Drama Facilitator & Puppeteer (Freelance) - Call Out

We're looking for an enthusiastic and imaginative freelance **Drama Facilitator & Puppeteer** to join our team on a dynamic arts-based learning project that brings together puppetry, drama, language learning, music and film in primary schools across the West End of Newcastle.

Puppet Quest! is a 12-week creative adventure for KS2 children, inviting them to journey into the galaxy, make new friends and explore the many languages, cultures and stories within their classrooms. We will be running *Puppet Quest!* during Spring and Summer terms in 2027.

We're looking for a confident, playful facilitator who loves working with children and can help bring stories, characters and ideas to life through puppetry, drama games and theatre.

Find out more about Puppet Quest here.

What will you be doing?

- Leading fun, engaging and inclusive drama activities with primary school children.
- Using puppetry to bring children on an immersive adventure through outer space, to explore different languages spoken within classrooms.
- Supporting children to develop their confidence, communication and creative expression.
- Encouraging children to explore different ways of communicating, including movement, gesture and language exploration.
- Working alongside the wider Moving Parts Arts and *Puppet Quest!* team, and school staff, to deliver an ambitious and multifaceted project. The Drama Facilitator & Puppeteer will be supported by a Lead Artist, Language Specialist, Composer, Videographer, Evaluator and Project Producer.

Who are we looking for?

Essential:

- Experience facilitating puppetry, drama, theatre or creative activities with children.
- Some experience with puppeteering. Training will be provided in this area to up-skill as needed.

- Confidence leading groups and creating a positive, supportive and inclusive environment within the context of schools.
- A love of imaginative play, storytelling and creative exploration.
- Enthusiasm for celebrating different languages, cultures and ways of communicating.
- An ability to adapt your approach to suit different abilities, personalities and learning styles.
- Someone reliable, collaborative and excited about working as part of a creative team.
- Registered self employed and the right to work in the UK.

Desirable:

- Skills in a second language/lived experience of a culture other than White/British.
- Experience with puppeteering muppet-style moving mouth puppets.
- Access to a vehicle and driving licence.
- An up-to-date enhanced DBS. If you do not possess an enhanced DBS then Moving Parts Arts can provide one for you.

Please note: The Drama Facilitator must be available on **Wednesday 9th December 2026** for the team onboarding session, alongside being available on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings during term times in Newcastle in 2027.

Fees:

Total fee: £4,970 on a freelance basis

Breakdown:
- Team onboarding session: £110
- Planning session*: £110
- Puppeteering training day: £200
- 24 x 3 hour delivery sessions in schools @ £175 = £4,200
- 2 x Celebration Event delivery sessions @ £175 = £350
TOTAL: £4,970

*The majority of session planning will be done by our Lead Artist. This planning session is for the Drama Facilitator & Puppeteer to infuse their practice into the existing draft session plans.

How to Apply

Please send the following to Kerrin, our Artistic Director, on info@movingpartsarts.com:

- A short introduction about yourself and your creative practice either in written form or video format. Please keep to a maximum of 1 side of A4 or a 3 minute video.
- A CV or brief summary of your relevant experience.
- Links to your website, portfolio or examples of your work (if available).

The deadline for applications is Wednesday 25th November at 1pm.

We will then invite shortlisted candidates to audition on the afternoon of Tuesday 1st December 2026 at Summerhill Bowling Club in Newcastle.

We particularly welcome applications from practitioners who bring diverse perspectives, experiences and approaches to their creative work.

This role is made possible thanks to the Paul Hamlyn Foundation's Arts-based Learning Fund and the Fogo Fund through Community Foundation North East.