

LOLLIPOPS FOR BREAKFAST

You can't have lollipops for breakfast! But today, Sylvie decides she's going to break that rule, even if it means she has to make her own amazingly perfect lollipop from scratch. Come along as she and her trusty pet bird search for missing ingredients, wrestle with giant candy machines, and get lost in a magical pop-up cookbook.



Why I make theater for family audiences

As a performer, I want audiences to relate to the story on stage in a way that sparks their imaginations and lifts them out of their ordinary lives. I make work that is delightful, and silly, and moving, and beautiful, all at once. I want the audience to discover the story for themselves. I want them to laugh, I want them to cry, then I want them to laugh again. My shows are often stories told without words—I embrace the physical and the visual in theater. The result is a poetic, non-linear story that surprises audiences and inspires kids to make their own living room shows.



Bonnie Duncan grew up in the South where she danced and swam competitively. She studied education and theatre in college and graduate school. She performs as one-half of They Gotta Be Secret Agents, where she blends puppetry with acrobatics. Prior to her work as a Secret Agent, Bonnie danced for eight years with Snappy Dance Theater, touring the world, and has been making puppet shows in her living room and fancy theatres for 15 years. She is also mom to Jack Ozro (six), Rex & Adelaide (four & four).

Collaborators

Brendan Burns (music) is a guitarist & educator rooted in Somerville, MA. He released his debut album TimeStamp in 2012. Brendan holds a Bachelor's Degree from Berklee College of Music and is the guitar department coordinator at Brookline Music School. <http://www.brendanburns.com/>

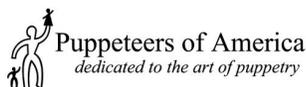
Tony Leva (music) Tony Leva is an educator, improviser, collaborator and performer. Tony also studies the sintir (a North African bass lute) and has occasionally performed on trumpet, melodica, accordion and clown nose. <http://anthonyleva.wordpress.com/>

Dan Milstein (director/husband) is the founding Artistic Director of Boston's Rough & Tumble Theater with whom he has made over thirteen original plays. He holds fast to his quixotic belief that theater should be cheap, fun, and deeply satisfying.

Penney Pinette (costumes) is currently a Costume Design MFA student at Boston University. She was lead pattern maker for the Huntington Theatre Company for 10 years. She continues to design costumes for theatre, film, & dance.

Brett Bundock (set) has designed sets for Mill 6 Collaborative, Rough & Tumble Theater, and Suffolk University, among others. Brett is also a freelance industrial show carpenter for companies such as Ford, Kawasaki, and Mercedes. He currently lives with his family in Vermont.

Kristine Cortese (set painting) studied Fine Art Painting at Pasadena Art Center, Mass College of Art, and Cooper Union, NYC. She has worked as a scenic painter around the Boston area before opening up City Feed and Supply, two neighborhood cafe/deli/natural foods stores in J.P. with her husband, which now, takes up most of her time.



The development of this show was generously supported by Puppet Showplace Theater's Incubator Program and Puppeteers of America's Endowment Grant.



Preparation Activities

These are student activities to do before seeing **Lollipops for Breakfast**. Do one activity or all of the activities! They will introduce students to the show by providing context clues, giving them a working knowledge of how the story works, and allowing them to understand how the show might relate to their lives.

Discuss, Write, Draw

Use these questions to frame student discussions, individual drawings, or prompts for writing:

- What is your favorite “treat” (something you love but do not have often)? Why do you love it? When do you get to have it? When do you wish you got to have it?
- Do you have a favorite friend? What do you like to do together? Do you ever have disagreements? How does that make you feel? What do you do to make yourself feel better? How does it feel when you and your friend “make up”?
- Have you ever had to share something you wanted all to yourself? How did it make you feel? What did you do about it?
- Have you ever broken a favorite toy? How did it make you feel? What did you do to make yourself feel better?



Invent a machine that could make your favorite treat. What would it be made of? What does it sound like? What color is it? How does it work? Draw out your design, label the parts of the machine, and show it to a friend, describing its details.

