

# theLYRIC

Winter 2019



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## Letter from the Executive Director



Stay warm this holiday season with singers, songwriters, canine acrobats, photojournalists, and comedians that will leave you in stitches!

Get "Hooked on a Feeling" with five-time Grammy Award winner BJ Thomas, back by popular demand Arlo Guthrie's Alice's Restaurant Tour, comedians Kathleen Madigan, Lewis Black and Jim Belushi and the Board of Comedy, Grammy-nominated

pianist Joyce Yang, staple of the New York jazz scene Aaron Diehl, bona fide guitar hero Al Di Meola, 15-time Grammy Award winner Ricky Skaggs and his Kentucky Thunder, Devon Allman with special guest Duane Betts, and Michael Glabicki of Rusted Root.

And who said an old dog can't learn new tricks? From dogs on tightwire and high flying Frisbee dogs, Mutts Gone Nuts features some of the most talented rescue dogs in show business. Our Family Fun continues with an interactive magic experience as Bill Blagg defies reality with his mind-blowing illusions. From teleportation to the world's only working hover board – quite simply, you won't believe your eyes!

We are very excited to present the *National Geographic Live* Speaker Series. Ocean Soul, with Photographer Brian Skerry, celebrates the sea and her creatures in magnificent images collected during more than 10,000 hours underwater spanning 30 years. As a passionate spokesman for the oceans he loves to photograph, Skerry's riveting presentations inspire reverence for the marine realm and offer hope for protecting the vitality of the world's oceans. Standing at the Water's Edge with Cristina Mittermeier centers on the delicate balance between human well-being and healthy ecosystems. As a marine biologist and photojournalist for 25 years, Mittermeier knows the power of water: the power to give life when it is respected, and the power to destroy when it is misused (page 10).

Calling all Student Youth Performers for the 2019 Youth Arts Celebration! The Lyric League wants YOU – Singers, Dancers, Actors, Musicians, Comedians, Jugglers, Magicians, Poets, Tumblers and any other talents you can amaze us with! Auditions for 1st – 12th grade student performers will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 and Monday, March 18, 2019 from 3pm-8pm at the Lyric Theatre (page 43).

Sincerest THANK YOU to our members and donors, volunteers and patrons, sponsors and business partners, schools and area not-for-profits, and our own staff and Board of Directors. Your support is essential for our long term stability and vitality. Together, we are making performing arts accessible and affordable for everyone.

Warmest Regards,

### The Lyric Theatre's Mission

*"To provide the community with a home for the performing arts that entertains, educates, and stimulates the growth of artistic integrity and experience for everyone."*

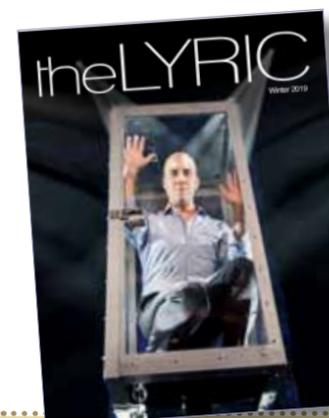


**Jim Belushi and the Board of Comedy**

Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 2019  
6:00pm & 8:30pm

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### On the cover:

Illusionist Bill Blagg will take your entire family on a magical journey with his one-of-a-kind illusions in *The Magic of Bill Blagg, Live!* coming to The Lyric stage Sunday, February 24th at 7:00pm



# SEASON SPONSORS

The Friends of the Lyric, Inc. would like to thank these sponsors who have generously helped to underwrite the costs of our 2018-19 Season.



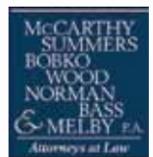
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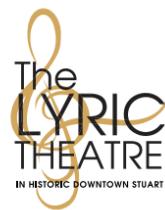
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# NEW Win Tix Contest!

See page 47 for details.



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# BOOGIE, BELUGAS & BELUSHI

Stay warm this holiday season with a little help from The Lyric Theatre as we present some of the hottest singers, songwriters, and comedians working today.

## Arthur Migliazza Boogie Woogie Piano

(January 4, 2019 7:00pm) When Arthur Migliazza, the Boogie Woogie Piano Man, performed at The Lyric Theatre this past spring, he brought down the house. The award-winning blues and Boogie Woogie pianist returns with more of the music that leaves you tapping your toes and leaving the theater happy.

Migliazza didn't begin studying the piano until he was 13, started with the usual chords

and pieces that beginners study, but he was fortunate that his teacher exposed him to many different kinds of music. "One of the things my first teachers exposed me to was the blues," he said in an interview. "I had a kid's book of blues and jazz and it was kind of Boogie Woogie, with the left hand

repeating the bass and the right hand the chords. I really liked that. I had old recordings and the emotion and style was easy for me to understand. With the left hand playing the bass, you get on auto pilot so the right hand can operate independently for chords and licks."

Migliazza eventually had the opportunity to study with teachers and mentors Henry Butler, Ann Rabson and Mr. B. Born. He lived in Arizona for many years and felt that Tucson had a pretty good blues scene. They admired him, as well, and in 2014, he was inducted into the Arizona Blues Hall of Fame. He was also celebrated in Washington State, where he lived for several years, giving him the 2014 Best of the Blues Award for Best Keyboardist in the state. He was also a finalist in 2010 and 2014 for the prestigious International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

In 2015, Migliazza had the opportunity to perform off-Broadway in the show *Boogie Stomp!* which he still takes around the country. "It was a two-piano show," he said.

*continued on page 8*



Arthur Migliazza  
Boogie Woogie Piano  
Jan. 4th 2019 | 7:00pm

"It was me and a guy, Bobby, who had played for Chuck Berry for 50 years. He wrote the narrative about the origins of the blues. It ran for four months and was really cool. He had been doing it on the road with an older gentleman who didn't want to stay on the road and he found me."

They took the show to Russia on behalf of the U.S. and played throughout the country, including in Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow. "The Russians love Boogie Woogie," he said. "We tend to come up with the cool stuff in America, but then (our tastes) move on."

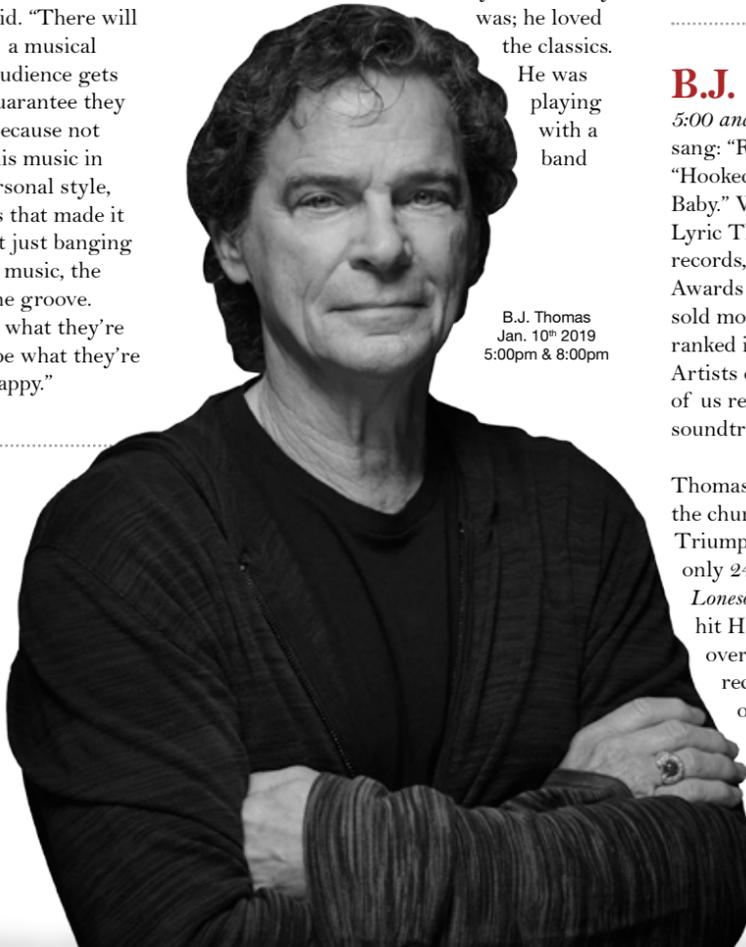
For his solo show at The Lyric, he will follow a similar format to *Boogie Stomp!* but with one piano. "I'll tell the history of Boogie Woogie piano and stories about the origins and the players," he said. "There will be jokes woven in. It's kind of a musical tour. I sing and play and the audience gets to know me a little better. I guarantee they haven't seen anything like it because not that many people are doing this music in the authentic way. I have a personal style, but I stay true to the elements that made it great in the first place. It's not just banging away, it's the subtleties of the music, the story-telling, the playing in the groove. Even if they think they know what they're going to see, I think it won't be what they're expecting. I think they'll be happy."

### The Bronx Wanderers

(January 7, 2019 6:00pm & 8:30pm & January 8, 2019 6:00pm & 8:30pm) Yo' Vinny! No, really, that's his name. Yo' Vinny Adinolfi is the founder and patriarch of the Bronx Wanderers, who bring their vocal stylings, great musicianship, high energy and real love for the music they sing. The music is the best of pop and

rock from the last six decades and got its start as a Dion tribute band. Vinny Sr., who plays rhythm guitar, keyboards and sings lead vocals, kicked it off, but the band also includes his son Vinny "The Kid" on keyboards and guitar and Nicky "Stix" on drums and vocals. Rounding out the group are Joe Bonasorte on guitar, Joe Bari on sax and keyboard and Fernando Tort on bass.

Vinny Adinolfi grew up in...wait for it... the Bronx, in a neighborhood that included Dion of Dion and the Belmonts, actor Chazz Palminteri and Tommy DeVito of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. Adinolfi was working with record companies and he loved the music of everyone from Dion to the Spinners to Jim Croce. It didn't matter what the style of the day was; he loved the classics. He was playing with a band



B.J. Thomas  
Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> 2019  
5:00pm & 8:00pm

and the drummer got sick; Adinolfi suggested his 11-year-old son Nicky. He was a hit and Palminteri suggested he start a band with his boys. When Vinny, four-years-older than Nicky, saw the money his kid brother was bringing home, he signed on too.

The elder Adinolfi, with record producing in his blood, said that the group had to have a game plan. He told an interviewer for *Las Vegas Magazine* that his boys knew the goal was Las Vegas within 10 years. Covering songs by K.C & the Sunshine Band, the Bee Gees, and even Coldplay, the musicians got a reputation for hard work and high energy. In 2016, they got a gig at Bally's Windows showroom. That's Vegas, baby. *Partial proceeds to benefit Tykes & Teens.*

**B.J. Thomas** (January 10, 2019 5:00 and 8:00pm) You know the songs he sang: "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head," "Hooked on a Feeling," and "Don't Worry Baby." When B.J. Thomas comes to The Lyric Theatre, he brings 50 years of gold records, five Grammy Awards, two Dove Awards and many No. 1 hits. Thomas has sold more than 70 million records and is ranked in *Billboard's* top 50 Most Played Artists of the last 50 years, because so many of us remember the songs as part of the soundtrack of our lives.

Thomas was raised in Houston and sang in the church choir. He joined the group The Triumphs, and in 1966, when Thomas was only 24, they released the album, *I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry*, with a cover of that hit Hank Williams song. The single sold over a million copies and earned a gold record. In 1968, he released "Hooked on a Feeling," which became his second million-seller. A year later, the movie *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* featured the Hal David/Burt Bacharach song, "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head," sung by Thomas. It won

an Oscar for Best Original Song and hit No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot 100. It earned Thomas his third gold record in four years.

In the 1970s, Thomas had hits with "Everybody's Out of Town," "I Just Can't Help Believing," "No Love at All," "Mighty Clouds of Joy" and "Rock and Roll Lullaby." In 1975, he received his fourth gold record for "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song," which also had the distinction of being the longest titled No. 1 to hit the top 100.

In 1976, Thomas' career took a turn in direction, with *Home Where I Belong*, the first of his gospel albums and the first Christian album to go platinum. He also recorded his last Top 40 hit, "Don't Worry Baby." In the 1980s, many of his singles began to chart in country music. They included "Whatever Happened to Old-Fashioned Love," and "New Looks from an Old Lover." In 1981, on his 39<sup>th</sup> birthday, he became the 60th member of the Grand Ole Opry.

Thomas wasn't finished. He recorded "As Long as We Have each Other," the theme from the television show *Growing Pains*.

In 2013, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences announced that "Raindrops" would be inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. That year, Thomas released *The Living Room Sessions*, an album with acoustic arrangements of well-known hits. He used a "wish list" of guest artists from a variety of genres, including Richard Marx for "Hey Won't You Play," Vince Gill for "I Just Can't Help Believing," Keb' Mo' for "Most of All," Lyle Lovett for "Raindrops," and Isaac Slade of the Fray for "I'm So Lonesome I could Cry." There are also several solo performances by Thomas including "Don't Worry Baby," a Beach Boys classic Thomas covered in 1977.

Thomas continues to tour and has discovered that he has a loyal fan base. Some years ago, he did an interview with an online DJ, who put together a one-hour package

that could be accessed online. It had 3.5 million downloads in three days.

Come and listen. You'll get hooked on the feeling and the music.

