



... connecting artists with kids ...



Valerie Smalkin with a young friend

**TAFFY (Theatre Arts Festival for Youth)** is a non-profit (501c3) organization created by professional artists. Our mission is to enrich and entertain underserved children and families by presenting quality interactive fine arts performances and educational workshops in theatre, music, art, dance, and puppetry for schools, hospitals, libraries, and community groups. TAFFY Presents and TAFFY Talents are all under the TAFFY umbrella.

Our TAFFY has no calories and will not stick to your teeth or the roof of your mouth. But, we do aim to stretch the imaginations of children, particularly those who don't often get to enjoy interacting with live performing artists. TAFFY artists include musicians, storytellers, authors, magicians, puppeteers, artists and children's theatre specialists. Community partners tell us that we build sweet memories:

**"[Your artist] connected with every patient and engaged each member of the audience so that they felt important and included."**

**~ Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, MD**

**"Our patients had a wonderful time hearing some great music at bedside. Thank you!"**

**~ Georgetown University Hospital, DC**

## Our Programs

**TAFFY PRESENTS** – This program offers a full range of uplifting and life-enhancing performing arts, tailored to match the needs of hospitalized children and underserved populations in schools, libraries, and community shelters. Curriculum supportive programs may focus on literacy,

character development and the sciences as each facility requires.

**TAFFY TALENTS** – This program enlists talented and compassionate students to be artistic role models for less fortunate children. Adult TAFFY artists accompany young artists to these special performances.

## JOIN US!

TAFFY invites you to support our nationwide (and local) efforts to share the performing arts with families. All programs are donor supported. We are always looking for more partners and performers. Please visit [www.taffypresents.org](http://www.taffypresents.org) for more information.

**TAFFY Contacts:** John Wood Director of West Coast Productions at [john@taffypresents.org](mailto:john@taffypresents.org)  
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Find us on 



"I am immensely grateful for the chance to bring music into the lives of individuals who can benefit in so many ways from arts integration."

~ Joyce Rouse

### A few TAFFY participating organizations

Alternative House - VA  
 Arlington Pediatric Center - VA  
 Cedar Lane Center School, VA  
 Children's National Medical Center - DC  
 Children's Hospital of Orange County - CA  
 Georgetown University Pediatrics - DC  
 Kennedy Krieger Institute - MD  
 Key Center School - VA  
 Kilmer Center School - VA  
 Lab School of Washington – DC

Learning Path Academy - FL  
 Lombardi Pediatric Cancer Clinic - DC  
 Maryland School for the Blind - MD  
 Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital - MD  
 Palm Beach Children's Hospital - FL  
 Samuelson Children's Hospital at Sinai - MD  
 Sarah's House - MD  
 Shelter House - VA  
 Sophie T. Salvin Special Education Center - CA  
 The Debbie School - FL



The Magical Adventures of Teo

### A few supporting artists and labels

JP Nightingale (TAFFY Founders John and Pam Wood)  
 Dan Crow  
 Katherine Dines  
 Patricia Shih  
 Sugar Free Allstars  
 Alastair Mook  
 Bill Harley  
 Cathy and Marcy  
 Joyce Rouse (Earth Mama)  
 Trout Fishing in America  
 Harold Payne  
 Valerie Smalkin (ventriloquist) and Silly Goose  
 Jeff Wolf - Stillwaters Studios  
 Alex Mitnick  
 Alina Celeste

Ziggy the Clown  
 Laurie Mangold  
 Lenny Burrige  
 Yosi Levin  
 Morgan Taylor (Gustafer Yellowgold)  
 Turley the Magician  
 Fred Karam and Janet Love  
 Shari MacFarlane  
 Phil Kane  
 Bruce Anderson  
 Marsha Goodman-Wood  
 Mike Thorp  
 Beth Harris (Kathi's Klowns)  
 The Magical Adventures of Teo  
 Linda Spitzer (Story Queen)



Theatre Arts Festival for Youth c/o Pamela Wood. P.O. Box 2665, Canoga Park, CA 91396 All programs are donor supported. Visit [www.taffypresents.org](http://www.taffypresents.org)