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CENTER FOR PUPPETRY ARTS ANNOUNCES THIRD ENDOWMENT Executive Director Chair named in honor of former Board Chairman and Husband

ATLANTA, June 7, 2005 – The Center for Puppetry Arts announces the establishment of its third endowment, the Barbara and Bill Wyly Executive Director Chair Endowment. The endowment has reached \$625,000 thus far and will fund the executive director position.

The Center's board, led by chairman John Chandler, Kip Caffey, Mrs. U. Bertram Ellis, Jr., and Mrs. C. Preston Stephens, created the endowment in honor of the Wyly's long and very influential association with the Center. Ms. Wyly served as chairman of the Center's board of directors for 14 years, beginning in 1989. She was involved in four capital campaigns that secured funding to purchase the Center's building, an acre of property adjacent to the Center and to make millions of dollars in improvements in the Center. Mr. Wyly was also active in the Center, serving as a volunteer and offering support to the Center until his death in 1995.

Chandler made the surprise announcement at the Chairman's Benefactors Reception on April 21, 2005 and presented Ms. Wyly with a black, wooden desk chair inscribed "Barbara and Bill Wyly Executive Director Chair 2005." Former Atlanta Braves player Henry "Hank" Aaron and The Coca-Cola Company's chairman of the board and chief executive officer E. Neville Isdell were on hand for the reception and presentation.

"I was so honored, and Bill would have been honored, too. It was totally unexpected," Ms. Wyly said. "I have such deep gratitude for the generosity of these people who care so much about the Center. The whole point of the Center is to present live theater to as many people as possible. It's vital to the community; we want it to continue, and this endowment will ensure its success."

The Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, GA, 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 global museum.

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The Center for Puppetry Arts is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts; the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly (the Council is a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts); and contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations. Major funding for the Center is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council. Major support is provided by the City of Atlanta Bureau of Cultural Affairs. The Center is a participant in the New Generations Program, funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre. The Center is a constituent of TCG and member of the Atlanta Coalition of Performing Arts. The Center also serves as headquarters of UNIMA-USA.