

Puppetry in Education and Therapy
The Day for the Teaching Artist and Therapist

July 14 & 19, 2009

In conjunction with the
2009 National Puppetry Festival
Presented by the Puppeteers of America

Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

4:15 p.m. Keynote Presentations

What and Who is a Teaching Artist? I am one, are you?

Judith O'Hare

There is a movement to create a new profession called "The Teaching Artist." Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts and the New England Cultural Councils have joined hands to provide professional training to artists and to identify skills and areas of expertise that the artist needs to become successful in a variety of educational settings with children, teachers and other adults. What unique qualities does the practicing artist bring to education? Why is it so important to bring the Teaching Artist center stage and develop a consciousness for including the artist in the educational process?

Benefits and Outcome of Puppet Play in Child Development

Matthew Bernier

Children use free play to learn about themselves and others and to make sense of their world. The inclusion of the arts and specifically puppets in play enhances the outcome of the experiences. This presentation will explore the benefits of the arts and puppet play in child development from psychological, psychosocial, imaginal, and neuroscience perspectives.

5:15 p.m. Adjourn

Sunday, July 19, 2009

8:00 a.m. Coffee and Conversation

8:30 a.m. **Welcome and Program Overview**

Judith O'Hare

PowerPoint Presentations

Dina Kaplan's *Puppets without Borders*

Robert Maglievaz's *How Puppetry Can Be an Effective Tool for Raising Environmental Health Awareness in Young Children*

9:00 a.m. **Lesson Plans, Standards and Evaluation**

**Is There a Place for Puppets in the Classroom?
Lessons from Research and Experience**

Sharon Peck

This presentation addresses the question, "Is there a place for puppets in the classroom?" By reviewing current educational research and highlighting insights from her recent experiences of researching the use of puppetry in literacy instruction, Sharon will discuss key considerations for teaching artists.

**The "Not-So-Fun" Essentials
(Paperwork, Standards and Evaluations)**

Gretchen Van Lente

Details that the teaching artist needs to take into consideration when planning and implementing a school residency such as paperwork, planning and documentation, meeting standards and evaluation. These are essential to an effective relationship for the artist and the school.

10:00 a.m. **Illustrating Difficult Topics Through Puppetry**

Bruce Chesse

Sharing of work done in the classroom: illustrating concepts such as grammar rules, health concepts and social concerns including child abuse and environmental issues.

10:30 a.m. **Break**

***Following the break we will separate into two interest groups:
"Curriculum Standards" and "Therapy."***

10:45 a.m. **Curriculum Standards**

Liz Freeman, facilitator

**My Favorite Five Puppetry Ideas to Share with Early Childhood
Teachers**

Rick Strot

A demonstration of five puppetry ideas that always receive an enthusiastic response from early childhood and elementary teachers. Three ideas are for teachers using puppets as a teaching tool and two ideas are for puppet centers in the classroom.

A Puppet Project Involving State Standards

Yostie Ashley

Blend the best of retelling favorite stories with puppets, props, and music. Share ideas from the residencies and after school programs. A beginning puppet project involving state standards.

10:45 a.m. **Therapy: Approaches and Outcomes**

Matthew Bernier, facilitator

An Origami Puppet Project That Opened Doors for Treatment

Thi Penfil

There will be a presentation of two basic origami puppets that the participants will make with just paper and a writing tool. I will share how these basic puppets gave me the opening into working with one 8 year old child who molested a 2 year old. This child had been in a residential treatment facility for more than a year and "traditional" psych methods had yielded very little. I was brought in and worked with the assigned treatment staff. It was through the art therapy/puppet therapy that the door came swinging open and this boy ended up eventually being given to a treatment family and then on to beginning life again.

Creating and Using Healing Stories in Education and Therapy

Dr. Joanne Vizzini

Multicultural videotaped sessions of clients' therapeutic work, both adult and children, will be shared. Use of puppets in therapy and for therapeutic/educational purposes through healing stories will be demonstrated, where healing potential is literally at one's fingertips.

