



PAS Community Outreach Program
Assembly Programs for Schools

Agalu
www.agalu.com



Based in Santa Fe, NM, **Agalu**, the **Yoruba Cultural Troupe of Nigeria**, is an ensemble of remarkable dancers and drummers from Oshogbo, Nigeria. With dazzling versatility and vitality, they keep alive traditional Yoruba stories, rituals and mythology through exciting masquerades. These include drumming, creation and transformation dances.

Agalu offers school or community workshops, classes, demonstrations and performances on Drumming, Dancing, African Music and Culture. The Agalu website is a way to keep up-to-date with their various activities, including updates on the music of Agalu.

Check out video from Agalu's live performance in Sedona Arizona. www.musiciansnet.org/agalu

Total Cost: \$500; Cost to School: \$250



Baila! Baila! Dance Company

www.bailabailadance.com



Baila! Baila! has become a name synonymous with professionalism and performance excellence. The company shares their knowledge of cultural diversity with all audiences resulting in education and appreciation for various cultures and traditions. Baila! Baila! strives to offer enrichment for all communities in which it operates. It is an award winning troupe of 15 to 20 beautifully costumed dancers, ages 2 through 18. They perform many different dance combinations to traditional flamenco and Spanish/Mexican rhythms and they have a strong focus on the educational component of their performances.



Total Cost: \$600. Cost to school \$300



Clan Tynker
www.clantynker.com

CLAN TYNKER is a troupe of brothers and sisters who perform a stunning array of talents in a fanciful "Vaudeville" style of Circus. Their all-ages show presents an amazing menagerie of entertainment from "around the world" set to an exciting live musical soundscape. Dazzling juggling skills are on display! Other highlights of the show consist of stage magic, stilt walking, unicycle riding, Central Asian dance, comedy, audience participation, sword swallowing and fire-eating. The show culminates with a dizzying array of danger stunts and climaxes with a spectacular fire performance.



Cost varies and is negotiable. Contact Shelley Koffler (867-5253) for details



Betsy James
betsy@betsyjames.com



The goals of Ms. James stories are having students learn basic story concepts by helping them compose a miniature “graphic novel”, tailored to grade, ability, and language capability. She also affirms that writing and reading are the right of every person and she wants to show young writers that books are written by people just like themselves. In a 45 minute to an hour presentation, she talks with them about what it is like to be an author –illustrator and where their ideas come from. Then she puts up a large sheet of paper and draws 4 empty panels. Students then pitch ideas and concepts. And finally, with her help, a story works out.

Ms. James speaks in English and Spanish. She limits her classes to 60. Prefers to be in a library or classroom and she needs space for her paper.



Loren Kahn Puppet and Object Theater

www.lorenkahn puppet.com



What is Puppet and Object Theater?

Using puppets and/or object theatre, a bridge between theatre, visual art and puppetry, Loren Kahn Puppet and Object Theater brings to life a hilarious and magical world, which delights tiny children and provokes reflection in teenagers and grownups.

The Object Theatre movement began in the 1980's in Europe and uses objects as symbols and metaphors to explore association of ideas. Loren first saw it at European puppetry festivals in the 1990's.

Loren Kahn, puppeteer, and Isabelle Kessler, object theatre creator, also offer instruction on puppetry and object theatre techniques. Check out their web site for more details.

Program Choices

1. **Insomnia: A dark and Stormy Night**

Choose a dark and stormy night. Add a teaspoon of bad conscience, an ounce of guilt, a pinch of regret, a dollop of confused thoughts sprinkled with anxiety (don't forget a cup and a half of humor), then shake well: welcome to the realm of Insomnia. During the night, we are expected to sleep, but sometimes we don't. What happens? Through music, movement, language, theatre, puppets, and objects, Insomnia evokes the struggle we have when we are facing ourselves.

Loren Kahn and Isabelle Kessler of Loren Kahn Puppet & Object Theatre present their brand new production developed for children ages 9-13. With an insomniac, an actress, and a puppeteer on stage, the play includes both objects and puppets to tell a story about insomnia and thoughts which surface to the consciousness during a sleepless night.

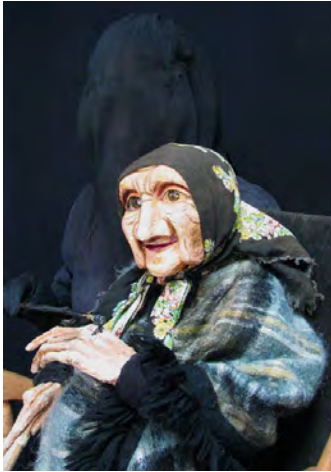
Audience maximum: 40 children (ages 9-13). Running time: approximately 35 minutes, followed by a 10-15 minute discussion session. This show requires darkness. They would like to do this show twice in one location because of the staging requirements. Additional information related to this show is available for teachers upon request.



