



Discovery Theater has presented live educational performances at the Smithsonian to young people throughout the Washington, D.C., area and beyond since 1979. With programs that enrich the Smithsonian experience for nearly 50,000 children annually, Discovery Theater is a gateway to the exhibits, collections, and themes contained in the museums and galleries on the National Mall and in our community. There's so much to do and explore at the Smithsonian—and Discovery Theater is the ideal place to begin!

OUR STAFF

Artistic Director.....Roberta Gasbarre
Administrative Coordinator & Group Sales.....Sara Lokossou
Production Manager.....Sam Game
Technicians.....Louis Davis & Ashley Thweatt
House Manager.....Morgan Charéce
Summer Interns.....Addie Gomez & Zach Art

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D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities
DC Public Schools
The Nora Roberts Foundation
Smithsonian Women's Committee
Smithsonian Youth Access Grants Program
Sommer Endowment

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KUUMBA KIDS



June 26-28 and July 2-3, 2019
Ages 4 to 8
Kindergarten - Grade 3



Smithsonian Associates

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Kuumba (a Swahili word which means creativity) is an educational organization dedicated to nurturing and developing the whole child through initiatives that build a foundation for academic and social success. Kuumba was created in 2008 by educators Bashea Imana and Dr. Kwaw Imana as a response to what they felt was limited educational materi-

al that promoted the rich history and culture of Africa and African-Americans .

Meet Iya! “Iya” Bashea Imana has committed herself to inspiring, educating, developing, and empowering young people through the arts for over 15 years. Her artistic training began at the age of 5 on piano and expanded into musical theater, television, and radio. Bashea is a multi-instrumentalist who has worked professionally as a songwriter, producer, and vocalist. She also has 8 years of experience in radio and television.

For more information about Kuumba Kids visit their website:
<http://kuumbakids.com/index.html>

SMITHSONIAN CONNECTION

The National Museum of African Art is right down the hallway from the theater and spans hundreds of years of African Art! Check out the [Visionary: Viewpoints of Africa's Art exhibit](#).
More Info: www.africa.si.edu

Learn more about African American Culture by visiting the National Museum of African American History and Culture.
More Info: www.nmaahc.si.edu

TRY IT AT HOME

You can make a puppet to tell your own stories by finding things around your house to make a puppet character!

Materials:

- Sock, Buttons, Yarn, Markers, etc.
- Glue

Directions:

1. Find a clean sock
2. Use a marker to mark where the eyes and nose of your puppet are going to be
3. Use glue (ask a parent if you need help!) to put eyes, nose, hair and any other things you want on your sock puppet!



RELATED RESOURCES

Smithsonian Educator Resources:
www.si.edu/educators

Using Puppets to Teach Cultural Tolerance:
<https://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources/tolerance-lessons/puppets-and-tolerance>

Teaching About Africa in Elementary Schools:
<https://www.bu.edu/africa/outreach/teach2/>

We encourage you share your experience with us today through a photo or post on social media during or after the program. If you'll be using your phone, do it with consideration for those around you and on stage, and remember that recording the full program is not permitted.

