

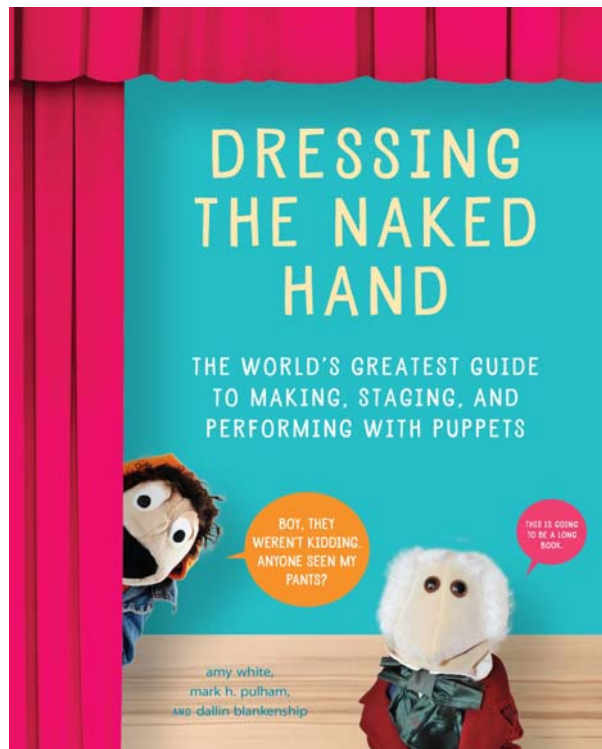
MARK PULHAM & THE DTNH TEAM

Amy White, Mark Pulham and Dallin Blankenship are three puppeteers who have collaborated on a new book that will be available in Summer 2015 called “Dressing The Naked Hand.”

Here is an excerpt from the book:

A LETTER TO THE READER: A CALL TO GREATNESS

An open book begins the journey of a thousand lives. Allow yourself to move beyond mere trial and error. Learn from the mistakes and frustrations of uneducated self-learners. Gain access to the experienced puppet creators’ minds that are found within these pages, for now is the time to explore your inner puppet like you’ve never been able to before. Unleash the characters that reside within your soul, the voiceless, as-yet-unrealized alter egos that await the opportunity to be clothed by their creator’s hand. Today is the day to take upon yourself the puppeteer’s challenge and give life to previously hidden talent.



Beware the naysayers, those who believe that the puppet will one day rule the world and that revealing the mysteries of the puppet is to pave the way to an eventual takeover. Such radicalization is a myth, a rumor blown out of proportion. It is through mutual understanding that humankind and puppetkind will find room to grow in harmonious, er . . . harmony. It is not an easy path the puppeteer takes. As with any creative endeavor, there will be challenges. The wise artist will remember that any perceived creative mistake is, in truth, opportunity cloaked in disguise. With dedication and a good dose of determination, the day will come when you will find yourself living the life of one who is never alone, one who carries with them a bountiful bevy of puppet friends and a newly felted and furred family. Remember, you too can be one of the fabled few, a notable noble, the greatest of greats—a puppeteer. In the end, you should ask yourself: What is a puppet, if not a dressing for the naked hand? One does not exist without the other. And if you find—even if it’s to your imminent surprise—that puppetry is more than a passing fancy and has become a full-fledged passion, we promise to welcome you, with open arms, into this brave new world.

ABOUT THE PUPPETEERS:

AMY WHITE Amy is a children’s literature specialist at the Orem Public Library and a puppeteer. A dedicated Laptime and Storytime enthusiast and blogger, Amy uses puppets on an almost daily basis. Amy is an advocate for early literacy and believes that puppets are a great avenue for sparking an early interest in story. A longtime advocate of storytelling and puppetry, Amy has been an integral part of bringing puppets to the annual Timpanogos Storytelling Festival since 1997. As addict to all things puppet, Amy and Mark teach puppetry at the Orem Library’s Storyteller Training Workshops on Wannabe Puppetry, along with other local and state puppeteer training series.

MARK PULHAM Mark, Utah Arts Educator of the Year 2006, is a teacher, librarian, puppeteer and actor who currently works for the Orem Public Library. As a teacher Mark often used his puppets to teach the lessons, literally. When his classroom didn’t have an aide, he produced one from the closet—a puppet student teacher who could scold and tell the kids what to do—one the kids really listened to. Mark frequently teaches puppet-making workshops, and performs puppet shows at schools, libraries, and centers for the arts.

DALLIN BLANKENSHIP When Dallin, an Alabama native and computer animation expert, took a job at the Provo Library as a storytime specialist, he found that the stories he wanted to share were frequently missing one or more puppet characters. Not one to give up so easily, Dallin began to make the characters himself. Soon the talented puppeteer found an internship and then a job at The Puppet School in Los Angeles. Now, while he is back in Utah showing off his talents in the art of animation at Brigham Young University, Dallin is also busy pursuing his Puppet Master of the Universe Doctorate as a member of the Naked Hand team.