UNIMA Thailand Committee

1. Surat Jongda (Bangkok), Advisory board of Traditional Puppet

Lecturer at the College of Dramatic Arts Bunditpatanasilpa Institute Ministry of Culture contributed to the creation of the royal pantomime to have the same standard as the world-class performing arts.



2. Ampai Boonrod (Rayong), Advisory board of Local Puppet

Vice President of Nang Yai Conservation Club, Ban Don Temple. The voice actor of Nang Yai Wat Ban Don with the award "Wattanakunathon" from the Ministry of Culture.



3. Kiatsuda Piromya (Bangkok), Advisory board of Contemporary Puppet

Executive Director and Producer "Chao Khun Tong Puppet"



4 Nimit Pipithkul (Bangkok),

President and Chair of the Research and Education Development Branch

Nimit Pipithkul, born in 1968, was an Artistic Director, Performance Producer, Actor, Scriptwriter, Songwriter, Lecture, College of Innovative Education, and Cultural Management. He has been the founder of Sema Thai Marionette Troupe with a group of local artists in the same year, with the aim to be creating art from Thai Identity in a contemporary approach by drawing inspiration from folk art to create works of each location He studied puppetry from a National artist Performing Arts (Puppet) Honorary Master of Arts (Theater), Thammasat University, the year 1992. He received The Artist of Thai Theater award and The Best Promotion of Buddhism Drama by using puppet art media award, the year 1999. In the year 2014, was the president of Semathai Marionette Foundation Arts for Social, which has the main mission of 3 operations to Development, Create and Promote Thai Puppets. In July 2014 was created the Youth Puppet Community Thailand under foundation. He has received The Artist Silpathorn Performing Arts award, the year 2007. The Most Poetic Creation of Puppet Art – Prague, the year 2008. The Best Traditional Original Performance of Puppet Art – Prague 2009.



Nimit Pipithkul

5. Piewnam Chalermyart (Bangkok),

Secretary-General and Chair of the International Puppet Festival Branch

Piewnam Chalermyart born in 1964, was a puppeteer, actress in theater, stage manager, and Festival manager. She was a workshop and trained puppet in Ramayana Project (2004) with Prof. Michael Meschke. After that, she has inspired by marionettes and begin the founder of Sema Thai Marionette Troupe with a group of local artists in the same year. With the aim to be creating art from Thai Identity in a contemporary approach by drawing inspiration from folk art to create works of each location. In the year 2014, was a co-founder of Semathai Marionette Foundation Arts for Social, which has the main mission of 3 operations to Development, Create and Promote Thai Puppets. In July 2014 was created the Youth Puppet Community Thailand under foundation. The year 2014, She represents The Semathai Puppet Theatre, Bangkok, Thailand, to receive the "Prix Michael Meschke" for promoting puppet theatre in Thai society by developing the Semathai Marionette Foundation's own repertory, encouraging free individual creativity amongst children, and initiating the Harmony String Puppet Festival at Amphawa District, Samut Songkhram Province". She has awarded organizations that benefit children and youth through puppet arts creation for children and youth, in the year 2018. She was a UNIMA Thailand (representative) from the year 2014 - Present, representing the Thai youth puppet network for the establishment of the UNIMA National Center in Thailand.



Piewnam Chalermyart

6. Konglar Kanchanahoti (Bangkok), Vice-President

Vice-President and Advisor to the International Puppet Festival Branch Konglar Kanchanahoti born in 1961, was an accomplished actor on both stage and screen, has been everything from a property master to production manager, actor to stage manager and producer to director. In one capacity or another, he's graced the airwaves on every channel on Thai television. In the year 2015, he was the advisor of Harmony Puppet Thailand to manage the International Puppet Festival until the present.



