

# The Masks We Wear

Exploring identity through drama, art and mask performance



**Overview** — **Spectrum** is a theatre group for young adults on the autism spectrum. Our 2019-20 program, **The Masks We Wear**, will focus on playwriting, acting, art projects, mask making, and other creative expressions of identity. The program will culminate in the performance of a play based on the real life experiences of group members.

**Group size** — Group size is limited to **18 participants** who commit to attend **the entire year** as we build a play together.

**Schedule** — We meet **6:30 - 7:45 p.m.** on the **first and third Thursdays of the month** (see below). Participants are asked to be on time for the beginning and end of each session. *Schedule is subject to change.*

2019		2020	
Aug. 15	Nov. 7	Jan. 2	March 19
Sept. 5	Nov. 21	Jan. 16	April 2
Sept. 19	Dec. 5	Feb. 6	April 16
Oct. 3	Dec. 19	Feb. 20	May 7
Oct. 17		March 5	May 21

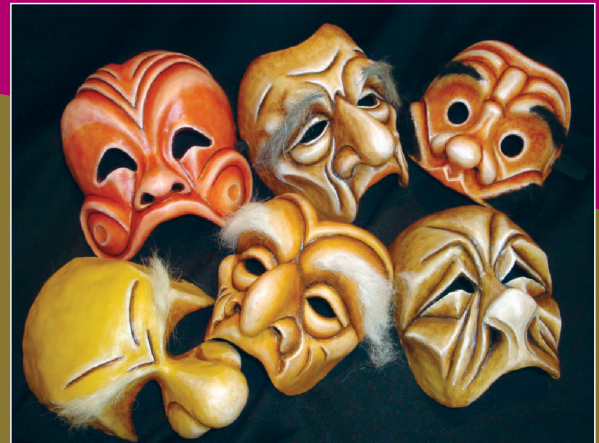
**Locations** — All sessions will be held at either **First Baptist Church Greenville\*** (847 Cleveland Street in the AYMC building) or **Triune Mercy Center** (222 Rutherford Street in the art room).

*\*Enter the First Baptist Church parking lot from Faris Road, then keep straight to the AYMC building on the far right. Park anywhere and enter at the main entrance (upper level).*

**Fee** — There is a program fee of **\$250** for the entire program which may be paid in two installments of **\$125** each (due Aug. 15, 2019 and Jan. 2, 2020).

## Goals for each participant

1. **Expand their social network**, meet new friends, and experience the give-and-take of friendship
2. **Enjoy social situations** and interactions with other people without stress
3. **Learn to focus attention** on others, to listen to them and empathize with them
4. **Experience and express emotions** positively; manage these expressions in a socially acceptable manner
5. **Discover motivations** to improve themselves personally and socially

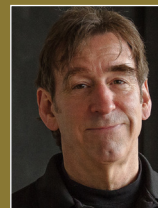


*Theatrical masks designed by Doug Berky*

**Group leaders** — Spectrum is led by **Dr. Dale Savidge**. For this year's program, he will be joined by mask theatre artist **Doug Berky** and art therapist **Courtney Chandler**.



**Dale Savidge** holds a PhD in English and Theatre from the University of South Carolina. He is also a Registered Drama Therapist, co-author of *Performing the Sacred*, and a professor of theatre at North Greenville University, where he teaches applied theatre.



**Doug Berky** has been evolving his own brand of physical theatre for over thirty years. His original performances are an intricately woven fabric of Commedia Del Arte, physical comedy, mime, mask theatre, clowning, circus arts, and storytelling.



**Courtney Chandler** is pursuing a Masters degree in art therapy from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College (Indiana). She previously served as Director of Programs for Art from Ashes in Denver and currently is an adolescent counselor at The Phoenix Center in Greenville.

For more information, contact Dale Savidge at [dsavidge@appliedtheatrecenter.org](mailto:dsavidge@appliedtheatrecenter.org).