### The Capitol Steps - Make America Grin Again

(January 11, 2019 6:00pm & 8:30pm) The political satire troupe Capitol Steps was founded in 1981 by a group of staffers for Senator Charles Percy planning entertainment for a Christmas party. As they tell it, the first idea was for a nativity play, but in the whole Congress, they couldn't find three wise men or a virgin. They said it; please direct all hate mail to them. They created song parodies and skits about what was going on around them. As they have grown, they have remained relentlessly nonpartisan as they skewer the bombastic, the outrageous and the just-plain-silly. Staples on NPR, they have recorded more than 30 albums, including their latest, *Orange is the New Barack*. The group is based in Washington, where ridiculousness falls like the gentle rain from Heaven, but they're not fools and they always make it to The Lyric Theatre in January.

For Elaina Newport, a founding member of the troupe, Florida is the gift that keeps on giving. From chads that hang, to politicians behaving indiscreetly, to the feeling at each election that it's the first Florida has ever held and we will get it right someday, Florida is a great source of material.

In 2007, she predicted the 2008 race pitting Clinton against Giuliani. That was wrong but it doesn't matter, because to the Capitol Steps, whatever the situation is, they mine it for humor. For Clinton, there may be a song to the Pointer Sisters' "I'm So Excited," but in the hands of the Capitol Steps, it's "I'm Not Indicted." They may do a play on little hands or bad hair. It's hard to tell the political persuasion of the audience because



Arlo Guthrie:  
The 'Alice's Restaurant Back  
by Popular Demand Tour'  
Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm  
Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm

everyone is howling. American politicians are not the only fodder: the Russian leader has his turn with "Putin on the Blitz." No one is too elevated or important not to be taken down a peg or three.

Newport has always cited her own experiences as proof of the nonpartisan nature of the group. She worked for two Republican Senators, Charles Percy and Alphonse D'Amato, both of whom were defeated. She is married to a former Clinton appointee and considers herself an "extreme moderate." You'll consider the Capitol Steps extreme, too: extremely funny. *Proudly sponsored by WQCS/88.9 NPR for the Treasure Coast. Partial proceeds to benefit Volunteers in Medicine.*

### Arlo Guthrie: The 'Alice's Restaurant Back by Popular Demand Tour'

(January 14, 2019 7:00pm & January 15, 2019 7:00pm) It was Woody Guthrie's dream to have

continued on page 12

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LYRIC THEATRE

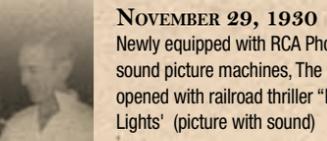


**SPRING OF 1913**  
Construction for The "first" Lyric began on Osceola Avenue near Belle Flora and opened for its first performance a year later.

**1917**  
The "first" Lyric was abandoned and moved to a little wooden structure on Osceola Avenue

**MAY 27, 1925**  
Construction of The "new" Lyric Theatre commenced on Flagler Avenue

**MARCH 15, 1926**  
The "new" Lyric Theatre opened to the public with the feature picture "Skinner's Dress Suit"



**NOVEMBER 29, 1930**  
Newly equipped with RCA Photophone sound picture machines, The Lyric Theatre opened with railroad thriller "Danger Lights" (picture with sound)

**1941**  
The Lyric Theatre fell on hard times after the depression and closed its doors. Over the following years, it was rented out to

community groups and was used to present traveling vaudeville shows, news weeklies and movies

**1978**  
The Lyric was purchased by New Life in Christ Church and served as a venue for weekly services





BEN GIBBS

# OCEAN SOUL

**BRIAN SKERRY**  
PHOTOJOURNALIST

Voyage across the oceans with one of National Geographic's most seasoned photographers and discover a vast, hidden world beneath the waves. Using his camera to communicate, Brian Skerry has spent more than 10,000 hours underwater telling the oceans' stories. His images celebrate the mystery of the depths and offer portraits of creatures so intimate they sometimes appear to have been shot in a studio.

Skerry will take us from the glacial waters of the North Atlantic, where harp seals face off with commercial hunters, to the balmy central Pacific, where he photographed damaged coral ecosystems rebuilding themselves. As a passionate spokesman for the oceans he loves to photograph, Skerry's riveting presentations inspire reverence for the marine realm and offer hope for protecting the vitality of the world's oceans.



BRIAN SKERRY



PAUL NICKLEN

# STANDING AT THE WATER'S EDGE

**CRISTINA MITTERMEIER**  
MARINE BIOLOGIST & PHOTOGRAPHER

As a photojournalist for the past 25 years, Cristina Mittermeier's work centers on the balance between human well-being and healthy ecosystems; the power to give life when it is respected, and the power to destroy when it is misused. With the Kayapó people in the Amazon, she documented a society that relied on their local waterway to survive. In British Columbia, she found First Nations protecting their sacred headwaters, and in Hawaii, a new community of indigenous peoples seeking to reclaim their connection to the sea. She learned that one concept bound these three disparate communities together: "Enoughness," or taking only that which you need.



"My work is about building a greater awareness of the responsibility of what it means to be a human. It is about understanding that the history of every living thing that has ever existed on this planet also lives within us. It is about the ethical imperative—the urgent reminder that we are inextricably linked to all other species on this planet and that we have a duty to act as the keepers of our fellow life forms." - Cristina Mittermeier

enough kids to form a family band that would travel the country. Guthrie's son Arlo has fulfilled at least part of the dream with his *Alice's Restaurant* tour, featuring his daughter, Sarah Lee Guthrie. The tour will coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the film *Alice's Restaurant*, starring Guthrie and directed by Arthur Penn.

Guthrie, a songwriter, storyteller, social commentator, actor and activist, grew up in a musical household. Dad, of course, was the iconic folk singer Woody Guthrie and mom was Marjorie Mazia Guthrie, a dancer with Martha Graham. The Guthrie home in New York had frequent visits from Pete Seeger, Lee Hays, Ronnie Gilbert and Brownie McGhee and the younger Guthrie drew from all these artists as he set his own style. He collaborated with Seeger many times over some 40 years; their last show together was at Carnegie Hall in November, 2013, a few months before Seeger died.

The saga of *Alice's Restaurant*, the song that became the anthem for anti-

stupid, began as a friendly gesture when Guthrie, 15, was arrested for littering. He was deemed unfit for the army and he wrote a song about it when he was 19. It quickly became an anti-establishment anthem.

For Guthrie, the joy with which people greeted the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary tour was a surprise. "I didn't think I was gonna to live long enough to have to learn *Alice's Restaurant* again," he said. "It was a quirky kind of thing to begin with. Nobody writes an 18-minute monologue expecting fame and fortune. The initial success of the song really took me by surprise more than anyone else. The fact that I have contended with it for five decades, either by having to learn it again or by not doing it, has been an interesting balancing act. I'm surely looking forward to it again being a centerpiece of my live repertoire."

In July 2017, to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original release of Guthrie's debut album, Rhino Records re-released the full mono version of the song on 180 gram vinyl. In March 2018, the national recording Registry at the Library of Congress inducted *Alice's Restaurant Massacre*, as it is properly known, into a registry honoring the recording for its cultural, historic and aesthetic importance on the American soundscape.

That's all true. It's also true that "you can get anything you want at Alice's restaurant..."

## National Geographic Live Ocean Soul with photographer Brian Skerry

(January 17, 2019 7:00pm) Photographer Brian Skerry was 13 the summer *Jaws* scared most people out of the water. Skerry felt differently; he wanted to be in the water, studying sharks. As a photo-journalist, he has spent more than 10,000 hours under water and he brings his expertise, his passion and his photos to The Lyric Theatre in *National Geographic Live Ocean Soul*.

Skerry began his career shooting shipwrecks in New England. His first assignment for National Geographic was 20 years ago and he was always ready to take on any underwater story. Soon, he began to ask for stories on ocean-related issues that showed both the magic and the dark side of the ocean, from the harp seal's struggle to survive, to the staggering decline in the world's fisheries to damaged coral ecosystems rebuilding themselves. He has shown the world that its actions have consequences, whether it's by choosing not to wear harp seal fur or having tuna for dinner.

Skerry dives eight months of the year, often in extreme conditions beneath Arctic ice or in predator-infested waters and has lived near the bottom of the sea to tell the oceans' stories. National Geographic recently published *Ocean Soul*, a retrospective of Skerry's photographs. In the book and in this presentation, Skerry takes his audience from the glacial waters of the North Atlantic to the balmy Pacific. A founding member of the International League of Conservation Photographers, his work is proof that photographs can make a difference. His images have helped sway policy-makers to implement marine protected areas and to pass legislation that will have a lasting impact on the world's oceans.

Skerry was named a Nikon ambassador in 2015 and Rolex National Geographic Explorer

of the Year in 2017. National Geographic has named one of his photographs among their 50 Greatest Photographs of All Times. He is the only photographer to win the prestigious Peter Benchley Award for Excellence in Media and has appeared on *The Today Show* and on CBS's *This Morning*. He has given his presentations at TED, Harvard and London's Royal Geographic Society. It's a story no one who loves the planet should miss.

## The Machine Performs Pink Floyd

(January 19, 2019 7:00pm) Unless you've been on The Dark Side of the Moon, you know the music of Pink Floyd. The Machine Performs Pink Floyd returns to The Lyric Theatre as they bring to life some of the seminal rock band's most beloved and memorable songs from all 16 of their albums. The Machine, which has been performing for more than 20 years, combines high-tech lighting and production values, extravagant stage displays and unrivaled musicianship for a memorable evening that allows great musicians to celebrate great musicians.

The band consists of founding member Tahrah Cohen on drums, Ryan Ball on guitar and vocals, Scott Chasolen on keyboard and vocals and Adam Minkoff on bass and vocals. They are known for A to Z set list, in which they perform one Pink Floyd song for each letter of the alphabet.

In a recent interview for the *Reading Eagle*, Cohen said that the band has played "Comfortably Numb" and "You Were Here" the most frequently. "It's funny with 'Comfortably Numb,' (from the 1979 album, *The Wall*)," Cohen said. "I'm never feeling like I can't wait to play it, but every time we do play it, by the second guitar solo, my eyes are closed and I'm having the best time of my life."

The group has released a number of albums, including their 2004 *Two Nights at the Keswick*,

an archive of the Machine's bi-annual residency at the historic Philadelphia venue. Their album *Unplugged*, captures a special acoustic performance at B.B. King's in New York, featuring rare Syd Barrett solo material and deep cuts from early Floyd albums. Most recently, in 2011, they released a live recording of symphonic Pink Floyd music drawn from their many orchestra appearances.

The Machine Performs Pink Floyd has drawn rave reviews, with Matt Diehl of *Rolling Stone* saying they played with "chilling accuracy." Dan Greenhaus of *JamBands.com* said the group "has a set up comparable to some bands two or three times its size. The group comes complete with a light show, helicopter searchlight, heartbeat and clock chimes, all of which result on a satisfying live experience."

## Tony Orlando

(January 23, 2019 7:00pm) Most of us know Tony Orlando's "Tie a Yellow Ribbon 'Round the Ole Oak Tree," a song that became an anthem for retiring soldiers and was a number one hit for an entire year. When he returns to The Lyric Theatre, he brings with him an impressive number of hits, from "Candida," the song that thrust him into the spotlight, to "Knock Three Times," the top song of 1971, selling more than six million copies.

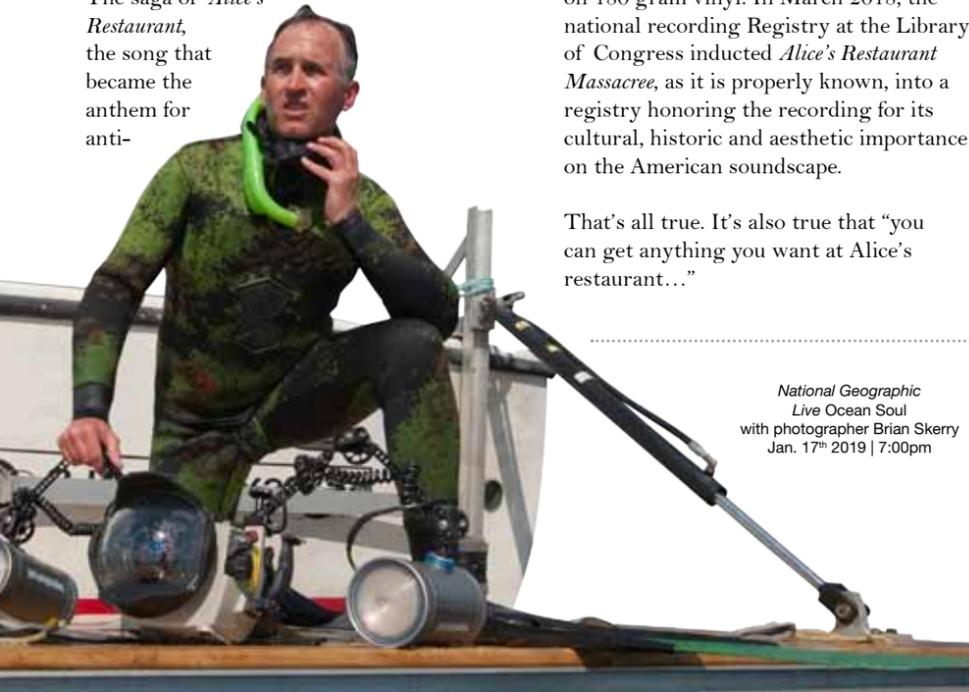
He remains a popular headliner in Las Vegas, Reno and Atlantic City. A well-known record producer and savvy

businessman, he was the lead singer for Tony Orlando and Dawn. Their variety show was the first multi-ethnic variety show on television.

