

PUPPETRY ARTS INSTITUTE



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Inside This Issue:

Puppet Camp	2
Performance Schedule	2
Rollins Family Visits PAI	3
Our New Board Member	3
Donors and Sponsors	3
Letter from our President	4

Dorn Family Celebrates Matriarch's 93rd Birthday at PAI

by Jackie Ransom



Maxine Dorn celebrated her 93rd birthday party with her family at the Puppetry Arts Institute on July 28th. Her daughter, Jackie Ransom, always enjoyed bringing Maxine's nine grandchildren to PAI when they were growing up. Jackie's Education Specialist degree from the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg helped her become a Missouri Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) with a Certificate in Play Therapy from Mid-America Nazarene University and to appreciate the role puppets played in the lives of foster children to help them thrive and grow. As the birthday of her mother approached, Jackie naturally associated all those years of enjoyment at PAI with family fun, and planned a family celebration with us.

Maxine Dorn has always been a phenomenon herself. When she became a widow at age 70, Maxine decided to return to Junior College to finish her AA degree she had begun 25 years earlier. By the time she was 72, she had earned her Associates degree from Metropolitan Community College and her Bachelor of Science in Social Work from UCM. Because Maxine believed that age is just a number, and no one is too old to follow their dreams, she earned her MS degree in Community Counseling by the age of 80. She was employed by the Housing Authority of Independence, Missouri, until she retired at age 88.

A total of 35 members of Maxine's family, including great-great-grandchildren responded to the birthday invitation for cake and ice cream after a fun-filled puppet making workshop and performance at PAI. Maxine's family still have their puppets from decades ago, and now there is a whole new batch of Hazelle's puppets to be enjoyed for years and generations to come! The unique hand puppets painted by each family member will always be a special memento of helping Maxine celebrate her 93rd!

PUPPET CAMP 2018

By Kraig Kensinger



Participants in PAI's second annual summer puppet camp: (left to right) Zack Johnson, Niko Lipp, Braden Burgin, Donte Goodwin, Maddie Sullins, and at front, Josie Wyzard.

The second annual "Performing with Puppets" camp was held at PAI from July 18-20, 2018. Six energetic grade-school students discovered a variety of puppet styles.

Puppeteer and retired librarian Anitra Steel led an interactive workshop on the art of shadow puppetry. Each camper created several unique shadow puppets and learned how to tell a story with them on stage through poetry and/or dialogue.

PAI treasurer and retired elementary school teacher Kathy Vest fine-tuned the campers' hand puppet skills of focus, manipulation, and vocal projection using large animal characters. The students produced a new hip hop musical tale through the retelling of Grimm's Fairy Tale and called it, "The Bremen Town Rappers."

PAI artistic director Kraig Kensinger helped students develop a range of marionette skills at the controls of professional marionettes varying from clowns to dragons, which were then staged in a musical routine called "The Circus."

The campers incorporated all they learned into a polished evening recital for amazed family and friends during the Englewood Friday Night Art Walk. PAI hopes each camper will continue to visit us for our monthly on-site shows. We invite each budding puppeteer to keep us posted on their growth as puppet entertainers.

PUPPETRY ARTS INSTITUTE

11025 E Winner Road
Independence, MO 64052

Phone: (816) 833-9777

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Performance Schedule

Saturday, October 13 at 11 & 2

Friday, October 19 at 7 pm

Saturday, October 20 at 11 & 2

HALLOWEEN IN BOO TOWN

Kraig Kensinger, puppeteer



Friday, November 23 at 11 & 2

Saturday, November 23 at 11 & 2

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

Kraig Kensinger, puppeteer



Saturday, December 8 at 11 & 2

Saturday, December 15 at 11 & 2

SANTA LAND CHRISTMAS

Kraig Kensinger, puppeteer



January 19 & 21, 2019

SPACE CREATURES MEET

MOTHER GOOSE

Anitra Steele, puppeteer



Please call to confirm shows, dates and times, as they are subject to change. Reservations are requested.

ROLLINS FAMILY AT PAI



The family of Hazelle Rollins spent part of Saturday, August 4th, at PAI for their 2018 reunion before taking a tour of the PAI storage facility at the GeoSpace Center led by Kraig Kensinger and Anitra Steele. For some of the little ones, this was the first time they had ever seen any of the Hazelle Museum puppets their Great-Grandmother had created in the Hazelle Factory over 60 years ago. Pictured above, left to right (Back row): Anne & John Rollins (son of Hazelle), Nancy Krupa (daughter of Hazelle) and husband Gene Krupa, Mike and John Krupa. Front row: Eric, Leah & Jes Fraser, Katie Rollins, and Caryl Krupa

OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER



Teri Hare graduated from Central Missouri University with a degree in Commercial Art. She worked in the advertising industry for several Advertising Agencies. She completed her career as the creative director at J. Schmidt & Associates, producing marketing materials and campaigns for clients such as HoneyBaked Ham, See's Candy, Jacks Stack BarBQ, Wolfemans, and others.

Teri is an accomplished artist and spends her time in retirement with volunteer activities and painting. And now the Puppetry Arts Institute is proud she will be helping us by serving on our Board.

Our Sponsors and Donors

IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS:

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SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT:

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Missouri Humanities Council
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Trudy Foundation
Truman Heartland Foundation

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Geospace
Our PAI Board Members
Our Supper Club Sponsors
Our Volunteers



If you would like to help us grow, we are a 501 (c) 3 organization and we will send you a statement for tax purposes. Please mail your donations to us at the address shown at left or call PAI for more information. We will send you a statement for tax purposes.

From Our Board President

We have embarked on a new season of workshops for Independence kindergartners. This is our busiest time of year, and requires many volunteers. Generally, there are workshops starting at 9:30 and 11:45 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Call or check your email for requests from Anitra Steele. We will appreciate your help.

Our newsletter is now available online. To view any of this year's issues go to our website, puppetryartsinstitute.org and click on the newsletter tab. This could save us \$500 per year to print and mail a copy through the post office to all our patrons. However, we know how nice it is to refer to your newsletter for PAI coming events and will continue to mail your issues unless you notify us at pai@att.net that you prefer to access it online.

Our staff has been busy with promotional activities, including a puppet booth at the grand opening of the new Independence Farmer's Market each Saturday in September. Anitra Steele attended the West Liberty (Iowa) Children's Festival. Kathy Vest hosted the Honduran teachers exchange to teach how to use puppets in the classroom.

Remember, we are a 501(c)3 organization, and we would love for you to sponsor a monthly show for \$500, or cosponsor a show for \$250 in 2018 or 2019. Your business will benefit by the exposure of your company name on our hundreds of postcards and newsletters. Happy Holidays from us to you!

Ann Ragan



Ann Ragan and friends at the City Market Grand Opening.

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11025 E. Winner Rd
Independence, MO 64052

