

## **Munch! Crunch! *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show* Opens Friday, September 1**

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Straight from a critically acclaimed run in New York, ***The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show*** comes to the San Francisco Bay Area, Friday, September 1, bringing to life in vibrant color Eric Carle's beloved stories about sea horses, fireflies, and, of course, that lovable Lepidoptera himself.

Featuring 75 puppets that seem to have popped right out of the pages of Carle's beautifully illustrated books, ***The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show***, presented by the [Bay Area Children's Theatre](http://www.bactheatre.org) (BACT), plays at the Bay Area Children's Theatre Center, 2055 Center Street, Berkeley, CA 94704, September 1 - October 29:

- Fridays at 6:30 p.m.
- Saturdays at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 4 p.m.
- Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. (Note: 1:30 p.m. only on Sunday, September 17)

"Moving to our new center in downtown Berkeley has made it possible to bring this magical production to the Bay Area," said Nina Meehan, BACT executive artistic director. "The show was designed for a venue like ours. It's a huge show with an enormous set, yet, in our theatre, audience members will still feel an intimate connection to the actors and the giant puppets on stage."

For Friday night performances, BACT is including a slice of pizza in the ticket price so that families can enjoy an evening of live theatre together without extra stress.

Created by Jonathan Rockefeller and directed by Simon Trumble, ***The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show*** adapts four of Eric Carle's charming stories, *The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse*, *Mister Seahorse*, *The Very Lonely Firefly* and, of course, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Recommended for ages 3 and up.

TICKETS: \$26 adults, \$24 seniors (65+), \$20 children (age 2 – 14), \$15 groups (minimum 15)

BOX OFFICE: [www.bactheatre.org](http://www.bactheatre.org) or call (510) 296-4433

((High-res .jpg attached of the Very Hungry Caterpillar. Photo credit: Jonathan Rockefeller.))

### **About the Bay Area Children's Theatre**

Established in 2004, the Bay Area Children's Theatre, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, serves more than 110,000 children and adults throughout the Bay Area, with main stage performances in Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco; selected productions in local schools; and classes and summer camps in more than 10 East Bay communities.

**Our Mission:** To inspire young audiences with imaginative productions, introduce children of all backgrounds to the excitement of live theatre, and create an engaging, entertaining, and educational environment in which children and their families can explore and enjoy the arts.

### **How We Carry Out Our Mission:**

- Bring high quality, professional theatre to children and their families, with artists who create vibrant worlds that are intriguing to young audiences
- Encourage young people to explore literature, language, and the arts by producing stage adaptations of great children's books
- Engage preschoolers in the world of theatre with productions specially designed for them
- Develop and perform exciting new work for the stage
- Reach out to children who might not otherwise experience live theatre with free tickets, special performances for school groups, and touring productions at local schools
- Create touring productions for young audiences nationwide
- Partner with communities to meet the need for theatre education
- Introduce children to the joy of performance through our theatre education program