

# DRAMA ACTIVITY: MODERN DAY RE-TELLING

Create a 21st century re-telling of the fantastical opera *The Magic Flute* by breaking down the story and using improvisation skills. Improvisation is composing/creating something without any preparation; for example, making up a scene without any lines being given to the actors.

After viewing Episodes 4, 5, and 6, recreate the scenes as they would happen today. How would the characters speak if they were talking, vs. how they speak in the story? Imagine the story in a real-world setting, how would this change the way the story is presented?

Be sure to stay true to the story, but add your own 21st century creativity to the characters and what they go through.

Lines may be improvised, but they don't have to be; link this activity to literacy by having students create their own script in 21st century language



Benjamin Davis, left, as Papageno in actor-director Kenneth Branagh's 2006 screen version of *The Magic Flute*, which sets Mozart's opera against the backdrop of World War I. (Courtesy of Celluloid Dreams)