

Program Name: Creativity Through Puppets

Artist: Piccadilly Productions

Special Requirements:

Two tables; volunteers to assist with glue guns; cleared work space for students

Special Points of Interest:

The Wayang shadow puppet shows in India, Bali, and Java often begin at sunset and last all night long. In the centuries-old Bunraku theatre of Japan, it takes three puppeteers to operate one puppet.

Other programs by this artist:

[-Peter & The Wolf](#)

Workshop Description

Teaching Artist Lisa Jorgensen is a puppeteer. She uses her skill and imagination to turn inanimate objects into a good story and teaches children, of all ages, to do the same.

Lisa shows students how to use cloth, wood, glue, and their own ideas to create puppets that can tell a story. Every workshop participant will make a puppet while discovering the basic principles of puppetry, visual art, theater concepts, and movement.

Lisa begins with a brief introduction to the puppetry arts. She illustrates the different aspects of a puppet show: set, props, music, puppets, and a script.

Next, Lisa firmly establishes that art is subjective: we all have opinions about what we like and dislike in art. Everyone's expression of their artistic talents is equally unique and appreciated.

Though a finished puppet is the goal of this workshop, Lisa's hope is that students will take with them a greater understanding of how to think a project through from concept and design to implementation.



Educational Objectives & Standards

Students will:

- Discover problem solving skills and self-expression
- Turn found objects into puppets
- Be challenged to think a project through from start to finish

Art Connections

- Knows how visual, oral, and kinetic elements are used in various art forms

Life Skills:

- Contributes to the development of a supportive climate in groups

Artist Bio



Piccadilly Productions is a child-centered company that uses the time-honored art form of puppetry to build self esteem and teach personal safety.

“We believe the act of families, children, and educators sharing and participating in stories—stories that are true and innocent at heart—is a respectful and time-honored tradition,” says Ms. Jorgensen. “Sharing stories

rejuvenates and maintains hope to communities and future generations.”

Lisa is the founder and Artistic Director of Piccadilly Productions and has been a puppeteer since 1989. She holds a BA from Kansas State University. Lisa was an Artist-in-Residence on the Missouri Arts Council’s 2003-2004 touring roster and has also been chosen as a professional development workshop leader under Kansas City Young Audiences.

List of Resources:

Books:

[Puppet Mania: The World's Most Incredible Puppet Making Book Ever](#)

by John E. Kennedy
North Light Books; (February 1, 2004)
ISBN: 1581803729

[Making Puppets Come Alive: How to Learn and Teach Hand Puppetry \(Dover Craft Books\)](#)

by Larry Engler, Carol Fijan
Dover Publications; (January 1, 1997)
ISBN: 0486293785

[The Muppets Make Puppets!/Book and Puppet Kit: How to Make Puppets Out of All Kinds of Stuff Around Your House](#)

by Cheryl Henson, David Cain, John E. Barrett, Muppet Workshop
Workman Publishing; Bk&Pup Kit edition (November 1, 1994)
ISBN: 1563057085

Contact KCYA for more information about this and other programs

816.531.4022
KC YA.org

Vocabulary

Character: A person portrayed in an artistic piece, such as a drama or novel.

Process: A series of actions, changes, or functions bringing about a result.

Prop: An item used in the telling of a story.

Puppet: Any inanimate object that’s brought to life under the skill of a puppeteer. Different types of puppets include hand-puppets, which are fitted over the hand, and puppets manipulated by rods and strings.

Script: The text of a play, broadcast, or movie.

Set: The area in which a staged performance takes place.

Post-Workshop Activities

1. Imagine your new puppet is an old friend. Make up a story about how you met, what you like most about each other, and what things you like to do together. Share your story with your family and friends.
2. Plan and organize a show where your puppet tells an audience all about you.
3. Draw a pattern of your puppet so that it can be reproduced by someone else.
4. Use your creativity to choose everyday objects to design a stage for your puppet. Draw a picture of your stage and list the items you used to create it.
5. Make up your own teaching book for younger children entitled *How To Make Puppets From Everyday Objects Around You*. Give examples of found puppet ideas with illustrations.