

# LIDAWINFIELD

Performing Artist - Educator



## Performance and Interactive Workshops for Educators, Administrators and Students

### "*In Search of Air: Growing Up Dyslexic*"

In this one hour dance/theater performance based on her experience growing up with a learning disability, Vermont dancer, choreographer and spoken word artist Lida Winfield shares the gifts and heartache that accompanied her struggle to learn to read - which did not occur until her early twenties. Mixing vignettes woven in a creative and captivating format, the show and companion workshops are a platform to engage a wide variety of populations to experience disability, access and the value of the arts.

*"... In middle school there were more of us - a lot more of us. Every child with a behavioral, social, physical or learning disability was tucked in the same room; there was not enough money, time or energy to actually teach us in the ways we needed. So we were just separate."*

### Professional Development Workshops for Educators and Administrators of All Levels

**Transforming Learning through Arts Integration:** As a professional performer, educator and practitioner of arts integration, Lida presents innovative approaches for hands-on learning by exploring sensory and kinesthetic experiences that enhance student development, celebrate teaching and honor the whole person. Lida uses spoken word and dance to demonstrate different modalities to transform learning for students with and without disabilities.

### Pre and Post-Show Workshops for Middle School Through College Students

**Stomping Stories I:** This interactive workshop helps students better understand both the content and the art form used in *In Search of Air*. The workshop further deepens the understanding of the topics of disability, access, inclusion and differences as portrayed in the show, as well as provide students a chance to ask the artist questions. With the use of simple movement and voice activities, students artistically express their thoughts and feelings regarding education, learning styles, failure and success.

**Stomping Stories II:** Using improvisation, Lida leads the group to explore different ways of creating stories and movement. We all have many stories that contribute to how we see ourselves and how we operate in the world. By sharing our stories through movement and narrative, participants are building bridges between each other and contributing to the growth of community. Creativity and an open mind are all that are needed to enjoy this workshop. All sizes and abilities welcome.

*Pre-show workshops are recommended for 6th grade and post-show workshops are designed for 6th grade students and up. Workshops can be adapted for a single presentation or a residency. Custom-made classes for specific populations may also be requested. Study guides are available for classroom use.*

***Shifting shame through Dance***

## Praise for Lida Winfield

*"My 13-year old son saw Lida Winfield's show today. Even though I have been 'dragging' him to dance and performances for years, he never really 'connected' with any of it. Not so now. Just wanted you to know that this show affected a school-hating, movement hating 13-year-old boy. THANKS."*

*Audience Member*

*"Our entire district staff responded immediately with a standing ovation! In the surveys we use to collect staff feedback, Lida Winfield's presentations received more "excellent" ratings and positive comments than any speaker or session we have ever offered. I highly recommend her."*

*Craig Martin,*

*Assistant Superintendent of Reading, Public Schools, MA*

*"Lida's performance was almost indescribable . . . I was re-energized and so grateful for her performance and*

*workshops . . . I cannot stop thinking about her and talking about her.*

*Teacher, Reading Public Schools, MA*

## RECENT KEYNOTE PERFORMANCE AND SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATIONS



Walt Disney World Resort, Blue Ribbon School of Excellence National Conference, Orlando, Florida

Mid-Peninsula High School, Menlo Park, California

Habla: The Center for Language and Culture, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico

Florida International University, Miami, Florida  
Dare to Dream Conference, University of Rhode Island, RI

Engaging Active Learners Conference, Burlington, VT  
School Reform Initiative, Winter Meeting, Boston, MA

## Artist Biography

Lida is an accomplished dancer, choreographer and spoken word artist who has performed nationally and internationally. Since 2006, she has created original solo, duet and group work, merging storytelling, dance and visual art to create captivating and poignant performances that invariably audiences are brought to laughter and tears, sometimes simultaneously.

Since 2007, Lida has taught educators how to use dance in the classroom as an instructional tool through Burlington Vermont's Flynn Center Words Come Alive . In 2010, Lida began collaborating with Ellen Smith Ahern in making duet work that mixes dance and spoken word. They toured across twelve cities in Europe for six weeks with their piece Double Visions showing original duets as well as being part of installation work.

As a performer and teaching artist, Lida travels the country as a Keynote Performer/Presenter addressing issues of education, disability, access and the power of the arts. Her work reaches diverse populations, youth at risk, refugees, homeless families, adults with physical and mental disabilities, college students, rural and urban youth, professional artists and educators. In 2011, Lida earned a Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College.

**For booking and additional information contact:**

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***Shifting shame through Dance***