



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

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

**Guild Board and Officers**

**President**

John Arnold,  
 president@sfbapg.org

**Vice President**

Camilla Henneman  
 vp@sfbapg.org

**Secretary**

CE Choy  
 secretary@sfbapg.org

**Treasurer**

Valerie Nelson  
 treasurer@sfbapg.org

**Membership**

Nao Kobayashi  
 membership@sfbapg.org

**Programming**

Marisol Himmel  
 programming@sfbapg.org

Glynn "Tree" Bartlett  
 gbartlett@sfbapg.org

Judy Roberto  
 jroberto@sfbapg.org

Ilene Kennedy  
 ikennedy@sfbapg.org

**Newsletter**

Michael Nelson  
 newsletter@sfbapg.org

**Librarian**

Lee Armstrong  
 library@sfbapg.org

## February Guild Meeting

**"Name Your Favorite Holiday" Party with Winnie the Witch a Black-Light Puppet Spectacular!**



Sat. Feb 18th, 2 - 5 pm.

@Poison Apple Productions, 847 Arnold Dr, Martinez

A Holiday party in Feb? Yes, as traditional, the Guild waits until the new year to celebrate the Holidays, as Dec. is sometimes the busiest time of the year for puppeteers. So come to the Name Your Favorite Holiday Party, where we'll celebrate all the holidays.

And what's more traditional than a Halloween Show to ring in the New Year! Winnie the Witch is no ordinary show. It's filled with amazing digital effects created by our own Guild member, Art Grueneberger of Puppet Art Theater Co. After the show, he'll give a "behind the scenes" look at his show and share his tech-pertise. Also, the Guild Holiday party has puppet games, refreshments, raffle, Guild library and other fun. So, come and bring friends and family to this great get-together.

## **Winnie the Witch A Black-Light Puppet Show!**

Winnie the Witch Loves Halloween, especially the candy! On her way to pick up sweets on Candy Island she discovers Willard the Wizard trying to ruin Halloween by making the World's Candy Supply taste like Brussels sprouts. With the help of the audience and her trusty broomstick, Winnie must dodge Dancing Ghosts, Batty Bats and Silly Skeletons to save Halloween! Digital sets and animations help enhance this blacklight performance.

Youtube Clips: [https://youtu.be/1\\_nSSlacK40](https://youtu.be/1_nSSlacK40)

## **About Puppet Art Theater Co.**

Art Grueneberger founded Puppet Art Theater Co., <https://puppetarts.com/> in 1996. His company has eighteen productions that tour across California and beyond performing hundreds of live and online shows every year. Grueneberger has become a master at developing marvelous puppet shows that charm and delight family audiences. In addition to his work for children, Grueneberger has also produced large-scale theatrical productions for adults that incorporate puppets. He has taught at multiple colleges and was a featured guest artist at the Eugene O'Neill National Puppetry Conference. Currently, he is the host of the Puppeteers of America online program "Meet Our Mentors".

## **Loose Schedule – as it is a Party!**

1-2 Setup Committee

2:00- Meet & Greet

2:00-3:30 Puppeteer Scavenger Hunt, Puppet Parade (bring a puppet you want to show off and join the parade!)

Guild Library, Refreshments, Short Guild Meeting, Silent Auction & Raffle (contact Valerie Nelson if you have a donation for the raffle: [magicalmoonshine@gmail.com](mailto:magicalmoonshine@gmail.com))

3:30-5 “Winnie the Witch” by Art Grueneberger of Puppet Theater Co. & Q & A & show and tell with Art. Announcement of the Raffle & Silent Auction Winners, Goodbyes

5:00-5:45 Breakdown Committee

## **Location & Parking**

Studio at Poison Apple Productions, 847 Arnold Dr, Martinez

## **Raffle**

Our guild holiday party traditionally has a raffle! We are excited to share some of our hidden puppet gems including vintage marionettes., ballerina hand puppet, puppet books



and more! Your purchase will go to the guild's scholarship fund. Come and win the special prizes!



