

Puppetry Assignment

Boltz Drama, Fall 2019

Performance Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2019, backup date Thursday, Sept. 26

You will work in a small group of 3-5 preassigned classmates to create a puppet show. Some of the people in your group will take on multiple roles (speaking parts and scenery design, sound effects and small speaking part, etc.). You will be held to the same standard as your reader's theater performance, as well as your creativity demonstrated in your puppetry medium. Your group will choose the kind of puppet show you create (paper bag, shadow play, sock puppet, marionette, muppet-like, etc.), and you are encouraged to create scenery as well. You will make your puppets, but will not be graded on puppet quality. Your performance should be engaging and entertaining!

Step 1: read through your entire script independently and quietly, THEN decide what role each member of the group will be taking (director, sound effects, voice actor, or something else!). Write down each person's role on your script.

Step 2: Decide what kind of puppets you will make. Make assignments for materials and bring them to class. You will have time in class to create your puppets, scenery, and props.

Step 3: practice your performance with puppets MANY times in class. Voice actors may also practice at home for fluency and clarity. Your lines DO NOT need to be memorized for this in-class performance! We will have lots of in-class practice time.

Step 4: perform your puppet show! You will be graded on a scale of 0-4 in the following areas:
Voice Actors/ Puppeteers

- Diction and clarity (can the audience understand you?)
- Projection (can the audience hear you?)
- Fluency (do you stumble over words, or have you clearly practiced?)
- Character interpretation (did you emotionally "become" this character, or do you sound like yourself?)
- Puppet emotion (does the action of the puppet match the intention of the dialogue?)

Technical Elements (puppet creation, sound effects, sets/scenery, props, etc.)

- Actual product (are your ideas cliché, unique, or a bit of both?)
- Execution (does your timing and product match that of the script, or are you too early/late?)
- Creativity (how many sound effects did you come up with, and where did you place them? Are your puppets of high caliber?)

Director

- Management (did you keep your group on task when practicing? Did you make sure decisions and interpretations were approved by you?)
- Feedback to cast (if you liked/didn't like something your cast was doing, did you tell them? How did you give this feedback?)
- Final product feeling (are you happy with this performance?)

Step 5: after the performance you will evaluate yourself and your group.