

## **Hobey Ford's Golden Rod Puppets**

**#1 Virtual/Online Performance Title:** ANIMALIA

**Virtual/Online Program Fee:** Call for fee

**Conditions:** School/Venue must organize and administer event; Call to discuss further details

**Technology/Software:**

- Facebook Premiere (pre-recorded concert with live text chat while concert airs)
- Pre-recorded concert only
- Private Youtube link
- Call to discuss alternate platforms
- **15-30' Live Zoom Demo/Lecture/Q & A event accompanies every virtual program**

**Description:**

**For K-6<sup>th</sup> Grades and Family Shows**

Hobey Ford's ANIMALIA explores the magical world of animals and features Hobey's original "foamies" puppets carved from large blocks of foam with intricate mechanical design that gives each puppet realistic movements. Hobey breaks out of the traditional puppet theater booth turning the whole theater into his performance stage. ANIMALIA introduces students to metamorphosis; a butterfly and a tadpole, various ecological systems and endangered animals.

**Curriculum Tie-Ins:** Storytelling, Theater, Visual Arts, Science.

**#2 Virtual/Online Performance Title:** WORLD TALES

**Virtual/Online Program Fee:** Call for fee

**Conditions:** School/Venue must organize and administer event; Call to discuss further details

**Technology/Software:**

- Facebook Premiere (pre-recorded concert with live text chat while concert airs)
- Pre-recorded concert only
- Private Youtube link
- Call to discuss alternate platforms
- **15-30' Live Zoom Demo/Lecture/Q & A event accompanies every virtual program**

**Description:**

**For K-6<sup>th</sup> Grades and Family Shows**

Award winning puppeteer Hobey Ford spins a web of tales with three classic bug stories from around the world. Hobey brings the Caldecott award winning art of Gail Haley to life with a two dimensional rod puppet rendition of Gail's West African Anansi tale "A Story, A

Story". Follow the trickster Anansi the Spider Man as he wins "the golden box of stories", the source of all storytelling. Next, travel to ancient Greece for a hilarious up-to-date retelling of Aesop's "The Ant and the Grasshopper" told through colorful three dimensional rod puppets. Closer to home, enter the Cherokee world of folklore with a thoughtful, yet humorous cautionary tale of fire called "Little Grandmother Spiderwoman", told with adapted Japanese Bunraku puppetry, where Hobey works in full view of the audience. Hobey Ford combines fine storytelling with his masterfully crafted puppets.

**Curriculum Tie-Ins:** Multicultural contributions to literature (folk tales) and the visual arts; Arts Integration areas of Literary Arts, Storytelling, Theater, Visual Arts, Science.

### **#3 Virtual/Online Performance Title:** THE RAINBOW BRIDGE AND OTHER TALES

**Virtual/Online Program Fee:** Call for fee

**Conditions:** School/Venue must organize and administer event; Call to discuss further details

**Technology/Software:**

- Facebook Premiere (pre-recorded concert with live text chat while concert airs)
- Pre-recorded concert only
- Private Youtube link
- Call to discuss alternate platforms
- **15-30' Live Zoom Demo/Lecture/Q & A event accompanies every virtual program**

**Description:**

**For K-6<sup>th</sup> Grades and Family Shows**

This shadow puppetry production brings to life three folktales through Ford's unique presentational style combining stunning puppetry, storytelling and topical educational themes. The stories include "The Rainbow Bridge", "El Coqui" and "The Three Billy Goats Gruff", with a finale of his Peepers Puppet, which turn the bare hand into a myriad of creatures and his famous beautifully carved foam animal creatures which he calls the Foamies.

**Curriculum Tie-Ins:** Storytelling, Visual Arts, Theater, Literary Arts, Folktales

### **#4 Virtual/Online Workshop Title:** STUDENT PUPPETRY WORKSHOP

**Virtual/Online Program Fee:** Call for fee

**Conditions:** School/Venue must organize and administer event; Call to discuss further details

**Technology/Software:**

- Facebook Premiere (pre-recorded concert with live text chat while concert airs)

- Pre-recorded concert only
- Private Youtube link
- Call to discuss alternate platforms
- ***15-30' Live Zoom Demo/Lecture/Q & A event accompanies every virtual program***

**Description:**

**For 3<sup>rd</sup>-6th Grades**

Mr. Ford combines storytelling with shadow puppetry and brings a variety of cultures to life in the classroom through favorite stories. During this workshop, Hobey will demonstrate shadow puppetry and discuss the historical origins as well as teach students to make a simple “rod” puppet, basically a character’s body on one or more sticks. He will also give students tips for creating a simple show to perform on their own. Students will also become familiar with tales from several different cultures. A materials list is provided pre-workshop.