



WINTER 2017 NEWSLETTER



PERFORMING ARTS
FOUNDATION, INC.
**2016-17
SEASON**

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We have much to be thankful for here at The Grand as 2016 comes to a close. It has truly been a great year: over 132,000 patrons came through our doors (including an incredible 4,600 first-time patrons), we sold out 12 shows, were recognized as one of Pollstar's Top 225 theaters in the world, launched a new website and mobile app, and debuted a new LED message center on the historic marquee.

While those highlights are great, it's the performances that we'll never forget, and 2016 featured incredible performances from a vast spectrum of artists. Whether it was the Broadway mastery of 42nd Street and Once, the comedy of Ron White and Lewis Black, the family fun of Vocalosity and the Shanghai Acrobats or the amazing

musicianship of the Havana Cuba All-Stars, these 12 months have featured something for everybody. We thank all of you who have come out for shows this year and made it our most successful one in over a decade!

Just as importantly, we've redoubled our efforts to build engagement with the community. Our residency with gifted pianist Alpin Hong connected with students from K-12 and beyond, while the Aca-Performance of a Lifetime Contest gave local groups the chance to open for Vocalosity. Meanwhile, our student matinee series continues to flourish—over 15,000 students from 17 counties connected to the arts through attending a daytime show at The Grand this year.

As the year comes to a close, we'll also be ramping up our annual fund drive. Even with a very successful season, ticket revenues cover only 20% of our operating expenses, as most of that ticket revenue goes to the artist and the cost of presenting the show. Your support helps us ensure that we can continue to bring the best in the performing arts to the region, to provide opportunities for students to engage with professional artists and to use the art to help enrich the lives of the entire community. As you consider your end-of-the-year giving, I hope you'll consider a gift to the Performing Arts Foundation.

As we embark on 2017, we're excited about a number of new initiatives: our involvement as one of just two partners of the Overture Center in Madison for the Tommy Awards, which recognizes the best of high school musical theater throughout the state of Wisconsin. Currently schools in 23 counties are involved in the Tommy Awards, and now schools across North Central Wisconsin are taking part in this amazing program. We will also be continuing our brand-new 10x10 Series which features 10 shows of emerging artists for just \$10 a ticket, all with an aim of introducing new audiences to The Grand and ensuring access to the arts without cost barriers. There are many other exciting things we have planned for the months ahead and we look forward to sharing them with you as the calendar turns to 2017.

Thanks again for your support of The Grand and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

THE GRAND'S 10x10 SERIES JUST ANNOUNCED



KRISTIN DIABLE 1/20



QUIET HOLLERS 2/24

**TICKETS ON SALE
NOW FOR JUST
\$10 IN ADVANCE**

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
10x10 SERIES ON PAGE 7

THE GRAND'S ENTIRE SEASON IS SUPPORTED BY:



The Grand would like to thank ASPIRUS for their continued support of our Arts In Education Series and their investment in programs that engage children! Their support helps sustain the high-quality performing arts programs delivered through our matinee series, and ensures the continued existence of our inclusive and comprehensive program at affordable rates for our youngest patrons in public, private, parochial, and home schools.

PERFORMANCE DATE

<i>Everybody's Hero</i>	Friday, February 24
<i>Brown Bear, Brown Bear</i>	Tuesday, February 28
<i>Laura Ingalls Wilder</i>	Monday, March 13
<i>Dr. Seuss' Cat in the Hat</i>	Wednesday, April 5 - SOLD OUT
<i>The Mayhem Poets</i>	Wednesday, April 26

The Grand would like to thank Janke Book Store for commemorative copies of each book featured in the series.





THE JOHN ALTENBURGH CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA!



THE KING'S SINGERS CHRISTMAS

Wednesday, December 7 - 7:30pm

It's a holiday celebration with harmonies fit for a king! With a variety of music from Tchaikovsky to Lawson, to all of your holiday favorites, The King's Singers' ability to create a full choir sound will leave you breathless.

For more than 40 years, this remarkable sextet has maintained their place at the top of the choral world, delighting audiences across the globe with their melodies and irresistible charisma. If you enjoyed the sold-out Vienna Boys Choir performance last season, you won't want to miss this holiday gem!

Get to the theater early for a full holiday celebration! Enjoy carriage ride around Downtown Wausau, caroling with Wausau Conservatory of Music in the Great Hall, and more!

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THE JOHN ALTENBURGH CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA- SOLD OUT

Friday, December 16 - 7:30pm

After decades of sold-out performances, The John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza returns to The Grand with an all-new show!

A true Wisconsin Christmas tradition, this has long been the hottest ticket in town. Nothing says Christmas in Wausau like The John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza!