Guild Board member Ilene Kennedy of Kennedy Puppets has been repairing some old, collectible puppets for the guild such as the one to the left. Some of these gems will be in the guild raffle or silent action! Thanks, Ilene!

### Volunteers Needed

**Refreshments** - We are serving beverages and compact finger foods and appreciate to have your support for this picnic style finger food potluck! (No hot & wet foods, as we have no easy kitchen access.)

Also, we are looking for volunteer friends who can make this holiday celebration special by helping us setup, greet, sell raffle tickets, cleanup and more. If you can help, please sign up at the link:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/8050e4baeab2aa7fc1-holiday>

## Tiny House Theater, Nature Inspired Puppetry and Storytelling Arts!

Greetings from Madrone D'Ardenne and Tiny House Theater, Nature Inspired Puppetry and Storytelling Arts! I'm excited to share the news that my studio space in the 17th Avenue Artist Studios on Santa Cruz eastside is newly expanded and hosting events open to the public.



Last spring, the artist that was in the studio next to mine for more than a decade gave up her space and I was able to take out a section of one wall, and add a new section of wall to create a performance/classroom space double what I had, plus a work/storage room.

I started Tiny House Theater in 2017 and everything I had worked for was really taking off in the first months of 2020. Then the pandemic hit. Then I was evacuated from fires— twice. First from the CZU Lightning Complex in Santa Cruz county and then from the Glass fire in Sonoma county.

It's been a long and winding road as they say to make my way back to reopening Tiny House Theater, but we are open as of September 2022! Our February events are up on the website, and March events will be posted soon.

I would love to see some of my fellow puppeteers at my events, along with friends, family and other puppetry enthusiasts, as I begin to rebuild my business. My focus is seasonally oriented original nature tales, animal fables, folk and fairytales, with themes of kindness, helpfulness and problem solving. I offer wool centered crafting classes of all kinds as well as monthly personal insight workshops. We also do school visits and private event bookings.

Please check out my website at [tinyhousetheater.com](http://tinyhousetheater.com) and send me a comment!

Madrone D'Ardenne, Tiny House Theater-- Nature Inspired Puppetry and Storytelling Arts  
[tinyhousetheater.com](http://tinyhousetheater.com)

### Guild Library at Feb Meeting

The Guild library will have books for checkout at the Feb 18 meeting! The library contains many books that are devoted to puppet construction, puppetry in education, puppet performance, directing for the puppet theater, puppetry around the world, and more. If you have been a Guild member in good standing for 6 months, you may borrow from the library. If you have a Guild Library book checked out, either please return it at the Feb 18 meeting OR mail it back by Feb 18 to the Guild Librarian, Lee Armstrong, 720 Ladera Dr., Sonoma, CA 95476. Thank you!

The Guild librarian will bring a selection of books, but if there's a particular book or topic that you'd like to check out, please contact Lee at [library@sfbapg.org](mailto:library@sfbapg.org).

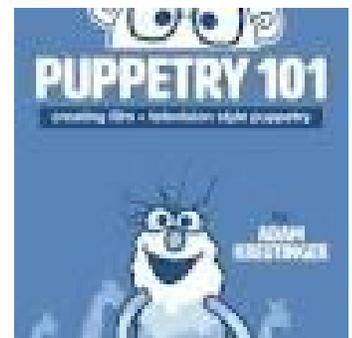
The Library has a number of new books and the latest acquisition is **Puppetry 101: Creating Film and Television Style Puppetry** by [Adam Kreutinger](#) (Author). Some of you will be familiar with Adam's work, from "PuppetNerd" his Youtube instructional videos, <https://www.youtube.com/@PuppetNerd>.

**Master the magnificent art of puppetry with this exhaustive puppeteering guide!**

**Puppetry 101** will show you everything there is to puppetry so that you can create with puppetry and express yourself confidently every single time.

