

Thank you for reading this book!

I am a firm believer that “the rising tide raises all ships”. When the entire puppetry community is more technically skilled it will benefit us all. Potential puppeteers looking for training have often told me that there is scant information about how to do what we do on the internet. This is the reason I have written this manual and offer free guides on how to build and perform hand puppets online. If you have any questions, contact me at WonderSparkPuppets.com

Photo of me

About Chad Williams

I have been performing hand puppets for family audiences in New York City and beyond since 2009 as WonderSpark Puppets. As Co-Artistic Director, I wrote, directed and performed over 15 puppet plays that played in theaters, parks, libraries and private spaces hundreds of times each year. I performed my original works in Taiwan and Thailand, and have streamed live shows online since 2020. I have also worked as a teaching artist, helping kids create and perform their own original puppet plays in public schools. At this very moment I am a Fulbright Specialist waiting for the global COVID-19 pandemic to settle down so I can teach these techniques and DIY puppet projects for kids (another book maybe?) overseas.

Acknowledgements

I learned much when I was first starting out from my wife and mentor Lindsey ‘Z.’ Briggs, who was taught by Bart Roccoberton at the University of Connecticut’s Puppet Arts MFA program. Bart learned from Carol Fijan (co-author of the book ‘Making Puppets Come Alive’ with Larry Engler). I also had the privilege of working as a cast member of Hua Hua Zhang in 2015-17 where I learned her style of working - she is a puppeteer legend who deserves her own book. Finally, Honey Goodenough, a professional clown, taught me what all children universally think is funny.