11:45 a.m. **Lunch (*provided*)**

12:30 p.m. **Getting the Job: How to Prepare**

Effective Strategies for Puppeteers Who Want to Work in Schools and Educational Settings

Carol Sterling

Learn what skills and abilities schools are looking for in teaching artists who are puppeteers. Learn how to integrate puppetry in the K-12 school curriculum while meeting the needs of school administrators and curriculum supervisors. Enrich the curriculum while helping young people strengthen their communication, critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Teacher Training, Residencies, Evaluation, Research and Standards-based Lesson Plans – An All-Inclusive Approach

Claire Ritzler

Puppetry is an important component in The Alliance Theatre Institute for Educators. The Institute provides a week-long summer training for teachers and teaching artists, a 10 to 15 session residency, ongoing evaluation, field trips, and lesson planning. Research is conducted by Georgia State University. Program description, sample lesson plans and funding options will be presented.

1:30 p.m. **Break**

Following the break we will separate into two interest groups: “Planning and Setting Goals” and “Puppets in Science and Social Studies Curricula.”

1:40 p.m. **Planning: How to Set Goals and Meet Them**

Liz Freeman, facilitator

Tricks of the Trade in Designing a Puppet Show and Workshop for Classrooms

Penny Jones

Or, How to Mix Puppets, Children, Teachers, Curriculum and Aesthetics and be Asked Back! Lecture/demo on enveloping classroom children in a low-tech total theatrical experience which supports curriculum, hones mental and manipulative skills, and engages and supports their teachers.

A Lesson Plan from a Dissertation Study

Allen Ware

Participants will be introduced to an actual lesson plan from a dissertation study. The activity will be explained and demonstrated, including some group participation. A report on how the overall curriculum was structured and data collected will be included. Participants will receive a copy of the project executive summary and one of the daily lesson plans.

1:40 p.m. **Puppets in Science and Social Studies Curricula**

Judith O’Hare, facilitator

Puppets and the Solar System

Lisa Sturz

Lisa Sturz's Red Herring Puppets, in partnership with Vance Elementary School (a NASA Explorer School) and Handmade in America, was awarded a Ribbon of Hope grant to integrate science and art in the classroom. The project had three components – a performance of Red Herring Puppets' THE BIG DIPPER: Calendar, Compass, and Clock; a residency with fourth grade classes in which the students created shadow and hand puppets to tell several Cherokee star legends; and an installation of a scale model of the solar system to convert the auditorium into a “planetarium.”

A Discussion of Creative Dramatization of Curriculum Topics with Puppets

Ann and George Neff

In describing three very successful puppetry projects with 3rd grade students at Mullica Hill Friends School, we will recount the outcomes and impact on children when artists and the receiving school model values of collaboration and support.

2:40 p.m. **Break**

2:50 p.m. **Using Puppets for Conflict Resolution**

Karen Konnerth

Presentation of a DVD and book on “Using Puppets for Conflict Resolution.” A description of how the DVD and book were organized with a step by step approach that teachers can replicate. Discussion on marketing, evaluating, and field testing.

3:15 p.m. **Wrap Up and Call to Action:**

Sign up for the Puppetry in Education and Therapy Committee

3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Optional Evening Session: You are welcome to join us for dinner (at your own expense) and a time of informal sharing. Bring PowerPoint slides and any other visuals to share. Our time will include the presentation described on the next page.

Puppets in the Classroom: Targeting Literacy, Especially Listening and Reading Comprehension

Liz Freeman

Expanding the Read Aloud Concept based on the Concentrated Language Encounters (CLE) developed by Rotarian Richard Walker in Australia and Dr. Rattavich of Thailand with the use of classroom puppets. Through this technique, students become more active participants in their own learning process. One aspect of CLE includes students acting out a story they have heard (or read) in order to practice retelling a story using main characters, setting, and sequencing of main events.