



From Page to Puppet Stage

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NJPAC ARTS EDUCATION

Since its founding in 1993, four years before NJPAC's official opening, NJPAC's Arts Education Department has been dedicated to enhancing and transforming the lives of all New Jersey children. Each year, NJPAC's live performances, school residencies, and performing arts training programs reach thousands of children, from preschoolers to aspiring professionals. By experiencing performances and creating artistic work of their own, the children we reach develop new ways of learning and looking at the world. These exciting encounters also help to instill a lifelong appreciation of the arts. NJPAC also serves educators across the state with its in-depth professional development programs.

the arts in your school

In-School Residencies: Drama + Social Studies. Dance + Math. It all adds up in NJPAC's In-School Residencies in which professional teaching artists partner with educators to bring the arts into the classroom. Each 7- to 10-week program culminates in a student performance or an interactive family workshop. All programs address state and national standards. NJPAC is the regional provider in New Jersey for international arts programs like the Wolf Trap Institute's Early Learning Through the Arts Program and a Kennedy Center Partners in Education.

study the arts at njpac

Saturday Programs: NJPAC's Saturday programs are geared towards students at every level—from those who dream of starring on Broadway to those who are still learning their scales. Students work with professional artists to build technique and develop their own creative style in film, contemporary modern dance, hip hop, jazz, musical theater and symphonic band.

Summer Programs: Want to begin to explore the arts? Or immerse yourself in the study of one genre? Then join us at NJPAC next summer in one of seven programs that spark the creativity in every child through the study of music, dance and theater.

SchoolTime Performance Series: NJPAC's SchoolTime performance series introduces students to the magic of performing arts on stage. Productions are linked to curriculum areas and are appropriate for a broad range of ages. Teachers receive Teacher Resource Guides to facilitate lesson planning. NJPAC also offers pre and post-performance interactive workshops.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call our education sales team at 973.353.7058 or email artseducation@njpac.org. Visit www.njpac.org/education

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Workshop Description

Puppets are powerful (and fun) tools to use in the classroom! In this hands-on workshop, participants will explore how puppetry can transform students' learning and how to apply it to core curriculum. Participants will be led through a series of creative practices and develop practical approaches to support storytelling, character exploration, and social emotional learning through books in their curriculum. Drawing inspiration from Pura Belpre (librarian, storyteller, and puppeteer) participants will be encouraged to develop their own puppet characters to support students telling their own stories.

Appropriate for PreK-5th grade.

Integrating theater, movement, visual arts, sound and English Language Arts

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What is a puppet?
- How can we build puppets in your classroom using simple materials?
- How can we identify emotions and then embody them to convey meaning?
- How can we use theater and puppetry skills to bring stories to life to enhance literacy?

New Jersey Visual & Performing Arts Standards

Performing Arts:

Pre-K 1.2.4 – Listen to, imitate, and improvise sounds, patterns, or songs.

Pre-K 1.1.1 – Move the body in a variety of ways, with and without music.

Pre-K 1.3.4 – Differentiate between fantasy/pretend play and real events.

Anchor Standards:

1: Generating and conceptualizing ideas.

6: Conveying meaning through art.

9: Interpreting intent and meaning.

10: Synthesizing and relating personal knowledge and experiences to create products.

English Language Arts Standards

English Language Arts:

Pre-K 0.4.1 – Engage appropriately with peers and teachers in classroom activities.

Pre-K 0.5.2 – Engage in pretend play.

RF.PK.1 – Begin to demonstrate understanding of basic features of print.

SL.PK.1 – Participate in conversations and interactions with peers and adults individually and in small and large groups.

L.PK.4 – Begin to determine the meaning of new words and phrases introduced through preschool reading and content.

