



ScreenPLAY!

An irresistible, interactive family ZOOM adventure

ScreenPLAY is non-stop interactive FUN, where your whole family becomes part of the story over ZOOM. We explore movement, puppetry, theater, and the irresistible power of being ridiculous.

ScreenPLAY! allows you to channel your household's creativity into an inspiring work of participatory art.

It's really fun and exciting...but a little hard to describe until you've given it a try.



What People are saying about ScreenPLAY!

- ☞ *It was a fun and unique journey, it got the kids thinking and moving in the best way!*
- ☞ *This is not like the ZOOMs we are used to. It is an opportunity to actually get up and play.*
- ☞ *If you are stressing about the amount of screen time your kids are getting but that is literally the only way they see people who aren't you, The Gottabees is your answer. These performances are meaningfully interactive and will spark creative play that will continue long after the screen goes off. Bonnie is a master at what she does.*



Episode Options:

- ☞ *How to Charm a Sea Monster*
- ☞ *What We Found in the Forest*
- ☞ *Race Through the Snow*
- ☞ *Look Up: a Hot Air Balloon Adventure*
- ☞ *Journey into Space*

Each episode can be performed as a standalone event or multiples episodes can be performed as a series of events.

ScreenPLAY! was developed during June-August 2020 as a way to virtually engage families with an intimate, live experience that gives them shared, in-the-moment joy they've been missing due to social distancing guidelines.

ScreenPLAY! was developed with the generous support of Puppet Showplace Theater in Brookline, MA.



**Puppet
Showplace
Theater**

About The Gottabees

The Gottabees are a Boston-based ensemble dedicated to creating inspirational, engaging, and empowering theater for family audiences. Our company is known internationally uniting simple-but-elegant visual theater with astonishing technique. We apply our interdisciplinary training in music, dance, acrobatics, theater, and design to share original non-verbal stories set to live music that weave together human and puppet characters in surprising ways.

The Gottabees' stories reflect children's everyday aspirations, concerns, and emotional experiences. We find it deeply satisfying to create this style of theater for families to giggle, gasp, sigh, and cheer together in 45 minutes or less. One of the things that makes us happiest is when we meet children who have seen a show and parents tell us how their child acted out the entire show for weeks after seeing it. This is the core reason why we make theater for young audiences: *The Gottabees want children to know in their hearts that they, too, can make theater wherever they are and whomever they are.*

Our work earned a 2017 UNIMA-USA Citation of Excellence and won the "Artistic Achievement Award" for Puppeteers of America's Northeast Region in 2015. The Gottabees have performed all over, including the Center for Puppetry Arts (Atlanta, GA), La MaMa E.T.C. (New York City), Detroit Institute of the Arts (Michigan), ICA/Boston (MA), Izmir International Puppet Days (Turkey), and AHA! International Theater Festival for Families (India).

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Bonnie Duncan (creator/performer) has blended puppetry, dance, and physical theatre in surprising and delightful ways for the past 16 years. Her work has been described as "an artful world of silent dreams, mime, and dance" (Austin Live Theatre). She worked as one half of They Gotta Be Secret Agents with Tim Gallagher touring worldwide and winning accolades along the way. Prior to her work as a Secret Agent, Bonnie was a company member of Snappy Dance Theater for 8 years, collaboratively creating and performing sculptural, acrobatic dances internationally. Her movement was called both "breathtakingly simple" and "delightfully crafty" by the Boston Globe.



Brendan Burns (music) is a composer, producer & educator. He released his debut album, TimeStamp, in 2012 and was featured in the Boston Globe. Brendan is Chair of the Guitar Department at Brookline Music School, founder of Guitober, and produces Brookline Porchfest.

Tony Leva (music) can often be found on stages throughout the US playing songs or accompanying theater and puppetry with The Dylan Jack Quartet, Bury Me Standing, and Brian Carpenter's Group, to name a few. He is also an active educator/collaborator at Tunefoolery, an artist collective of musicians in mental health recovery. He just earned a Masters of Music at Longy School of Music.

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



ScreenPLAY! is part of The Gottabees' *Try This at Home* series which aims to engage families during COVID-19 through pre-recorded videos, livestream events, and virtual interactive experiences.

SHOW LISTING

Calling all families!

