



The official newsletter of
San Francisco Bay Area Puppeteers' Guild
*Looking for updates and missed information?
Check for it at SFBAPG.ORG*

SFBAPG is a charter guild of the Puppeteers of America, Inc., a non-profit, tax exempt organization

August 2020



Puppet filmmaker Alex Griffin (in top photo L with ex-guild member Sam Koji Hale on R) will be doing a workshop for the guild August 15 via Zoom. Details in this newsletter.

Guild Board and Officers

President

Camilla Henneman
camhenneman@gmail.com

Vice President

Ilene Cleveland
hope922000@yahoo.com

Secretary

Barbara Grillo
bgrillo@contracosta.edu

Treasurer

Valerie Nelson
mail@magicalmoonshine.org

Webmaster

Gabriel Galdamez
gabriel@cmtministries.org

Lee Armstrong
images@vom.com
707-996-9474

LaVera Wilson
luvwill2@yahoo.com

Judy Roberto
be_artsy@hotmail.com

Nao Kobayashi
naopuppet@gmail.com

Librarian

Lee Armstrong
707-996-9474

Membership Assistant

Michael Nelson
707-363-4573
mail@magicalmoonshine.org

The July Guild Challenge is on NOW with Extended Deadline: August 8!!

Our new program Puppet Challenge is now open for your participation!! And we have extended the deadline to August 8th!

The main page <https://www.facebook.com/events/303203834136847>



In these days of no in-person meetings, let's expand into new ways of connecting with puppetry. Join in to create and motivate each other's puppet dreams through this



July Puppet Challenge!

The theme is **Ocean**. Whether it's under the sea, sailing above, tidepool or shore, the ocean has vast potential to inspire.

Using the Ocean theme you can create and submit any one (or more, or all) of these projects ...

- Design sketch for puppet sea creature(s)
- Puppet script with ocean theme (any length)
- Music or song for a nautical puppet show
- Set design/scenery for puppet show
- Any other puppet/ocean theme idea you'd like to develop & share

This can be an individual project or you can collaborate with like-minded people.



Deadline: Projects must be posted by August 8 by midnight, PST.

Submission: This can be posted starting July 11 on our FB Event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/303203834136847>

Instagram: tag @sfbapg, #SFPuppetGuildChallenge, #OceanPuppetChallenge

Email: email to naopuppet@gmail.com and Nao will post on FB & IG. (file 2 MB max.)

Rewards

1. You will have a creative puppet experience!
2. Delight Guild members and friends as they see your submissions on

our Guild Instagram and FB event page!

3. Participant's names and a compilation of as many of the ideas as possible will be featured in the August newsletter!

4. One lucky participant (random drawing from all participants' names) will receive an ocean-themed Folkmanis puppet!

We encourage all Guild members to check out the projects by visiting our Instagram and FB Events pages.

If you have questions, please contact our Programming Committee member Nao Kobayashi: naopuppet@gmail.com

Craft Your Puppet Show for Video with Alex U. Griffin

Aug 15th Zoom Guild Meeting 3:30-5:30 PST



Guild meeting from 3:30-4. Hear the latest Guild news and meet and greet the Guild community and puppet enthusiasts. You are welcome to BYOP (bring your own puppet) & beverages.

Workshop from 4-5 pm. This workshop is designed for puppeteers who are transitioning their live shows to video, for those that would like to create quality puppet videos for media and for all who want to know more about video production. Alex will cover the basics of planning your shoot, using camera angles and framing to make your production more dynamic, and tips and tricks to add to your video skill set.

Q & A and wrap-up from 5-5:30. Ask Alex additional questions and brief wrap up.

Important updates, clarifications, and just useful info:

Those that sign up on sign-up genius

(<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a44acae2aa7f49-craft>) can enter the zoom meeting from 4 to 4:30 for the guild meeting. They will also be able to make their comments in Zoom during the workshop.

Anyone can watch the workshop portion from 4:30 to 5:30 without signing up by going to Facebook live on our Facebook page. However they won't be able to participate in the guild meeting from 4 to 4:30. The workshop will be removed from the Facebook page at the end of the day on Aug. 15th.

Presenter: Alex U. Griffin

Alex is a puppeteer and filmmaker currently based in Los Angeles, CA.

As a puppeteer, Alex has performed in a number of films, commercials, digital shorts, and live performances covering a variety of performance styles. Also active in the puppet community, Alex is the Film Coordinator for Heather Henson's *Handmade Puppet Dreams* film series, Vice President of the Los Angeles Guild of Puppetry, and a Director at Large for the Puppeteers of America. Alex also curates the Reel Puppetry Film Festival for the Puppeteers of America, and produces/curates the LA Guild of Puppetry's popular *48hr Puppet Film Project*.

As a cinematographer and filmmaker, Alex has worked on a number of puppet projects big and small, often working both behind and in front of the camera. Alex recently filmed the all-puppet feature *Yamasong: March of the Hollows* for director Sam Koji Hale and Dark Dunes Productions, now streaming on Amazon Prime Video, and is in pre-production on his own short film *The Man with No Face* for producers Sam Koji Hale and Heather Henson.