NJSLSA.R1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

NJSLSA.R2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas

NJSLSA.SL1. Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

NJSLSA.SL6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

WARM UP

Activity 1: High 5 Partners

- *“Why did you choose this workshop today?”*
- *“Do you use the arts in your classroom to teach literacy? And if so, how?”*
- *How do you encourage students to tell and share stories?”*

Activity 2: Name, Feeling and Action

- Introduce ourselves, explore feelings and introduce the **RED NOSE!**

Activity 3: Puppet Emotional Walk

- Make our puppet and add in emotions!

MAIN ACTIVITY

Activity 1: Enter and Exit the Frame

- Beginning to tell stories using our puppets

Activity 2: Introducing Pura Belpre!

- Read the storybook *Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré* By: Anika Aldamuy Denise

Activity 3: Creating Characters

- Using Pura as an inspiration point, in small groups create a character and/ story to present to the group
 - Puppet as character(s) re-enacting the story
 - Puppet as Co-Teacher reading and commenting on story

REFLECTION

Activity 1: Group Recap and Reflection

- What is something from today that you would like to remember and incorporate into your classroom next year?

RESOURCES

Books:

1. *Puppetry in Education and Therapy: Unlocking Doors to the Mind and Heart* edited by Matthew Bernier and Judith O'Hare
2. *Storytelling with puppets* by Connie Champlin ISBN: 0838907091
3. *Puppetry: A World History* by Eileen Blumenthal (2005)
4. *A Show of Hands: Using Puppets with Young Children* by Ingrid M. Crepeau

Websites:

1. "History of Puppets"- Puppetsnow.com
<http://www.puppetsnow.com/history-of-puppets.html>
2. "A Brief History of Puppetry"- Mermaid Theater of Nova Scotia
http://www.mermaidtheatre.ns.ca/onTour/leoLionni/Leo_Lionni_SG/puppetry_history.htm
3. Shadow Puppets
http://www.shadow-puppets.com/Shadow_Puppetry_in_Europe.php
4. Toy Theater <http://www.kanniskorner.com/toytheater/abouttoy.htm>
5. "Do you speak Puppetry?" Puppetry as a Teaching Aid (Farryl Hadari)
<http://www.speakingpuppetry.com/teachingaid.php>
6. "Puppets in the Drama Classroom" Lesson plans for puppetry (Matthew Buchanon)
<http://www.childdrama.com/puppets.html>

Other Puppet Organizations:

1. UNIMA-USA <http://www.unima-usa.org/>
2. Puppeteers of America <http://www.puppeteers.org/>
3. The Jim Henson Foundation <https://www.hensonfoundation.org>
4. <http://www.hensonfoundation.org/index.php/puppet-happenings/new-york>

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Natalie Dreyer is an arts educator with a background in music and theatre who joined the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) after working in the Education Department at Trinity Rep as the School Partnership Manager and Arts Integration Coordinator. As a teaching artist, she has worked with a wide range of ages and disciplines. She holds a BM in Vocal Performance from DePauw University and Masters in Education in Integrated Teaching through the Arts from Lesley University. Her thesis focused on arts integration and supporting English Language Learners. She is passionate about finding the connections between the arts and education in ways that best serve students.

Renata Townsend is a multidisciplinary artist whose work focuses on family audiences, intergenerational play and building imaginary worlds. She believes in the power of storytelling and laughter to strengthen relationships and solidify memory making. She is a teaching artist with NJPAC, The New Victory Theater and Lincoln Center Theater and an adjunct professor at Montclair State University. She works with the World Science Festival on participatory activity design, is a curriculum consultant for Broadway shows (OK!, Jagged Little Pill, Mrs. Doubtfire and SIX) and works in Kids TV at WarnerBros Discovery in the curriculum department. She is the Creative Producer, Schools for Trusty Sidekick Theater Company and was a 2019/20 New Victory Theater Labworks Artist in Residence. As an actor/puppeteer she has performed at Classic Stage Company, Park Avenue Armory and St. Ann's Warehouse. She holds a BFA in Acting from University of Maryland, BC and a Master's Degree in Applied Theater from City University of New York, SPS.