The intrepid artists of the Gottabees are gathering our community for a brand-new all-ages at-home adventure. This super-interactive experience allows you to channel your household's creativity into an inspiring work of participatory art.

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It's really fun and exciting...but a little hard to describe until you've given it a try.

So, clear some space at home, jump into your ZOOM square, and get ready for imagined adventures!

How to Join the Adventure:

1. Get your family together—kids, grown-ups, teens, elders, pets. Anyone who wants to PLAY!
2. Find an open space or clear a room so you can move around without tripping or bumping into anything.
3. Click the top-secret Zoom link in your e-mail to join the adventure.



Workshops and residencies available upon request.



TECHNICAL NEEDS

- 🔊 Recommended Audience: ages 3 & up; family audiences; pre-K-5th grade
- 🔊 Audience Size: preference of 20 screens; maximum is 100 screens with pre-approval by The Gottabees
- 🔊 Performance Time: 30-35 minutes plus Question & Answer session with audience

Presenter Requirements:

- 🔊 Presenter uses professional Zoom account for ScreenPLAY! and handles all Box Office and Administration of Audience Services.
- 🔊 Presenter will begin each session 15-minutes prior to show start for tech check with Bonnie.
- 🔊 Audience admitted 5-minutes prior to show start. The Gottabees provide pre-show Slideshow & Music upon request.
- 🔊 Presenter will monitor audience interaction & behavior throughout the event to maintain privacy and safety of all participants.

For Photos & Other Information:

For further information:

<http://www.bonnie-duncan.com/screenplay.html>

For downloadable high-resolution photographs:

<http://bit.ly/screenplayIMAGES>

Get in touch with Bonnie for more information!



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super fun theater for the whole family

Pre-Show Audience Engagement Language Recommendations

We recommend multiple email reminders for participants.

- We recommend sending an email with general information immediately after family purchases ticket / RSVPs to ScreenPLAY!
- We recommend sending a Reminder / Confirmation email to families one hour before the event.
- We recommend closing registration 90-minutes before event.

Subject: Your Link to Join ScreenPLAY! with The Gottabees - TODAY at [start time]

Thank you for RSVP'ing for today's ScreenPLAY! adventure with The Gottabees. We look forward to seeing you this afternoon, [start time with time zone].

HOW TO ScreenPLAY!

1. This is an interactive ZOOM event and all participants are encouraged to PLAY, regardless of age!
2. When joining the meeting, make sure your screen is set-up in GALLERY view, your CAMERA is on, and you are MUTED.
3. Set your computer / tablet / phone on a table or flat surface, clear some space, and stand up! ScreenPLAY works best on a computer so use that if you can.
4. Remember that whatever is within the camera viewing area is visible to other participants.
5. And, lastly, please be smart and safe while participating!

HOW AND WHEN TO JOIN

Our "Zoom Room" opens at [insert start time minus 5 minutes]. If you arrive earlier, you'll be in a "waiting room" as we finish preparing for our adventure. We will aim to start at [start time], and no later than [start time + 5 min]. If you arrive late, jump right in to join whatever fun is in progress!

Click the link below to launch Zoom and join the fun:

XXXXXX

HOW TO ZOOM

We recommend viewing on a computer with your window maximized to full screen mode. If you have not used Zoom before, your browser will prompt you to download a desktop application. You are also able to download the Zoom application to a smartphone if you prefer. You can then click the link to join ScreenPLAY! (which Zoom will call a "meeting," but we know it's actually an "adventure").

NEED HELP? CONTACT US!

If you have questions, or if you have trouble joining the event, please reply to [Presenter Contact Information].

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The Gottabees are a Boston-based ensemble who have been happily making "super fun theater for the whole family" for the past seven years. They have performed for audiences across the region, throughout the U.S., and beyond. You may recognize them from their shows: *Squirrel Stole My Underpants*, *Lollipop for Breakfast*, and *Go Home Tiny Monster*.

The Gottabees' mission is to inspire community, connection, and joy by providing an outlet for families to giggle, gasp, sigh, and cheer together. The Gottabees want children (and adults!) to know in their hearts that they, too, can make theater wherever they are and wherever they are.

Learn more about their work at <http://www.thegottabees.com>

Thank you for joining the adventure!