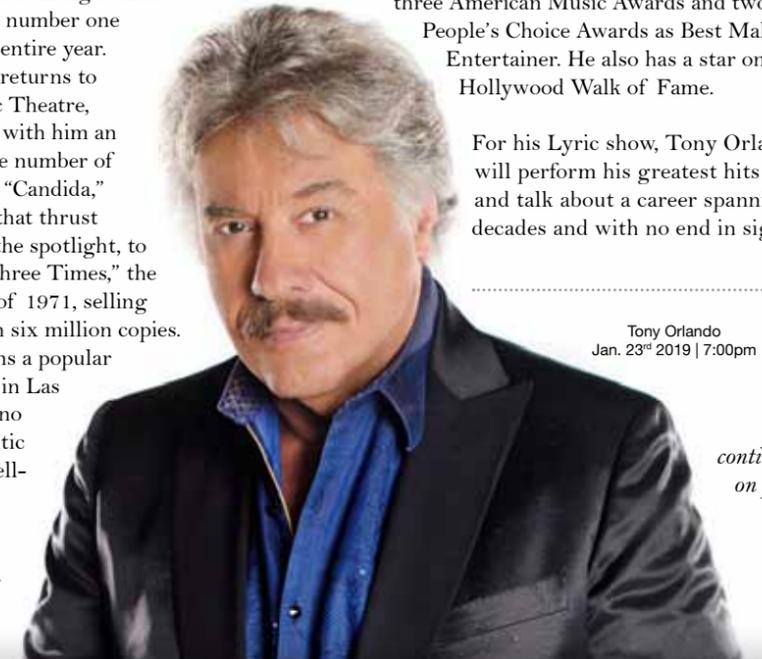
The singer was born Michael Anthony Orlando Cassavitis. As a teen, he formed a doo wop group and made demos that reached record producer Don Kirshner. He was hired to write songs with a group that included Carole King, Neil Sedaka, Barry Mann and Bobby Darin. He had his first hit as a singer with "Halfway to Paradise" when he was 17, and he went on to record and produce records as vice president of Columbia/CBS Music. A multiple threat, he continued recording with Telma Hopkins and Joyce Vincent Wilson as lead singer for the group Dawn, and when "Candida" became a hit, he started using the name Tony Orlando and Dawn. The group went on to have 19 other Top 40 hits.

After the group disbanded, Orlando continued as a solo act and has been a regular in Las Vegas and Branson, Missouri. He has headlined around the world and entertained five U.S. presidents. He has won three American Music Awards and two People's Choice Awards as Best Male Entertainer. He also has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

For his Lyric show, Tony Orlando will perform his greatest hits and talk about a career spanning decades and with no end in sight.



National Geographic Live Ocean Soul with photographer Brian Skerry Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm



Tony Orlando Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm

continued on page 20



**1987**  
With talk of razing the theater, Friends of the Lyric, a group of concerned citizens, banded together to save the historic structure

**MARCH 18, 1988**  
Friends of the Lyric entered into a contract with the New Life in Christ Church and purchased theater

**1993-1995**  
With assistance from community grassroots efforts and grants, The Lyric Theatre underwent much needed repair from marquee improvements, exterior painting, new roofing and air-conditioning

systems, ADA compliance alterations, box office construction, and remodeling of the restrooms and dressing room

**NOVEMBER 12, 1993**  
The Lyric Theatre was listed on the National Register of Historic Places

**1996**  
New seating installed in the orchestra section and administrative offices constructed

**2001**  
The Balcony of the theater was remodeled for the installation of new balcony seating, an elevator was installed and refurbishment of the lobby and restrooms



**2004-2005**  
The expansion of The Lyric was commenced and completed, enlarging the stage by 14 feet, adding a backstage with flex-dressing area, a restroom, and office/storage areas. The "Star" dressing room also underwent renovation including shower and restroom.

**SUMMER OF 2014**  
The Lyric was closed for substantial renovation as part of the Love The Lyric

Capital Campaign. Lobby and box office improvements, including new exterior and interior entrances, additional Box Office service windows, and bar. New orchestra seating and sound system were installed. The Lyric's interior stucco walls were smoothed out and architectural elements added to the walls and columns.

**NOVEMBER 11, 2014**  
Grand Reopening

**SEPTEMBER 2015**  
Drawing inspiration from the organic and geometric forms of The Lyric's exterior, The Lyric's proscenium was ornamented in an Art Nouveau style. The elegant design contains artistry and craftsmanship of the trompe l'oeil art technique.

**SUMMER OF 2016**  
Decorative touches utilizing the trompe l'oeil art technique were added throughout The



Lyric including balcony parapet, doorway transoms, and interior theatre walls.

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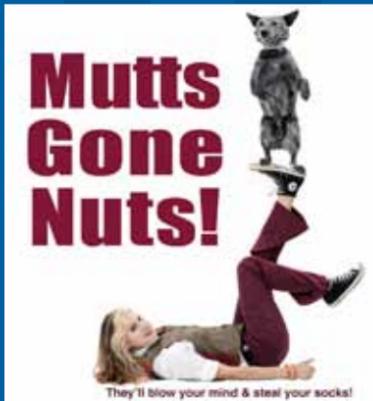
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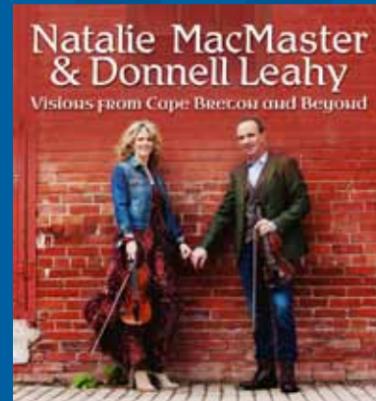
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January 27th • 2pm & 5pm



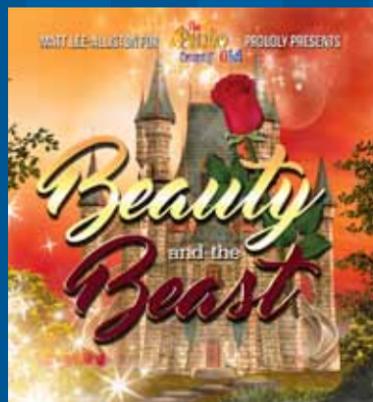
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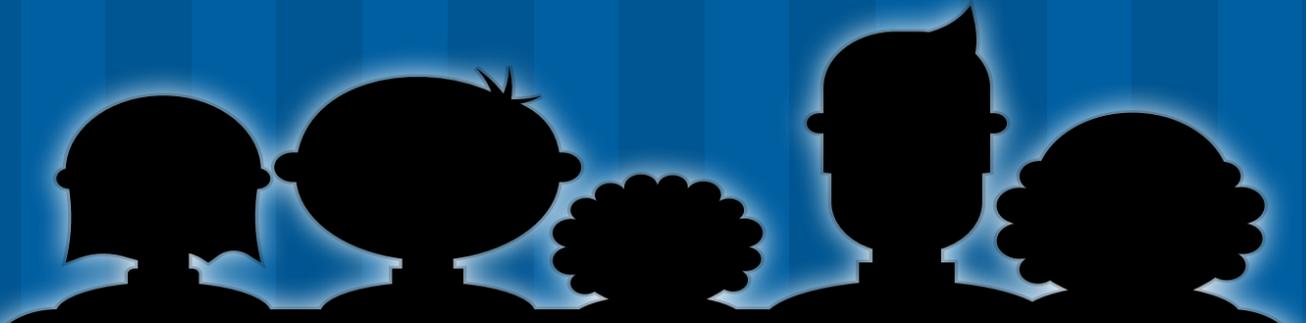
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## Calling all Student Youth Performers for the 2019 Youth Arts Celebration

Do you have a unique Talent? The Lyric League wants YOU – Singers, Dancers, Actors, Musicians, Comedians, Jugglers, Magicians, Poets, Tumblers and any other talents you can amaze us with! Auditions for 1st – 12th grade student performers will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 and Monday, March 18, 2019 from 3pm-8pm at The Lyric Theatre. To register for an audition, contact Sue Nauss at 772-220-1942, ext 205 or email at Sue@LyricTheatre.com. Audition instructions and more information can be found at LyricTheatre.com/youth-arts-celebration.

The Youth Arts Celebration, presented by The Lyric League, was established as a means to provide local emerging student artists with a performance opportunity on the historic Lyric stage. This very special event is crucial in championing the passion and love so many of our gifted youth hold for the arts.

The 2019 Youth Arts Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019. Sponsorships and ticket sales for this event raise funds to further expand The Lyric Theatre's Arts & Education programs such as artist master classes and residencies, the Discovery Series for Young Audiences, Family Fun Series, and The Lyric's AWESOME! Summer Camp. Make a difference in young lives by becoming a sponsor and support Treasure Coast's young emerging artists this dynamic talent showcase. To become a sponsor or to join The Lyric League, contact the Co-Chairs: Niki Norton at niki@n2archdesign.com or Janice Binger at janicebinger@comcast.net. Tickets and Sponsorship information are available online at LyricTheatre.com/youth-arts-celebration.

## A Round of A-Paws to the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast and Misty's Pals Pet Therapy Volunteers



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presented by the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast and The Lyric Theatre was a great success! Over 150 families, girl scouts and patrons attended this FREE Family Fun hands-on educational presentation on how to be responsible pet owners. Lucky attendees joined Jessie Clifford, HSTC's Director of Humane Education, and Misty's Pals Pet Therapy Volunteers on The Lyric stage.



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## Kathleen Madigan- Hotdogs and Angels

(January 25, 2019 6:00pm & 8:30pm)  
Comedian Kathleen Madigan believes that some pope should choose the name Hilarius II. She points out that there was a Pope Hilarius I from 467-469.

"How did he pass up being Hilarius II?" she asked in an interview some years ago.

If you think Madigan has an opinion on just about everything, you're right; although it turns out she was off a few years on the papacy of Hilarius I. The good news is that she's a comic and not an historian, so it's all right. Comedic license and all that.

For nearly 30 years, Madigan has been touring 250 nights a year and squeezing in hour-long specials and performances on every late night show. She has made 25 appearances on *The Tonight Show* and rode around with Jerry Seinfeld in his *Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee*, series. She's clearly doing something right. Madigan has won the American Comedy Award for Best Female Comedian and the Phyllis Diller Award in the same category. She has written and produced for Lewis Black's *Root of All Evil* for Comedy Central and done multiple USO tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. Those audiences, she said, are the best and she'd much rather have her job than theirs.

At a time when many comedians are cast in sitcoms as the wise-cracking best friend or other joke machine, Madigan has no interest in taking that on.

"I just want to tell jokes," she said. "I didn't start doing open mics to become an actor on a sitcom or on a television commercial. Those things never crossed my mind. For a few of us, working and telling jokes was our main goal. I didn't have any more goals. Can't you even have a goal, reach it and enjoy it? Our society is driven by Type-A lunatics who say you have to set more goals. Well maybe they do, but we all don't. Have a seat, grab a drink and enjoy the fact that you made it to the goal. Maybe that's the Irish in me, talking tough."

Madigan, a native of St. Louis, has performed around the world. She says that performing for audiences in other countries requires tweaking of her jokes, but that it's a challenge that makes her a better comedian.



Kathleen Madigan  
Hotdogs and Angels Tour  
Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> 2019  
6:00pm & 8:30pm



Madigan is widely regarded as one of the funniest women doing stand-up today, but many believe the gender qualification isn't necessary. *The Detroit Free Press* noted that "Along with Lewis Black, Brian Regan and Jim Gaffigan, she's one of the funniest stand-up comedians of her generation." Period.

Come and see for yourself and be prepared to laugh.

## Mutts Gone Nuts

(January 27, 2019 2:00pm & 5:00pm)  
Show biz lore says you should never compete with kids or animals, but Scott and Jane Houghton of *Mutts Gone Nuts* didn't take it to heart. The comedy duo returns to The Lyric with all their adorable rescue dogs for a high-energy, high-wire show for the entire family. Kids, parents and grandparents will love the adorable pooches and the humans who they allow on stage with them.

Known as the "disorderly duo," the Houghtons have been performing together as a comedy team since 1985. They were known for blending physical comedy and circus artistry and they traveled the

world from Tokyo to Las Vegas. The two performed at Lee Greenwood's theater in Tennessee and as the featured comedy act at Dolly Parton's theaters in Orlando, Myrtle Beach and Branson. In 2005, the two discovered that adding dogs to the act unleashed even more comic potential and

*Mutts Gone Nuts* was born. It features nine canine acrobats, dogs like Chico, the hoop-jumping Chihuahua/Corgi mix, Fritz, the jump-roping American Eskimo, high-flying Frisbee dogs, tight wire dogs, dancing dogs, magic dogs and Sammie the Talking Dog. You'll have a great time enjoying the antics of some of the cutest and most talented dogs in show business and their people, too. They'll steal your heart and make you laugh. *A Family Fun Series show proudly sponsored by The Bauman Family Foundation.*

## The Doo Wop Project

(January 28, 2019 7:00pm) The Doo Wop Project starts at the beginning of the unique sound, when five guys sang tight harmonies on street corners, and takes the audience on a music journey through the Crests and Belmonts to Smokey Robinson and the Temptations to the Four Seasons and modern doo-wopified songs from Maroon 5, Michael Jackson and Jason Mraz. They have the authentic sound, the vocal chops and the creativity to recreate or re-imagine some of the biggest hits in pop and rock history and they return to The Lyric Theatre to take the audience along for the ride.