Presenting Sponsor:



Featured Sponsors:



CANTUS

Friday, January 6 - 8:00pm

Over 600 of the state's best vocal students will come to Wausau this January for the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association state convention. The Grand is proud to partner with the WCDA to present the convention's headlining artist, Cantus.

Based out of Minneapolis, the group is recognized around the world for their programmatic versatility, artistic excellence, and charismatic personality. Bringing their "No Greater Love Than This" Tour to Wausau, the performance will explore the camaraderie, bravery, honor, and loss of soldiers in times of both war and peace. With creative themes, engaging performances, and vocal virtuosity, Cantus will deliver an evening of unforgettable music.

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RUSSIAN NATIONAL BALLET THEATRE: SWAN LAKE

Monday, January 16 - 7:30pm

This esteemed Russian ballet company brings to the Grand Theater one of the most magical and beloved works from the classical ballet repertoire: Swan Lake.

Standing the test of time, Swan Lake continues to amaze audiences near and far. With majestic choreography by Petipa, unforgettable score by Tchaikovsky, and exquisite costumes and sets, it is easy to see why Swan Lake continues to earn the adoration of classical ballet enthusiasts and attract newcomers to this magnificent art form. Come get lost in the magical story of Swan Lake!

Join us prior to the show for an exclusive wine and spirits tasting! Limited spots available. Call our ticket office for pricing and more information.

Presenting Sponsors:



Featured Sponsors:





THE COMPANY MEN

Thursday, January 26 - 7:30pm

Unlike any other group touring today, The Company Men uniquely interweave today's Top 40 hits with re-imagined classics of the last six decades by blending songs by your favorite artists, including Sam Smith, Michael Jackson, Katy Perry, Adele, The Temptations, Billy Joel, Prince, Bruno Mars, Michael Bubl  and more!

Featuring performers from Broadway and the national touring companies of Hairspray, The Lion King, and the Emmy Award winning mini-series The Temptations, The Company Men bring an all-star band, throwback sound, contemporary look, and 60 years of music in one night!

Featured Sponsors:



THE FIVE IRISH TENORS

Monday, February 13 - 7:30pm

The Five Irish Tenors blends Ireland's traditional musical vocal heritage with modern, vibrant contemporary Ireland. Featuring classics such as "Danny Boy" and "My Wild Irish Rose" alongside Bono's "In a Lifetime" and Brendan Graham's "You Raise Me Up".

On their first-ever US Tour, the group presents a thrilling, dynamic program of joy and passion, spirit and love, performed by this magnificent group of Ireland's leading tenors.

Two extraordinary pianists accompany Ireland's most popular ensemble as they perform solos, duets, trios, quartets, and quintets. Let the celestial voices of these virtuoso musicians take you away to the rolling fields of Ireland.

Presenting Sponsor:



Featured Sponsors:



SONS OF SERENDIP

Friday, February 17 - 7:30pm

As seen on "America's Got Talent," this genre-bending, classical-crossover group, Sons of Serendip combines incredible musicianship with their masterful arrangements to create new interpretations of songs you love.

Combining dynamic instrumentation and their classical training, Sons of Serendip recreates your favorite songs like you have never heard them before, including "Purple Rain," "Ordinary World," "Somewhere Only We Know," and many more!

A perfect date-night! Don't miss this amazing quartet as they transform some of today's top hits in "classical" arrangements that have

critics calling them "one of the most talented musical acts performing today."



Presenting Sponsors:



Featured Sponsors:



THE PRICE IS RIGHT LIVE-SOLD OUT

Monday, February 20 - 7:30pm
Tuesday, February 21 - 7:30pm

The Price Is Right Live™ is the hit interactive stage show that gives eligible individuals the chance to "Come On Down" to win. Prizes may include appliances, vacations and possibly a new car! Play classic games from television's longest running and most popular game show from Plinko™, to Cliffhangers™, to The Big Wheel™, and even the fabulously Showcase.

Featured Sponsors:








RAIN: A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES

Wednesday, March 8 - 7:30pm

RAIN: A Tribute to The Beatles celebrates the 50th anniversary of the release of *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band!* For the first time ever, RAIN will bring the historic album to life in its entirety for this psychedelic multimedia spectacular!

This mind blowing performance takes you back in time with the legendary foursome delivering a note-for-note theatrical event that is the next best thing to seeing the Beatles. Experience the worlds' most iconic band and come celebrate 50 years of *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* with RAIN: A Tribute to The Beatles!

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Featured Sponsors:  

THE YOUNG IRELANDERS


Friday, March 17 - 7:30pm

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with The Young Irelanders, a group of talented performers who have Irish song and dance running through their veins!

Featuring former members of Riverdance and Lord of the Dance, The Young Irelanders is more than a band, it's a full Irish

experience! Fusing old world traditions with contemporary flare, The Young Irelanders create a distinctive sound that everyone can enjoy! It's St. Patrick's Day at The Grand with The Young Irelanders!