Additional Marketing Materials for ScreenPLAY!

GENERAL OVERVIEW:

ScreenPLAY! is a live performance that isn't your typical screen time -- your whole family will be running around your living room chasing a magical butterfly or trying to escape a thundering herd of yeti. So, clear some space at home, jump into your ZOOM square, and get ready for imagined adventures!

Every *ScreenPLAY!* starts by the whole audience putting their screens into Gallery Mode on ZOOM, so all the participants can see each other. Then, it's off to the races, as Bonnie leads you through a series of playful exercises, taking you on and off your screens, sending you racing around your houses to collect props and costumes, and culminating in everyone acting out a story together. All performed to original music from The Gottabees long-time composers, Brendan Burns and Tony Leva.

QUOTE FROM BONNIE:

"You know what we need? Some unabashed fun," said Bonnie Duncan, Lead Artist of The Gottabees. "We're not ignoring the world with *ScreenPLAY!*, we're giving families a joyfully ridiculous 30 minutes so they can handle the world."

INDIVIDUAL SHOW DESCRIPTIONS:

Race through the Snow

Join Bonnie on a chilly adventure to the arctic where you'll feel as small as a spoon amongst ice cliffs, icebergs, and snow caves. Beware of the Penguins: they give terrible advice.

Journey into Space

Hang onto your astronaut helmet as you blast off into outer space with Bonnie as your captain. While our rocket ship may be cozy, it does tend to veer off course where meteors and aliens come smashing into view.

Look Up: a Hot Air Balloon Adventure

Join Bonnie on an almost-true story from her childhood about hot air ballooning. You'll float among the clouds, learn how to pilot a balloon, and attempt to harness the wind. You might even have breakfast with a baby dragon, if you're lucky.

How to Charm a Sea Monster

Ever wondered what the bottom of the sea is like? Join Bonnie as you dive deep into an ocean in your living room, surrounded by creatures both friendly and dramatic. Hopefully, magic will prevail as we are tested to our limits by a curious Sea Monster.

What We Found in the Forest

They always said, DON'T GO INTO THE DARK FOREST. But today, we're doing it anyway! Thankfully we have a trusty guide to help us navigate our way to safety, past fast-growing ivy, some very hungry bugs and a curious moose.

QUOTES FROM PARENTS:

Rebecca Hammond, a parent in Boston, MA, said, “That was absolutely amazing. We had so much fun and it left me feeling hopeful and happy all day! It really blew me away!!”

Tim Gallagher, a parent in Brooklyn, NY, said, “My daughter is 2 and a half and doesn't have much screen time (at all), so I was a little worried, but she loved it. The actual screen was just a part of the interactive adventure that Bonnie took us on. It was magical! ScreenPLAY held my daughter's attention, made us both laugh out loud, and had her virtually playing with other kids.”

Kristin Baker, a parent in Woburn, MA, said, “These performances are meaningfully interactive and will spark creative play that will continue long after the screen goes off. Bonnie is a master at what she does.”

Rachel Thompson, a parent in Boston, MA, said, “Our daughter has loved doing ScreenPLAY! and I have seriously enjoyed being in the background watching her play. You have really proven to me how much can be accomplished that engages kids across a zoom interface in a creative way.”

QUOTES FROM TEACHERS:

Amina Michel-Lord, a 3rd/4th grade teacher in Boston, MA, said, “Zoom fatigue is REAL for students and teachers alike. ScreenPlay brings learning on screen to life!”

Jerry Pisani, a kindergarten teacher in Boston, MA, said, “ScreenPLAY! was a perfect blend of imagination and action! We are learning about story elements in reading and writing, but ScreenPLAY! gave us a chance to show what we know through movement. It was so fun to explore the screen and use it as a stage. The scholars were engaged the whole time!”

Amanda Mann, a 3rd/4th grade teacher in Boston, MA, said, “The magic of ScreenPLAY expands the possibilities of remote learning! The interactive nature of the lessons encourages the entire community to play and perform. Laughter, joy and positivity exudes from each session and carries into other parts of the day.”

Lesley Strang, a kindergarten teacher in Boston, MA, said, “ScreenPLAY! could not be any more fun! All of my students were engaged and full of joy! It was a non-stop 30 minutes of imagination, movement, creativity, and laughter.”