Konglar Kanchanahoti

7. Surada Butrlakorn (Bangkok), Vice-President

Vice-President and Chair of the Communication & Public Relations Branch

Surada Butrlakorn born 1959, is Managing Director of Aberdale Co., Ltd., Summer Camp Director. Total responsibility, supervision, and leadership of many groups of Thai students and teachers in Australia for cultural and educational activities. Executive Assistant at Abercrombie House Conference Centre, Australia, involving work with Australian and overseas students and teachers; liaison with visiting dignitaries and royalty; hostess at formal dinners and events; hosting foreign visiting study groups; curator of library and archival collections. Advisor for Special projects such as The Old England Students Association under Royal Patronage (OESA), Thai-Australian Association under the Royal Patronage (TAA), and The Duke of Edinburgh's international award for young people. In the year 2016, She was the advisor of Harmony Puppet Thailand to manage the International Puppet Festival until the present.



Surada Butrlakorn

8. Preecha Karoon (Nakhon Ratchasima)

Chair of the Community Development and Environment Branch

Preecha Karoon born in 1983, Is an independent artist from the Isan people Who chose to follow the ideal idea of the creator of local art to live and inherit the beautiful local culture. He brought the local culture of Isan Like Mor Lam (Isan music) applied to puppet art by using local materials such as Kratib and sticky rice to bring life to life until the formation of "Mor Lam Hoon" to develop children's potential in the community for fun and learning as well as love for their local culture.



Preecha Karoon

9. Benyapa Athityodsakit (Nakhon Ratchasima), Treasurer and Committee member

Benyapa Athityodsakit was born in 1977, Over the past 10 years working with "Mo Lam Hoon Kratib" is a new innovative puppet that brings together Isan culture such as Mo Lam and art. By using local materials such as Kratib and sticky rice to create a puppet telling stories by using the Isan poem, folk music, and harp Kan, which has hidden implications for preserving the worthiness of Isan as a valuable inheritance of the Isan people to combine as "Mo Lam Hoon"



Benyapa Athityodsakit

10. Rat Puanrak (Phuket), Chair of the Cultural Exchange Branch

Rat Puanrak was born in 1974, He worked in the southern part of Thailand (Phuket - Phang Nga - Krabi) by organizing learning and teaching activities in schools in the countryside. And organizing puppet shows in other provinces Including continuously pushing for a puppet festival in the South of Thailand. He used the marionette show as part of building a healthy family relationship with his wife, son, and two daughters. They are been absorbed and have become an important part of the Phuket Marionette group until now. He was the team of Harmony Puppet Thailand to manage the International Puppet Festival until the present.



Rat Puanrak

11. Akarapon Cherngkrai (Rayong),

Chair of the Professional Training Branch

Akarapon Cherngkrai was born in 1991, At the age of eight, there was a persuasion from the Abbot of Ban Don Temple, to come to practice Nang Yai or Grand shadow puppet from the teaching of Grand shadow teachers and seniors. When he has seventeen years old, he started to train the children in the local area become to youth puppeteers to play Grand shadow puppets. Because the troupe uses the brotherhood system passed down for generations to train the puppeteer. Currently serves as a trainer and puppeteer of Nang Yai Wat Ban Don and working as an employee of Rayong Provincial Cultural Office. In the year 2008, He represents The Nang-Yai Wat Ban Don Performer or Grand Shadow Puppet, Rayong, Thailand, to receive "Prix Michael Meschke" for the encouragement of new generations to preserve and renew the Nang-Yai tradition faithfully to its origins..." including a performing tour to Athens, Greece, and Lund, Sweden.



Akarapon Cherngkrai

12. Mana Luangphon (Rayong),

Chair of the Child Development and Education Branch

Mana Luangphon was born in 1991, At the age of eight, there was a persuasion from the Abbot of Ban Don Temple, to come to practice Nang Yai or Grand shadow puppet from the teaching of Grand shadow teachers and seniors. When he has seventeen years old, he started to train the children in the local area become to youth puppeteers to play Grand shadow puppets. Because the troupe uses the brotherhood system passed down for generations to train the puppeteer. Currently serves as a trainer and puppeteer of Nang Yai Wat Ban Don and working as a Personal business career. In the year 2008, He represents The Nang-Yai Wat Ban Don Performer or Grand Shadow Puppet, Rayong, Thailand, to receive "Prix Michael Meschke" for the encouragement of new generations to preserve and renew the Nang-Yai tradition faithfully to its origins..." including a performing tour to Athens, Greece, and Lund, Sweden.



Mana Luangphon