

### *Who was Marjorie Book?*

Marjorie Book was a local poet with a disability who participated in many of the group's activities from 1994 until her death in 2004. Marjorie's warmth, enthusiasm, love of learning and sense of humor exemplified the best characteristic of the life long learners that are in this organization.



*Marjorie Book*

### *How much does this cost?*

We try to keep our fees very reasonable. Many of our activities including the continuing education classes and theatrical plays are only \$25.



### *Donations*

The Marjorie Book Continuing Education Society is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit group. We rely on generous donation and volunteer efforts to sustain and grow our activities. To get involved, please contact Joe Link at (513) 328-6300.

### *Who is Eligible?*

Anyone ages twelve and up. We have members both young and old and everything in between. Our activities are inclusive. To the best of our ability, we try to blur the lines between members of all abilities. To become a member, please request a member application at (513) 328-6300.

### *Contact Info:*

Marjorie Book Continuing Education Society  
2373 Harrison Avenue, Room 21  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211  
ph: (513) 328-6300  
email: [info@marjoriebook.org](mailto:info@marjoriebook.org)  
[www.marjoriebook.org](http://www.marjoriebook.org)

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**Marjorie Book**  
Continuing Education Society



*Bringing teenagers and adults of all abilities together for continuing education classes, service projects and theatrical productions.*

## History of MBCES

In 1993, a group of Cincinnati-area high school and college students produced an amateur community theater production of Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. Among the cast was an actor who was visually impaired. The group received many comments from their audiences that the inclusion of an actor with a disability in the play was exciting. During the following year, the Renegade Garage Players officially established itself as Cincinnati's theater group which involved people of all abilities together. In 2000, the group received its nonprofit status from the Internal Revenue



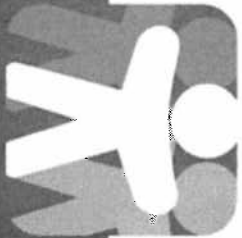
Service and evolved into the Marjorie Book Continuing Education Society. The group sponsors postsecondary education classes, service projects and theatrical productions. The organization has been based at numerous sites in Cincinnati, including the Pendleton Heritage Center, Judson Village Retirement Community, Cincinnati Museum Center and Friendship United Methodist Church. For more than 15 years, dozens of volunteers have made the group's activities possible.

## Programs

### Continuing Education Classes



- Introduction to Spanish
- Theater and Acting
- Introduction to Yoga
- Conflict Resolution



*teenagers  
and adults  
of all abilities  
together*

### Service Projects



- Monthly Saturday Service projects
- Yearly Service trip to Northern Ohio

### Theater



- One-acts
- Full-length theatrical dramas and comedies
- Musicals

## Testimonials

MBCES has widened my horizons and allowed me to meet many new people of all types of abilities. The most wonderful thing is that I get to see my daughter included and accepted and even encouraged. MBCES has allowed her a freedom and acceptance that she has not been able to find anywhere else.

*- Eileen Brown, a parent of a child with a disability*

Being a part of MBCES has really helped support my decision to make the career change from "Corporate America" to education. The people that are a part of MBCES are a constant reminder to "never judge a book by its cover". I really enjoy attending the group functions, ranging from service projects to non-credit courses, such as theater and Spanish. I look forward to the upcoming classes and events that the group will be participating in and strengthening my new friendships within the group.

*- Cat DeSantis, a graduate student in education at Xavier University*

The group is important because it gave me an opportunity to act. I loved Marjorie Book, for whom the group is named. She was a dear friend, and naming the group after her was a nice tribute. We share a love of the arts and theater as well as helping others by doing service projects. It has allowed me to branch out and try new things such as learning Spanish, volunteering for the Flying Pig Marathon, and I will try yoga for the first time this year. I am really excited about all of the new and upcoming experiences this year. I think that they will definitely be worthwhile!

*- Larry Freeman, an artist with a disability who works at the Internal Revenue Service*