

## STONE SOUP: BLACK CHERRY'S 2026 COMMUNITY PUPPET PARADE

STONE SOUP is the theme for this year's Black Cherry Puppet Theater Community Puppet Parade, part of the annual [SoWeBo Arts and Music Festival](#) on Sunday, May 24, 2026. The parade celebrates the magic in the story of Stone Soup, in which a hungry traveler convinces a group of villagers to contribute one ingredient to his pot. Each person's unique and small contributions add up to make a delicious and nourishing meal for all. Let's make Puppet Soup together! We invite you to bring your gifts to build this parade together and cook up an artistic feast for our community. This year's parade marks the 46th anniversary of Black Cherry Puppet Theater providing arts programming and connecting generations of people with the magic of puppetry. Huzzah!

Black Cherry will be hosting a series of puppet builds, or work sessions, staffed by volunteer community artists, to make elements for the parade. All work sessions are free and will take place at Black Cherry Puppet Theater at 1115 Hollins Street in Baltimore. For more information, please visit [www.blackcherry.org](http://www.blackcherry.org), find Black Cherry Puppet Theater on Instagram, or email [bcptvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:bcptvolunteers@gmail.com) with PARADE in the subject line. [Donations](#) in any amount are appreciated to help meet build and parade day expenses!

### FREE PARADE PUPPET MAKING SESSIONS

**Recommended for ages 8-adult. Under 12 should please be accompanied by an adult.**

Saturday, April 25, 12-3pm

Sunday, April 26, 12-3pm

Saturday, May 9, 12-3pm

Sunday, May 17, 12-3pm

*Builders with works in progress may also add finishing touches on 5/23, 12-3pm.*

### FREE PARADE HEADDRESS MAKING SESSION

**All ages welcome. Under 12 should please be accompanied by an adult.**

Saturday, May 23, 12-3pm/ Come make a festive topper to wear at the parade, whether or not you have also made a puppet!

### PARADE DAY

Sunday, May 24. Parade line-ups at 12:30 and 2:30pm in front of Black Cherry Puppet Theater. Step off at 1pm and 3pm. Parades last approximately 30 minutes and are about .4 miles long.

## ACCESSIBILITY AND PARKING INFO

There are curb cuts at either end of the block, at the corner of Hollins and Carlton and the corner of Hollins and Arlington. From the sidewalk, there is one 5" step up into the theater, though a ramp can be set up to support wheelchair access. Please reach out to us in advance so we can have it ready. The bathroom is wheelchair accessible and ADA compliant, and there is a hold bar. For additional access needs, please contact us at [bcptvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:bcptvolunteers@gmail.com) with PARADE in the subject line.

Parade participants will not need to go into the theater to participate in the parade. The parade will take place at street level. The route will lead through crowded streets with lots of people and loud sounds, including amplified bands and possible drumming.

For places to park on Festival Day, [visit here](#). There will be limited parking available near the start of the parade.