Two of the founders of the Doo Wop Project are named Dominic, which is confusing, especially as they are both such nice guys. Dominic Scaglione played Frankie Valli in *Jersey Boys* and Dominic Nolfi played Tommy DeVito. The two agree that the Doo Wop Project first saw the light of day on the third floor of the August Wilson Theatre during their run in *Jersey Boys*. Dominic Nolfi confirmed this in an interview this year. "It really was Dominic (Scaglione's) idea," he said. "He felt there was a lack of guys our age singing traditional doo wop. We could fill that void." Fill that void they have, and more. Nolfi has just finished a run as Crazy Mario in the Broadway production of *A Bronx Tale* to devote full time to the Doo Wop Project. He is mega-talented, but he and the "other Dom" are only part of an ensemble of mega-talented guys. Charl Brown originated the role of Smokey Robinson in *Motown*:

*The Musical*, and received a 2013 Tony Award nomination for it. Russell Fischer, who has the falsetto, won the role of Joe Pesci in the Broadway company of *Jersey Boys* on his 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Dwayne Cooper has been compared to "a modern day Sammy Davis Jr. meets Barry White," and Sonny Paladino is the music supervisor for *Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812*, as well as for the upcoming revival of *Smokey Joe's Café*.

Nolfi is leaving Broadway because the Doo Wop Project means that much to him. "It's my priority," he said, "We're just maximizing its potential and we're on a mission to keep the music alive. We have ideas to bring it to first, second and third graders and get them interested in harmony singing. We did our first show at my daughter's school. She's seven and they had a blast. I want to be an old man, listening to kids singing this music and understanding where it came from, with its African-American roots and how every group, Italians, Jews and Irish had a stake in it."

## Joyce Yang (January 29, 2019 7:00pm)

Pianist Joyce Yang makes her Lyric Theatre debut this season. She came to international attention in 2005, when she won the silver medal at the 12<sup>th</sup> Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. She was 19, the youngest contestant at the event. The young artist has also received an Avery Fisher Career Grant and has appeared as a soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Baltimore, Detroit and Pittsburgh symphony orchestras, as well as with orchestras around the world. In recital, she has appeared at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center and Chicago's Symphony Hall. Her work has been recognized for its "poetic and sensitive pianism" by the *Washington Post* and its "wondrous sense of color" by the *San Francisco Classical Voice*.

Yang was born in Seoul, South Korea, and received her first piano lesson from her aunt when she was 4. She loved the instrument and over the next few years, she won national piano competitions in her native country. At 10, she entered the School of Music at the Korea National University of Arts and went on to perform throughout the country. She moved to the United States in 1997 to

begin her studies with Dr. Yoheved Kaplinsky at Juilliard. During her first year there, she won the pre-college division Concerto Competition. She also won the Philadelphia Orchestra's Greenfield Students Competition and performed with that orchestra when she was only 12. She graduated from Juilliard with special honor and received the school's Arthur Rubinstein Prize.

Yang made her debut with the New York Philharmonic in 2006 and performed in the orchestra's Asian tour, including a triumphant return to her hometown. She has appeared with the New York Philharmonic for the opening night of the Leonard Bernstein Festival in 2008, at the special request of Maestro Lorin Maazel in his final season as music director there.

In the last two years, Yang has embarked on a series of debuts, collaborations and premieres. She made her debut with the New Zealand Symphony under Edo De Waart and performed Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 3 throughout New Zealand. She appeared at the Kennedy Center with the Albany Symphony, featuring works by Michael Torke written especially for Yang and commissioned by the Albany Symphony. She collaborated for the first time with the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet in a new work for dancers and solo piano by Jorma Elo and gave it its world premiere. She performed with orchestras throughout the country and continued her partnership with the Alexander String Quartet.

Yang has made several records since her 2011 debut album, *Collage*, featuring works by Scarlatti, Liebermann, Debussy, Currier and Schumann. The *New York Times* lauded her "impressive gifts" with the release of her album, *Wild Dreams*, and her recording of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 with Denmark's Odense Symphony Orchestra was called "hugely enjoyable and beautifully shaped," giving a performance "that marks her as an enormous talent."

It is a rare treat to have her in Stuart and you won't want to miss it.



Mutts Gone Nuts  
Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> 2019  
2:00pm & 5:00pm

Atlantic Classical Orchestra  
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*At the Lyric Theatre in Downtown Stuart*

**Romance & Revolution Masterworks I**

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Robert Paterson | Grieg | Beethoven



**Love's Blossom Masterworks II**

February 15, 2019 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm

Copland | Sibelius | Schumann

**Reflections & Impressions Masterworks III**

March 15, 2019 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm

Rossini | Falla | Bizet



**Strength & Providence Masterworks IV**

April 5, 2019 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm

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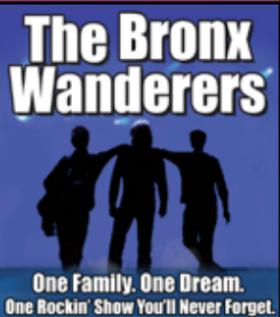
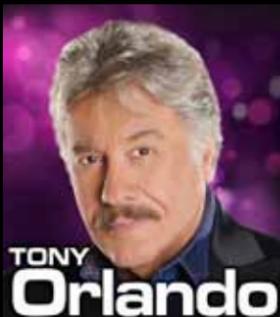
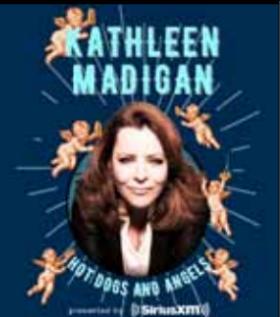
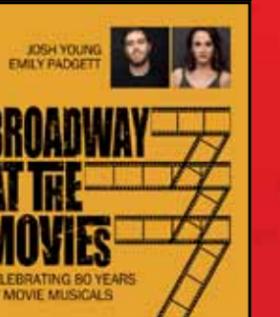
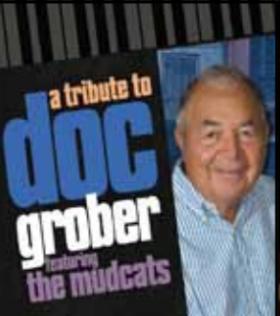
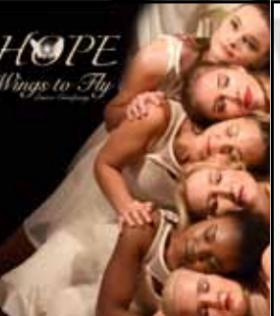
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 <p><b>The Sicilian Tenors</b></p>	 <p>a tribute to <b>doc grober</b> featuring the mudcats</p>	 <p><b>HOPE</b> Wings to Fly</p>	 <p><b>RUDNER</b></p>	 <p><b>Beauty and the Beast</b></p>	 <p><b>YOUTH ARTS 2019 CELEBRATION</b> Presented by The Lyric League</p>	 <p><b>LET'S HANG ON!</b> America's #1 Frankie Valli Tribute Show</p>	 <p><b>ALBERT CUMMINGS</b></p>	 <p><b>subject to change</b> WWW.LYRICTHEATRE.COM for updated information</p>	
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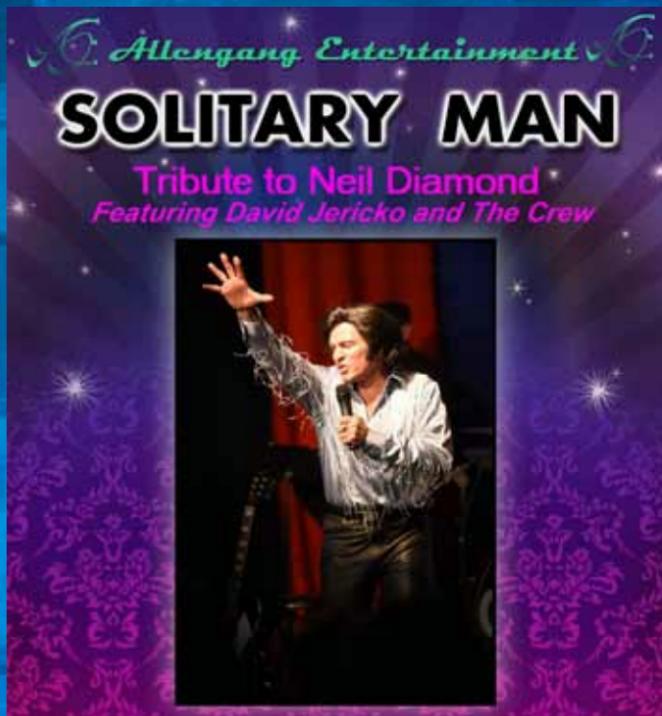
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Johan & Susan Wesslen  
Louise Wheeler  
Diane Wilber  
Jim & Jan Wilds  
Thomas & Debbi Wilkins  
Harvey Wilson & Joan Williams  
Dwight Wilson  
Doug Winter  
David Wisehaupt  
Robert Wood  
Curtis Wormwood  
Anne Cooling & Michael Yocom  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Zanakis  
Cindy Ziemba  
Kim Zimmerman  
Jody & Jack Zimmerman  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Zimmerman  
Gregory Zogran  
Edward Zorn  
Julie Zygmun



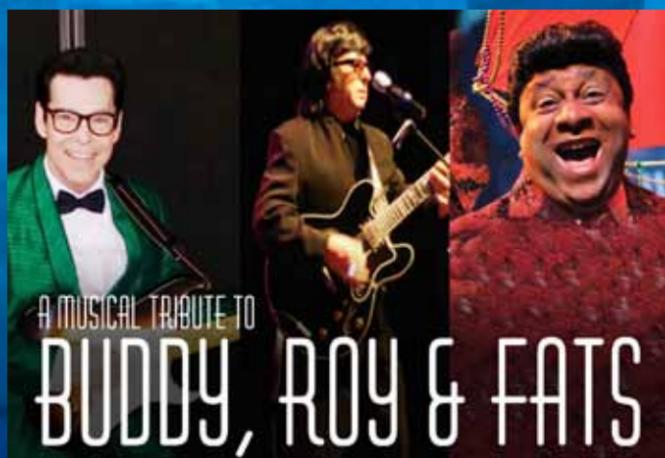
Nov 27, 2018 · 7pm



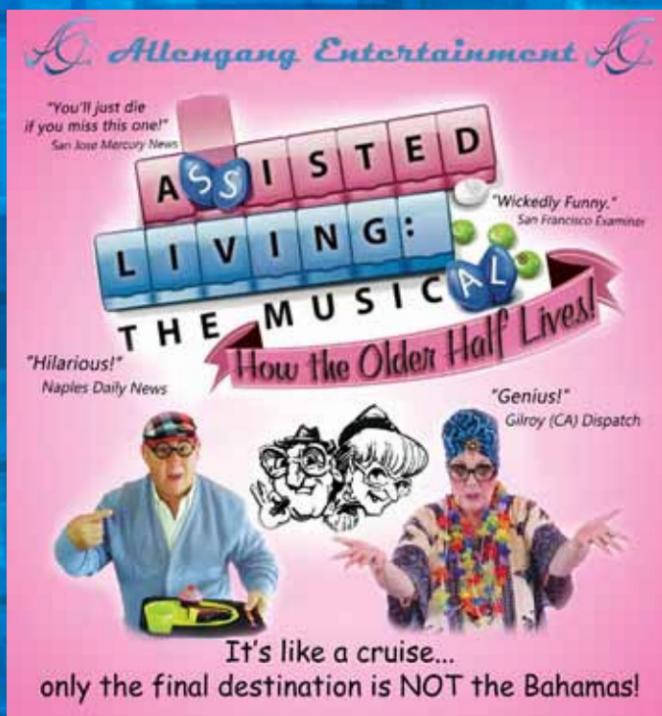
Jan 3, 2019 · 7pm



Feb 5, 2019 · 7pm



Mar 20, 2019 · 7pm



Apr 4, 2019 · 7pm



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Polly Chisholm

Barbara Connell  
Leslie Cuatt  
Jim Egan  
Kathy Grant

Kevin Grant  
Maribeth Konz  
Cathleen Owen  
Larisa Pisano

Carole Power  
Jean Scerbo  
Nicholas Thomas

Barbara Thommes  
Pat Westbrook  
Reva Zemke

### ushers

Brenda Aiken  
Mary Pat Anderson  
Ella Ashwell  
Barbara Assalone  
Jean Aukerman  
Susan Beattie  
Nancy Beckwith  
Michael Bennett  
Linda Bonsignore  
Monika Bush  
Patricia Bushman  
Margo Caldy  
Michelle Carr  
Meriliz Cary  
Corky Clark

Joan Clark  
Karen Clark  
Aleta Crabtree  
Ellie Dee  
Dorothy DeFino  
Bobbi Demers  
Linnea Desmond  
Jan Edwards  
Joan Elliott  
Judy Endresen-Worthy  
Christine Ernst  
Janet Faccione  
Jerry Felton  
Kathy Finn  
Bobbie Forman

Dana Forman  
Ranelle Furniss  
Mary Ann Galletta  
Judy Gindele  
Marcie Gordon  
Randy Gordon  
Leslie Haines  
Howard Hall  
Betty Hanneman  
Barbara Hatfield  
Lois Heimbach  
Renee Hill  
Bobby Johansen  
Paul Johnson  
Beth Jurgaitis

Tammy Klein  
Gayle Kochan  
Debbie Kofel  
Kathy Koivula  
Sheryl Konen  
Dennis Krakow  
Edna Kulla  
Rusty Landgren  
Pat Lawler  
Paul Leary  
Sharon Leary  
Cheryl Long  
Pam MacCormack  
Deb Marko  
Patti McFadden

Joanne McNeill  
Marty Miller-Leveillee  
Virginia Moore  
Ronald Nelson  
Lois Oliveri  
Pat Pendergast  
Carole Power  
Lisa Rapp  
Marcy Roeder  
Claire Ronan  
Carol Rowan  
Norma Rumbaugh  
Kay Snelson  
John Soehnlein  
Marion Stahle

Karin Stocker  
Lisa Stott  
Marilyn Summers  
Marianna Tanzini  
Martha Terrenzi  
Marie Trovato  
Pauline Voeller  
April Welker  
Sandie Wennerberg  
Rob White  
Chris Wright  
Janice Wright

# Theatre Box Office and General Information

## Hours

Regular Box Office hours are Monday thru Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Summer Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We are also open two (2) hours prior to curtain on the day of a performance.

