



GEELONG ARTS CENTRE FEB  
MEDIA RELEASE 2020

## MOMENTS FOR FAMILIES TO TREASURE IN 2020

Dazzling acrobatics, physical theatre, literary favourites come to life, orchestral jams and, for the very first time, an immersive performance specially designed for young children with disabilities await families in Geelong Arts Centre's 2020 Love Central Geelong Family Magic program.

The delicately curated six-show program will give children, aged up to 12 years from the Geelong and surrounding regions, their loved ones and families, a chance to break away from their TVs and lounge rooms in favour of moments to treasure, while being captivated by the magic of the performing arts.

**"For many of our region's children, our annual Family Magic program is their first theatrical experience."**

**"We want to help families spark a love for the performing arts that introduces their little ones to a world of limitless possibilities."**

says Geelong Arts Centre CEO Joel McGuinness.

In March, the program kicks off with an interactive musical workshop hosted by composer and conductor, Karen Kyriakou and six principle artists from the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

*Jams for Juniors: Carnival of the Animals* guides mini-maestros through a 40-minute jam that ends with an instrumental petting zoo to get right up close and personal with the tools of the trade.

Later in the season, Andy Griffith and Terry Denton's magical world of *The 91 Storey Treehouse* bursts from the pages with adventures through a deserted desert island, a whirlpool, and dangerous encounters with a mysterious fortuneteller and a giant spider.

The classic Australian children's book, *Edward the Emu* also gets the live-action treatment as two adorable emus tread a journey of hilarity and tenderness that leads them to discover an important life lesson – that the best thing you can be is you.

The entire family will be stunned with acrobatics and circus that bridge generations of play with *Go, Go, Go!* Drawing inspiration from classic games, ranging from retro videogames to schoolyard classics, Gravity Dolls' latest physical theatre masterpiece celebrates the universal joy of playmaking.

Interactive sensory space adventure, *Whoosh!*, lets young explorers with disabilities co-pilot a custom-built spaceship, explore outer space and travel all the way to the mysterious Planet X. Audience sizes are limited to 14 children and their carers to ensure each child has the opportunity to be at the centre of the action in this multi-sensory performance.

Issued by Hugh Coldwell-Ross, Geelong Arts Centre. Phone 5225 1274 or 0419 227 094. Email [hugh@geelongartscentre.org.au](mailto:hugh@geelongartscentre.org.au)



Modern day Pinocchio story, *Ann-Droid* combines theatre and dance with exciting new digital technologies, including LED costuming, drones and a robot ball. Children from four years will love journeying across land, sea and sky with the endearing robot girl, *Ann*, and delight watching drawn animations come to life through 3D projections.

After each performance throughout the season, the Geelong Arts Centre team will facilitate free craft activities in the foyer spaces, an integral activity to continue the creative experience outside the theatre.

The 2020 Family Magic program is proudly supported by Love Central Geelong.

- Ends -

**GEELONG ARTS CENTRE**  
**2020 LOVE CENTRAL GEELONG**  
**FAMILY MAGIC KEY DETAILS**

**MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
**PRESENTS JAMS FOR JUNIORS: CARNIVAL OF**  
**THE ANIMALS**

**7 MAR, 10am, 11.30pm & 1.30pm**  
STUDIO 4

**THE 91 STOREY TREEHOUSE**  
**16 MAY, 12pm, 2.30pm & 5pm**  
THE PLAYHOUSE

**WHOOSH!**  
**23 MAY, 12pm & 2.30pm**  
STUDIO 4

**ANN-DROID: THE WONDERFUL ADVENTURES OF**  
**ROBOT GIRL**

**10 JUN, 6pm**  
DRAMA THEATRE

**GO, GO, GO!**  
**3 JUL, 2.30pm**  
**4 JUL, 12pm & 2.30pm**  
DRAMA THEATRE

**EDWARD THE EMU**  
**4 SEP, 6pm**  
**5 SEP, 12pm & 2.30pm**  
THE PLAYHOUSE

**TICKET PRICES**  
SINGLE TICKETS: \$24  
GROUPS OF 4 OR MORE: \$20

**BOOKINGS**  
[www.geelongartscentre.org.au/whats-on/family-magic](http://www.geelongartscentre.org.au/whats-on/family-magic)

**#GeelongArtsCentre**  
**#FamilyMagic**