

Dear Friend:

Thank you for your interest in having a COUNT ME IN® Elementary puppet presentation at your school. **Enclosed is a request form that must be returned to PACER before we can schedule a program. Please include information on where to park and enter the building.**

COUNT ME IN is a project of PACER, a national training and information center for families of children and youth with special health needs and all disabilities. The COUNT ME IN show features charming, multicultural child-size puppets with disabilities brought to life by trained volunteers. Through entertaining skits and audience interaction, the puppets help to dispel fears, myths and misconceptions about people with disabilities and promote a message of inclusion.

Audience: The **COUNT ME IN Elementary** show is appropriate for students in first through fourth grades. The **hour-long show** features four scripts: blindness, deafness, cerebral palsy, and Down syndrome. (ADHD or autism may also be options.) To allow students to interact with the puppets, **audience size should not exceed 100 students for grades 2-4 or 80 first graders.** (For children ages 4-6, a shorter version of the show is also available.)

Cost and Scheduling: The cost is **\$100 per presentation. Up to three presentations can be scheduled in a day** with a one-hour break. Request forms are filed by month requested; then the school is contacted 4-6 weeks in advance to confirm date, time and number of shows. A written confirmation is mailed 2-3 weeks prior to the show date.

Site: The site for the COUNT ME IN presentation can be a quiet gymnasium, media center or classroom large enough to accommodate the students seated on the floor. **We must have access to the room 30 minutes in advance to set up our equipment. Please provide chairs for 3 puppeteers and all adults viewing the show.**

Evaluation and Follow-Up: Adults attending the presentation will be asked to complete an evaluation form to help us refine the program and better meet student needs. Students receive a letter of explanation to take home to their families. Each teacher will also be given additional materials for classroom use, including a sign language alphabet, a Braille alphabet, and a copy of the COUNT ME IN song.

If you would like further information, please email us at puppets@pacer.org or contact PACER Center at (952) 838-9000 and ask for COUNT ME IN. Thank you for encouraging disability awareness in your community!

