

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: UPCOMING EVENT

A Vintage Puppet Wagon Coming to Canalside

Learn about Buffalo's past in The Puppet Wagon every Sunday morning, at 10 AM, from June 7th to September 6th, at Canalside. Local puppeteers Franklin LaVoie and Barbara Frackiewicz, perform Songs of the Erie Canal and Stories of Buffalo Puppet Shows. Fifty puppets perform multiple skits for children of all ages to old timey music.

Watch legends unfold, and scenes of Buffalo's "deep history", beginning 12,000 years ago. Discover the importance of Buffalo-Niagara's geography. Vignettes include:

- the Crossroads, two (or three) Major Migration Trails cross at Buffalo-Niagara.
- the Thunderer, and the Water Monster, battled on the Buffalo Creek.
- the First Counsel Fires and Peace Pipe in North America were lit here.
- a local and renowned Fisherman was called "Buffalo", or "Digiyaga", in Iroquois.
- the discovery of buffalo bones, by workers, in Downtown, Buffalo, in 1925.

The Puppet Wagon will be performing at the foot of The Immigrant Stairs- on the north-west corner of the newly completed canals. A free activity open to the public every Sunday morning, at 10 AM, from June 7th to September 6th as part of the Summer at Canalside.

For photos and details visit: www.PuppetWagon.com

About Franklin LaVoie

Franklin LaVoie is a local visionary artist, story-teller, puppeteer, and musician who has been "Deciphering the Enchanted Landscape of Buffalo-Niagara" for over twenty-five years . His recent works include many intricate puppets for use in performances at the Puppet Wagon, and more recently he produced "The Bamboo Princess" for the Cherry Blossom Festival, in conjunction with Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society. He has designed large fantasy floats for local parades, including the Children's Parade at the Elmwood Avenue Festival of The Arts. In addition, Franklin has authored short stories, locally acclaimed plays, planetarium shows, prose, poetry, and articles on history, neo-shamanism, cosmology, and the Arts-in-Medicine and is also known for his Celtic Storytelling as the Treeman with accompanying himself on the Celtic Harp at Artpark's Faery Festival; and at the Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival, in Olcott New York. This summer Franklin will be a guide on The Buffalo River History Tours, performing at the Faery Festival at Artpark in June and presenting the Bamboo Princess at the Elmwood Avenue Festival of The Arts Kids Festival in August as well as creating the float for the Children's Parade.

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