

STAGING REQUIREMENTS

THE ART OF PUPPETS AND MARIONETTES

The Nutcracker

Jim Gamble, his puppeteers, and the education staff of the Music Center would like your school/ organization to have as rewarding an arts education experience as possible. The success and safety of the artist depends a great deal on your help and preparation.

- Go over the Staging Requirements on this page carefully. If you do not meet the minimum requirements listed or have questions, please contact your Program Associate at the Music Center.
- Duplicate and distribute the attached Curriculum Connection to all teachers.

Your hard work and attention to detail will allow you and your students to enjoy the benefit of a complete performance, as well as creating a safe environment for the artist. Thank you for giving our staff and artists the opportunity to contribute to your arts education program.

For information regarding programs related to this one, refer to the Music Center's education website.

SAMPLE INTRODUCTION:

"I would like to introduce today's performance which is presented by the Music Center of Los Angeles County. It features puppeteers from *Jim Gamble Puppet Productions*, presenting a program called **The Nutcracker**. The program will be in two parts, the first a story based on Tchaikovsky's famous ballet using marionettes, and the second part will show us all about many kinds of puppets and some special ways you may use them. Please welcome our puppeteer(s)!"



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PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE DAY:

Space:

- 20'w x 12'd minimum.
- Portable stages must be sturdy and securely lashed.

Surface:

- Freshly mopped (not waxed)
- Irregularities covered with tape
- Extraneous clutter removed.

Audience Seating:

- In *The Nutcracker*, the marionettes perform on the stage floor.
- For areas with no elevated stage, all audience seating should be arranged for easy viewing (max 300 students in the cafeteria; 400 students in the gymnasium).

Lighting:

- *The Nutcracker* works best when performed in **darkness**.

Equipment:

- One electrical outlet

ON PERFORMANCE DAY:

Arrival:

- 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to prepare and set up.

Parking:

- Two spaces, one of them close to the venue for loading and unloading.

Assistance:

- Please have a school representative ready to welcome the performers and to stay and help as needed.

Start Time:

- Please prepare to start the program on time.
- Students should be in the venue, seated and ready to begin at the listed times.