acting toolbox. As an actor, you are apart of a **'cast' telling a story to the audience**. Your voice conveys the emotion and tone of the story. By controlling your voice through your volume, speed and inflections, you will gain confidence on stage and refine your acting abilities.

First, examine your ability to project your voice, or how loud you're able to speak without straining your vocal cords. Whether you're speaking in a small room or large auditorium, your voice needs to be heard by every person in the audience. If the listeners can't hear you, then they won't understand the storyline of the play.

### **Projection Exercise 1:**

Learn to speak from your **diaphragm** by practicing some simple techniques. Lay flat on the floor and place your hands on your stomach. Use your stomach muscles **while** you say words out loud. Feel your stomach tighten as you exhale your words. This is your diaphragm working for you.

Try changing the pace of your sentences. Speak quickly during some sentences and slowly during others. Speaking one speed during the entire play will create monotony, and the audience will tune you out. If you **switch the pace** during appropriate scenes, you will create immediate interest and add a professional touch to the art of acting.

### **Projection Exercise 2:**

Get a partner, and stand back to back-closely. Take two steps from your partner, turn around and scream like the other person just scared you. Let your **body language** show that you are afraid!

### **Projection Exercise 3:**

Form groups of 2, 4, or 6. Someone calls out, "The train is coming!" and individually, each person says, "OH LORD HELP ME!" Each person says it in a very **dramatic way** with body language that fits their emotion.

Revise the exercise: Have the group rush together from 4 corners of the room into a cluster [clutching each other] and say with dramatic emotion, "OH LORD HELP US!"

Now, discuss the **dynamics** of this exercise with the group.

# Staying The Course: God's Blueprint

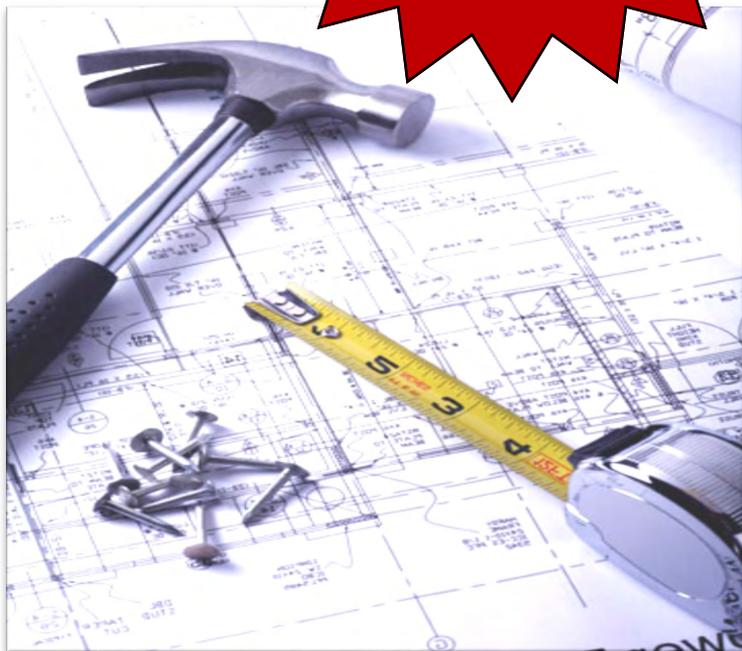
Working **BibleTheater** is no different from working any other area of ministry when it comes to the basic fundamental boundaries of the Faith. To work it effectively, we must possess the ABCs of **God's Blueprint**:

- A. Become a baptized believer
- B. Submission to leadership
- C. **Love for God's people**
- D. A teachable spirit
- E. Study diligently
- F. Faithful to the Vision
- G. Given to prayer and intercession
- H. Patient and merciful
- I. Self Evaluation
- J. Accountability
- K. Promote Unity
- L. Lead by example

**Let's talk about submission.** The mindset that **ministry can be worked on one's own terms** is not permissible in God. All ministry must be worked from the perspective of the Spirit. The ministry is not your baby. It comes with preset procedures, methods, and structure in leadership and work flow.

**In other words, one must put 'self'** and all preconceived ideas about working ministry to the side and ***learn to flow with the leadership of your Academy***. If you are not 100% submitted, you will make yourself a hindrance to the teaching staff, administrator, students, your pastor, and [worse] yourself.

**Attention**  
**BibleTheater &**  
**Academy of the Arts**  
**at Work**



Oh yes, we must always check our hearts to ensure that we are in the Spirit. By honoring the **ABC's of God's blueprint**, you cause the Lord to honor your efforts. Until the next time, grow in the knowledge and grace of the only wise God!



**Academy at work—Trinidad**



*Come Let's Begin Again!*

## **An Apostolic Appeal**

In 2014, let every location unify and work what God has already ordained. During Founder's Week 2013, Apostle Mary admonished us to work the Academy, and it will work for you: to help strengthen and build your locations.

Let us partner together to produce global evangelistic outreach ministry through the administration of **BibleTheater** & the **Academy of the Arts** in your community and beyond.

Unless God builds **BibleTheater**, we build it in vain. However, we are assured of His ordination and Vision given through Apostle Mary. Let us follow her leadership. Remember, God promised if we obey His instructions, He is going to do something unprecedented. I stand in great anticipation of working with you this year!

Your Servant,

*Coco Thompson*

[www.bibletheater.com](http://www.bibletheater.com)

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**Hear**  
**Apply The Word**  
**Grow**  
**Love**  
**Share**  
**Repeat**

**“God is love!”**

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***We are one.  
Let us remember to love one another,  
even as Christ has loved us.***

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