

Puppetry Arts Grants

via the Cook/Marks Fund

Perpetuating Puppets & Puppetry

The Cook/Marks Fund, a component fund of the California Community Foundation, was created in 2023 to award grants for the outstanding research, conservation, and exhibitions of the art of puppetry. This fund is one of the legacies of the puppeteer and collector Alan Cook and championed by philanthropist Jacqueline Marks.

During Alan Cook's life, he developed a passion for puppetry. He enthusiastically sought knowledge, skills, and insight into this unique theater art form as well as the physical puppets. He shared his passion by supporting puppeteers of every age and level of expertise.

Alan Cook passed away in July of 2019. Via the Alan Cook estate, he left assets to IPM to be used to support puppeteers. Thanks to the efforts of Jacqueline Marks, these assets will fund the grants which will be bestowed upon qualified nonprofit puppetry organizations. In this way, Alan Cook's vision will live on.

The objective of this fund is to provide grants that support the puppetry arts, such as:

- *Exhibitions on the art of puppetry*
- *Preservation and conservation of puppets and the art of puppetry*
- *Cataloguing of puppet collections*
- *Puppetry education or outreach activities designed to further skills needed for research, conservation, and exhibitions of the art of puppetry (i.e. workshops with preservationists, conservationists, or exhibit curators)*

Are you a non-profit / 501(c)(3) organization that has a project that fits into Alan Cook's vision? APPLY for a grant today!

How to Apply:

1. Create a grant proposal letter (1 - 2 pages) that documents: your non-profit organization, point of contact, amount of funds being requested (\$1,000 - \$50,000), project timeline, and how those funds would support the puppetry arts.
2. Email your grant proposal letter to Cook_Marks_Grants@icloud.com by **June 15th, 2024**

All proposals will be reviewed by the Cook/Marks Fund Panel, a highly distinguished panel of renowned puppeteers. Proposal points of contact will be notified by *August 31st, 2024* regarding approval or decline of their proposals.

