



News Release: A fantastic puppet show for all ages!

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How does a spider beat an elephant in a bout of tug-of-war?? You'll find out when **Barefoot Puppets presents *Trickster Tales!*** This 45-minute performance stars Anansi the Spider in two traditional folktales of the Beluba and Ashanti peoples. In addition to Anansi, you will meet Elephant, Hippo, Namibi the Python, Osebo the Leopard, a swarm of angry hornets and an even angrier Sky-God! Colorful scenery, original music, lots of puns and an eleven-foot stage create a wonderful backdrop for the antics of these expressive rod and hand puppets. It's a high energy show with fun for all ages!

You can visit Barefoot Puppets on the web at 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.