You can find more information on his website at www.alexugriffin.com

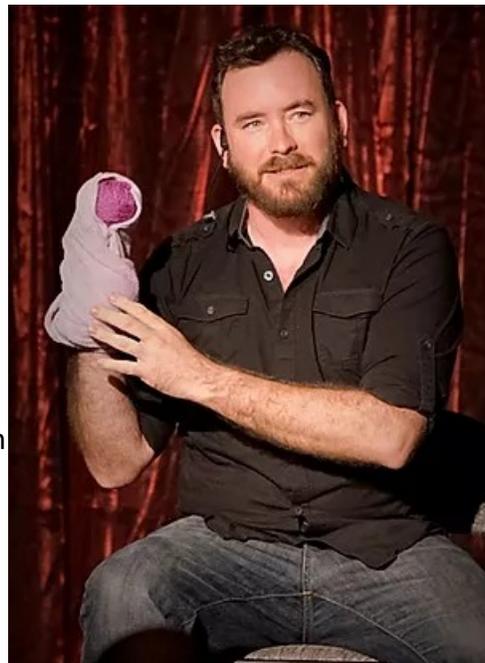
If you'd like to attend, please RSVP ASAP, but before Friday 08/14 at noon to

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a44acae2aa7f49-craft>.

Signup Genius participants will receive a Zoom invitation on Friday 08/14. This is also open to non-Guild members.

However, if you'd like to become a Guild member (which gives you great benefits, including a monthly newsletter) join at <http://www.sfbapg.org/membership>.

People can also view the program part of the meeting (4-5 pm) via Facebook Live. Details will be posted on <https://www.facebook.com/SanFranBAPG/>



Want to be in a Reality Puppet TV show?

Hi there!

It's Russell Berman from Pitman Casting!

I have a new project that may be of interest to you or maybe you know someone who would be great for the show.

Here are the details to share or email me back with any recommendations.

A major broadcast network is now casting PUPPETEERS and their puppet for a new reality competition show.

Your puppet must have a fully-realized personality, interesting life, and complete backstory.

If your puppet has a larger than life personality and is not afraid to share its opinions then apply today at puppetshowcasting.com or email us at puppets@pitmanproductions.com for more info.

Must be 18+. Solo puppeteers only. No marionettes or sock puppets.

The puppet must have head, torso, and arms. The puppet does not need to be humanoid.

If you have any questions or would like more details before applying/posting/sharing, please email me at puppets@pitmanproductions.com.

PUPPET CASTING

J.R. Pittman - Casting Producer

Jerry Artukovich - Casting Producer

Russell Berman - Casting Associate Producer

Pitman Productions, 818-666-3606, www.pitmancasting.com

Musings from Elisheva

It was a hot day on Sesame Street. Bert and Ernie were hanging out in the sun. Bert turns to Ernie and says, "So do you want to go get some ice cream?" Ernie replied, "Sure Bert!:" [Sherbet]

A POP-UP MEMORY. Back in the summer of 1970, I had the good fortune to take a week long workshop of Shadow Puppets from Java. On the next to last day I had no one to take care of my 4 year old daughter, Julie. So I brought her along. Every one enjoyed her company and she was enthralled with the gamalan music and the color and movement of the puppets. ("YAY!" I thought to myself! "Maybe, #3 child, will become a puppeteer too!")

The Dalang (puppeteer) squatted behind the student (seated on the floor), who was practicing a traditional walk with a puppet. Dalang reached over, placing his hands on the student's, and guided him several times through this very short exercise.

Julie looked me in the face, her eyes as round as saucers and said in horror, "You mean, you have to do the same thing over and over again?"

"That's called practice, honey," I replied and wisely crossed her off as a future puppeteer.

Weekend of Puppetry at Fairyland

The elves at Fairyland are working hard to have a modified celebration and Weekend of Puppetry at Fairyland Oakland, so stay tuned as this may happen. An update will be sent to you as soon as there is more info for the **Annual Puppet Faire at Fairyland, Oakland, Sept. 5-6**. Two days of puppet shows, a puppet exhibit and lots of fun to celebrate Fairyland's 70th birthday (opened 09/02/1950) and the Guild's 65th!

PROGRAMMING HELP WANTED!

- Would you like to suggest a program for a Guild meeting?
- Do you have a show or skill that would be of interest to our membership?
- Would you like to have a Guild meeting in your community and could provide your home, your local library, church, community center or...?
- Would you like to be on the Programming Committee?

If so, please contact Lee

Armstrong, images@vom.com or Judy Roberto be_artsy@hotmail.com or anyone on the Programming Committee (Nao Kobayashi, LaVera Wilson & Gabriel Galdamez) or Guild Board.



To send articles for future newsletters, send to newsletter@sfbag.org