

Our Board for Ongoing Training

LIZ VONSEGGEN and her husband Dale are founders of One Way Street, a supplier of resources for creative ministry. Liz performs often with one of her several vent partners, and she was voted Ventriloquist of the Year in 1991. Liz currently is a seminar and conference performer and speaker using ventriloquism, music, drama, and puppets.



MEL LAMAR is a full-time traveling "Magical Missionary" living in Greeley, CO. His programs are filled with magical illusions, expert juggling, and outstanding ventriloquism, all geared to win the lost and to help Christians grow. He has served as guest performer and workshop leader for many national and international conferences.



JUDY BUCH has been a featured presenter for corporate clients and professional associations, schools, and churches. Judy was presented the Ventriloquist of the Year award in 1996. In 2001 she was certified as a Speaking Professional by the National Speakers' Association. Judy resides in Tolland, CT with her husband Ken.



TIM COWLES is owner of The Dummy Works, a company specializing in the production of fun and colorful vent and puppet characters. The Dummy Works offers the world's largest selection of ventriloquist products and services, including the Maher Ventriloquist Home Study Course! Tim is a performer for Nana Puddin' Productions, leaders in children's education and entertainment. He and his wife, Amanda, live in Sherman, Texas.



VIT SECRETARY, DIANA VAROSKY works full-time as an accounting clerk in Pittsburgh, PA. She has been performing with Zac, a fun-loving dinosaur, and several other vent characters for many years. Diana was a first-place winner in the Senior Vent competition at I-Fest and she is eager to encourage others and to help make the VIT program a valuable learning tool for ventriloquists.



What is I-Fest?



The **I**nternational **F**estival of Christian Puppetry and Ventriloquism (I-Fest) is a week-long conference held each summer to train ventriloquists and puppeteers.

The conference is sponsored by One Way Street®, Inc. For more information, please call One Way Street Events at 303-799-6751 or check the website at www.onewaystreet.com

COMMENTS ABOUT I-FEST'S VENTRILLOQUISM TRAINING:

"After my time at I-Fest, I felt recharged! Suddenly I see the magic in it all again and all the possibilities! What an experience! Thank you!" —Jim Adams, California

"Best conference I have been to since fifth grade—I'm 50 now!" —Sheri Young, Louisiana

"As a ventriloquist I have become what I am today because of I-Fest. They gave me a start and never gave up on me!!!" —Susan Klein, Pennsylvania

"I-Fest was energizing, spiritual, rewarding, and helped me to keep on practicing and performing as much as possible." —Terry Whaples, Florida

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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So You Want to Be a Ventriloquist?



One Way Street introduces:

VENTRILLOQUIST IN TRAINING Program



Hundreds of ventriloquist performers have searched for resources to learn this fascinating art, but most have had to teach themselves through books or audio tools. We are excited to announce a great program for training you as a ventriloquist through seminars and coaching offered exclusively at the International Festival of Christian Puppetry and Ventriloquism, sponsored by One Way Street®, Inc.

Level 1 - Introduction

This level is almost entirely attending classes where you are introduced to the basic skills of ventriloquism. While attending the International Festival of Christian Puppetry and Ventriloquism (I-Fest), you are an attendee of various lectures and



demonstrations by a variety of talented ventriloquism performers and teachers. To begin this level, there is a registration fee, which includes the three-hour Basic Ventriloquism hands-on course. Following your registration, you must bring your vent figure and schedule an appointment with the ventriloquist chairman or the secretary of the V.I.T. program. As you attend I-Fest, you must complete the following:

ATTEND:

- three classes on basic ventriloquism skill (*taught by at least two different instructors*)
- one class on philosophy of ministry in ventriloquism
- one class on figure manipulation
- one class on writing vent routines
- one class on ventriloquism resources
- one class on care of vent tools

COMPLETE:

- attendance at five vent performances or competitions
- participation in the vent showcase or a competition

Level 2 - Performer



At this level, you will concentrate on performing both at I-Fest and in your local area. The classwork you take will highlight polishing the basics and developing your own strong performance techniques. Registration for this level includes a fee. This level cannot be completed in one week since it requires you to complete and document actual performances during the year or more following your entry into this level. All students who complete this level will be honored in a graduation ceremony and receive a gold pin and framed certificate. The VIT Board will provide a thorough evaluation of the performer's vent skills and will rank the performer in one of three levels: basic, intermediate, or advanced. The evaluation will be based on video made during an I-Fest competition.

ATTEND:

- one class on polishing the hard letters
- two classes on drama/improvisation with the vent taking part in performance in one class
- two classes on showmanship or stage presence
- two classes on developing character voices (*taught by two different instructors*)
- one class on goal-setting for your vent performing
- one class on history of ventriloquism
- one class on communication/speaking skills

COMPLETE:

- participation in one of the vent competitions at I-Fest
- submit performance scrapbook/notebook for twelve paid performances away from I-Fest

Level 3 - Elite Professional

This top level will undoubtedly take several years to complete. It has sufficient challenges to make it highly desirable to attain, but also quite difficult to complete. There will be an entrance fee for this level to cover the many management costs for assisting you. It is our intent to make this level only possible to those who are quite serious about the art of ventriloquism and therefore motivated to the highest level of professionalism and excellence in their vent and speaking performances. The following are requirements:



ATTEND:

- at least four I-Fest conferences
- two classes for advanced special vent skills (*distant or phone voice, two or more characters, etc.*)
- two classes on promotion & marketing
- one class on ventriloquism in the Christian marketplace
- one class on copyright and royalties
- one class on professional vent ethics
- four hours hands-on class writing lab for professional vents

COMPLETE:

- submit a vent publicity packet
- submit a professional program outline (*45-90 minute presentation*)
- compete and be a winner in one of the vent competitions at I-Fest
- videotape of performance (*30-45 minutes*)
- packet of professional forms (*performance agreement, form letter to client, etc.*)
- evaluation forms completed by clients over a three-year period, meeting superior standards