Join us prior to the show for an exclusive themed dinner, catered by The Mint Cafe. Call our ticket office for pricing and more information.

Presenting Sponsor: 

Featured Sponsors: 

HOME FREE- LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

Thursday, March 23 - 7:30pm

Country sensations and champions of NBC's 'The Sing Off', Home Free is the world's first all-vocal country band. Using nothing but their voices, this country quintet brings their unique flair to the country songs you know and love; from "Fishin in the Dark" and "Ring of Fire," to "How We Roll" and "Cruise."

Don't miss as Home Free brings their high-energy and quick-witted performance that meshes Nashville standards with country-dipped pop hits to Wausau for the first time!

Featured Sponsors: 


ADAM TRENT: THE FUTURIST

Friday, April 7 - 7:30pm

From the Broadway smash hit *THE ILLUSIONISTS*, and as seen on "America's Got Talent", Adam Trent has taken the magic world by storm as "The Futurist."

Described as "Justin Timberlake meets David Copperfield," he's a star for a new generation of magic fans; melding classic techniques, dancing, comedy, and innovative stage illusions in a show that shatters stereotypes for those who think they've seen it all. This is a show you will have to see to believe!

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Featured Sponsors:   


Follow us online for giveaways, flash sales, and more!





PIPPIN

Thursday, April 20 - 7:30pm

PIPPIN is a high-flying, death-defying hit Broadway musical! Winner of four 2013 Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival, this classic has been reinvented as “Pippin for the 21st century” (New York Times).

Cirque-infused choreography will leave you captivated in a world of extraordinary acrobatics, wondrous magical feats and soaring songs from the composer of WICKED. Hailed by audiences and critics alike, this “eye-popping, jaw-dropping extravaganza” is unlike anything Broadway has ever seen!

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Featured Sponsor: **ADRENALIN MARKETING** **THRIVE**

DAILY HERALD media print | digital | social | mobile
Y106.5 Today's Best Country

THE TIME JUMPERS

Thursday, April 27 - 7:30pm

When country superstar Vince Gill and his friends started the Time Jumpers in Nashville, it was simply a way for them to get together to play music. Little did they know that they had formed a country super group that would develop a rabid following, sell out a weekly Nashville show and earn Grammy nominations for their songs.

The multiple award-winning Time Jumpers bring the best of country, western, and

swing to the stage; and are made up of ten incredible musicians, including country legends Vince Gill, “Ranger Doug” Green, Kenny Sears, Paul Franklin and more!

You won't want to miss this rare chance to see Vince Gill and The Time Jumpers outside of the Music City! It's a not-to-be-missed, best-of-the-best night of country direct from Nashville!

Presenting Sponsor: **Reindl**
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Charter Spectrum **DAILY HERALD media** print | digital | social | mobile A GANNETT COMPANY **B-104.9** The Legends of Country

MAMMA MIA!- SOLD OUT

Thursday, May 11 - 7:30pm

Fall in love with the music, the story, and the characters that make MAMMA MIA! the ultimate feel good show! It's the classic show you love: ABBA's greatest hits woven into a smash hit Broadway musical about a daughter's dream, a mother's secret, and a trip down the aisle you'll never forget!

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NEWS LINE 9 **CITY pages** **95.5 WIFC**

JUST ANNOUNCED! COLIN MOCHRIE & BRAD SHERWOOD: THE SCARED SCRIPTLESS TOUR

Sunday, May 7 - 7:30pm

Armed with nothing but their sharp wit, comedians Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood take to the live stage to create hilarious and original scenes in their two-man show. Known by TV audiences for their work on Whose Line is it Anyway?, Colin & Brad improvise new material every night from audience suggestions and participation. “Interactive” in every sense of the word, Colin & Brad will take the audience on a comedic high-wire act... just like a live version of Whose Line! Get ready for a night of non-stop laughter for all ages!

Presenting Sponsor: **Point**

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G COUNTY MATERIALS CORPORATION **NEWS LINE 9** **95.5 WIFC**
Great Country! WDEZ **ROCK 94.7** **WSAU** 550 AM • 99.9 FM News • Talk • Sports **FOX SPORTS** AM 1280 | FM 89.9 **WAUSAU**

Sign up for our e-mail and never miss an announcement again!

SPECIAL EVENTS

THE GRAND'S 10x10 SERIES

THE GRAND'S 10x10 SERIES

EMERGING ARTISTS | UNIQUE SPACES
SOMETHING DIFFERENT

As part of our mission to keep the arts accessible to all, The Grand is proud to introduce the 10x10 Series, a pop-up concert series that brings emerging artists to the historic Grand Theater. General admission tickets just \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door! Experience The Grand like never before!

