

Your Project Name: Shadow Camp

1. Project Overview

Shadow Camp will provide a performance and creation venue for shadow theatre (shadow puppetry) at Firefly. Shadow puppetry is a low-tech and accessible form of theatre traditional throughout Asia, and which is experiencing a renaissance in contemporary American art, especially among radical artists dedicated to democratic media of expression.

Shadow camp will bring this dynamic medium to Firefly: By night the performance tent will offer live performances of shadow theatre as well as relevant film screenings, and by day the camp will provide a place for Fireflies to create their own shadow puppets and plays, both in an open studio context and in more structured workshops. It is hoped that collaborations between artists and musicians will spontaneously occur, and that some of the shadow plays produced may make their way to Firefly's main stage and other performance venues.

The camp will consist of a large tent for screenings and puppet shows, as well as an outdoor studio area (which can be moved into the tent in case of rain). We will provide two screens (one more formal and one less, for practice) and lighting for shadow plays, as well as art supplies for puppet making. Also on hand will be a computer, camera, and projector for video recording and screening. All of the electricity will be powered by an inverter generator (gas-powered). The three of us would like to camp opposite the main tent in two small tents (please see diagram).

2. Interactivity

Shadow Camp's studio will be staffed and stocked with supplies from noon until 5 pm each day of the festival, allowing Fireflies to experiment with shadow puppetry. In these daytime studios we will offer some specific workshops and talks on different styles of shadow puppetry. On Thursday and Friday evenings (7pm) we will offer "2-hour Shadow Play" parties, where a story is provided, all the puppets made, and a complete show performed within two hours. Saturday we hope to dedicate to working on an original shadow play based on Fireflies' on stories of Firefly past and present. All of these events require puppet makers, puppeteers, narrators, actors, musicians, and an audience, so we hope to engage as many Fireflies as possible.

3. Placement Requirements

Shadow Camp would thrive best in a fairly flat area, and a relatively quiet one (our performances will be low-tech and quiet). Our main tent's footprint is 10' x 12', and we need a small clearing as open-air "studio" space and a camping area, as well (please see diagram at www.shadowcamp.weebly.com). The camp will ideally be located alongside a path, where we will post a banner and information about Shadow Camp activities.

4. Risk Analysis

Shadow Camp is fairly low-risk, but we will have appropriate equipment on hand in case of fire. Our main concern is keeping moop under control in the studios (lots of cut paper!), so the three of us will be vigilant about that.

5. Rain plan (waterproofing your art)

All of Shadow Camp's activities can be moved inside the main tent in case of rain. We plan to travel to Firefly from Boston in our own rented car, and won't have any equipment with us that we can't carry and walk with to the campsite after parking.

6. Project schedule and timeline

We plan to arrive early on 3 July, and our camp should take about 5 hours to set up (2 hours to haul equipment in, 2 hours to set up the main tent and studio area, 1 more hour to set up our screens).

7. Installation plan - practicality check

Our tent is pretty straightforward (thank God). We will bring screen materials in with us partially assembled, in order to streamline their construction, but it's all fairly low-tech.

8. Additional application supporting documentation (mock-ups, pictures etc.)

Please see www.shadowcamp.weebly.com for complete documentation.

9. Cost and Budget

(see Shadow Camp Budget, attached)

10. Partial funding plan

It would be possible for us to pull off Shadow Camp with partial funding. The greatest expense that we need help with is generator rental, so if the Firefly organizers have another, less expensive solution for that, that'd be great. Our second largest expense category will be art supplies, for which we are seeking sponsorship help from a Boston art supply store (so far unsuccessfully).

11. Funding Needs

(Please see above.)

12. Leave No Trace

Again, our greatest concern is art-supply moop in the camp. We will be constantly patrolling for moop, and encouraging visiting Fireflies to clean up after studio sessions. Most of our supplies will be safely burnable (wood and paper).

13. Documentation

We'll be documenting all of our events like crazy, in photographs and video, both for your records and our own.