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# Get hands-on with *Pete the Cat* at the Center for Puppetry Arts

*Cool-cat special events to accompany a groovy new show*

**ATLANTA (March 27, 2017)** — ***Pete the Cat***will mark the **Center for Puppetry Arts’** latest brand new production this spring, **April 4 – May 28**! This faithful adaptation of the best-selling book series tells the groovy adventures of one cool, skateboarding, surfing, rocking blue cat and his fine friends. The Center for Puppetry Arts will celebrate the central themes of *Pete the Cat* with a series of special events during the run of the show.

Coming up first on **Saturday, April 8**, the Center will celebrate the opening of *Pete the Cat* with a book signing by author and illustrator duo Kim and James Dean. They will be set up in the atrium after the 12 p.m. show. Books will be available for purchase in the Museum Store or guests may bring their own to be signed from1:30-3:30 p.m.

On **Saturday, April 15**, *Pete the Cat* fans can get hands-on with robots! In the show, Pete makes a robot version of himself, and the Center for Puppetry Arts has teamed up with Atlanta company Hello Robo so patrons can make their own Robo Pete. Hello Robo’s mission is to make personal robotics more accessible and affordable for everyone. They’ll be on-site with robots to interact with and show kids how to build their own robot version of Pete the Cat, complete with instructions and a list of inexpensive parts that families can order online! For more information about Hello Robo, visit [www.hello-robo.com](http://www.hello-robo.com).

The Center continues its sensory-friendly offerings on **Sunday, April 23**, with the 1 p.m. presentation of *Pete the Cat*. During this performance, the following alterations will be employed: theater lights dimmed down but not out, consistent sound levels and lower volume of show soundtrack, freedom for children to talk and to leave their seat if necessary, a quiet zone in the lobby and permission to bring quiet, contained snacks and beverages. These adjustments continue into the Museum and Create-A-Puppet Workshop™.

As young readers know, Pete loves riding his skateboard, and on **Saturday, April 29**, kids can too—without the safety risk. Kids can test their skills with a 4-inch scaled replica of a skateboard called a fingerboard. A few fingerboard experts will be at the Center demonstrating how children can do the coolest skateboard tricks using their hands. At the end of the demo, guests can enter to win a fingerboard to take home!

The Center for Puppetry Arts looks forward to welcoming families for these engaging events during the debut engagement of *Pete the Cat*! All of these events are included at no additional charge with an all-inclusive admission. The show is presented in the Mainstage Theater, April 4 – May 28. Reduced-price previews take place April 4 and 5. Show times are as follows:

**April 4 – May 21**

Tuesday – Friday: 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Saturday: Noon and 2 p.m.

Sunday: 1p.m. and 3 p.m.

**May 23 – May 28**

Tuesday – Friday: 10 a.m. and Noon

Saturday: Noon and 2 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Tickets **$10.25 (Members)** and **$20.50 (nonmembers)** and include admission to the show, the *Worlds of Puppetry* Museum (with the largest collection of Jim Henson puppets and artifacts in the world as well as a Global Gallery), and entrance to the Create-A-Puppet Workshop™, where guests can make and decorate their own **Pete the Cat Hand Puppet** and perform with it on our classroom stage. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.puppet.org](http://www.puppet.org) or by calling **404.873.3391**.

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**The Center for Puppetry Arts is supported in part by:** Fulton County Arts Council • City of Atlanta Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs • Georgia Council for the Arts • The Zeist Foundation

For a complete list of the Center’s major supporters, visit www.puppet.org/about/sponsors.

*Center for Puppetry Arts® is a unique cultural treasure – a magical place where children and adults are educated, enlightened, and entertained. Since 1978, the Center has introduced millions of visitors to the wonder and art of puppetry and has touched the lives of many through enchanting performances, curriculum-based workshops, and the hands-on Museum as well as Distance Learning and Outreach programs. Center for Puppetry Arts is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and is supported in part by contributions from corporations, foundations, government agencies, and individuals. Major funding is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners and the City of Atlanta Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs. These programs are also supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. GCA is a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Center is a member of Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA/USA/ASSITEJ).The Center also serves as headquarters of UNIMA-USA, the American branch of Union Internationale de la Marionnette, the international puppetry organization.*