

Welcome to a 3-Part Series of Puppet Making Workshops

Facilitated by Juanita Dawn, at The Long Grass Studio.

This new series of three unique and exciting puppet making workshops will be hosted by The Canadian Academy of Mask and Puppetry (C.A.M.P) <https://www.maskandpuppet.com> and will be taking place at The Long Grass Studio (Covid regs. permitting). The Canadian Academy of Mask and Puppetry (CAMP) is an organization that is bound to the advancement of education concerning the creation and performance of mask and puppetry related art.

The three workshops are designed to assist in the basics of puppet making and to encourage aspiring puppeteers to begin to create their own original work. The workshops will take place at The Long Grass Studio and Workshop www.longgrassstudio.ca, located in Springbank (just a few minutes West of Calgary). The Long Grass Studio is a purpose-built studio dedicated to the design, crafting and construction of Puppets – a true gem in Western Canada.

Puppet shows near and far have been built in this fantastic space – most recently GIANT (*Ghost River Theatre*), THE BENCH (*Long Grass Studio*), SNOW ANGEL (*Quest Theatre*) and GOURMENGHAST (*Brock University*) just to name a few!

These workshops will tackle several aspects and techniques, which once mastered (maybe too strong a word), will assist the emerging puppet artist to begin their own journey into puppetry with confidence. You will not leave with a complete puppet after each workshop, but with the basic knowledge to start your own practice.

Arrangements can be made if you need to be picked up and dropped off at the 69th Street C-train station.

Artists will be required to present proof of Covid19 vaccination or documentation of a medical exemption, in order to register in these workshops. All participants will need to show a QR Code showing proof of full Covid19 vaccination (two shots minimum) and we will be wearing face masks during the class.

This is a fantastic opportunity to work with me, in my shop, in a small group setting. It just doesn't get much better than that if you want to learn about puppets! Your head will be bursting with so much information, your heart will be full and you'll just want to spend all your days making puppets! (That's what I do!)

Hope to see you soon!

Juanita Dawn
Owner, Long Grass Studio – everything Puppets!

Workshop # 1: Simple Puppet Head / Small Mask

Duration: Three 5-Hour Days

February 5, 12 & 13, 2022

Noon – 5pm each day

Fee: \$395

Class Capacity: 5

Register through: <https://www.etsy.com/ca/listing/1141095008/puppet-making-workshop-heads-feb-5-12>

Includes: All instruction, Materials, Pick up at 69th St. C-Train Stn. if needed

The face of the puppet is often the heart of the puppet. The face often assists to define the character of the puppet and let's "face it", that is what everyone starting out in puppetry wants to do first. This workshop will be over 3 classes as drying times are needed between each step.

Class #1

In this first class we will cover a brief synapses on the making of puppets. Facial construction and how to create a character.

We will get our hands in the clay early as there is no better way of learning than getting your hands dirty.

We will begin by making a simple face out of clay then creating a one piece mould from plaster. Once this step is done we will need to let it dry for a few days. This one piece mould will create the front of your puppet face.

During that week I will cast your head in flexible slip and have one cast ready for you to work with the next class. Your mold will have a second cast ready to be pulled out by you in the second class so that you can learn the fun of pulling out a cast.

Class #2

We begin the second class by pulling your cast/puppet head out of the mould.

With the cast that was pulled earlier by myself, you will learn how to anchor a rod into your puppet head. This will include working with wood and a few power tools. No need to worry if you have never used power tools, we will provide much guidance. The back of the head will then be filled in with paper-mache.

Class #3

In our final session we will address the finishing, painting and hair. All the fun stuff!

At the end of the workshop you will have two copies/casts of your puppet head and lots of ideas on how to move forward with your own designs.

No previous experience is needed.

Workshop # 2: Hands

Duration: One 5-Hour Day

April 19

Noon – 5pm

Fee: \$165

Class Capacity: 5

Register through: <https://www.etsy.com/ca/listing/1155048233/puppet-making-workshop-hands-april-19>

Includes: All instruction, Materials, Pick up at C-Train Stn. if needed

A one class journey into various techniques on how to tackle making a hand.

Hands are often a barrier to the novice puppet maker and with good reason. Hands are a miracle of movement and they are what makes us top of the food chain.

We will explore making hands with a few different readily available materials; Wire, Paper Mache, and Worbla.

At the end of the class you should have at least one hand (or hopefully a pair) finished to take home.

No previous experience is needed.

Workshop # 3: Joints

Duration: One 5-Hour Day

June 4

Noon – 5pm

Fee: \$165

Class Capacity: 5

Register through: <https://www.etsy.com/ca/listing/1155051205/puppet-making-workshop-joints-june-4>

Includes: All instruction, Materials, Pick up at C-Train Stn. if needed

A one class exploration of jointing a puppet.

Awe...joints! The most important aspect in distinguishing a doll from a puppet. The “bones” of the puppet if you will.

One class will only get you started on this vast craft. Joints can be made in so many different ways but in this class we will focus on joints that are accessible to the new builders. We will be working with wood and therefore with some power tools and hand tools.

I will have many joints available to look at and play with and aspiring puppet artists will go home with at least one well-crafted puppet joint.

No previous experience is needed.