



CONTRA-TIEMPO Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA

Date: April 5, 2017

Led by: Artistic Director and Educator, Ana María Alvarez (anamaria@contra-tiempo.org)

Activities

- *Pie, Pie, Pie*: Created by Ana María Alvarez, this call and response “game” integrates rhythm, voice, and movement in Spanish (“pie” is Spanish for “foot”). Ana Maria led participants in playing Pie, Pie, Pie in its original form, then demonstrated how the same game can be used as a mnemonic, to teach cross-curricular concepts (for example, to help students remember physical properties of objects in science)
- *Salsa Suelta*: In *Salsa Suelta* (“Loose” Salsa), participants dance without partners, sometimes in a line following a leader. Participants learned and danced basic *Salsa Suelta* moves. Ana Maria then challenged the group to think of other ways that *Salsa Suelta* can be used in the classroom, to help students (especially those with kinesthetic intelligence) remember sequences through association.
- *Salsa Rueda*: *Salsa Rueda* is an Afro-Cuban form of Salsa dancing, performed in a circle (“rueda” is Spanish for “wheel”), wherein there is a caller who shouts movements for the participants to do, and the partners often switch. The company performed a *Salsa Rueda*, then discussed ways that the dance can be used to both build community and to help students build language and body confidence.

Online content that demonstrates how dance can be integrated into the curriculum, across disciplines.

Mnemonics and movement:

- <https://www.mindtools.com/memory.html>
- <http://susanfitzell.com/mnemonic-movement-cues/>
- <https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/teaching-symmetry-with-dance>

On dance/movement & story-sharing as tools to use across disciplines:

- <https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/literacy-through-creative-dance>
- <https://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators/how-to/encouraging-arts/how-dance-can-teach-literature>
- <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/inviting-personal-narratives-classroom>
- <https://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/06/10/english-language-learners-and-the-power-of-personal-stories/>

Incredible booklists to spark diverse students’ writing & critical thinking, all categorized by theme and by grade level:

- <http://www.tfcbooks.org/best-recommended/booklist>