Total Cost: \$225. Cost to school \$100

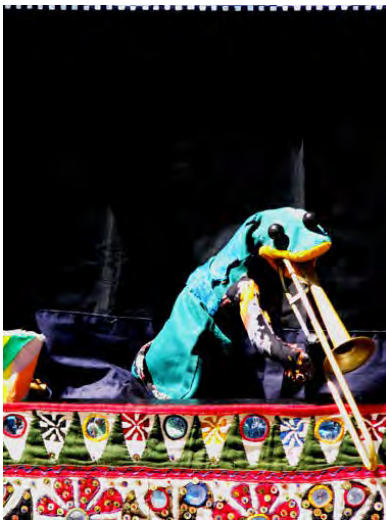
2. Natalia

Natalia is a Jewish grandmother, teller of tales, riddles and dreams, a vignette. The program is best for ages 6 to adult. It can be paired with *Floppo*. Audience maximum is 80. An intimate setting is preferable. Running time is 15-30 minutes.



3. Floppo

This is a very broad version of *The Frog Prince*, performed from an ambulating stage with hand puppets and live music. There is some Spanish dialogue. For age 4 – adults. Maximum audience is 80. An intimate setting is preferable. Running time is approximately 30 minutes.



4. To Feel is in Question.

To watch, to feel, to figure out, to decipher, to understand, to situate ourselves, are among many actions we make as spectators. Nevertheless, we commonly associate spectator with passivity. Why? Our societies celebrate artists, “emitters,” and discount spectators, “receivers,” creating a hierarchy, which I, Isabelle, would like to put in question. This program is best for older high school students, adults, and college audiences.

Total Cost for all three (Natalia, Floppo, and To Feel is in Question): \$500. Cost to school \$250.



NEW MEXICO BALLET COMPANY

newmexicoballet.org

Each year the New Mexico Ballet Company (NMBC) champions arts in education for New Mexico school children through onsite History of Dance and Discovery Workshops. The History of Dance and Discovery Workshops, currently beginning its 13th year, will bring NMBC directly into your school and will present one-hour programs, giving the students and their teachers the opportunity to learn about the history of dance, watch live performances by professional dancers and participate in dance as an expressive art. The performance includes NMBC dancers in full costume, performing multiple dance styles, from classical ballet through hip hop. The live dance is complemented with dance history commentary from UNM Dance History lecturer Melissa Cordero and culminates with a question and answer period.



Cost varies and is negotiable. Contact Shelley Koffler (867-5253) for details.



New Mexico Jazz Workshop “Roots of Jazz”

www.nmjazz.org

Roots of Jazz is a one hour assembly designed to teach students about the origins of Jazz music. Musician and music educator, Frank Leto, backed by a Jazz quartet keeps students wide eyed with lively demonstrations of music from Africa, Cuba, Brazil, and the United States. The music is neatly woven into a fabric of historical narrative highlighting the cultural blending that has made Jazz a distinctively American art form.

Students who attend the assemblies learn about:

- Geography of Africa, the Caribbean, and South America
- Colonial History
- African History
- African American Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Language Arts
- American History

Roots of Jazz makes a special point of emphasizing that Jazz, Blues, and Salsa come from sharing of musical ideas. Because Jazz is improvisational, new ideas about melody and rhythm are constantly added. This “melting pot” quality makes it dynamic and unique; a perfect reflection of American culture. This program needs to be scheduled on a Thursday or Friday morning.



Total Cost: \$625. Cost to school \$300.



Opera Unlimited

www.opera-unlimited.com

Opera Unlimited seeks to promote appreciation and understanding of music, especially opera, by introducing it to school-aged children throughout New Mexico. Upon request, we present professional opera performances to elementary schools across the state. We also operate a day camp during the summer that educates children in the many aspects of theater by producing a play which we present at the end of the camp.



In 1990 a group of professional educators, musicians, and theatrical performers founded Opera Unlimited in the mutual concern that children were lacking more and more in an acquaintance with opera. Unique in our approach, Opera Unlimited is the only non-profit performance company dedicated to the children of the New Mexico. Yearly we operate an outreach program which is available throughout the entire state. This program offers operas specifically designed to fit into the schedule of the schools. There is a question and answer period if time allows after the performance. Presently they touring Samuel Barab's *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Hansel and Gretel*, and *Jack and the Beanstalk*.

