

I made this guy in a master class at a national puppetry festival. We had a block of foam and 30 minutes to come up with something.

The Great and Powerful Wizard of Oz . . . one of the first puppets I built with a student. He's about four feet tall, with a mouth and eyes that move. His eyes light up, as well.

If visitors don't know ahead of time that **Carol Fisher** (below) has a thing for puppets, they certainly get the memo the instant they open the door to her office in the Paul Creative Arts Center. Hundreds of puppets—from delicate paper shadow puppets to oversized foam figures—crowd bookcases and shelves and the ledge behind Fisher's desk. UNH's only puppetry instructor

and one of a handful in the country, Fisher has been accumulating her collection for more than 20 years, a mix of student projects, puppetry conference purchases, and her own handiwork. In this second installment in an occasional series about UNH professors' natural habitats, Fisher takes us on a quick tour of some of her favorites.

The Office



Bill Baird created the puppets for the original "Sound of Music" and was the most famous puppeteer of his time. Carol Lucha Burns gave me this poster when she retired—I'll have to find another "Carol" at UNH to pass it along to eventually!



Strega Nona was made by a nontraditional student in one of my advanced classes—a nursing major, who was taking the class just for fun. We've lost touch, but she was really very talented.



Mouth puppets made from recycled materials are a regular part of my introductory class.

Foam is probably my favorite medium to work with for making puppets, because its very flexible and forgiving. Some people around here call me the "foam queen."



I bought this dress form at Marshalls, actually. It's meant to be decorative, but it's perfect for building puppet costumes on.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY LISA NUGENT

Even at age four I knew I was interested in theatre. My parents were older and I had full-grown siblings, so I spent a lot of time by myself in creative play.



I don't even remember where this tabletop puppet came from, but they're fun. You stand behind the table to create a character that's half-puppet, half-person.