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Use of puppets a great technique for teachers

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico — Teachers and parents in the U.S., Canada and the Philippines have embraced different creative ways to teach history or social science subjects to make it appealing to children. One of them is the use of puppets.

In her recent trip to the Philippines in December 2007, Tessie J. Ordoña Greenfield, a puppeteer/author/video editor, conducted a marionette/shadow puppet workshop for Filipino teachers in Butuan and Manila.



Puppetry is one of the innovative ways Filipino teachers are now using in social studies. She would like to share this skill and appreciation of Philippine folktales worldwide through her book/DVD.

Tessie J. Ordoña Greenfield with her marionette Maganda.

A native of Butuan City, Philippines, now based in New Mexico, Greenfield released her book/DVD *Puppetnettes: Philippines: Puppet Plays and Puppet Making* in January 2008, available from amazon.com

It features four Philippine folktales in English and Tagalog/Visayan that children and adults can watch, and three bonus segments of how different puppets (marionettes, shadow and hand) in the plays were made.

The book has the complete puppet plays and translations, patterns, list of materials used, and resource lists.

Greenfield has produced various media projects for the U.S. and Canadian market in the past: *Tales from the Philippines* video (VHS), *Tales from the Philippines* audio CD Vol. 2, and Tagalog for the *Soulmate* audio CD.

In 2003, she had a children's TV show, "Puppetnettes and Friends," a American musical variety puppet show on Channel 27, a community cable channel.

She has held various puppet workshops for teachers, historians and students in Missouri and the Philippines, including using puppets to convey anti-tobacco messages for the Asian youth.

She has taken digital filmmaking classes and does her own video editing and video/audio production.

Visit <http://kidstale-nm.com> or call 505.214.5150.