



Puppetry

Artist: William Walther



William Walther

Grade Level:

K-12, After School

About the Artist:

William Walther has been a professional artist for over 30 years. He has developed special techniques using Styrofoam and papier mache' which enhance the success of every student. William has lectured and taught puppetry in many Northwest universities and colleges. He has an excellent handle on the dynamics of a classroom, the need for rules, order and consistency. William enjoys working with all ages, kindergarten through adults, changing his approach and art form to correspond to the ability of his students.

Objectives:

- To have each student design, construct and finish an art form
- To have each student be proud of and feel good about his or her creation
- To use puppetry to support Art Content Standards and tie together other areas of study
- To provide a fun experience and develop a deeper appreciation for art

Activities:

Students will create quality puppets based on legends, fairy tales, animals, or whatever your classroom is currently studying. The Styrofoam balls and Styrofoam meat trays will shape the puppet characteristics. Papier mache' will be added with minimal clean up. The puppetry residency takes a minimum of three, one hour sessions. This residency has appeal for all ages.

William offers a two hour evening workshop for the community or in-service for teachers to create puppets. William also offers a 45-minute evening presentation or school assembly showing puppets from around the world including a 100 year old puppet from China and shadow puppets from Indonesia.

Workshop Size Limits:

- 25-30 students max

Special Equipment:

- The artist will work with teachers to locate their choice of materials, which usually consist of stories, scripts or research. Minimal photocopy costs.

Space Needed:

- Classroom space with access to water, tables and chairs

Connections to the Curriculum:

- Art, language arts

Home Stay:

- May be required more than 70 miles from Bend, nonsmoking preferred