DO NOW

Grab a paper and pen and complete the prompt:

I am like a(n) ___(object)___
because I am ____________, ____________, and ____________.

Example:
I am like a pear, because I am sweet, likeable, and easily bruised.
Tell Me About Yourself: Owning Your Narrative through Strategic Storytelling

Sam Provenzano

- Warm-up
- Context
- Experience the program
- Looking ahead
Context:

10 session residency pilot program

Booker T. Washington High School

Partnered with 10th grade Advisory Teachers to work with every 10th grade student

3 year plan

How do we use the Alliance@work Strategic Storytelling model to help high school students prepare for interview settings?
Week by week goals

1: Pre-Residency Interview

Respond to the interview prompt: Tell me about yourself.

2: Being Present

Experiment with the Circles of Presence in order to employ the 2nd Circle to be present.

3: Real, Not Right

Utilize the actor’s toolbox to present draft talking points that are “real, not right.”

4: Big Idea & Elegant Fit

Revise draft talking points in order to articulate a big idea and ensure an elegant fit.

5: Hook

Develop an attention-grabbing hook.

6: Authentic Self

Make artistic choices in order to deliver a professional and authentic presentation.

7: Who’s Your Audience?

Make artistic choices in order to deliver a professional and authentic presentation that connects to a specific, intended audience.

8: Dress Rehearsal

Practice their final response and critique their peers in order to provide constructive feedback.

9: Post-Residency Interview

Demonstrate presence, connectivity, authenticity, and professionalism in order to complete a successful interview simulation.

10: Debrief & Reflection

Evaluate their performance in the final interview.
Week 1: Pre-Residency Interview

“Tell me about yourself”
Week 2: Being Present
1ST

2ND

3RD

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The First Circle – paying attention to self and withdrawal

You are in First Circle if you:

• Find yourself withdrawing physically from people, feelings, or ideas
• Find you are holding your breath or breathing rapidly and shallowly
• Are asked to repeat yourself when you speak
• Find that people lean forward to hear you or notice you
• Feel self-conscious
• Try not to be noticed
The Third Circle – paying attention to self and withdrawal
You are in Third Circle if you:

• Notice people making space for you
• Find yourself taking up more space than you need
• Are told often that you are too loud, either in speech or laughter
• Don’t really notice the people you are speaking with
• Feel that you have to inject energy into a situation
• Take command of a discussion even if you have only heard a fragment of what is being discussed
• Try to be noticed
The Second Circle – *paying attention to connecting*

You are in Second Circle if you:

- Feel centered and alert
- Feel comfortable
- Feel your breath easy and complete
- Know you reach people and they hear you when you speak
- Notice details in others – their eyes, mood, anxieties
- Are curious about a new idea – not judgmental
- Hear clearly
- Acknowledge the feelings of others
1ST

2ND

3RD

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Alliance Theatre®
Present yourself. Authentically.
Week 3: Real Not Right
Week 4: Elegant Fit

Look at your Do Now Prompt to find a story.

“I knew this to be true when…”

How is this the perfect fit for the interview moment?
Week 5: Hook

I believe I am the best ______ for this job, not (only) because of my _______ but also because of my _______.

- What is my unique sell?
- What pulls them in?
- What do they remember when I leave the room?
- Ex: “I’m the best music manager you can hire, not because of my experience, but because of my fire.”
Week 6: Authentic Self
Week 7: Who’s Your Audience?

Pick a card... Any card.
Week 8: Dress Rehearsal

Week 9: Post-Residency Interviews

Week 10: Debrief and Reflection
Looking Ahead...