



## NEWS RELEASE

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### ***Barefoot Puppet Theatre to perform award-winning show!***

Explore the islands of the Galapagos Archipelago as Barefoot Puppets presents their award winning show, *Galapagos George*, a wonderful production for all ages.

Who is George? He's a tortoise – a *GIANT GALAPAGOS TORTOISE!* Watch George grow up in this 45-minute show featuring sea turtles, lizards, hungry goats, sea lions, and dancing blue-footed birdies...watch out for the pirates, though! As you visit his island, you will hear the true story of the last tortoise to be found on Pinta Island in the Galapagos archipelago. George is just a hatchling when the show begins, but he gets really *BIG!* Come fall in love with these islands...and this not-so-little tortoise!

Described by the Smithsonian Discovery Theatre as “an uplifting eco-fable,” this unique show was awarded a 2005 UNIMA Citation of Excellence, the highest distinction in American puppetry! For more information, please visit Barefoot Puppets at [www.barefootpuppets.com](http://www.barefootpuppets.com).

### ***Company Information***

**Barefoot Puppet Theatre** has been building and performing original works since 1997 when founder and director, Heidi Rugg, began building puppet shows from the basement of her home in Richmond, Virginia. The first show was originally designed to fit in the back of a Volkswagen Golf! From these humble beginnings, the company (and the touring vehicle) has grown significantly and now tours nationally to libraries, schools, and theaters while continuing to create new works for children and their families. Each performance features beautiful puppets in a variety of styles, imaginative and well-researched scripts, unique staging, audience participation, and original music. These elements combine to bring to life world folktales, classic tales (with a twist!), and adaptations of true stories. Performances have thrilled audiences at Boston's Puppet Showplace Theater, The Center for Puppetry Arts, The National Zoo, The Smithsonian Discovery Theater, and The Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts. In 2005, Barefoot Puppet Theatre was awarded a UNIMA Citation of Excellence, the highest distinction in North American puppetry.

*Barefoot Puppet Theatre's mission is to celebrate the cultural diversity and natural wonders of our world through the art of puppetry. Contemporary adaptations of world Folktales, classic tales, myths, and true stories combine with original scripts and meticulously crafted puppets, scenery, and staging to create unique theatrical experiences for young audiences and their families. Through performances, interactive workshops, and residency programs, Barefoot Puppet Theatre seeks to nurture the creative spark, cultivate a joy of learning, and plant the seeds for a greater understanding and appreciation of the arts and the world around us.*