Total Cost: \$390. Cost to school: \$195. Travel may be extra.



Armando Ortega Wagogo Band

www.wagogobanda.com



Armando Ortega is a local musician who provides a 45-minute program of storytelling with music and song featuring drumming and music from Memphis to Mozambique and down to Mexico. He is well-known in the Albuquerque area for his ability to interact effectively with students.

Total Cost: \$200. Cost to school \$100



The Rebbe's Orkestra

www.reverbNation.com/therebbersorkestra

The Rebbe's Orkestra gives fun and educational presentations which are perfect for schools, universities, senior centers and community centers. Band members give brief introductions to each song about its history, source(s), pertinence to Jewish secular culture and other cultures, the instruments being played, as well as teaching simple lyrics and rhythms to sing and clap along. Adding to the participation level, the band can bring a dance leader to teach the simple line and circle dances that traditionally go with the music. The band's repertoire includes instrumental pieces from the Middle-East, and folk songs in several languages including Yiddish, Ladino, Hebrew, Russian, Arabic, and Romany. It also plays some Israeli folk dance tunes, traditional fiddle tunes and songs from New Mexico, as well as traditional music from the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

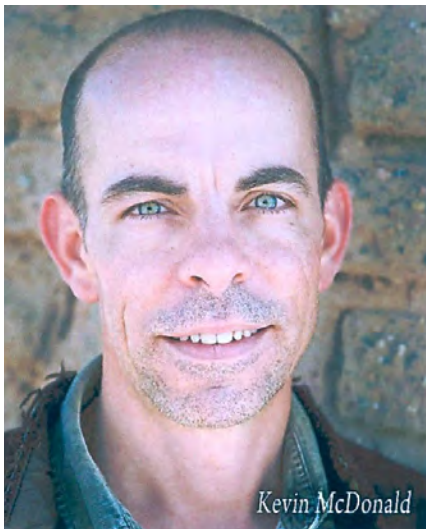


Cost varies and is negotiable. Contact Shelley Koffler (867-5253) for details



Shards of the Bard

No web site



Shards of the Bard is a program developed by Kevin McDonald which illuminates the world of Elizabethan England and breathes new life into the works of William Shakespeare. Kevin charts a dynamic course through Shakespeare's canon of works, engaging both the most ardent fans of poetry and the most beleaguered English student. Utilizing his skill as a performer and extensive knowledge of Shakespeare's plays, he helps us to see that Shakespeare was not only a brilliant playwright, but also one who helped to define a country, its language and subsequently the humanity of the English speaking world. This program will inspire students to overcome their apprehension of Shakespeare, allowing them to fall in love with the language of not only Hamlet, Romeo and Macbeth, but a collage of characters which Shakespeare defined through his poetry. Shards of the Bard can be tailored to fit the requirements of specific curriculum and runs from 60 to 75 minutes.

Kevin offers an alternate program which addresses performance, development of a character, professional audition techniques and strategies for a career in acting.

Total Cost:\$300. Cost to school: \$150



The Watermelon Mountain Jug Band
“ a truly unique mixture of music, mirth and pure entertainment ”
www.watermelonmountainjugband.com



The Watermelon Mountain Jug Band has been entertaining audiences, young and old, since 1975. True to the original 1920's jug bands of the South, our music comes alive with washboard, jug, kazoo, washtub bass, spoons, guitar and banjo. The band delights audiences with jug band, ragtime, country and bluegrass music with some rock 'n roll or a Spanish ranchera added for spice. Ben might even play a classical music piece. Performances have included appearances at the KIMO Theater, Rio Grande Zoo, Albuquerque Bio Park, Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival, Placitas Artists Series, and with the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra.

Total Cost: \$400. Cost to school \$200.



Willy Sucre and Friends
www.placitasarts.org



Willy Sucre, professional violist in Albuquerque, and his friends provide a musical journey from early European classical music to the current day American music scene. Using a viola, violin, and cello, the group will educate and entertain. All musicians are professionals in the Albuquerque area. Their educational programs, which are adaptable to all age groups, offer explanations about their instruments while allowing for interactions with the students. Willy Sucre and Friends can also be heard five times a year during the Placitas Artists Series September to May held in the Las Placitas Presbyterian Church.

Total Cost: Varies and is negotiable. Contact Shelley Koffler (867-5253) for details.