## Purchasing Flexibility

For your convenience, you can purchase tickets in several different ways:

- In person at the Box Office
- By phone at 772-286-7827
- Online 24/7 at [www.lyrictheatre.com](http://www.lyrictheatre.com)
- By mail to: Lyric Theatre, 59 SW Flagler Ave., Stuart, FL 34994  
Attn: Box Office

Please be advised that a \$3.00 restoration fee is added to all ticket prices. This supports the preservation and restoration of our historic facility. The Lyric Theatre is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Will Call

Prepaid tickets are available beginning one hour prior to each performance at the Box Office in the lobby.

Paid tickets can also be picked up in advance at any time the Box Office is open, or they can be mailed to you upon your request if there is ample time to do so prior to the performance date.

## Gift Certificates

Gift certificates can be purchased in any denomination and are good for any performance held at The Lyric Theatre. They are valid for one year from the date of the purchase. Gift certificates are not transferable, and can only be redeemed by the person(s) for whom they are purchased. They are non-refundable and cannot be redeemed for cash.

## Ticketing Policies

The Lyric Theatre has a "No Refund, No Exchange" ticketing policy. At the discretion of management, exceptions may be made. In the event of a returned check, a fee of \$35 will apply.

## Box Office

Located outside the entrance to The Lyric on Flagler Avenue. We accept American Express, Visa, Discover and MasterCard for phone and online reservations; checks, cash and credit cards at the window. All reserved tickets are available from time of purchase up to one hour before the performance, when they may be picked up at Will Call located in the Box Office.

## Photography/Recording

The use of any audio or visual recording device is strictly prohibited. Patrons may be asked to leave the Theater.

## Cell Phones/Pagers

Please turn off or put personal communication devices on silent mode prior to entering the Theater.

## Patrons with Disabilities

Special seating arrangements must be made with the Box Office at the time you purchase tickets, based on availability. Inner lobby restrooms are accessible.

## Latecomers

Performances begin at the advertised time. Please allow proper time for parking and collection of tickets. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

## Fire Notice

In case of fire, please walk to the exit nearest your seat.

## First Aid

Please see the House Manager.

## Smoking

Smoking is prohibited anywhere inside the Theater.

## Beverage Service

A full service cash bar is available in the lobby at most events.

## Restrooms

Located to the left and right of the Theater entrance in the lobby.

## Lost and Found

Contact the Box Office at 772-286-7827.

## Group Sales & Corporate Discounts

Discounts are available for groups and corporations of all sizes. Please contact the Box Office at 772-286-7827 or [LyricBoxOffice@LyricTheatre.com](mailto:LyricBoxOffice@LyricTheatre.com) for more details.

## Customer Service

If you have a suggestion or problem, please contact the Executive Director, Kia Fontaine, at 772-220-1942, ext. 207.

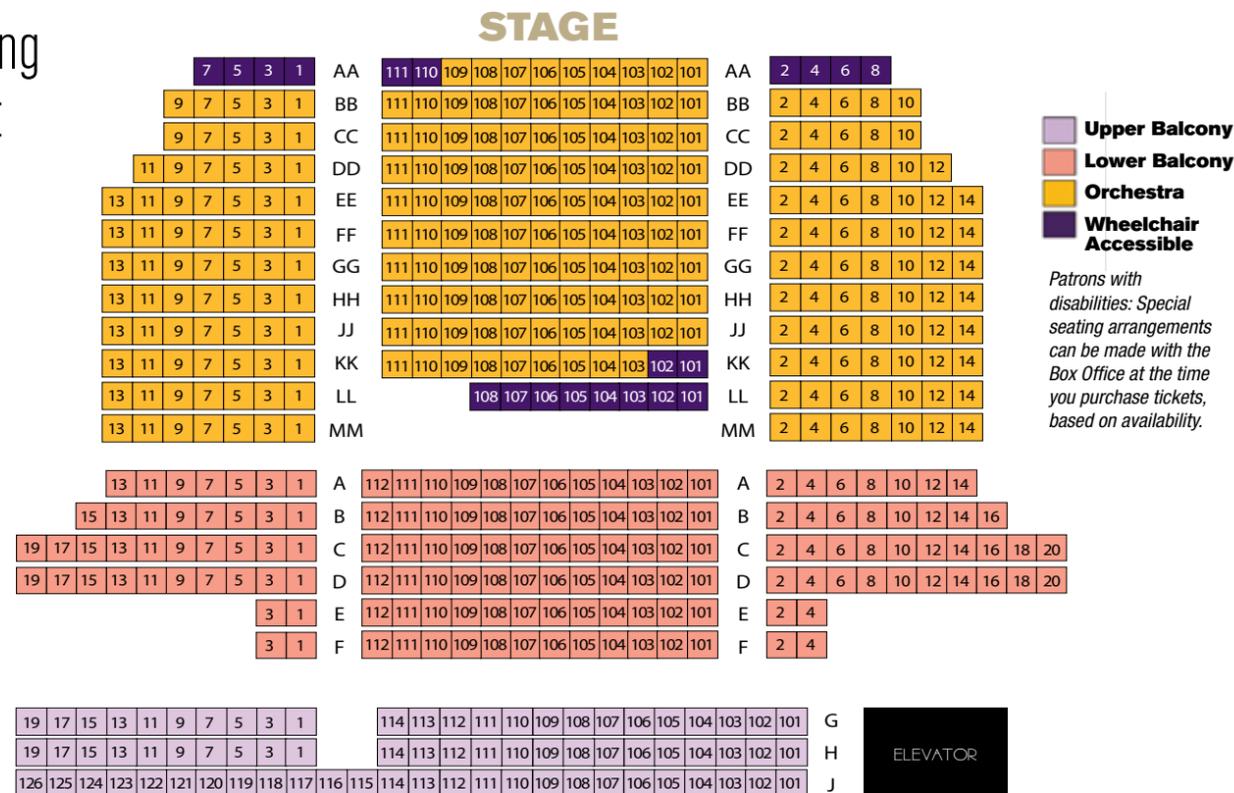
## Theater Etiquette

As a courtesy to the performers and other audience members, please do not leave your seat until the end of the act. If for some reason you must leave, please wait for a pause in the program.

## Volunteer Opportunities

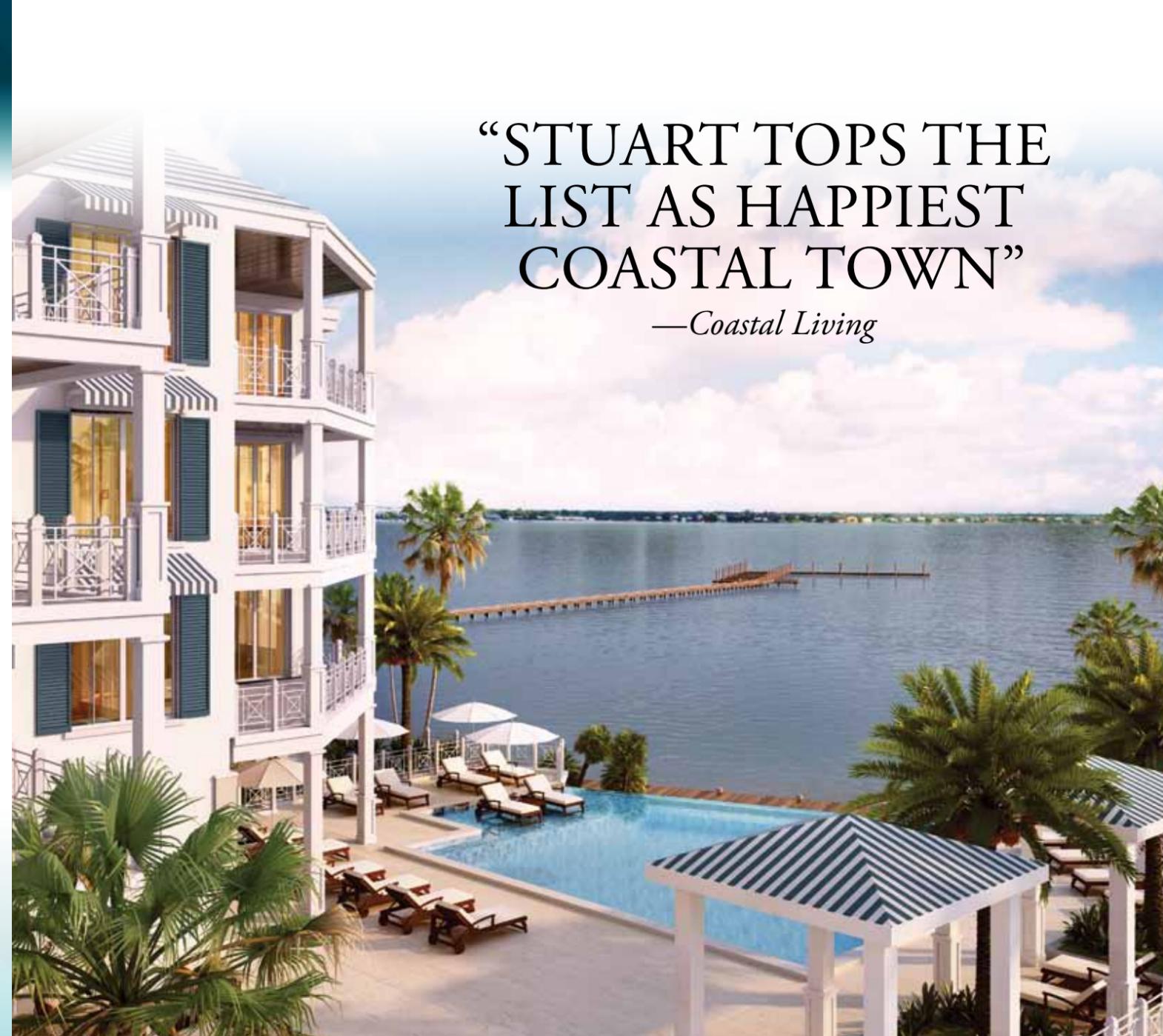
If you would like information about volunteer opportunities, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Heather Long, at 772-220-1942 ext. 204 or [membership@lyrictheatre.com](mailto:membership@lyrictheatre.com).

## Seating Chart



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## Jim Belushi and the Board of Comedy

(January 31, 2019 6:00pm & 8:30pm)

When Jim Belushi was 16, he went to the famed Second City in Chicago to see his brother, John, and Harold Ramis perform with their group. When it was over, he said, "I've never seen anything like this in my life. I want a piece of this." When he got his own first laugh on that stage, he said that the adrenaline kicked in and he was dizzy. That was it for him; he was hooked on comedy and performing.

Belushi's craft was honed by stints at Second City and on *Saturday Night Live*. From Second City, he learned about character comedy, social satire, comic rhythms and doing eight shows a week. *Saturday Night Live* taught him how to work under pressure and was the most difficult experience of his life. Everything since then, he says, has been easy, except his wife's driving. The multi-talented artist has performed on Broadway in *The Pirates of Penzance* and his band opened for the Rolling Stones at Soldier Field in Chicago. For eight years, he starred in the sitcom *According to Jim*.

The comic is touring with a group of pals that includes Megan Grano, Larry Joe Campbell, Joshua Funk and Trey Stone. Belushi created the show several years ago and has been touring the country with it in between other projects.

"I'm having a ball," he said. "Every performance is different and unique. Plus these improvisational actors on stage with me are geniuses. They crack me up every night. I'm just chasing the magic. Everyone, including the audience, is fully engaged and participating, and when there's success in the scenes, there's nothing like it. It feels safe when you're up there with an ensemble as your safety net. What's great about this show is that it reunites me with Larry Joe Campbell (from *According to Jim*). He's the best partner I've ever had in my career. The problem with improv is that it's life or death. You either come off the stage going 'I'm going back to being an apprentice printer because I'm terrible or you come off going, 'I am God. I am a gift to all.' And that's the best part!"

