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As of 8/26/2019

## XPERIMENTAL PUPPETRY THEATER 2023

### PROJECT INFORMATION INDIVIDUAL MEMBER APPLICATION Application Deadline: December 31, 2022

#### *What's that?*

Puppetry is an art form that combines literature, music, mime, dance and drama with the visual arts. Xperimental Puppetry Theater (XPT) is a program at the Center for Puppetry Arts (Center) that offers artists 18 and up the opportunity to explore the creative potential of the puppet theater and create original puppetry works intended for adult audiences. Proposed pieces must be under ten minutes, and can be in any of the myriad styles of puppetry: shadows, masks, automata, object theater, toy theater, hand puppets, rod puppets, body puppets, stop-motion and live puppet film, marionettes, etc. We also accept puppetry themed installation art for display in the bar area during the production.

#### *How can I get involved?*

You may participate as an XPT Individual Member, or as an XPT Project Director. If you wish to be an Individual Member (that is, participate in someone else's project as a performer, musician, designer, etc), please fill out and return the Individual Membership Application, the Waiver of Liability and the Background Release Consent Form included below. All applications will be treated equally.

#### *Mmmm... sounds intriguing! When does it start?*

The deadline for project proposals is December 11, 2019. Individual Member applications are due February 1, 2020. The first meeting with Project Directors and Individual Members is **February 7, 2023**. Design, construction and rehearsal periods follow, culminating in public performances **May 4-7, 2023** in the Center for Puppetry Arts' Downstairs Theater.

#### *Tell me more, please.*

As a member of XPT, you have the opportunity to be involved in a unique experience that allows you to interact and collaborate with all types of artists. It is a chance to fine-tune skills you may already have, to develop or try new ones, or to simply develop a greater appreciation for the art of puppetry and its many facets. We invite you to examine the enclosed information and submit an application for XPT membership and/or a project proposal. Emphasis is on the development of new material and the unique adaptation of existing material. All projects selected will be considered works-in-progress. We're looking to break boundaries here.

*What else do I need to know?*

- Project Directors will present their projects to Individual Members at the first XPT meeting on **February 11, 2020**. Individual Members are encouraged to volunteer for projects that excite them and for which their skills might assist the Project Director in achieving his/her vision.
- The Center shops offer a wide range of tools and workspaces that are unique and may not be available to artists under other circumstances. However, the Center shops are not intended for long term use by any XPT artists. XPT artists are expected to use their own facilities and tools for the majority of the work done on their project and the Center shops are intended only as an auxiliary resource for specific needs including the use of specialty tools, space for paint, completing repairs and occasionally for storage. Before being granted access to any of the Center shops, XPT artists must request permission through the XPT Program Director and be approved by the Center Technical Director. Approval for shop usage may also include scheduling a shop tutorial or specialty training before being granted access to specific facilities or tools. XPT artists are expected to provide all of their own materials when using the Center Shops. Under no circumstances should XPT artists use Center hardware, lumber, fabric, metal, adhesives or any other consumable items. XPT artists are expected to remove all of their materials and tools when finished using Center shops.

### **XPT: THE PROCESS**

Feedback during the development process is essential. All members should be willing to have their work monitored during the development process and should be open to comments and suggestions. Members are also encouraged to ask questions and elicit feedback from the others throughout the process.

- The XPT Program Director acts as the intermediary and point of reference between Project Directors and Center staff. Production, technical and budget questions and concerns should be first directed to the XPT Program Director. A reasonable amount of time should be allotted for a response.
- Project Directors, as well as members, should remain open to suggestions given by other members. Project Directors will be responsible for final decisions and direction of piece.
- Feedback opportunities include monitored rehearsal by the XPT Program Director as well as scheduled open rehearsals for other members to make comments and suggestions. Also included are scheduled show-and-tell sessions of materials, props and set with other XPT participants.
- Project Directors will be responsible for offering visual show-and-tell sessions to the XPT Program Director to ensure the work is moving forward.
- Project Directors (and any other members who wish to participate) must be willing to participate in a feedback session with the audience at the end of each performance evening.
- Proper development of your work is critical to the XPT process. If the project does not progress in a timely manner, according to the schedule outlined herein, the Center reserves the right to cancel the project.

