

Fran Sillau

Educator Biography

Over the past decade, Fran Sillau has served as a teacher, writer, director, actor, and producer. With an extensive background in Theatre for Youth, Sillau has worked for both Lexington Children's Theatre and Omaha Theater Company.

His most notable professional accomplishments have been that of teacher and director. Sillau has received project funds from both The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and The National Endowment For The Arts. Currently, he serves as a Teaching Artist Fellow for VSA Arts.

In 2004, he co-founded and served as artistic director for RUSTY HORSE PRODUCTIONS, an organization dedicated to bringing the arts to rural and economically disadvantaged communities. Under his leadership, the company has produced numerous productions and workshops for youth across southwest Iowa and Nebraska. With Rusty Horse Productions, Sillau directed regional premiers of Gail Erwin's *The Nitnoid Wars*, James Still's *And Then They Came For Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank*. Another production, *Hannah's Suitcase*, is scheduled to open May of 2009.

Sillau teaches workshops specifically for youth with physical and developmental disabilities. He has the ability to use theatre as a tool to help every child, disabled or not, to see the good and power within him or her. His professional activities can be found at www.Fransillau.com