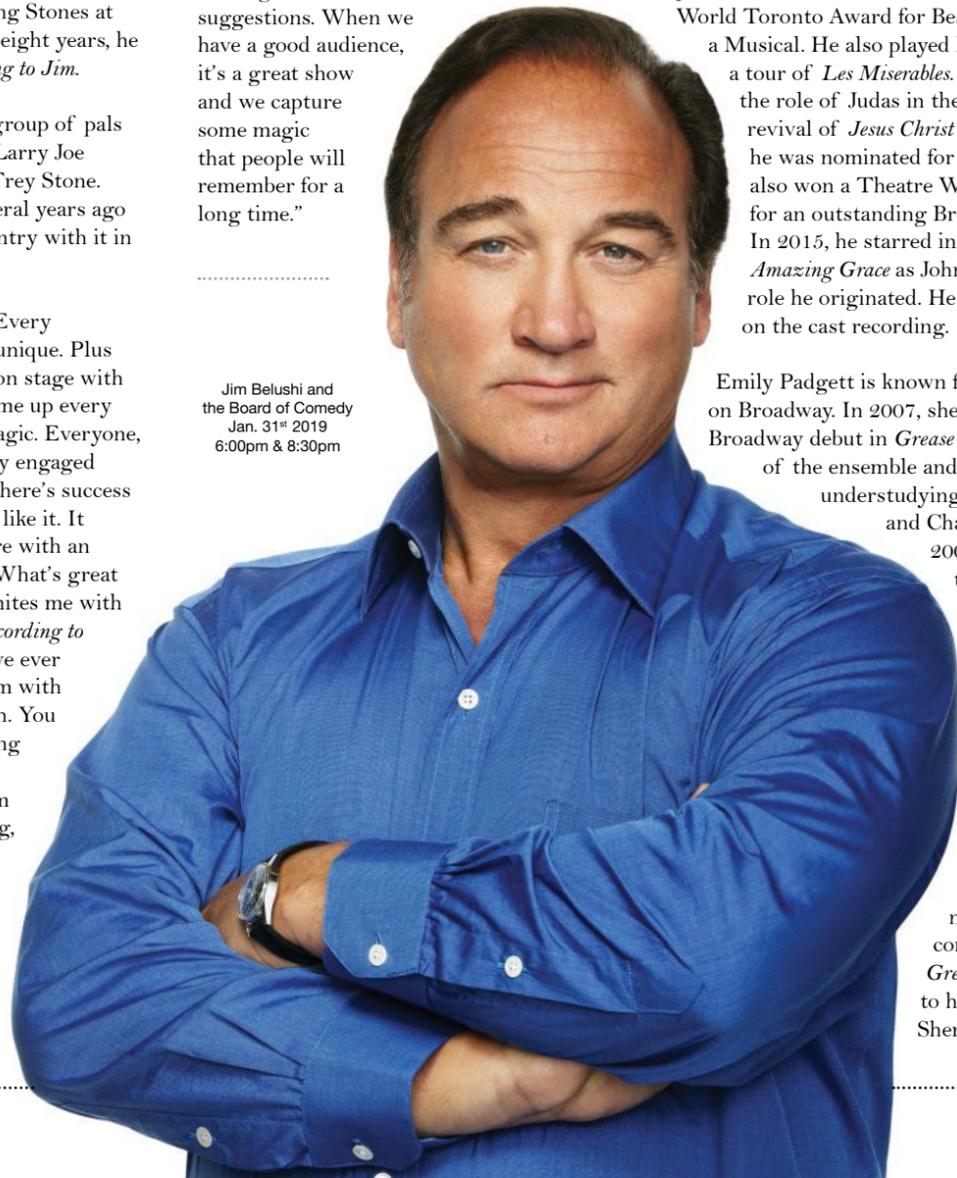
In addition to Campbell, the cast includes Megan Grano, a Second City alum who has appeared in

television in *Weeds*, *Parks and Recreation* and *Hot in Cleveland*, and in movies including *Bridesmaids* and *This is 40*. She has been a staff writer for *Jimmy Kimmel Live*. Joshua Funk is an award-winning director and Second City alum. He has appeared in *Key and Peele*, *Reno 911* and Steven Soderbergh's *The Informant*. When he is not acting, he composes and produces the original music for Comedy Central's *Key and Peele*. He is artistic director for Second City Hollywood. Trey Stone began as a jazz pianist in Chicago and became musical director for Second City, where he remained for 15 years. He records and tours with his band, Trey Stone and the Ringers.

For Belushi, it's all about catching lightning in a bottle and creating magic.

"We have no idea what we're going to do," he said. "We do about nine improvisational games. We take suggestions from the audience and we make stuff up on the spot. You're a participant in the audience. We are as good as the audience's suggestions. When we have a good audience, it's a great show and we capture some magic that people will remember for a long time."

Jim Belushi and the Board of Comedy  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019  
6:00pm & 8:30pm



## Broadway at the Movies: Celebrating 80 years of Movie Musicals Starring Josh Young & Emily Padgett

(February 6, 2019 7:00pm)

Take one touch of Broadway musical magic. Add a pinch of Hollywood glamour. Take a spoonful of real onstage chemistry and clever banter. The result is *Broadway at the Movies*, a musical journey through 80 years of movies and musicals. The Lyric Theatre show, starring Broadway veterans Josh Young and Emily Padgett, will highlight some of the best of Broadway and Hollywood, with songs from *The Wizard of Oz*, *West Side Story*, *Carousel*, *The Sound of Music*, *Les Mis*, and favorite Disney musicals.

Josh Young is a frequent performer at the Stratford Festival, where he has performed in *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Evita*, as Che Guevara, and *Kiss Me Kate*. For his performance as Che he won the Broadway World Toronto Award for Best Actor in a Musical. He also played Marius in a tour of *Les Miserables*. He played the role of Judas in the 2011-2012 revival of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and he was nominated for a Tony. He also won a Theatre World Award for an outstanding Broadway debut. In 2015, he starred in the musical *Amazing Grace* as John Newton, a role he originated. He can be heard on the cast recording.

Emily Padgett is known for her work on Broadway. In 2007, she made her Broadway debut in *Grease* as a member of the ensemble and as a swing, understudying Sandy, Patty and Cha-Cha. In 2008, she joined the cast of *Legally Blonde* as Cece/District Attorney. After *Legally Blonde* closed, she was offered the role of Sandy in the national tour company of *Grease*. That led to her work as Sherrie Christian

in *Rock of Ages*, Daisy Hilton in *Side Show*, and originated the role of Lucy Grant in Steve Martin and Edie Brickell's *Bright Star*. In 2016, she joined Sutton Foster in a limited, off-Broadway revival of *Sweet Charity*, and then she starred as Mrs. Bucket in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Padgett grew up in North Carolina, but left the South to study at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York. After graduating from the two-year program, she was quickly booked as Demeter on the non-Equity national tour of *Cats*. After a year, she left the tour and started attending open calls in the city while balancing odd jobs, a time-honored tradition.

You'll have an enchanted evening.

## Abbacadabra: The Ultimate ABBA Tribute

(February 7, 2019 6:00pm & 8:30pm)

Mamma Mia! Whenever *Abbacadabra*, the Ultimate ABBA Tribute, comes to The Lyric Theatre, the show sells out, and why not? ABBA was one of the biggest groups of the 1970s, with hits like "Mamma Mia," "Dancing Queen," "The Winner Takes it All" and "Take a Chance on Me." *Abbacadabra* covers 20 of the pop group's mega-hits and manager Jack Greenberg, who signed ABBA to its first U.S. recording contract in 1974, says that watching *Abbacadabra* for the first time was a revelation.

"I know ABBA inside and out and when I first saw *Abbacadabra* perform, I couldn't believe it. It was like watching the real deal." Greenberg put his money where his mouth is and now manages *Abbacadabra*.

The group came to life in 2004. Gary Raffanelli, an ABBA fan who looks a lot like ABBA founder Benny Andersson, brought together a team of vocalists and musicians to recreate the sounds and sights of an ABBA show. That meant figuring out the unique recording techniques ABBA used on vocals and deconstructing them so *Abbacadabra* could create the authentic ABBA sound. The group's first show was at the El Dorado Resort and Casino in Reno, but they were soon playing to sold out crowds around the country and on cruise lines such as Princess and Royal Caribbean. Fittingly, in 2007, they began performing in Europe, where ABBA first came to fame. They are known for attention to detail, from the sound to the clothing. Listening to them is taking a step back in time, when everyone

was dancing. Take a chance on them. *Partial proceeds to benefit The Salvation Army of Martin & St. Lucie County*.



Al Di Meola  
Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm

## Al Di Meola

(February 8, 2019 7:00pm)

Al Di Meola's celebrated career has spanned four decades and earned him critical accolades, three gold albums and more than six million in record sales worldwide. A bona fide guitar hero - winning more awards than any guitarist living or dead - and prolific composer, he has amassed over 30 albums as a leader while collaborating on more than a dozen or so others with the likes of Chick Corea, Stanley Clarke, Lenny White, John McLaughlin, Paco de Lucia and violinist Jean-Luc Ponty. While his dazzling technique on both acoustic and electric guitars has afforded him regal status, the depth of Di Meola's writing along with the soulfulness and the lyricism of his expression on guitar have won him legions of fans worldwide beyond the guitar aficionado set.

Growing up in Bergenfield, NJ with the music of Elvis Presley, The Ventures and The Beatles, Di Meola naturally gravitated to guitar as a youngster and by his early teens was already an accomplished player. "I used to practice the guitar eight to ten hours a day," he told *Down Beat*. "And I was trying to find myself, or find the kind of music that suited where I was going with the guitar."

His earliest role models in jazz included guitarists Tal Farlow and Kenny Burrell. But when he discovered Larry Coryell, whom Al would later dub "The Godfather of Fusion," he was taken with the guitarist's unprecedented blending of jazz, blues and rock into one seamless vocabulary on the

instrument. In 1972, Al enrolled at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and by the second semester there began playing in a fusion quartet led by keyboardist Barry Miles. When a gig tape of that band was later passed on to Chick Corea by a friend of Al's in 1974, the 19-year-old guitarist was tapped to join Corea's fusion supergroup Return to Forever.

Al started up his career as a solo artist. His 1976 debut, *Land of the Midnight Sun*, was a blazing showcase of his signature chops and Latin-tinged compositions. Over the course of six more albums with Columbia Records - *Elegant Gypsy*, *Casino*, *Splendido Hotel*, *Electric Rendezvous*, *Tour De Force* and *Scenario* - Al established himself as an influential force in contemporary music.

In 1980 *Friday Night in San Francisco*, with Paco De Lucia and John McLaughlin became a landmark recording that surpassed the four million mark in sales. The following year, 1981, Di Meola was inducted into Guitar Player's Gallery of Greats after five consecutive wins as Best Jazz Guitarist in the magazine's Readers Poll and winning best album and acoustic guitarist for a total of a record eleven wins.

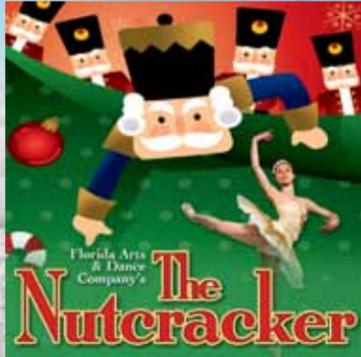
A pioneer of blending world music and jazz, the guitar great continues to explore the rich influence of flamenco, tango, Middle Eastern, Brazilian and African music with his World Sinfonia, an ambitious pan-global group that he formed in 1991. Their exhilarating world music fusion has released 2000's *The Grande Passion*, 2007's *Live in London*, 2011's *Pursuit of Radical Rhapsody* and the 2012 DVD, *Morocco Fantasia*. His album, 2015's *Elysium*, finds the guitar great blending the lush tones of his nylon string Conde Hermanos acoustic prototype model and a '71 Les Paul electric in a collection of songs that are at once invigorating and alluring. In 2015, he was honored as the 22nd recipient of the Montreal Jazz Festival's Miles Davis Award, created to honor a great international jazz musician for the entire body of his or her work and for that musician's influence in regenerating the jazz idiom. At age 63, this guitar hero seems inspired to begin a new chapter in his career with the release of *OPUS* in February 2017.

During a 40-plus year career marked by hugely influential recordings and worldwide tours, Di Meola has regenerated the jazz idiom three times over while dedicating himself to his art.