### **REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES**

1) Time:

- A general rule regarding rehearsals: expect 1 hour of rehearsal time for every 1 minute of expected performance. This applies to shows in which the performers are already familiar with dialogue (if any), actions/blocking of the characters involved, and the style of puppetry that will be used.
- It is customary to use the 10 days prior to Dress Rehearsal to finesse the performance and work out any difficulties that may occur.
- If there is a conflict of time between the Center and XPT participants, where the Center needs the rehearsal hall, downstairs theater, workshop or puppet-making room, the Center reserves the right to override XPT and utilize the space for Center needs.

2) Meetings and scheduled events:

- Please note the schedule below. Other meetings may be scheduled (in addition to or in place of those below) as the process continues. Members should take every effort to attend all scheduled events.
- **All meetings are scheduled for 7:00pm unless otherwise indicated.**
- All members must be willing to be involved in the setting up and striking of all productions to ensure smooth transitions during performance evenings.

**SCHEDULE**

<b>December 31, 2022</b>	Individual Membership Applications due.
<b>February 7, 2023</b>	Initial meeting. During this orientation, the project directors describe their projects to the XPT company, and solicit assistance from individual XPT members.
<b>March 7</b>	Show-and-tell for all projects. Project Directors and builders give a progress report. Project Directors will bring something they are working on to show progress and discuss with other Project Directors the problems they are running into. Second payment available.
<b>March 18 &amp; 19</b>	Group build days at the Center
<b>March 20-26</b>	XPT Program Director views rehearsal of all projects at the CPA. Program Director must view a FULL run-thru of each piece. Projects must be near completion in terms of puppets, set and script, or project will be cancelled. 2 <sup>nd</sup> viewed rehearsal and Dry tech. After the viewed rehearsal, the Project Director meets with the lighting designer, stage manager and XPT Program Director and goes through the piece, cue by cue, and discusses specific technical needs. Final technical requirements due by end of dry tech.
<b>April 13-19</b>	Program Information due date.
<b>April 21</b>	Film due date.
<b>April 21</b>	Group build days at the Center
<b>April 22 &amp; 23</b>	Individual technical rehearsal (2-3 projects per day).
<b>April 24-28</b>	Full tech with set changes; run all pieces for other XPT members. 7pm call.
<b>April 29 (Sat.):</b>	Dress rehearsals. 7pm call, 8pm curtain.
<b>April 30 &amp; May 1 (Sun.-Mon.)</b>	Staff preview. 7pm call, 8pm curtain.
<b>May 2 (Tues.):</b>	Donor preview. 7pm call, 8pm curtain.
<b>May 3 (Wed.):</b>	Performance run. 7pm call, 8pm curtain.
<b>May 4-6 (Thurs-Sun):</b>	Final performance. 4pm call, 5pm curtain. All set pieces and puppets removed from Center following show. Final payment available.
<b>May 7 (Sun):</b>	



**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
***XPERIMENTAL PUPPETRY THEATER (XPT)***

**Center for Puppetry Arts**  
**Application Deadline: December 31, 2023**



Please mail this form to:

XPT Program Director  
Center for Puppetry Arts  
1404 Spring Street, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30309-2820  
Email: [xptdirector@puppet.org](mailto:xptdirector@puppet.org)

*(Note: you must also complete and return pages 5-7 with this form)*

*{Please write clearly}*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in the following: (please check all that apply)

Scripting       Lighting       Choreography

Design       Costuming       Music       Video/Animation

Construction       Painting       Performing

Anything else we should know about you?: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



