



Discovering the Performer in YOU!

# Performing Arts

## 4-H Citizenship Project Overview

So you want to be a performer? Performing arts includes using your body, face and presence as a form of art. In this 4-H project, you will learn about puppetry, clowning, face-painting and creative communication techniques. So come on, break a leg!

### Objectives

- Learn more about various types of performing arts and how they are used to communicate and express thoughts, ideas and feelings.
- Practice skills of communication and self-expression.
- Share new skills through acting, movement, voice and speech, characterization, role-playing and other forms of artistic expression.
- Relate skills learned to job and career readiness.



### Starting Out

- Read about puppetry origins.
- Learn about types and styles of puppetry.
- Make a simple puppet.
- Interview a puppeteer.
- Read a play or script.
- Attend a play or musical production.
- Participate in role-playing.
- Read about the history of costume design.
- Create a simple costume.
- Learn warmup exercises for body movement and voice.
- Pantomime a song.
- Read about the history of clowning.
- Create a clown character.
- Create a simple face-paint design.
- Read about ventriloquism.

### Moving Forward

- Give a dramatic reading, or tell a story.
- Rehearse and act out a scene from a story or play.
- Write a critique of a dramatic production.
- Practice types of movement and body language.
- Practice types of voice projection.
- Practice facial expressions.
- Make a prop for a play or skit.
- Develop a character from an item, prop or photo.
- Apply makeup for a specific character.
- Design a costume for a character or scene.
- Develop a Reader's Theatre skit from a book or story.
- Read about lighting techniques for stage or film.

### Digging Deeper

- Direct club members in a play or skit.
- Create a storyboard for a video or stage production.
- Design a set for a play or skit.
- Develop a costume design theme for a production.
- Write a play or skit.
- Select props for a production.
- Study special effects techniques used in stage or film.
- Coordinate a performing arts workshop for other members.
- Develop a publicity video or sound-bite promoting 4-H.
- Organize a puppetry, clowning or other performing arts troupe.
- Investigate salaries, education and training requirements for at least three performing-arts careers.

# Developing Your Character

In Performing Arts we learn about the development of a character. In the 4-H Performing Arts Project you should also learn about developing a good character in yourself. Look at the elements of Character Education below and the ideas for how you can model good character in your project work.

<b>Trustworthiness</b>	Be credible and reliable: If you are practicing, make sure you can be counted on to learn your parts and show up for practice.
<b>Respect</b>	Treat others as you would like to be treated. Listen when others are performing.
<b>Responsibility</b>	Set a good example to others, and have good work habits.
<b>Fairness</b>	Accept the differences in others, and share equipment and the stage.
<b>Caring</b>	Encourage other performers, and express gratitude to people who help you.
<b>Citizenship</b>	Use your project to serve others by doing some of the activities below.

## The Art of Serving Others

- Create and perform a play or skit for special-needs children.
- Donate your face painting skills for a community, school or church event.
- Perform a puppet show for a pre-school class or vacation bible school.
- Make and donate a puppet for an angel tree gift.
- Teach younger 4-H'ers how to make a sock, stick or finger puppet.
- Help a community theatre, school or church with stage decorations and props or costumes.
- Teach a workshop to younger 4-H'ers about some aspect of performing arts.
- Design and display an exhibit encouraging others to enroll in performing arts.
- Develop a puppet show or skit on a social issue, such as distracted driving, bullying or woods arson, to name a few.

## Set the Stage for a Career

Actor	Animation Instructor	Dramatic Arts Teacher	Dancer
Producer	Stage Manager	Special Effects Creator	Comedian
Director	Set Designer	Play Writer	Film Editor
Clowning	Make-up Artist	Musician	Improvisation
Choreographer	Costume Designer	Singer	



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References: Career information retrieved from: [http://careerplanning.about.com/od/occupations/a/perf\\_arts.htm](http://careerplanning.about.com/od/occupations/a/perf_arts.htm); National 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System, Inc.; Theatre Arts Series, 4-HCCS BU-08073



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