# DISCOVERY Series

Arts & Education  
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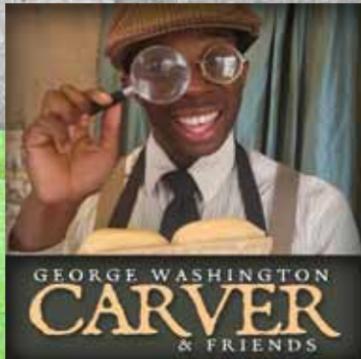
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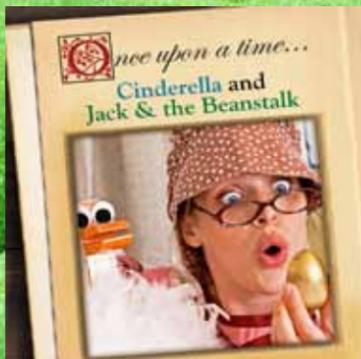
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Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | 10:15am & 11:45am



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**Black History, History and Social Studies, STEM • Grades Pre K - 5**  
Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 | 10:15am & 11:45am



### Once Upon a Time... Cinderella and Jack & the Beanstalk

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**Literature and Literacy • Grades Pre K - 5**  
Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 | 10:15am & 11:45am

2018-2019 Arts & Education at The Lyric is Proudly Sponsored by Elisabeth Lahti

For more information about this Series, Ticketing or Scholarship Fund contact Sue Nauss, Arts & Education Coordinator, at 772-220-1942 x205 or at Sue@LyricTheatre.com



Discovery Series Scholarship Fund sponsored by U.S. Sugar. Educators of Martin County Title 1 Schools are eligible to apply for the Scholarship, please visit [www.lyrictheatre.com/discovery-series](http://www.lyrictheatre.com/discovery-series) for the application and requirements.

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## Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder

(February 9, 2019 4:00pm & 7:00pm)

It will be a toe-tapping good time when 15-time Grammy Award-winner Ricky Skaggs and his band, Kentucky Thunder, returns. Skaggs, whose music spans the country music spectrum from bluegrass to gospel to mainstream, is a multi-talented musician who plays the mandolin, fiddle, mandocaster and banjo. For his Lyric show, he and the band will perform songs from his long and illustrious career, including “Sis Draper,” “Return to Sender” and “Road to Spencer.”

Skaggs was born in Kentucky and began playing the mandolin when he was 6. When bluegrass pioneer Bill Monroe came to Martha, Kentucky to perform, the audience wouldn't let him leave until “Little Ricky” Skaggs, 6, came on stage with his mandolin. A year later, he appeared on television with Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs. He was still a teen when he began his professional bluegrass career, joining Ralph Stanley's band, the Clinch Mountain Boys. Skaggs never looked back.

Not content with the status quo, the musician pushed the limits of the bluegrass genre with progressive bands such as Country Gentlemen and J.D. Crowe and the New South. By the late 1970s, he had turned his focus to mainstream country music and joined Emmylou Harris' Hot Band. In 1981, he released his debut album, *Waitin' for the Sun to Shine*, which topped the country charts with two Number One hits. In 1997, he returned to his bluegrass roots with *Bluegrass Rules!* A series of Grammy Award-winning albums with his band, Kentucky Thunder, followed.

In addition to his 15 Grammy Awards, Skaggs has won eight Country Music Association Awards, including the prestigious Entertainer of the Year Award

in 1985. For the last two decades, he has continued to make his mark in the world of country music, releasing the popular album *Mosaic* with the Grammy-winning songwriter and producer Gordon Kennedy. The song “Return to Sender,” from that album, was nominated for two Grammys in the gospel genre. In 2010, Skaggs was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame and received the Clifflie Stone Pioneer Award from the Academy of Country Music.

Kentucky Thunder, eight-time winners of the IBMA's Instrumental Group of the Year, features Paul Brewster on tenor vocals and rhythm guitar, Scott Mulvahill on bass and bass vocals, Russ Carson on banjo, Jake Workman on lead guitar, Mike Barnett on fiddle and Dennis Parker on baritone vocal and guitar.

Ricky Skaggs has spent “a life full of music.”

## Gaelic Storm

(February 10, 2019 7:00pm)

Gaelic Storm is highly innovative, featuring fast-paced instrumentals and lyrical genius that has solidified them as one of the foremost Celtic rock groups in the world. Perhaps best known for their appearance in the 1997 hit film *Titanic*, now more than 20 years later, the band that brings together traditional Celtic music, country, rock and folk is still entrancing audiences with their storytelling, instrumentals, devotion to tradition and the passion they bring to their art.

The band began at O'Brien's Irish Pub in Santa Monica by friends Patrick Murphy, Steve Twigger, Steve Wehmeyer and Brian Walsh. The combination of Scottish, Irish and pop music was a hit and the band has performed more than 3,000 shows and recorded 10 albums. They've always considered themselves a “touring band” and

take a blue-collar, hard-nosed approach to touring in the U.S. and internationally. “You have to see us live,” said Ryan Lacey, who joined the lineup in 2003. “We still and most likely always will, tour most of the year and that's how we hone our craft.”

The band's latest album, *Go Climb a Tree*, brings Twigger, Murphy and Wehmeyer together as songwriters. The album has a little bit of everything, from party drinking songs like “The Beer Song” to patriotic anthems like “Green White and Orange” to beautiful folk songs like “Monday Morning Girl.” There are fun songs like “Shine On” and a raucous pirate tune, “Shanghai Kelly.” For Murphy, the album had a very specific purpose. “With all the craziness and division in the world, we wanted to make an album about contemplative escapism,” he said. “*Go Climb a Tree* certainly isn't about dropping out of the conversation; it's just about taking a short hiatus to recharge the batteries before you take on the world again.”

The group has added Pete Purvis on uilleann pipes, tin whistle, deger pipes and highland pipes and Katie Grennan on fiddle. Purvis joined the group in 2005 and he said that Katie Grennan is the “purple squirrel” of the band, or perfect new addition. “With the addition of Katie, the band has never sounded better,” he said. “We're gelling on a whole new level and the idea of sharing these new songs with our fans is exciting.”

For Gaelic Storm, it's always been about the fans. “The fans are the ones that have given us this life,” Patrick Murphy said. “We're here for them.”

## Yakov Smirnoff Happily Ever Laughter

(February 13, 2019 7:00pm)

When Yakov Maumovich Pokhis emigrated to the United States from the Soviet Union, he took jobs bartending at resorts in the Catskills. When he decided to do stand-up comedy, he took his American name from the vodka popular at the resort. Yakov Smirnoff returns with comedy about the very messy business of being human.

Smirnoff is a bit of a Renaissance man. He got his start in stand-up in the late 1970s and was a roommate of comedian Andrew Dice Clay. He began to work in films, appearing in *Moscow on the Hudson*. In addition to a small role, he helped Robin Williams with his Russian dialogue. He

was also in *The Money Pit* with Tom Hanks and *Heartburn* with Meryl Streep and Jack Nicholson. He appeared in several other movies, on the sitcom *Night Court*, and on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson. He had his own show, *What a Country*, named after his well-known tag line.

In 1992, Smirnoff bought a theater in Branson, Missouri and performed there until 2015, where he entertained more than four million people. He appeared on Broadway in a one-man show, *As Long as We Both Shall Laugh*, and gives advice in a column for *AARP Magazine*.

Advice? What kind of advice?

Here's where the Renaissance man part comes in. Smirnoff was fascinated by the nature of happiness and of relationships. In 2006, he got a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania in positive psychology and he is an adjunct professor at Missouri Sate University, where he teaches a course on happiness and laughter. He is also a painter and after the attacks of September 11, he designed a mural that hung anonymously near Ground Zero until it was removed because of storm damage. The mural was a tribute to the country that took in a family of Ukrainian Jews and allowed a boy who spoke no English to become a star. Smirnoff became a citizen on July 4, 1986.

What a country!

## Lewis Black

(February 16, 2019 7:00pm)

He's a Renaissance man and an American original. Colicky as a baby, Lewis Black, stand-up comedian, actor and author, seemed destined from his birth to be angry and easily irritated by the life around him. The irascible Mr. Black is widely considered one of the best and most popular performers working today, and he performs more than 200 shows a year around the world. His passion for the absurdities of life gives voice to his audiences' frustrations and it's been said that he yells so that they don't have to.

Black fell in love with the theater as a teen and he pursued a career in theater at the University of North Carolina and the Yale Drama School. While at North Carolina, he started doing stand-up while studying drama. He eventually came to New York and became playwright-in-residence at the West Bank Café's Downstairs Theatre Bar. There he oversaw the development of more than 1000 plays, including early works by Aaron

Sorkin, *American Beauty* writer Alan Bell and his own plays. He also served as emcee and his skill as a stand-up comic grew. He had found his voice and left West Bank to pursue stand-up full time.

In 1996, Black's friend Lizz Winstead tapped him to create a weekly segment for a show she was producing on Comedy Central called *The Daily Show*. The segment was a three-minute rant about whatever was on his mind at the moment. It evolved into “Back in Black” and was one of the most popular segments on the show. His relationship with Comedy Central led to four specials for the *Comedy Central Presents* series. He co-created *Last Laugh with Lewis Black* and presided over *Lewis Black: The Root of All Evil*. In 2001, he was named Best Male Stand-Up at the American Comedy Awards.

Black's television exposure led to a record deal with Stand Up! Records. His first CD was released in 2000 and he has followed with eight more. He has been nominated for four Grammy Awards and won twice, in 2007 for Best Comedy Album for *The Carnegie Hall Performance* and in 2011 for *Stark Raving Black*.

Black has filmed two specials for HBO, *Black on Broadway* and *Red, White and Screwed*. The latter was nominated for an Emmy in 2007. For two seasons he had a regular feature on *Inside the NFL* and he has participated in *Comic Relief*. In 2009, he filmed his first feature-length concert film, *Stark Raving Black*, and at the end of its run in theaters, premium channel Epix picked it up, along with the

accompanying documentary, *Basic Black*. Both are still aired regularly and can be found in the Epix on demand menu.

In the midst of his rigorous touring schedule and television appearance, the comic has written three best-selling books, *Nothing's Sacred*, *Me of Little Faith* and *I'm Dreaming of a Black Christmas*. He is also a prolific playwright, having written more than 40 plays, including *One Slight Hitch*, that was presented at Garry Marshall's Falcon Theatre in Los Angeles. He has also gone back to his theatrical training, appearing in Barry Levinson's *Man of the Year* with Robin Williams and in Paul Feig's *Unaccompanied Minors*.

Black is a supporter of a host of charitable organizations including the Cystic

continued on page 44



Lewis Black  
Feb. 16th 2019 | 7:00pm



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Fibrosis Foundation and Autism Speaks. He was honored by the Brady Center for his commitment to ending gun violence and has toured with the USO. He works with theater students at the University of North Carolina, continuing a lifetime commitment to education and the arts.

In his spare time, Black plays golf, even though golf hates him.

## The Devon Allman Project with special guest Duane Betts

(February 20, 2019 7:00pm) Following in your father's footsteps can be a challenge, but when Devon Allman comes to The Lyric Theatre, the singer, songwriter and guitarist brings his own musicianship and style along with his father's legacy. Allman lost his father, Gregg Allman, in May 2017 and he took time off to reflect on his loss and how to best honor his father. The younger Allman had been performing for 12 years, playing 250 dates a year and he took several months to "rack up time with my kid," visit relatives and heal as he began the next phase of his career.

For Allman, it was a good time for reflection and inspiration. "It felt good to take time off," he said. "I needed to step back and make up for lost time with the people that are close to me."

Allman did return to his music for one very special day. On December 8, 2017, on what would have been his father's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, Devon Allman and some special friends celebrated his father's music at the iconic Fillmore in San Francisco, a venue that was so important to the elder Allman's career. Artists like Robert Randolph, Luther and Cody Dickenson, G Love, members of Phish, Samantha Fish and Jimmy Hall took part in the celebration. "It was a magical evening," Allman said. "It was like a family gathering. There was so much great music, so many musicians who had such respect for my father, all of whom felt a personal connection to both the man and his music. When my manager told me we could do the concert at the Fillmore, a place that obviously had such profound ties to my dad's career, I couldn't have been happier."

That event helped to rekindle Allman's enthusiasm for several new projects for 2018 and beyond. In March, his new six-piece band, The Devon Allman Project, launched a world tour with special guest Duane

Betts, the son of Allman Brothers co-founder Dickie Betts. The two have known each other since they were boys and had always spoken about going on tour together. The timing was right. Betts will open the show, Allman will do his thing, and they'll come together on stage for an encore.

Duane Betts' grew up traveling on the road with the Allman Brothers Band and was named after a man who *Rolling Stone* has ranked as high as #2 on its list of 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time. "Duane Allman was an amazing guitarist, probably

the greatest slide guitarist of all time," he said. "It's an honor to be named after him, and I accept it, but it's kind of heavy. And it's heavy when you're a musician and your dad's in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. But at a certain point, you have to remember that you're not trying to surpass them."

Betts' debut EP is out this year, *Sketches of American Music*, containing five original songs that reflects a career steeped in rock, country and blues. The album was recorded in Nashville and Los Angeles and features Stoll Vaughan, co-writer on "Taking Time," along with Steve Cropper (Booker T. & the M.G.s) and Marc Ford (Black Crowes).

Allman also has a new record for 2018, *Full Speed Ahead*. A staunch proponent of authentic Southern blues, this work is steeped in a classic American tradition, with the type of music associated with Tom Petty, Jackson Browne and others from the Laurel Canyon music scene of the 1970s.

Allman also has his own new record label, Create Records. The first release, slated for late in 2018, will feature a new band, The Slays, with Allman and Cody Dickinson of the North Mississippi Allstars. The label will continue to seek out new talent and offer artists a chance to develop their talent and creativity.

From his days with Devon Allman's Honeytribe through chart-topping collaborations with Jack Bruce, Javier Vargas and the royal Southern Brotherhood, to his three solo albums, Devon Allman has carved out a career that would make any dad proud.

