

CONTACT: *Public Relations, 404.881.5143, pr@puppet.org*

- 1. Q: Who is the “Mary” in the word “Marionette”?** (Possible choices might be Mary, Queen of Scots; Marie Antoinette; or the Virgin Mary.)
A: The Virgin Mary. In France, there was a time when it was against the law for an actor to play a divine character, so they used string puppets in their Passion Plays to represent them. Thus, they had a Little Jesus, Little Joseph and Little Mary. Hence the name “Marionette,” or Little Mary.
- 2. Q: Name three Muppets that Jim Henson performed.**
A: Kermit, Ernie, Rowlf, Guy Smiley, Waldorf, Dr. Teeth, the Swedish Chef, Jen the Gelfling from *Dark Crystal*, Mahna-Mahna, the Dog in *The Tale of the Bunny Picnic*.
- 3. Q: Who cut the ribbon at the opening of the Center for Puppetry Arts?**
A: Kermit the Frog.
- 4. Q: Name three general kinds of puppets.**
A: Hand puppets, rod puppets, marionettes (also known as string puppets), shadow puppets, body puppets, finger puppets, parade puppets.
- 5. Q: True or False: The art of puppetry is more than 5,000 years old.**
A: True. Recorded puppetry has been found way back in 10AD in Ancient China when the Emperor Wu Ti ordered his court magician to bring his favorite concubine, who had just died, back to life. The magician created a shadow play depicting the concubine and it is the oldest known record of puppetry in existence.
- 6. Q: In England, Punch and Judy shows were considered political comedies for adults. Punch represented the common man. Who did Judy represent?**
A: Mother England. That’s why the show isn’t about spousal abuse, but rebelling against the government.
- 7. Q: Besides Jim Henson, name three American puppeteers.**
A: Frank Oz (Miss Piggy, Cookie Monster); Burr Tillstrom (Kukla and Ollie); Bil Baird (*Sound of Music* and *Lili* puppets); Shari Lewis (Lamb Chop); Wayland Flowers (Madame).
- 8. Q: Name three ventriloquists.**
A: Edgar Bergen (Candice’s Bergen’s father - Charlie McCarthy, Mortimer Snerd); Paul Winchell (Jerry Mahoney, Knucklehead Smiff); Jimmy Nelson (Danny O’Day, Farfel {from Nestle’s commercials}); Senor Wences (Cecilia Chicken, Johnny’s Sister); Willy Brown (Woody); Jeff Dunham (Peanut, Walter, Jalepeño on a Stick); Shari Lewis (Lamb Chop).
- 9. Q: What was the name of the first Muppet movie?**
A: *The Muppet Movie*.
- 10. Q: On what national TV show did the Muppets first appear?**
A: *The Ed Sullivan Show*.

PUPPET TRIVIA/Page 2

11. **Q: Kevin Clash is the puppeteer behind which famous puppet?**
A: Elmo, Clifford from *Muppets Tonight*, the baby on *Dinosaurs* ("Got to love me!").
12. **Q: Who was the puppeteer behind the plant in *Little Shop of Horrors* (the film version)?**
A: Jim Henson's son, Brian. The film was directed by Frank Oz, the puppeteer behind Miss Piggy.
13. **Q: What dog was the resident comedian on *The Jimmy Dean Show*?**
A: Rowlf the Dog, operated by Jim Henson.
14. **Q: Name three of the seven puppet characters who were originally on *Sesame Street*.**
A: Kermit, Grover, Big Bird, Oscar, Cookie Monster, Bert and Ernie.
15. **Q: What was the name of the original Muppet show, broadcast locally in Washington, D.C.?**
A: *Sam and Friends*.
16. **Q: Name one of the Pigs In Space.**
A: Link Hogthrob, Dr. Strangepork, Miss Piggy.
17. **Q: Were the Skeksis the good guys or the bad guys in *Dark Crystal*?**
A: Bad guys.
18. **Q: Who were the good guys in *Dark Crystal*?**
A: The Mystics.
19. **Q: Name two of Captain Kangaroo's puppet friends.**
A: Bunny Rabbit, Grandfather Clock, Dancing Bear and Mr. Moose. Also, in a stretch, the Magic Drawing Board.
20. **Q: Bunny Rabbit loved to play a trick on Captain Kangaroo that involved things falling on the Captain's head. What were those things?**
A: Ping-pong balls.
21. **Q: What was the body puppet on Captain Kangaroo?**
A: Dancing Bear.
22. **Q: Name a puppet character on a modern TV show.**
A: Floppy on *Unhappily Ever After*, the black cat on *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*, and Alf on *Alf*.
23. **Q: What kind of puppet was Howdy Doody?**
A: Marionette (or string puppet).
24. **Q: Kukla, Fran and Ollie. Which was not a puppet?**
A: Fran Allison.
25. **Q: What was the first TV show for children in Atlanta that used puppets?**
A: *The Woody Willow Show* by Don and Ruth Gilpin on WSB-TV. It started in 1948!

###