

GRANT AWARD FORM

Grant Award Form: Please complete the Project Questions below and include this page in your Final Report materials submitted to the address below.

The information provided in question #1 - 5 should be the same as the information on your Urbana Arts Grant Agreement with the City.

1. GRANTEE: Name of Applicant or Primary Contact:

Central Illinois Puppetry Guild

Address:

c/o Anne Newman, CIPG President
336 W Orleans Paxton, IL 60957

Project Title:

Puppet Palooza

2. TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS AWARDED: \$850.00

3. TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED TO DATE: \$425.00

4. GRANT PERIOD: May 30, 2016 through April 1, 2017.

5. EXPENDITURE DEADLINE: March 2, 2017.

6. DATE OF PROJECT COMPLETION: July 2, 2016.

Central Illinois Puppetry Guild
336 W Orleans
Paxton, IL 60957

Final Report Certification

August 1, 2016

I hereby certify that I am authorized to approve this report which serves as a Request for Reimbursement, that I have reviewed the attached invoice for \$425.00 and that all costs claimed have been incurred in accordance with the Agreement between the Central Illinois Puppetry Guild and the City of Urbana and that all submitted invoices have been paid and no costs included herein have been previously submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Newman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Anne Newman
President
Central Illinois Puppetry Guild

POST-PROJECT EVALUATION

1. The Central Illinois Puppetry Guild's second Puppet Palooza which occurred between June 4, 2016 and July 2, 2016 at Lincoln Square Mall in Urbana was even more successful than the first Puppet Palooza presented in 2015. Like the first one, this special event featured 5 family-friendly and entertaining puppet shows presented free for the general public every Saturday at 11 am. All of the performances were literature-based and of multi-generational interest. All the audiences expressed great appreciation for the puppet shows. The series was hugely successful!
2. The grant funds allowed the artists to present free shows to large crowds at a hospitable venue. Those of us who had developed new shows and were presenting them for the first time, welcomed having an audience to see what worked and what needed revision. Creating a 5 week Puppet Palooza as a group strengthens our existence as a guild, gave us more exposure, and may even have given us additional members! We also learned more about working with some vendors and may be able to gain support for staging a Puppet Palooza next year and possibly in another venue.
3. As with the first year, well over 50 hours were spent completing this project. Each of the five puppeteers spent countless hours putting together fine quality shows; some created and rehearsed brand new material just for this event while others polished and rehearsed shows from their repertoire. Each of the 5 puppet shows required at least 4 hours just for setup, performance, audience engagement, set strike, loading, unloading, and travel. In addition, guild members returned on subsequent event days to provide encouragement and support to all the other artists performing in the series. In addition, individual guild members met with vendors, developed fliers, and spend time posting fliers and emailing announcements.
4. With 5 puppeteers, 2 onstage helpers, 3 vendors, and an audiences of 70 to over 100 each week, our project involved a total of at least 400-500 people altogether. Although we were able to see that our audiences were larger than last year's: none was smaller than 70 and several were more than 100, like last year, it was a challenge to get a specific head count as people and children kept coming during the show while some with small babies only stayed for part of a show.
5. We had a good experience working with guild members and helpers, and with Dr. G's staff at the mall. Dr. Gingold secured our performance location and provided in-kind contributions for advertising and promotion of the shows. He and his staff stayed in contact with both the guild and the various mall vendors. They worked at each show, setting up all the chairs, making sure the puppeteers had everything they needed, and cleaning up the area afterward. We were all grateful for their contributions throughout the series. This year we also had several vendors such as Sew Sassy, International Galleries, and Charter Fitness post our fliers, and contribute coupons and advertising materials.
6. We were happy to be a catalyst for higher traffic in the mall stores during our series. Phyllis Gingold of Dr. G's wrote to us that "Business increased threefold. We had many more people in the store." We may even have found a good place to hold our next guild meeting?

The Central Illinois Puppetry Guild's
Puppet Palooza June 4 – July 2, 2016
At Lincoln Square Mall



Saturday, June 4, 2016 – Mike O'Brien & Clothespin Puppets



Saturday, June 11, 2016 – Anne Newman & Puppetfolk Productions – *Punch & Judy*



Saturday, June 18, 2016 – Ginger Lozar's Puppets



Saturday, June 25, 2016 – Elizabeth Goldsmith-Conley's
Portable Poppets – *The Three Wishes*

July 2 – Charmaine LeCesne Young presents
Rhythm & Rhyme & Storytime

Puppet Palooza 2016!

FREE Family Puppet Shows

presented by the
Central Illinois Puppetry Guild
11 a.m. Every Saturday
June 4 through July 2, 2016
Lincoln Square Mall in Urbana

(West Wing, across from Dr. G's.)

June 4 – Mike O'Brien & Clothespin Puppets

June 11 – Anne Newman & Puppetfolk
Productions

June 18 – Ginger Lozar's Puppets

June 25 – Elizabeth Goldsmith-Conley's
Portable Poppets

July 2 – Charmaine LeCesne Young presents
Rhythm & Rhyme & Storytime



This series is made possible in part by a grant from the Urbana Public Arts Program.

