

children's theater

Blue Planet Theatre
P.O. Box 45
Vienna VA 22183
703-912-1991
www.blueplanettheatre.org/

Information courtesy of Amazon.com and Karin Snelson. (Baby to preschool). More than 12 million copies of this book have been sold in its original, full-sized edition, and the beloved tale of science and gluttony has been translated into 20 languages. This five-by-four-inch miniature edition is truly tiny, with tiny type, but it is a nice size for small hands to hold and flip through the pictures. Despite its diminished state, the book is complete in every detail, following the ravenous caterpillar's path as he eats his way through one apple (and the pages of the book itself). No doubt you know what happens next! Kids love butterfly metamorphosis stories, and this popular favorite teaches counting and the days of the week, too. A fun gift package for caterpillar fans.

Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts, Inc.
6655 Dobbins Road #4
Columbia MD 21045
703-912-1991
www.cctarts.com/

CCTA is a children's theater and performing arts school. Today CCTA employs more than a one-hundred teachers, directors, writers, actors, musicians, technicians and consultants under the guidance of four full-time and 10 part-time staff members. Today, CCTA continues to follow its original mission by creating new theatrical experiences that are not only educational and entertaining but are also proactive and inspirational! Our productions teach life experience and pass along sound moral messages to young audiences. Information courtesy of Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts, Inc.

Encore Stage & Studio
2515 N. Randolph Street
Arlington VA 22207
703-548-1154
www.encorestage.org/

A time tested children's teaching theater, Encore Stage & Studio has been doing business since 1967. A respected and valued member of the Arlington Community, the center offers shows throughout the year. Classes and workshops are available during the school year. Special seminars are held during the summer months. Children 4 - 15 are able to participate and some scholarships are available. If your little one has the acting bug or if you want to introduce Junior to the arts, this is an ideal venue!

Glen Echo Park - Adventure Theater
7300 MacArthur Blvd
Glen Echo MD 20812
301-634-2260
www.glenechopark.org/

For many years Glen Echo has been wooing local families with a robust kid-friendly line-up of children's theater, puppet shows, nature/craft classes, and playgrounds. Take a walk through Glen Echo and the Dentzel Carousel will bring you back to simpler time. Review the web for the latest list of classes and events for kids and adults. Noteworthy, Glen Echo facilities are available to rent for special occasions.

Imagination Station
4908 Auburn Avenue
Bethesda MD 20814
301-280-1660
www.imaginationstage.org/

Imagination Stage is the largest and most respected multi-disciplinary theatre arts organization for young people in the Washington, DC region. The year-round professional shows for families and classes, performance opportunities, outreach programs and summer camps for ages 1-18 are informed by core belief in making the arts inclusive and accessible to all children, regardless of their physical, cognitive or financial status.

Jammin Java
231 Maple Avenue
Vienna VA 22180
703-255-1566
www.jamminjava.com

Like most hidden gems in Northern VA, this unexpected surprise is found in a strip mall in Vienna. This musically inclined destination has broken through the glass ceiling of java house entertainment. Noted as one of the 5 best spots to see live music in the Metro DC Area, the location is daytime perfect for kids and a rare suburban treat for an adult evening with some of the areas best bands. The food, coffee and hour appropriate cocktails are wonderful. The venue hosts all the most popular kids’ bands in the area and holds an impressive line up of "adult friendly" local talent. Come early, the house fills up fast.

Kennedy Center
2700 F Street NW
Washington DC 20566
202-467-4600
www.kennedy-center.org/

The Kennedy Center is a hidden gem for your little one. Children can let their imaginations run wild. Kids can enjoy kinderkonzerts, puppets, storytellers or acrobats in the Kennedy Center's Performances for Young People. Also take advantage of the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage program every day at 6pm, no tickets required. Often times you can take advantage of "free" performances. Noteworthy, The Kennedy Center offers education and outreach programs. Kids and young adults can participate in ballet, dance and theater classes. Review the website for more information on events, tickets and classes.

National Theatre
1321 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20004
202-783-3372
Link

The National Theatre offers an array of children’s performances that are free to the public. Seating is limited!! Tickets are required, and are distributed without charge 30 minutes prior to performance, on a First-Come First-Served basis. Children must be accompanied by an adult who remains present for the entire performance. For a Program Schedule, Send a Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope to "Saturday Morning," National Theatre, 1321 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004. Recorded program information is also available at 202-783-3372.

Now This
Silver Spring & Riot Act Comedy Club D.C.
202-364-8292
Link

Information courtesy of Now This. DC's only totally improvised musical children's theatre. Our professional cast takes the audience's ideas and instantly turns them into songs, comic sketches and musical fairy tales. Great for birthday parties! The cast interviews birthday children, and makes up a personal birthday song about each one. NOW THIS! KIDS! is recommended by the Washington Post, Going Places With Children, The Children's Post, Fodor's and Frommer's Guides and WRC TV calls us a 'Best Bet.'

State Theater
220 N. Washington Street
Falls Church VA 22046
703-237-0300
www.thestatetheatre.com/nav.html

Both young and old will enjoy the atmosphere and vibe of the State Theater. The locale has an eclectic offering of performers and bands. AOL gave the location top honors in the 2006 City Guide for "Best Live Music Venue". Noteworthy, the State Theater regularly offers children performances.

The Comedy Spot
4238 Wilson Blvd
Arlington VA 22203
703-294-LAFF
Link

Information courtesy of ComedySportz. ComedySportz is a fast-paced improvisational comedy show that's fun for EVERYONE! Two teams battle for laughs and points as they make up scenes and songs on the spot. The audience shouts out all the suggestions and votes for the winners, while the referee calls the fouls. It's not a comedy show ABOUT sports, it's the comedy show that IS a sport.

Wolf Trap - Theater in the Woods
1551 Trap Road
Vienna VA 22182
703-255-1900
www.wolftrap.org/

I first discovered Wolf Trap when the Gypsy Kings came to the DC area. After a great night under the stars with my own picnic dinner and wine, I was sold. Bringing your own food and alcohol is a great, relaxed feature about Wolf Trap. The venue offers a diverse collection of summer performances. Among the mix of bands and headliners you will also find children's performances and plays. In addition, Early Learning programs for kids's ages 3 to 5 years of age are offered. In the winter months, The Barns at Wolf Trap offer a great selection of jazz, blue grass, country music and comedy. Enjoy Opera under the stars in the summer. Check the website for a complete list of all performances, classes and events.

Young Artist Theatre
Rt. 29 & 216, Cherry Tree Center, West
Laurel MD 20723
301-604-2844
www.yatheatre.com/

Children's theater where locals auditions for the parts in upcoming shows. If you are looking for Junior to have his name in lights, take note... during auditions kids must be able to sign 16 bars of a song, bring piano music, be ready to learn a short movement routine as well as read from a script. Young Artist Theatre takes "The Craft" very seriously. Noteworthy, the theater has received lots of local kudos. Performances have been seen on Discovery Channel, Ford's Theater. The Disney Channel and more.