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# *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* lights up the Center for Puppetry Arts, November 8 – December 31

*One of Atlanta’s top holiday events returns for seventh consecutive year with a special photo opportunity during select performances*

ATLANTA (October 19, 2016) – It wouldn’t be Christmas without a few reindeer games! If you recall, Rudolph is the most famous reindeer of all, and he’s ready to help audiences embrace their inner misfit at the **Center for Puppetry Arts** this holiday season. ***Rudolph the Red-Nosed ReindeerTM,***, playing in the Mainstage Theater from **November 8 – December 31**, was adapted by Jon Ludwig and is directed by Tim Sweeney. Based on the timeless 1964 stop-motion animated television special, this must-see family favorite is filled with holly jolly adventure and excitement bound to bring joy to all this holiday season!

Patrons will watch in wonder as the North Pole truly comes to life through the use of rod and body puppets meticulously designed by the Center’s Resident Puppet Builder Jason Hines and constructed by a team of puppet builders. Puppeteers Dolph Amick, Nikolas Carleo, Anna Caudle, Jake Krakovsky, Sarah Beth Moseley and Anna Claire Walker create the magic of the classic tale on stage. Sam the Snowman™ narrates the beloved tale of unlikely friendship formed among Rudolph™, Hermey the Elf™, Yukon Cornelius™ and all the magical misfit toys. While narrowly escaping the grips of the Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster™ and braving perilous blizzards, their journey is sure to warm hearts as the friends learn the importance of being true to one’s self and accepting others along the way. *Rudolph the Red-Nosed ReindeerTM*is recommended for ages 4 and up.

“Listening to this year's cast practicing the songs from Rudolph gets me in the mood for another holly jolly holiday season,” said artistic director, Jon Ludwig. “This cast is really skilled at singing, along with great manipulation and character voices. They are able to blend beautifully together. It makes me want to join in, and hopefully it will get families singing along with this annual classic.”

A celebration of individuality and acceptance, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer****TM*** has become an Atlanta holiday tradition for all ages to enjoy!

During the first two weekends of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer****TM***, lucky patrons will have the special opportunity to have their picture taken with a puppet from the show at a post-show meet and great. Tickets to all shows also include entrance to the Create-A-Puppet Workshop™, where guests can make and decorate their own **Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster™ Hand Puppet.**

Audiences will also be in for a treat as the Center’s *Worlds of Puppetry* Museum will celebrate its first anniversary during the opening weekend of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer****TM***. Beginning Friday, November 11, patrons can view the Center’s newest acquisition, Topthorn from the Tony Award-winning Broadway production of *War Horse*. The weekend will include a viewing of the documentary *Making War Horse* with an introduction by Cheryl Henson, daughter of Jim Henson and Center for Puppetry Arts board member, as well as a discussion with performer, designer and puppet artist Tom Lee, who performed in *War Horse* at Lincoln Center. Lee will also present a master class in the Bunraku-inspired puppetry techniques used in that show. For more information, visit [www.puppet.org](http://www.puppet.org).

The show schedule is as follows:

* November 8-20:
  + Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.
  + \*\*Saturday: 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
  + \*\*Sunday: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
* November 22-27:
  + Tuesday: 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.
  + Wednesday: 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
  + Friday-Saturday: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
  + Sunday: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

*\*The Center will be closed on Thursday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving Day*

* November 29 – December 10:
  + Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.
  + Saturday: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
  + Sunday: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
* December 11-18:
  + Tuesday-Wednesday: 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.
  + Thursday-Friday: 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
  + Saturday: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
  + Sunday: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. (with special 5 p.m. show on December 11 only)
* December 20-24:
  + Tuesday-Thursday: 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
  + Saturday: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

*\*The Center will be closed on Sunday, December 25 in observance of Christmas Day*

* December 27-31:
  + - Tuesday-Thursday: 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
    - Saturday: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

*\*The Center will be closed on Sunday, January 1 in observance of New Year’s Day*

*\*\**Performances when patrons can meet and take photos with a puppet after the show

Tickets prices vary by date, and start at **$10.25 (Members) and $20.50 (nonmembers);** tickets 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 **Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster™ Hand Puppet** and perform with it on the Center’s 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 • Zeist Foundation • The Wish Foundation Fund of the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta • PNC • The Coca-Cola Foundation • WSB-TV Family 2 Family Project • YP

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.*