## Stayin' Alive - A Tribute to the Bee Gees

(February 22, 2019 6:00pm & 8:30pm) Did disco make the Bee Gees or did the Bee Gees make disco? The dance craze defined a decade and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame band defined disco. *Stayin' Alive - A Tribute to the Bee Gees* recreates that era with an evening of disco classics from "Night Fever" to "You Should Be Dancing," to "Jive Talking." There are also the ballads, like "Words," "I Started a Joke," and "To Love Somebody." With Mitch Seekins, Todd Sharmin and Tony Mattini, *Stayin' Alive*, known as the number one Bee Gees tribute band, uses a big screen, video clips and dazzling photography to bring to life the music that had everyone dancing.

The Bee Gees were started in 1958 by brothers Barry, Robin and Maurice Gibb. They had early success and then went their separate ways; it wasn't until the early 1970s, when they reunited that their songs "Lonely Days," and "How Can You Mend a Broken Heart" charted and landed them on television shows including *The Ed Sullivan Show* and Johnny Carson's *Tonight Show*. In the mid-1970s, at the suggestion of Eric Clapton, the group moved to Miami and started recording fewer ballads and more dance-oriented music. Then came *Saturday Night Fever*. Producer Robert Stigwood asked the Bee Gees to write the songs for the movie. The rest, as they say, is history. The soundtrack and the film were both phenomenal successes. The album was the highest-selling album in history to that time and is among the best-selling soundtrack albums ever. The Bee Gees won five Grammy Awards for the album, production and individual performances. The Bee Gees wrote every one of the songs, as they did for their entire career.

*Stayin' Alive* sells out every time it comes to The Lyric, so get your tickets early. They'll make you feel like dancing.

## The Magic of Bill Blagg, Live!

(February 24, 2019 7:00pm) Bill Blagg's life has been magical. The illusionist brings his show, *The Magic of Bill Blagg, Live!* to life in a magical journey that began when his great grandfather gave him a professional magic book. He went on to build magic props for his father and developed his own shows from a lifetime of magic.

Bill Blagg's specialty is one-of-a-kind illusions that leave audiences gasping. He has the world's only rideable hover board and is known for teleporting across the theater and squishing his 6' body into 6". Oh, yes. He takes that body and passes it through the blades of an industrial fan.

The illusionist is constantly changing his shows and even if you've seen one, you've



Aaron Diehl Trio  
Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm

not seen this one. His goal is to surprise and amaze his audience while changing reality one city at a time. Quite simply, you won't believe your eyes. *A Family Fun Series show proudly sponsored by The Bauman Family Foundation.*

## Live from Nashville: Country Legends

(February 25, 2019 7:00pm) Get out those two-stepping boots! Direct from Music City, *Live from Nashville: Country Legends*, take the audience through 75 years of the best country music. Country singers and dancers will entertain with fast-fingered fiddling, fancy footwork and fine vocals that bring to life the music of everyone from Patsy Cline and Hank Williams to George Jones, Conway Twitty and Loretta Lynn, to Garth, Reba and Shania and on to the "youngsters:" Luke, Carrie and Blake.

*Live from Nashville: Country Legends* takes you on a chronological journey of the best of Nashville in spectacular fashion. The production is fully costumed and choreographed in a production that will keep your toes tapping, your adrenalin pumping and your memories coming fast and furiously. The cast, Natasha Neely, Lisa Redding Saint, Adam Calvett and Jimmy Miller, and the band bring to life songs like "Your Cheatin' Heart," "Ring of Fire," "Make the World Go Away," "Hello Darlin'," "Stand By Your Man," "Rhinstone Cowboy," "The Gambler," "Friends in Low Places," "The Dance/I Hope You Dance," "Who's Your Daddy," "The House That Built Me," and 20 more hits. You'll be dancing in the aisles!

The troupe has played to sold-out venues around the country and audiences have loved the show. At the Westchester Broadway Theater, audiences said that "The singers were so gifted, talented, personable and energetic. It was one of the best shows we've ever seen and we were sorry to see the show end!"

Boot scoot over to The Lyric. You'll have a legendary time.

## Aaron Diehl Trio

(February 26, 2019 7:00pm) When jazz pianist Aaron Diehl made his New York

Philharmonic debut in 2016, the day before his 31<sup>st</sup> birthday, Anthony Tommasini of *The New York Times* wrote, "He must be invited back."

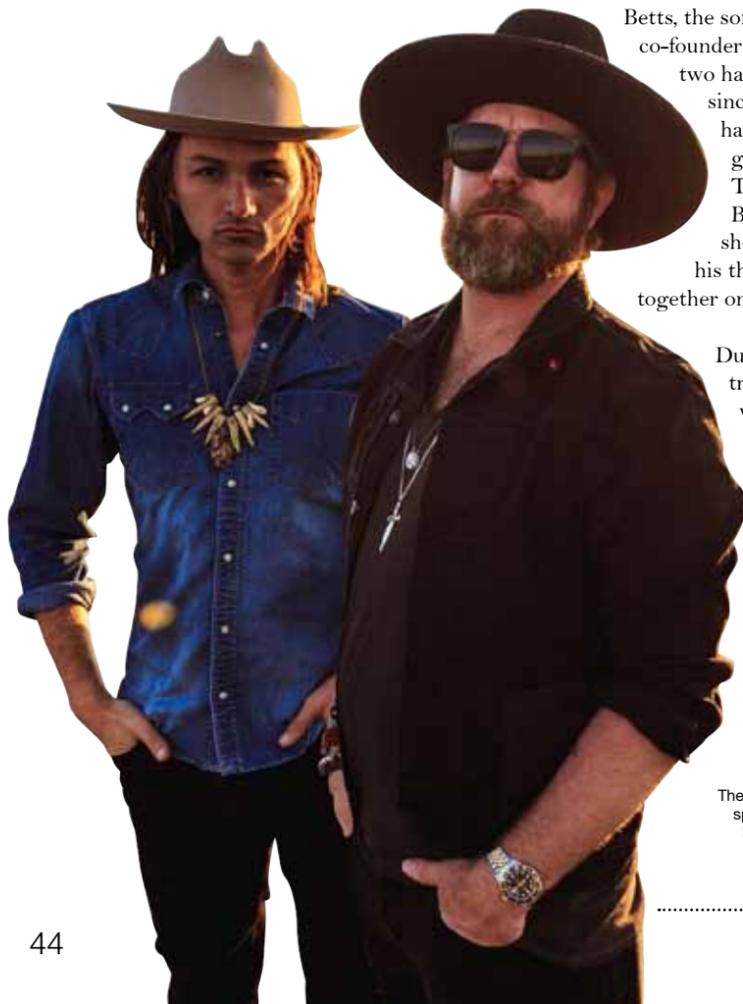
Aaron has been a staple of the New York jazz scene since 2007 and has collaborated with living masters ranging from from NEA Jazz Master Benny Golson to 20th century classical titan Philip Glass, while establishing himself as one of the preeminent interpreters of the Great American Songbook in his own trio and with the vocalist Cécile McLorin Salvant. His role as pianist and musical director for vocalist Cécile McLorin Salvant, the most arresting and authentic jazz vocalist to emerge in three decades, has enhanced his profile well beyond the jazz world.

Diehl grew up in a musical family. His grandfather was pianist and trombonist Arthur Baskerville and Diehl began studying classical music when he was 7. He attended the prestigious National Music Camp at Interlochen, Michigan, where he discovered jazz and the music of Oscar Peterson and Art Tatum. After his performance at the Ellington competition, where he was named Outstanding Soloist, he toured with the Wynton Marsalis Septet on their European tour. He returned to study at Juilliard.

Before his Philharmonic debut, where he played Gershwin's Concerto in F, Diehl was interviewed by the *Wall Street Journal*. He spoke about his love for the work. "It is a classical concerto," he said. "What makes it so unique, though, is Gershwin's embrace and use of rhythms, syncopations and folk material that are native to America. He's got blues in there... The Charleston is all over this piece. He has hints of what we call Harlem stride, made famous by James P. Johnson, Willie 'The Lion' Smith and Fats Waller, who wrote 'Honeysuckle Rose.' You have this boom-chick figure in the left hand. It's almost like ragtime, but it's a more advanced version, if you will. You have the syncopation in the right hand. In fact, I take it a step further from what Gershwin wrote, and I make it into a full-blown stride sort of style."

Diehl has released several albums, the most recent for Mack Avenue Records. His first on the label, 2013's *The Bespoke Man's Narrative*, reached No. 1 on the *JazzWeek* Jazz Chart. KCRW praised it as "an album you can listen to again and again, honest music that invites you back in to discover new wonders with each listening."

Diehl was the 2014 Monterey Jazz Festival Commission Artist, one of the youngest



The Devon Allman Project with special guest Duane Betts  
Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm

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artists to receive the honor. He has won numerous other awards, including the 2011 Cole Porter Fellowship from the American Pianists Association and the 2012 Prix du Jazz Classique from the Academie du Jazz. In an effort to nurture young jazz artists, he was named the first artistic director of the Catskill Jazz Factory. *Broadway World* said "Aaron Diehl is an aficionado of the early tradition of jazz piano."

Diehl's eclectic recent projects include serving as music director for the Jazz at Lincoln Center New Orleans Songbook concert series, performing the New York premiere of Philip Glass' complete Etudes at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, collaborating with Spanish flamenco guitarist Dani Se Moron in Flamenco meets Jazz and touring the United States and Europe with Grammy-nominated jazz singer Cecile McLorin Slavant.

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Michael Glabicki of Rusted Root with Dirk Miller  
Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> 2019 | 7:00pm

She is the writer and series editor of her own publishing company, Earth in Focus, and has produced 24 coffee table books on conservation issues. Her work has been published in prestigious scientific publications including *Science and Nature*, as well as in popular magazines like *National Geographic*. She is a Sony Artisan and a National Geographic Explorer Mentor, mentoring two young women starting their careers. *Outdoor Magazine* named her one of the world's top 40 most influential outdoor photographers. She is a founder of the International League of Conservation Photographers.

Mittermeier met her partner, underwater photographer Paul Nicklen, in the National Geographic cafeteria, and in 2015, they co-founded SeaLegacy, with a mission to create healthy and abundant oceans for us and the planet. One billion people live on our changing coastlines and the two are dedicated to preserving the balance between the coastlines and the humans who love them. You'll be enthralled by the stories and images from the front lines of exploration and the efforts to save the oceans.

**Michael Glabicki of Rusted Root with Dirk Miller** (February 28, 2019 7:00pm) The music scene on Pittsburgh's South Side in the 1990's included a house band that played a weekly gig at Jack's Back Room. The front man was singer/songwriter Michael Glabicki and the band was called Rusted Root. The multi-platinum band, which had its first platinum album in 1994 with *When I Woke*, evolved around Glabicki's distinct sound and grew into a genre-defying band of multicultural

rock and soul that built its career around dramatic live performances.

Now, Glabicki is exploring new sounds and opening new doors with a solo career. He has started touring with Dirk Miller, Rusted Root's guitar player and explains that although he has his roots with Rusted Root, this show is very different. Live, both Glabicki and Miller play acoustic and electric guitar and Glabicki often adds rhythm with a kick drum that creates a fuller sound than you find with a traditional duo. Glabicki sees his solo career and new music as extensions of his creative talent, and while the show features many Rusted Root hits, it also provides a look into his mind through stories and songs that have not yet been released.

The evolution of the separate tour comes, in part, from audience reaction to his music. As a songwriter, Glabicki has invited the audience to participate in the creation of Rusted Root's music and frequently tests new songs on the road to get audience reaction. He is always creating and found that some of his songs meshed more with his solo sound. He explained what a song tells him.

"A song is an organism that has a history and has different meanings to many different people," he said. "Those people attach themselves to the organism and because of that, it's a ritual, a way to jointly go places."

Glabicki plans his solo tours around the Rusted Root schedule and when he is not touring with the band or with Miller, he has started a studio, Red Cloud, in Pittsburgh. It began as a place for him to write and record new songs and has grown into a full-scale studio where local musicians can rent space to work on their own albums.

In an interview with the online magazine *Relix* in January 2018, Glabicki talked about what the duo means to him and about some of his new work. "The duo is a great avenue that I have around new songs for and I am deciding whether they need a new band around them or if they work with Rusted Root," he said. The song 'Man not Machine' is a song about the collective cellular dance that has been happening at my shows for the last few years. Something new and exciting has been happening, so I wanted to write a song about it and breathe some life into it-like a funky steroid." ■

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**National Geographic Live Standing at the Water's Edge with photographer Cristina Mittermeier** (February 27, 2019 7:00pm) Photographer and marine biologist Cristina Mittermeier grew up in the mountains of central Mexico. She never imagined that her life's work would take her to the water's edge and beyond. A presentation by a university recruiter sent her on a path to ocean careers and she has spent 25 years as a writer and photographer, focusing on the balance between human well-being and healthy ecosystems. She brings her passion to The Lyric with *National Geographic Live* to talk about her conservation work and how people and coastlines can co-exist.

Mittermeier spent the first 10-15 years as a photographer on land, focusing on indigenous people in the rainforests of the Amazon. Her goal was always to use her photography to inspire conservation groups with the images she preserved.

Mittermeier first became a biochemical engineer in marine sciences and then an advocate for the ocean and biodiversity.

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