

Bonnie Duncan

75 Sedgwick Street, #2 / Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 / 617-817-2603 / bonniedone@gmail.com



Bonnie Duncan is a dancer and puppeteer. She has been entertaining audiences of 5 people and audiences of 5000 people, from Forcalquier to Kalamazoo, as a dancer, acrobat, and puppeteer, as a solo artist and in a touring company. Her shows for families are selling out venues across the US and inspiring homemade puppet shows by kids everywhere. Bonnie is also a Teaching Artist, dedicated to using creative drama & movement techniques to strengthen Language Arts & Social Studies curricula, grades K-12. She incorporates scriptwriting, interactive storytelling, historical reenactments, filmmaking, and original student productions into her residencies.

Performing Arts Experience

Founder, Creator & Performer, The Gottabees / They Gotta Be Secret Agents, 2007-present
Develop & perform partner acrobatics, puppetry, and film projects.

- Current shows: *Squirrel Stole My Underpants*, premiere 2013; *Lollipops for Breakfast*, premiere 2015. Featured performances throughout New England, New York City, Atlanta, Boston, Canada, Scotland. Puppeteers of America Artistic Achievement, Northeast Region, 2014.
- Past show: *Poste Restante*, named "Best Touring Show of 2011" Austin Critics' Table & "Best of Fringe" & "Best Physical Comedy 2009," San Francisco. Featured performances in Czech Republic, Germany, California, New York, Texas, Boston.
- Grants: Boston Cultural Council's Opportunity Fund, 2017, Jim Henson Foundation, 2010 & 2013, Cambridge Arts Council/MCC, Puppeteers of America, 2009, 2015, Puppet Showplace Theater, 2013, 2015.

www.thegottabees.com / www.the-secret-agents.com

Company Member, Snappy Dance Theater, 1999-2007

Collaboratively developed & performed athletic, sculptural modern dance for national & international audiences. Bonnie's movement was called "breathtakingly simple" and "delightfully crafty" by the Boston Globe. Featured dancer: *String Beings, Lumen, Temperamental Wobble, Flip/Switch, Pants, Fall Collection*. www.snappydance.com

Resident Costume Designer, Rough & Tumble Theater, 1999-2008

Created costume concepts & designs for over 11 shows by this award-winning theater company. IRNE award nominee, 2003. www.rough-and-tumble.org

Bonnie's design and performing work has also been featured with Mill 6 Collaborative, Suffolk University's Performing Arts Office, La MaMa E.T.C., Underground Railway Theatre, New Visions/New Voices Puppet Festival, Revolving Museum, Luna Theatre

Selected Education Experience

Creativity Consultant, Babson College, 2016

Creativity Consultant to first year MBA students for a workshop called "Creating" at the F. W. Olin Graduate School of Business.

Teaching Artist, Very Special Arts Massachusetts, 2015-present

Teach integrated arts with special needs and ELL students in Boston Public Schools, as part of their COOL Schools program. www.vsamass.org

Theater Arts Teacher, Cambridge Montessori School, 1999-2011

Created integrated drama and movement curriculum for multi-age classroom studies, grades 1-9. Led students in creation of original plays & performances for community. Developed curriculum and collaboratively taught "Film School" program for middle school. www.cambridgemonessori.org

Artist Educator, Hampshire Educational Collaborative, 2007-2008

Provided professional development for Massachusetts Department of Youth Services teachers on integration of the arts into the core academic curriculum. Taught integrated drama to at-risk youth, ages 13-20.

Teaching Artist, Arts in Progress, 2000-2006

Developed, conducted, & assessed artist residencies focused on MA Language Arts Learning Frameworks, Boston Public Schools, grades K-7. Led teacher trainings & developed materials for teachers under multiple MCC Creative Schools & private foundation grants.

Director of Educational Outreach, Snappy Dance Theater, 2001-2004

Education

Lesley University, 1999
MEd, Creative Arts in Learning

New York University, 1998
"Classroom Drama in Great Britain"

Clemson University, 1997
BA, Elementary Education
Theater minor
Magna Cum Laude
Departmental Honors

Professional Affiliations

UNIMA-USA

Citation of Excellence, 2016
published article, 2005
"Dancing a Puppet Show"

Puppeteers of America

Featured performer, National Festival, 2015 & 2017
Slam performer, National Festival, 2009

TYA/ASSITEJ member

Massachusetts Cultural Council

STARS grant recipient, 2013, 2014

NEST artist, NEFA

creativeground.org

American Alliance for Theatre & Education

Presidential Citation, 2005

Continued Studies

O'Neill National Puppetry Conference, 2008 & 2013:

Participant with Martin P. Robinson
Emerging Artist, 2017

Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival, 2017:

Catalyst Artist

New England Center for Circus Arts, 2004-2009:

Aerial & Partner Acrobatics

Perishable Theatre, 2007-2009:

Resident Artist

Atlantic Center for the Arts,

2005: Associate Artist with Paul Zaloom

Interests & Skills

puppetry, physical theater, partner acrobatics, sewing, vegan baking, photography, upholstery, running, mother to 3 under 8