

GUILD ELECTIONS FOR SFBAPG BOARD

Election of 2007-2008 officers for the San Francisco Bay Area Puppeteers Guild. Lee Armstrong is the election teller. You may send Lee EITHER a hardcopy ballot, an email ballot, or you may vote in person at the June 23 SFBAPG meeting.

How to vote via hardcopy:

- (1) Each single adult or youth member is entitled to ONE vote. Mark the ballot below.
- (2) Each family or couple membership is entitled to TWO votes. Copy the ballot below in any reasonable, legible manner and mark TWO ballots.
- (3) Put the ballot(s) in an envelope addressed to: Lee Armstrong, 720 Ladera Drive, Sonoma, CA 95476.
- (4) Put YOUR NAME on the envelope -- in the return address.
- (5) Put 41-cent postage on the envelope.
- (6) Postmark the envelope on or before June 18.

How to vote via email:

- (1) In the subject line, type YOUR NAME and "SFBAPG Ballot" (ie. "Kermit the Frog -- SFBAPG Ballot").
- (2) In the body of your email, type the names of the candidates you want to vote for.
- (3) Send your email to images@vom.com (that's Lee Armstrong) on or before June 22.

How to vote in person:

Come to the June 23 SFBAPG meeting at the Museum of Children's Art, Oakland (see newsletter for info.)

Below is the slate of candidates as gathered by the nominating committee:

Thanks to the Nominating Committee of Talib Huff, Mary Decker, and Lee Armstrong for their service to the guild.

CANDIDATES:

President

- MICHAEL NELSON: Michael has been a professional puppeteer for 28 years (or so). He is co-founder of Magical Moonshine Theatre and has performed coast to coast in the U.S. and in 18 countries. He is a current and past president of SFBAPG, a past president of UNIMA-USA (the US branch of the international organization of puppetry), past artistic director of a national Puppeteers of America Festival (Toledo fest.), and currently sits on several committees for P. of A. and UNIMA international.
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- MICHAEL: Puppeteers all over the country are bemoaning the current loss of funding, venues, and work for puppeteers. Puppetry needs a strong voice and presence in the Bay Area. The Guild needs to serve as that voice. The Guild is a wonderful, varied, creative group of people and (if elected) I will look forward to working with you all to further the art form that we all love.

Co-Vice Presidents (2 will be elected)

- HERBERT LANGE: Puppeteer Herbert Lange is a speech-language pathologist from Berlin with a background in stage acting and a great/lifelong passion for puppets and fairytales. He now resides in Mill Valley and Herbert's newest production, RUMPELSTILTSKIN, is the 4th production of the Fairytaletheater, established in 2002. Fairytaletheater has performed at birthday parties, schools, libraries and festivals all over the Bay Area and in Milwaukee.
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HERBERT: I find it essential to support our craft by offering high-quality ongoing education for our members, especially the young ones.

This ongoing education should cover all the different aspects of puppetry and provide links to

other forms of art such as music, painting, literature and sculpting. Our guild must promote itself, e.g., by becoming more visible at festivals all over the Bay Area. Another promising approach could be the social approach, the development of specific guild projects (e.g., short plays, combinations of plays, workshops, slams) to be presented at schools, hospitals, nursery homes, etc.

- MIKE WICK: Michael is a TV Puppeteer and puppet/special effects builder. Mike is Head Builder at Images In Motion. His credits include building on the “Muppets Christmas Carol” & ILM’s Star Wars series and puppeteering on the Matt & Marcus commercials for Roundtable Pizza and on “Little Leaps” for Leapfrog Toys. He has taught a variety of puppet courses at Regional and National puppet festivals.



Secretary

- SHARON CLAY: I'm Sharon Clay, candidate for Guild Secretary. I have been secretary for this past year, though I haven't been able to attend all of the meetings due to a busy schedule. My puppetry experience is that I am a 4-H leader of a Puppetry Project, and right now I have 6 kids (age 11-16) on my team. They mostly perform at 4-H events, but also do stints at local senior facilities, libraries and the Alameda County Fair. My secretarial experience is that I was secretary/treasurer of the California Dietetic Association for two years. I believe that keeping accurate minutes is essential for an organization because that is what our history is based on, and how we record our progress. This year we have talked about writing policies that will keep our activities consistent from year to year, and we must have records so that in the future we can grow with written policies based on fact not memories or hearsay.



Treasurer:

- VALERIE NELSON: Valerie Nelson has performed with Magical Moonshine Theatre since 1979.



VALERIE: The guild has been a source of information, learning, and ultimately deep friendships with kindred spirits for me. As treasurer I am giving back to a group that has supported me and inspired me for a long time. I've moved the treasurer's information into the computer age and hope to simplify and clarify the way we spend money