To learn more about upcoming shows, follow The Grand on Facebook!



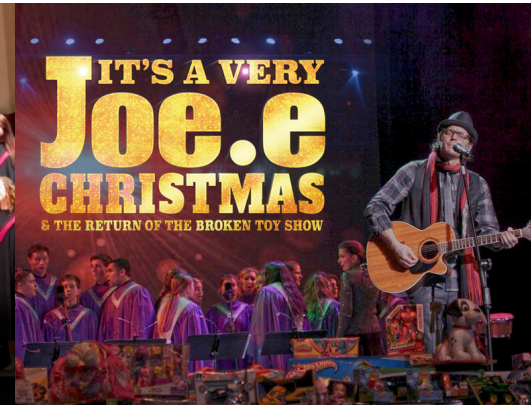
STATE CHORAL CONVENTION

JANUARY 6-7, 2017

WISCONSIN CHORAL DIRECTORS
ASSOCIATION

The WCDA will be hosting their annual choral convention this January at the Grand Theater, bringing over 600 of the state's best vocal students to Wausau.

The weekend will feature a headlining performance by Cantus, hailed as the "premier men's vocal ensemble in the United States."



A VERY JOE.E CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 14, 2016

JEM PRODUCTIONS

Returning to The Grand for its third year, It's a Very Joe.e Christmas brings a night of holiday celebration benefitting the Toys for Tots of Marathon County.

Nearly forty artists will take the stage, backed by full video projection, a ten piece house band, and hundreds of donated toys! Admission for the event is free with a donation to Toys for Tots. All ages invited.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12 | 7:30PM

Tickets available at the Grand Theater's Ticket Office
or online at www.grandtheater.org

GIVING TO THE GRAND

Our performances and outreach programs depend on you.

Your support is vital to bringing the best of the performing arts to North Central Wisconsin.

How to Donate:

Online: www.grandtheater.org

By phone: 715-842-0988/ 888-239-0421

By mail: 401 Fourth Street, Wausau, WI 54403





715-842-0988 / 888-239-0421
 PERFORMING ARTS FOUNDATION, INC.
 401 FOURTH STREET
 WAUSAU, WI 54403-5420

GIVE A MEMORY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON...

...with a gift certificate to the Grand Theater! Good for up to three years.

It's the gift sure to delight!

Available at the Grand Theater's Ticket Office



Coming to The Grand!

December

- 3-4 Central Wisconsin School of Ballet: *The Nutcracker*
- 5-6 Wausau West Choir Concert
- 7 The King's Singers Christmas
- 9-11 Wausau Community Theatre: *A Christmas Carol*
- 14 It's a Very Joe.e Christmas
- 16 The John Altenburgh - SOLD OUT Christmas Extravaganza
- 21 Lorie Line

January

- 6 Cantus
- 6-7 WCDA State Choral Convention
- 12 Stayin' Alive: Tribute to the Bee Gees
- 16 Russian National Ballet Theatre: *Swan Lake*
- 20 Kristin Diable- JUST ANNOUNCED
- 26 The Company Men
- 28 Wausau Events: Winterfest

February

- 13 The Five Irish Tenors
- 17 Sons of Serendip
- 20-21 The Price is Right LIVE- SOLD OUT
- 24 Aspirus Arts in Education: *Everybody's Hero: The Jackie Robinson Story*
- 24 Quiet Hollers- JUST ANNOUNCED
- 25 YWCA: Men Who Cook
- 28 Aspirus Arts in Education: *Brown Bear, Brown Bear*

March

- 2-4 Wausau Community Theatre: *The Who's Tommy*
- 8 Rain: A Tribute to The Beatles
- 11 Wausau Dance Theatre
- 13 Aspirus Arts in Education: *Laura Ingalls Wilder*
- 17 The Young Irishlanders
- 23 Home Free
- 24 Vic Ferrari

April

- 5 Aspirus Arts in Education: *Dr. Seuss' Cat in the Hat* - SOLD OUT
- 7 Adam Trent: The Futurist
- 8 River Valley Harmonizers
- 20 Pippin
- 26 Aspirus Arts in Education: *Mayhem Poets*
- 27 The Time Jumpers
- 28-30 Dance Magic

May

- 6 Central Wisconsin School of Ballet
- 11 Mamma Mia! - SOLD OUT
- 13 Heidi's Dance Recital
- 20-21 DDH Dance Recital

Calendar is subject to change. Updates will be found on our website and upcoming newsletters.

TICKETS AVAILABLE

IN PERSON

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 401 Fourth Street
 Wausau, WI 54403

PHONE

715-842-0988
 888-239-0421

ONLINE

www.grandtheater.org