### **OWNERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY OF XPT PROJECTS**

1. Any piece produced in XPT time and space and performed under the auspices of XPT will be considered an XPT piece. No other company name will be used in conjunction with an XPT performance (except by special arrangement).
2. The Center will use your name and the title of your piece to promote Xperimental Puppetry Theater 2020. The Center may use your name, likeness and photo, as well as photos of your piece in process, on the Center's Web site ([www.puppet.org](http://www.puppet.org)) on the "In The Works" page and/or the Xperimental Puppetry Theater 2020 performance page, and/or on a Center-sanctioned blog. If you wish to use a pseudonym, you must inform the Center during this application process.
3. The Center may use your name, likeness and photo, as well as the name, title of your piece and photo from the piece to promote future productions of Xperimental Puppetry Theater.
4. Ownership of the piece belongs to the project director and whomever the group designates.
5. The Center has the option to pick up exclusive production rights of a piece for one year after its XPT debut. This will involve a separate contract between the Center and the artist(s) involved.
6. The artist has the right to veto the Center's production option, but then the piece may not be produced anywhere for a period of one year (except by special arrangement).
7. The Center may waive its rights to production option.
8. If the Center contracts to produce a piece with new sets, puppets, props, etc., then the ownership of these physical aspects of the piece belongs to the Center. The project director retains ownership of the aspects of the intellectual properties of the piece (i.e., concept, script, etc.).
9. Copyrighting a piece is the responsibility of the project director. The Center and XPT Program Director will help provide information necessary to complete that process, upon request. If you would like to investigate copyright issues, please visit [www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov).
10. Project ownership includes storage responsibility. Pieces not being retained for further development by the Center or by XPT must be removed from the Center by the end of strike following the final performance. Materials left at the Center after that will be considered property of the Center and may be discarded.
11. Any future production or presentation of the work must carry the credit line "**Originally Produced for XPT (Xperimental Puppetry Theater), Center for Puppetry Arts, Atlanta GA, 2020**" in the immediate title area of all programs, posters and printed materials concerning the work, and/or be included in the announcement of the title of the work, should the title be presented to the public in an audible fashion. All films must include this credit line in the credit portion of the film.
12. The Center for Puppetry Arts is a drug-free workplace. The consumption of alcohol or any other drug prior to or during your activities at the Center will result in the immediate termination of the project; any and all monies given to the Project Director must be refunded in full to the Center.

I have read the above information and understand the XPT process and guidelines and agree to the concepts and terms, and consider this an agreement with the Center for Puppetry Arts, Inc., for all work I shall produce in Xperimental Puppetry Theater. As a Participant in XPT, I will subscribe to the policies set forth by the Center for Puppetry Arts regarding the use and limitations of the facility and staff.

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Signature

Date



--- WAIVER OF LIABILITY ---

The undersigned assumes all responsibility for injury and/or damage to their person and property when using the facilities of **Center for Puppetry Arts**, known as **CPA**. Facilities include but are not limited to: scene shop, puppet shop, rehearsal space, and performance spaces. The undersigned releases **CPA** from all liability for injury and/or damages to person and property while using **CPA** facilities. The undersigned assumes any and all risk and/or liability for any injury and/or damage to their person or property incurred while using ANY tool or equipment while using **CPA** facilities. The undersigned agrees to repair or replace any **CPA** tool and/or equipment and/or facilities damaged by the undersigned's use.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned agrees to be drug and alcohol free while using any **CPA** facilities, tool and/or equipment.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Consent Form

I hereby authorize the Center for Puppetry Arts to receive any Georgia criminal history record information pertaining to me which may be in the files of any state or local criminal justice agency in Georgia.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sex

\_\_\_\_\_  
Race

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Special employment provisions (check if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_ Employment with mentally disabled (Purpose code 'M')

\_\_\_\_\_ Employment with elder care (Purpose code 'N')

\_\_\_\_\_ Employment with children (Purpose code 'W')

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This authorization is valid for 90 days from date of signature.