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# Center for Puppetry Arts to host enchanting events for boys and girls of all ages

*Come one, come all to celebrate* Cinderella Della Circus, June 20 – July 23

**ATLANTA (June 7, 2017) —** Step right up! The **Center for Puppetry Arts** will kick off the 2017-2018 season with the anticipated return of ***Cinderella Della Circus***. The magical, circus-themed show will be supplemented with a number of applause-worthy, free weekend events to celebrate the high-flying spirit of the show.

The Center for Puppetry Arts will somersault into fun on **Saturday, June 24** with a carnival to celebrate the show’s opening weekend. Patrons can enjoy a bounce house, fresh popcorn and a visit from our friends Bean & Bear who will be clowning, and performing walk around puppetry and magic tricks.

Cinderella is a pro at walking the tightrope, so patrons will have a chance to learn some of her tricks! On **Saturday, July 8**, the Center will host Circus Arts Day. Members of Atlanta’s Circus Arts Institute will be on-site giving lessons in tightrope walking simulations and scarf juggling. They will be joined by a stilt walker, who will roam the atrium on sky-high stilts.

A sensory-friendly version of *Cinderella Della Circus* will take place at 1 p.m. on **Sunday, July 9** to continue the Center’s ASD initiative. 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 will continue into the museum and Create-A-Puppet Workshop.

*Cinderella Della Circus* uses marionette puppets, including some that do special tricks. Guests interested in learning how to use a marionette will get the chance on **Saturday, July 15**! The Center’s staff of puppeteers will be leading demos and teaching an introductory lesson on marionette puppetry using hand-made scarf marionettes.

Finally, the Center will celebrate the show’s final weekend on **Saturday, July 22** with a truly sparkling activity – bedazzling! In the spirit of Cinderella’s famous slippers, patrons are invited to bedazzle their own shoes. The Center has partnered with Atlanta-area Shoe Carnival stores to offer a 30 percent off discount on a new pair of shoes. Families are encouraged to purchase those before the show and bring them to decorate after the performance. The Center will provide all the bedazzling supplies.

All of these events will take place between 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on the days listed and are included at no additional charge with an all-inclusive admission. *Cinderella Della Circus* is presented in the Mainstage Theater, June 20 – July 23. Reduced-price previews will take place June 20 and 21. Show times are as follows:

Tuesday – Friday: 10 a.m. and noon

Saturday: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

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

Tickets are **$9.75 (Members)** and **$19.50 (nonmembers) – plus sales tax.** Tickets include admission to the performance, 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 special **Stretcho Rod Puppet** and perform with it on our classroom stage. Tickets are available 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 • The Jim Henson Company

For a complete list of the Center’s major supporters visit [www.puppet.org/about/sponsors](http://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.*