**In this guide, you will learn:**

- What puppetry truly is and its essence
- Finding your perfect puppet match and creating a compelling, lovable character
- Step-by-step guide on how to puppeteer, including eye focus, lip syncing, the Henson punch technique, hand movements, and more



- Crafting a winning puppet show that brings out the best in your character
- All about television puppetry and successfully performing on the screen
- Making your own puppet from scratch
- And so much more!

Amazon Buyer Review *"I expected a good book on puppeteering and it certainly is that, excellent in fact, but it also is a wonderful guide to the art of storytelling with solid guidance that is valuable across many media from theatre and creative writing to photography. I got much more than I bargained for."*

The Stan Winston School School of Character Arts is now available through the Guild Library. If you aren't familiar with this site, it's the world's premier online destination for learning the art and technology of character creation from Hollywood's leading artists and technical wizards. It has a puppet section with notable builders and performers. To get familiar with the puppet tutorials available, go to <https://www.stanwinstonschool.com/>. Then click on the search feature (magnifying glass on the upper right) and type in "puppets." However, you can also visit videos on creature fabrication, stop motion armatures, wiggling, making eyeballs and all sorts of interesting crafts!

Each Guild member can request use of this subscription for up to 2 weeks. This access time may change, depending on usage. Contact the Guild librarian, Lee Armstrong at [library@sfbapg.org](mailto:library@sfbapg.org), and she will provide you with the password, on a first come, first served basis. If the subscription is checked out, you'll go on the waitlist for the next available check out. However, right now, this subscription is available. Don't delay, contact Lee today!

If you'd like to get started immediately with these amazing tutorials and the Guild subscription is already checked out, you can sign up at <https://www.stanwinstonschool.com/> for a free 7-day trial.

100's of courses available. Check out Pathways, <https://www.stanwinstonschool.com/pathways>, with groups of courses: Basic Design, Basic Painting, Puppetry, Molding and Casting, Mechanical and Animatronics, Filmmaking, Fabrication Basics, etc. These courses open new doors and possibilities!

## UNIMA-USA Zoom on Holiday Puppet shows

Join UNIMA USA for a Zoom discussion of how companies create work for presentation in relation to holidays and holydays

UNIMA-USA brings you a  
**ZOOM EVENT!**  
**SUNDAY FEBRUARY, 12 2023**  
**5:00 PM ET**



### **Puppets, Holidays and Holydays: Sharing Heritages**

**Historically puppeteers have created works that celebrate the cultural or religious heritage of groups. What works are contemporary companies sharing in our diverse society?**

**The event is free for members and nonmembers,  
but advance registration is required.  
Click [HERE](#) to signup and get your link.**

Please be sure to adjust the start time on your calendar for your time zone.

in contemporary Society. Manuel Moran will discuss how he plays to/for Puerto Rican audiences, Stephen Kaplin will talk of work for Chinese New Year and Matt Cohen will share a UConn project played for Purim. Join UNIMA-USA as we talk about how old patterns of puppets for Community religious and festival time are replayed in current USA contexts Feb. 12, 2PM PT.

Here's the registration link:

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0ocuuupzMtGdSb6p6PdQ\\_0mh-ai8-3BICf?\\_x\\_zm\\_rtaid=HxMKXayQTr6x2xf1P-R1yg.1673571954390.6226e5564390ccbb0e237e19676fffe8&\\_x\\_zm\\_rhtaid=206](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJ0ocuuupzMtGdSb6p6PdQ_0mh-ai8-3BICf?_x_zm_rtaid=HxMKXayQTr6x2xf1P-R1yg.1673571954390.6226e5564390ccbb0e237e19676fffe8&_x_zm_rhtaid=206)

From our farthest away guild member in Germany, Herbert Lange, some happy wishes for the new year:

**MAKE A WISH UPON A STAR:**

WHAT DOES THE LITTLE MOOSE WITH THE BELL THINK SEEING ALL THESE SUPERDELICIOUS STARSHAPED HOLIDAY COOKIES?