Making Connections

Read and discuss these books about **friendship**:

My Friend Rabbit, by Eric Rohmann
Otis, by Lorene Long
Toot and Puddle books, by Holly Hobbie
Elephant and Piggie books, by Mo Willems

Read and discuss these books about **invention**:

Rosie Revere, Engineer, by Andrea Beaty
The Most Magnificent Thing, by Ashley Spires
Violet the Pilot, by Steve Breen
Weird & Wacky Inventions, by Jim Murphy

Read and discuss these books about **adventure**:

Journey, by Aaron Becker
Free Fall, by David Weisner

Books about **color**:

A Rainbow of My Own, by Don Freeman
Mix it Up, Hervé Tullet

How to Make **pop-up books**:

Easy to Make Pop-Ups, by Joan Irvine

Audio Activity

Go to this webpage: <http://www.bonnie-duncan.com/for-presenters.html>

Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on Music Sample, “The Dream” by Brendan Burns and Tony Leva. Play the audio link for students.

- What instruments do you think are being played? (acoustic guitar, upright bass, chimes, bell)
- What do you think might happen while this music plays?
- How does the music make you feel?
- Write a story or draw a picture of what you think might happen while this music plays.

Vocabulary

Define and discuss these words and how they might be related to the performance:

Apology
Brave
Breakfast
Dance
Hand puppet
Imaginary
Invent
Investigate
Lollipop
Machine
Mime
Mini-Me
Pop-Up Book
Puppet
Rainbow
Rebel
Repair
Reveal
Rod Puppet
Stubborn
Theater
Top Secret



A Little Note About Audience Etiquette:

When you watch a performance, it is different from watching TV. You are in the same room as the performers—they can see and hear you! Performers do their best when the audience looks and listens quietly.

1. Pay attention to what the performers are doing so that you do not miss any action.
2. Stay quiet and seated during the performance so that others may also see and hear what is happening.
3. Applaud when the performance ends to tell the performer that you appreciate all of their hard work.
4. At funny moments, it is OKAY to LAUGH!



Follow-Up Activities

These are activities for students to do after seeing **Lollipops for Breakfast**. Do one activity or all! They will give students opportunities to understand what they saw more deeply, be inspired by what they saw, and to imagine their own adventure stories.

Discuss, Write, Draw

Use these questions to frame student discussions, individual drawings, or prompts for writing:

- What challenges / problems did Sylvie encounter in the show? (Here are some: *She didn't want to share breakfast. She and the Bird broke their lollipop. She broke the machine.*) How did she try to solve these problems? What would you have done if you were Sylvie?
- Have you ever been afraid of doing something or going somewhere? What did you do to feel more confident or less afraid? Did someone help you with this feeling? What do you do to help friends when they are afraid?
- Was Sylvie successful at the end? How did that make you feel? How do you like to celebrate successes?

Review the vocabulary and discuss how each term relates to the show.

Ask students to write Bonnie a letter with any questions or comments about the show. *I love writing letters and promise to respond! Email me for my mailing address: bonniedone@gmail.com*

Pop-Up Shows

Make a Pop-Up Stage:

Choose a place (setting) you'd like to create with paper. Draw a sketch of it. Use a tutorial below to make the 3-D stage page.

Simple pop-up tutorial:

<http://tinkerlab.com/simple-diy-pop-up-cards-for-creative-kids/>

Three pop-up basics from Robert Sabuda, the best selling book creator:

<http://wp.robertsabuda.com/category/how-to-make-a-pop-up/pop-up-basics/>

For more advanced lessons on multiple types of pop-up pages:

<http://www.extremepapercrafting.com/p/pop-up-lessons-how-to-books.html>

Make Mini-Me Paper Hand Puppets:

Materials: blank notecards, scrap pieces of paper, glue, markers, crayons, large hole punch

1. Hold the card up vertically. Punch or cut 2 holes near the bottom of the notecard so that your fingers fit through the holes.
2. Transform the notecard into a character (you!) by decorating the notecard using glued-on scrap paper, markers, and crayons.
3. Bring the puppet to life on your pop-up stage.
4. Share your work with friends.

