# Anne Sawyer

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Spanish-speaking Artist/Organizer, Educator, Performer seeking opportunities to create art-making experiences and build community for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

# Residencies, Teaching, Arts Administration

(A partial list)

* Production Coordinator, Teatro del Pueblo (2022).
* Free-lance arts residencies: Bancroft, Metro Deaf, Four Seasons, Richard Green, Mississippi Creative Arts, International Spanish Language Academy (2003-present).
* Art Facilitator, Lifeworks, a non-profit for adults with disabilities (2017-2020).
* Created eight virtual Science and Art programs for Hennepin County Libraries (2020-2021).
* Teach simple weaving, embroidery via Zoom and Google Meet shadow puppet residencies for Artstart (2020-present).
* Designed Collage Postcard Exchange for 21 adults with disabilities through a Springboard for the Arts, Battling Social Isolation grant (2020).
* Artstart Eco Arts Festival & Summer Visual Art Camp Educator (2007-present).
* In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater, School Residencies, May Day Parade Artist, Saturday Matinee Workshop Instructor (2006-2019).
* Hennepin County Libraries, in-person art workshops (2006-2019).
* Silverwood Park Arts Education Programmer, Library Outreach Program (2015-2016).
* Steppingstone Theatre, Puppetry and Mask classes (2006-2009).
* Galumph Interactive Theater, Production Manager, Performer, Educator (1996-2003).

# Performances & Commissions

(A partial list)

* Stilt Puppet Costume Designer for *Hairball*, Open Eye Figure Theatre (2022).
* Collaborator for Monarch Tapestry public art project with Artstart (2021-22).
* Artistic Director, Kalevala Puppet Pageant, NY Mills Cultural Center (2011-2021).
* Minneapolis Institute of Arts (Mia): directed film *Advice from Chicks on Sticks* (2020).
* Heart of the Beast Theatre, May Day Staff, Associate Artist (Since 1997).
* Magic Lantern Puppet Theatre, Founder. Created eleven shows, including Nalah and the Pink Tiger and Nalah Goes to Mad Mouse City; Ala Dean and the Marvelous Lamp, Children and Other Optical Illusions, and Three Tales, One World. (Since 2000).
* Mia: *Shadows of the Floating World*, Commissioned show for Edo Pop Exhibit (2012).
* MacPhail Center for Music commission: color shadow puppet show *Petrushka* (2014).
* Build large puppets for clients such as MN Nurse’s Assoc., AFL CIO, and Artstart.
* Open Eye Figure Theatre, title role in Juan Bobo touring show. (2006 & 2009).
* Galumph Interactive Theatre, Producing Artist for many shows, including *The Parsnip County Shindig*, *Séance*, *Madame Freux-Freux’s Café of Love*. (1996-2003).
* MN Zoo: title role puppeteer in *Odessa’s Magical Menagerie.* Twelve shows a week, eight weeks, (2011 & 2013).
* Gustavus Adolphus College: Commissioned to create puppets for 2018 production of *Measure for Measure.* Taught J-term on shadow puppetry, 2009.

# Author & Illustrator

* *Mars on Life*, a picture book for grown-ups, teens and tweens. (ML Press, 2020).
* *Nalah Goes to Mad Mouse City*, (ML Press, 2014). Made touring puppet show of same.
* *Nalah & the Pink Tiger* (Scarletta Press, 2012). Created touring puppet show of same.
* Illustrator of May Lee Yang’s *Imaginary Day* (MN Humanities Press, 2012).

# Stilter

* Barebones Productions Halloween Extravaganza, Stilt Krewe Co-Lead (2021)
* Chicks on Sticks Performer/Gig Coordinator/Costume Designer. (1999-Present).
* Clients: Cirque Du Soleil, Mill City Museum, MN State Fair, Ordway Children’s Festival, Edina Arts Fair, NHL Fan Festival, Walker Art Museum, Mia.
* Perform and coordinate MN State Fair stilters for Upstanding Standing Stilts (2019-2021).

# Education

* University of Arizona, Tucson
M.F.A. Courses in Creative Writing**.** *GPA: 4.0.* (1992-1993).
* University of Wisconsin, Madison
B.A. in Latin American Studies. Graduated with Distinction, Phi Beta Kappa (1991).

# Awards & Distinctions

* Arts Impact Grant, Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, 2021.
* Springboard for the Arts, Battling Social Isolation grant (2020).
* Thirteen MRAC Awards: Arts Learning, Community Arts, & Arts Activities grants for Magic Lantern (2000, 2002, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017).
* Tofte Lake Center Artist Residency (2013).
* MN State Arts Board Arts Tour Grant (2013).
* Next Step Grants for Artists from MRAC (2012 & 2016).
* Jim Henson Foundation Award (2011).
* Puppeteers of America Endowment Awards (2005 & 2011).
* VSA Arts of MN Artist Award, ***(***2010 & 2013).
* New York Mills Artist Residency (2010).
* MN State Arts Board’s Artist Initiative Grant (2005).
* Jerome Travel Study Grant, (1999): to perform at National Puppetry Festival.

# Special Skills, Areas of Expertise

* Large puppet construction, color shadow puppets, costume design.
* Experience with diverse populations, from pre-school through adults. Have taught in at-risk communities, children and adults with disabilities, college, and ELL classrooms.
* Experienced producer/coordinator, from puppetry productions to visual arts program implementation. Have led all phases of projects: conceptualization, grant writing, budget creation, facilitating dialogue, communicating with clients and artistic collaborators, making contracts, publicizing, running events, evaluation, invoicing/tracking income.
* Fluent in Spanish (lived/studied in Mexico and at the University of Granada, Spain). Former instructor at University Language Center 1993-1995.