WRITE SOMETHING NICE INTO THE THOUGHT BUBBLE -

YOUR WISH WILL COME TRUE AND FILL YOUR HEART WITH DELIGHT!!!



**Membership Renewal Time!**

It is a new year, and the time to renew your membership for 2023! We are looking forward to sharing each of our unique talents, ideas,

learning, resources and opportunities for this fresh year with you!

To Join/Renew membership, go to our website <https://sfbapg.org/join/>  
You can pay for your membership online with PayPal, or by check.

General Membership \$25  
Family Membership \$30  
Senior (+65) Membership \$20  
Junior (-18) Membership \$15

We also will be sending our Membership pins so renew today to get yours. Pins are 1.25" wide.



Recently purchased a new membership? Look for an email confirming your membership renewal date.

For further questions, please feel free to contact [membership@sfbapg.org](mailto:membership@sfbapg.org)

## In Memoriam



Peter Olson and Ilan Vitemberg

Our puppet community has suffered a loss recently. Ilan Vitemberg died of Covid this October, and his husband, Peter Olson, died exactly a month later, They were together over thirty years. They founded Up a Tree Puppetry and served the Jewish community throughout the Bay Area. Peter served as our SFBAPG president and hosted a marvelous board meeting at their house and gardens in Oakland. They performed for the guild and delighted us with their loving funny show. Below is a link to an article that describes their impact on the Oakland community.

They will definitely be missed.

<https://oaklandside.org/2023/01/11/peter-olson-ilan-vitemberg-remembered-oakland/?fbclid=IwAR0GgMbbd-LczWLzsWI6qMrl49pzdqIPUv7Rd9mgQZH0jzu99mujaNd3dtk>

## A tragic loss in the puppet community

On the night of January 20, 2023 a terrible fire took the life and work of Bob Kramer. Kramer's Marionettes has been an institution in St Louis, Missouri since 1963. His partner Dug Felch escaped and is recuperating, but he is left without his husband, his work and his home. A gofundme campaign has been organized to help Dug get back on his feet.



<https://www.gofundme.com/f/kramers-marionettes-disaster?mibextid=Zxz2cZ>

## Make a Guild Jester Puppet!

Guild Friends, on the next two pages you will find patterns and instructions on how to make our Guild logo jester into a great, animated puppet. Many thanks to Marisol (Moddy) Himmel for this fantastic and fun puppet.

You can also find the pattern on our website at

[https://sfbapg.org/resources/printables/?preview\\_id=2480&preview\\_nonce=c8b712573c&thumbnail\\_id=-1&preview=true](https://sfbapg.org/resources/printables/?preview_id=2480&preview_nonce=c8b712573c&thumbnail_id=-1&preview=true)

And there's a Youtube video on how to make it!

How to make the guild jester puppet, on Youtube!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iSDicaPkgU&t=1s>

Sent future newsletter items to [newsletter@sfbapg.org](mailto:newsletter@sfbapg.org)

# Willy The Jester Paper Puppet SFBAPG

## To Assemble:

1. Carefully cut out each piece
2. Cut and punch out openings marked with an X
3. Fold back on all dotted lines
4. Insert tabs A and B into slots on the shirt of the Face Piece
5. Lay Face Piece face down and place Pants piece on it with tabs A and B going through slot 2
6. Lay Arms piece with tabs A and B going through slot 3
7. Using a blade, carefully cut around the bottom of the mouth creating a tongue-tab; Then slit the smiley portion on the hat piece and insert tongue-tab through the mouth opening
8. Hook tabs A and B together and lock all the layered pieces by inserting Key into the small openings at the base of the lock piece
9. Fasten Control Piece with tabs M, P, Y, and Z
10. Bend back wings on knees and insert into corresponding slots on pants.

## To Operate:

1. Hold Lock Piece with thumb and middle finger where indicated
2. Insert index finger to move the mouth and eyes (and hat) up and down.

