Residencies Ideas:
MAKE A PUPPET SHOW brainstorming and writing, building puppets, masks & props with recycled materials, play and improv with the puppets, rehearsal and final performance. Writing, building and rehearsing organically inform one another as we develop a show.

PICTURE STORIES: a cranky (long scroll painting that gets cranked, revealing the images), or Cantastoria (paintings on fabric flipped like pages), or Kamishibai (paintings on cardboard presented one by one). All three start with creating story, then make images, work on the presentation, and end in performance.

GROUP MURAL: Collaborate on a large public mural with a narrative or informative element, on a public wall in the school or in town.

PAPER MACHE SCULPTURES: Construct with newspaper, cardboard & masking tape. Learn pro tips on paper mache technique and painting techniques, including shading, highlights and dry brush technique. Sculptures can be based on animals or cultures being studied.

MASK MAKING: sculpting masks out of clay, casting layers of paper mache, and painting. Then mask performance and movement skills, and end with a show.

COMIC BOOK MAKING: plan and create our own comic books, and reproduce them for distribution in the class or school. This class begins with creating a collaborative zine, then students make individual comics.

LANTERN MAKING: create lanterns out of sticks & colored tissue paper. From simple geometric shapes to elaborate abstract or animal shapes. End with an illuminated performance and lantern walk.

GIANT PUPPETS: make giant puppets and/or giant masks, culminating in a giant puppet pageant, and parade, celebrating or highlighting a certain topic.

Preferred Age: I can work with all ages and grade levels, and tailor the project accordingly.

Teaching Experience:
I taught writing skills at the Center for the Advancement of Academically Talented Youth (CTY), high school senior English at the American School in Quito, and ESL in the Canary Islands. I have taught innumerable workshops in Seattle, Vashon Island, NYC, Taiwan, Thailand, and Puerto Rico, in mask & puppet making, sculpture and installation, comics, murals, performance, and show making.

Artist Statement:
I make puppet shows. I want to share many skills: performance, brainstorming & writing, drawing & painting, sculpting with clay, paper, cardboard, and garbage materials. I’m excited to collaborate with teachers and students to develop a project that expands upon the curriculum. Literature and history are great, and history of math and science—I’m interested in narrative. If you want to combine visual art and narrative to explore curriculum, let’s talk about what kind of magic we can make happen together!