



## Idu Maduli

### Who Needs Me (About the Artist)

So, you're looking for a storyteller. Welcome to the site of a different approach. Here you'll find the old and the new techniques used by a dynamic artist---Idu Maduli.

There are many great Tellers available for hire; we are witnessing a comeback of live, entertaining StoryTellers to compete with the various recording industries. And, frankly, many tellers will suit your needs much better than IDU. Links are provided so that you can continue your search for those great artists. But no one ENGAGES AN AUDIENCE better than IDU. He has developed STORYACTING as an interactive lesson on life's ultimate connector---listening to our stories.

### ABOUT THE ARTIST

"I want to be recognized as a story artist who shares the stage with audience members"

My goal is to expose those underserved populations to the joy of creating Art

My experience in community-building has allowed me to offer workshops in communication skills and team-building (just to mention a couple)

I prefer small-group settings with extended/repeated sessions as opposed to one-shot, big festival work

VENUES I have extensive experience in:

Schools---K through 12 and University level

Prisons---these include juvenile and adult populations; detention centers; alternative schools; half-way houses

Shelters---homeless; women's (domestic violence institutions)

Community centers---senior citizen; youth; recreation; museums

**My STRENGTHS** are:

\*Making learning FUN

\*Negotiating with authorities on bringing ART to underserved populations

\*Presenting a gentle, but persuasive argument against "Artist-Bashing"

## About the Artform

StoryActing is not a new form of storytelling. It is still a rare form because of its high risk elements. Few professionals use it because it works best with small groups (if you have a large group looking for entertainment, another Teller will be better able to meet your needs)

So, then, what is it? It is edu-tainment---a learning, mostly about one's self, which challenges an audience to share the MORALS normally found in a story.

The first component of storyacting is the AUDITION. This activity is disguised as a warm-up exercise, a chance for the artist to engage & gauge the voices and attitudes of audience members. Then, the artist chooses a story and CASTS audience members. Next, the artist SETS THE STAGE; this is often a minimal action, but a crucial and important step.

Now comes the telling---introducing the characters and providing dialogue. This method employs some repetition of lines but, because the option of ad-libbing is available, the repeated lines are kept fresh. Then, just sit back and enjoy while the artist's true skill emerges---keeping the action moving while remaining in the background and allowing the novice actors to dominate the scenes.

OUTCOME? FUN, FUN, AND more FUN as other audience members anticipate a go at the spotlight, patiently (or, not so patiently) awaiting their turn. And guess what? It works for ALL AGE GROUPS!!

## More About the Artist

Idu is a free-lance, professional artist with over 10 years of experience with this particular art-form. He is a former mental health practitioner certificated in substance abuse.

He grew up in South-Central Los Angeles where he graduated from John C. Fremont High School. He attended the University of Oregon; L.A. Trade-Technical College; the University of the District of Columbia; and the California Behavioral Institute.

He is most proud of his time spent studying with the founder of the Theatre of the Oppressed: Augusto Boal.

He is co-founder of the Ujima YOUTHEATER, an acting company made up of African-American youth aged from 6 to 18.

He currently resides in Sacramento, California but spent nearly 20 years in Omaha, Nebraska. In Nebraska, he earned the title of Master Artist with the State Art Council and is included in the State's roster of artists for the Speaker's Bureau of the Humanities Council.

He specializes in African folk-tales, but refuses to limit himself to any one culture's treasures.



*How Turtle Invited  
Spider to Dinner*

Hundreds of tales about **Anansi**, the Spider(Man) are in

*Idu's repertoire. Oh,  
what lessons we  
may learn...*

## **SAMPLE PROJECTS**

### WordStorm In An African Village

*This program, designed to increase literacy, used the process called **StoryActing** to enhance vocabulary, and relied on the skill of IDU MADULI to develop teamwork and responsibility. The project was community-based with diverse collaborators. The participants were primarily African-American youth.*

### Crisis Intervention at a Community Center

*After some evidence of hostility between senior citizens and alternative school youth was noted, IDU MADULI was hired to "work the magic" of **StoryActing**, which succeeded in bringing together the two groups to share the limited space at the community center in a peaceable way.*

### The **Community Discovered** Project

*Its mission: to prepare students to become lifelong learners, creative problem solvers, and successful communicators who are prepared to live and work in today's technological society. Working to transform education by promoting constructivist curricula through integration of the arts and technology in core subject areas, the project sought the unique talent and skill of IDU MADULI to expose students to the FUN involved in learning.*



### *That's What Friends Are For*

A tale given to me  
by the great teller  
Opalanga Pugh,  
(for large venues)  
you would love to  
have *her* at your  
story-event...Hey!!

Of course, there are far too many examples to list here. The good thing is having the ability to develop a program to suit individual systems' needs.

