

For more information about this program, contact the OPWDD Public Education Program at (518) 473-1190, or contact a regional Public Education team:

Albany

(518) 654-7696

Binghamton

(607) 770-0386

Bronx

(212) 229-3174

Brooklyn/Staten Island

(212) 229-3175 or (718) 642-8669

Buffalo

(716) 517-2165

Manhattan

(212) 229-3173

Queens

(718) 217-4683

Rochester

(607) 776-9800

Rome

(315) 339-0110, Ext. 251

Syracuse

(315) 473-5059

Thiells

(845) 947-6216

Tupper Lake

(315) 379-9667



NYS Office For People With Developmental Disabilities

Putting People First



Omardi

Teaching tolerance and acceptance through fun, laughter and open discussion.

(866) 946-9733

www.opwdd.ny.gov

Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor



Courtney Burke
Commissioner



Young children learn best through play. That's why OPWDD's Omardi program is so important. It teaches, through play and fun, the value of differences and that every child –whether they ride in a wheelchair or walk on two feet – can be a friend!

I encourage teachers, day-care providers and camp counselors to invite Omardi in for a few hours of educational fun.

Courtney Burke, Commissioner

Omardi

Omardi is a dynamic marionette that teaches children aged three to six about peers with developmental disabilities, and that it's OK to be "different."

Omardi introduces social skills that will help kids foster friendships and peer support through understanding and dialogue.

With humor, rhymes and sing-a-longs, the curriculum encourages children to find solutions to Omardi's concerns about being "different." With the greater awareness Omardi teaches, children learn to see abilities in everyone.

Omardi is offered free-of-charge to preschools, day-care centers, pre-K, kindergarten classes, community groups, libraries and summer camps. Each program takes approximately a half-hour and works best in a small room where children can sit comfortably on the floor and have space to move around.

Trained educators work with the marionette and address probing questions openly and with sensitivity.

To find out more about Omardi and other OPWDD educational programs, or to arrange a presentation, call the toll-free OPWDD Information Line at (866) 946-9733 voice, or (866) 933-4889 TTY; visit OPWDD's Web site, www.opwdd.ny.gov; or call your local OPWDD DDSO. A listing of DDSO contact numbers, and a request form, is included in the back of this brochure.



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Presentation Request

 School/Organization Name

 Address

 Zip

 Telephone

 Fax

 County/School District

 Name of the person completing form

 If your school or organization has already seen a presentation, please note the date of the most recent presentation:

