

*Demographics of our participants:*

Race: Asian 35%, Black 33%, Multi racial 13%, Latine 8%, Native 8%, SWANA 3%

Gender: Female 61%, Male 14%, Non-binary/gender non-conforming 25%

Trans: 3%

Sexual orientation: Heterosexual 49%, LGBTQ2S+ 48%, Questioning 2%, Decline to answer 1%

Income: Low 49%, Poverty level 29%, Middle 21%, Upper 1%

Disability: 11%

Age: 18-24 2% , 25-44 80%, 45-64 15%, 65+ 3%

*“I love Monkeybear because they do the real work to getting more POCI people into puppetry. They provided me with training, mentorship, and a community, without this I would've never been able to complete a puppet show.”-Oanh Vu (2019 Cohort)*

*“This program has given me the ability to tell stories/perform without fear, limitations or boundaries.”-Stayci Bell (2019 Cohort)*

*“Puppetry is a tradition that exists in so many of our ancestral cultures. For me, having a space to explore that with other BIPOC has given me a sense of community and safety to take risks. It's been a rare and vital space that's been crucial to my development as an artist these past few years, and I'm incredibly grateful. I've gained so much knowledge, friendship, and community from Monkeybear.”*

*-Andrew Young (2017 Cohort)*

*“Monkeybear will forever hold a piece of my heart as one of the first artistic spaces that helped me feel safe and nurtured to play and learn*

*without hierarchy, judgment, or gatekeeping. Creating a space like this is easier said than done; the more I expand into my artistic practice, the more blessed I know I am to have had the space to grow with a place like Monkeybear. Never had I been so warmly embraced and nurtured as an artist. ”*

*-Denise Hanh Huynh*