



THE
GRAND
THEATER

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Press Release

The Grand's 2017-18 Season Announced!

WAUSAU, WI – June 7, 2017 – After a record-breaking season with 10 sold-out shows, recognition by Pollstar Magazine as one of the top 175 theaters in the world, and the debut of the 10x10 Series, The Grand Theater is not slowing down. The 23 shows in the 2017-2018 Season have earned a combined 10 Grammy Awards, 10 Tony Awards, 3 Emmy Awards, 12 Top 10 Billboard Hits, and 79 million tickets sold worldwide.

Starting this fall, big things are coming to Wausau. As always, The Grand is bringing world-class Broadway to Central Wisconsin, including two Wausau premiers! Jersey Boys, the 2006 Tony Award winner for Best Musical, tells the story of Rock and Roll Hall of Famers Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons and features all of their classic hits, including “Sherry,” “Big Girls Don’t Cry,” and “December, 1963 (Oh, What a Night).” Tony Award winner Kinky Boots struts into Wausau for the first time in the spring. Featuring songs by pop icon Cyndi Lauper, direction and choreography by two-time Tony winner Jerry Mitchell (Legally Blonde, Hairspray), and a story by four-time Tony winner Harvey Fierstein (La Cage Aux Folles) Kinky Boots is one of the best musicals of the last decade!

Other highlights include everything from dance spectaculars to the most talented musicians of our time. Ten years after their last three sold-out performances in Wausau, Riverdance – The 20th Anniversary World Tour returns to Central Wisconsin to give new audiences a chance to experience to international Irish dance phenomenon. Kansas, one of America’s most iconic classic rock bands, will also celebrate an anniversary at The Grand, the 40th anniversary of their multiplatinum album Leftoverture, which features hits like “Carry On Wayward Son.” Kenny G, the best-selling instrumental musician of all time, will also come to The Grand for the very first time, as well as five-time Grammy Award winning country legend Mary Chapin Carpenter.

As always, The Grand’s season includes a stellar lineup of holiday shows for the whole family, including Wausau traditions like the John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza and the Warren Miller Ski Film event, as well as the heartwarming story of All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 and a Wild and Swingin’ Holiday Party with one of the most popular swing bands on the road today, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy.

The Season will feature everything from Calmus, for aficionados of traditional choral music, to Gobsmacked! for fans of the acappella craze and all things different. Speaking of different, the Red Hot Chilli Pipers combine traditional Scottish folk music with a whole lot of attitude to present bagpipe covers of contemporary hits like “We Will Rock You” by Queen and “Thunderstruck” by ACDC.

The Grand's 2017-2018 Season is sure to have something for everyone, and there is still more to come! To stay up-to-date on new shows being added, the 10x10 series, and exciting pre- and post-show events, sign up for The Grand's email notifications and follow them on Facebook.

Season subscriptions are on sale now. Season packages start at just four shows and feature a discount of up to 15% depending on subscription level. Subscribers also receive priority seating, free ticket exchanges, and an invitation to exclusive events. Contact the ticket office at 715.842.0988, online at www.grandtheater.org, or stop in to the Ticket Office at 401 4th Street. Wausau, WI. 54403. Single-show tickets go on sale on July 11, 2017.

2017-2018 Season Lineup

The Simon & Garfunkel Story – Thursday, October 12

Direct from a sold-out European tour, The Simon and Garfunkel Story opens the 2017-18 season at The Grand on their first-ever US tour. The Simon and Garfunkel Story is a critically-acclaimed, concert-style theatrical experience that tells the journey of Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel and how they became the world's most successful music duo of all time.

Mary Chapin Carpenter – Friday, October 13

Five-time Grammy Award winner Mary Chapin Carpenter comes to The Grand for the first time, showcasing her latest critically-acclaimed record, *The Things That We Are Made Of*, as well as her Top 10 country hits, including "Passionate Kisses," "I Feel Lucky," "Shut Up and Kiss Me," "He Thinks He'll Keep Her," and more.

JERSEY BOYS – Tuesday, October 24

JERSEY BOYS is the 2006 Tony Award winning Best Musical about Rock and Roll Hall of Famers Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. Winner of four Tonys, a Grammy, and the Laurence Olivier Award, JERSEY BOYS features all of the classics: "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Rag Doll," "December, 1963 (Oh What A Night)," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You."

The Martial Artists and Acrobats of Tianjin China – Friday, October 27

The Martial Artists and Acrobats of Tianjin China is one of the best acrobatic troupes touring today. Their newest show, "China Soul," features acrobatics, circus acts, stunning costumes, illusions, and mesmerizing demonstrations of martial arts.

Take Me to the River LIVE – Tuesday, November 7

Take Me to the River LIVE is a live concert journey through the soul of American music based on the award-winning documentary of the same name. Grammy Award winners Charlie Musselwhite, Bobby Rush and William Bell join the Hi Rhythm Section and the Stax Academy Alumni Band to celebrate the musical influence of Memphis that flourished during a time of discrimination and segregation.

KANSAS – Wednesday, November 15

With a legendary career spanning more than four decades, KANSAS has established itself as one of America's iconic classic rock bands. Their legendary catalog includes eight gold albums and record-breaking singles including "Carry On Wayward Son" and "Dust in the Wind." In celebration of the 40th anniversary of their multi-platinum album *Leftoverture*, the band will present this album in its entirety for the very first time.

The 68th Warren Miller Ski Film – Saturday, November 18

The preeminent ski and snowboarding filmmaker in the world, Warren Miller's legendary film series takes film-goers across the globe to some of the world's most spellbinding skiing outposts. A true tradition for winter in Wausau, it's an evening celebrating the winter sports season with local vendors and Warren Miller Entertainment's 68th Annual Ski Film.

All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 – Tuesday, November 21

All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 from Theatre Latte Da tells the story of a moment during WWI when Allied and German soldiers met in “No Man’s Land” and laid down their arms to celebrate the holiday together by trading carols, sharing food and drink, playing soccer, and burying the dead.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy’s Wild & Swingin’ Holiday Party – Wednesday, December 6

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy is one of today’s most popular touring swing bands, and their Wild & Swingin’ Holiday Party at The Grand will feature rollicking big band reimaginations of classic Christmas carols as well as some of the band’s original tunes.

The John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza – Friday, December 15

With over a decade of sold-out performances, the John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza returns to The Grand with an all-star lineup. The show features Janet Planet, Mitch Viegut, Randy Sabien, Brad Emanuel, Dave Saindon, Chris O’Keefe, and more in a night of the best of jazz, blues, and the holiday songs you know and love.

3 Redneck Tenors – Friday, January 15

The 3 Redneck Tenors are unlike any other artists in the “tenor genre”—their musical comedy features down-home laughs with big city music! Finalists on America’s Got Talent, the 3 Redneck Tenors delight audiences with their vocal prowess and a smorgasbord of songs and music ranging from Gospel to Country, Broadway, Pop, and Classical.

Calmus – Friday, January 12

One of Germany’s most successful vocal groups, Calmus, headlines the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association’s 2018 Conference at The Grand. This award-winning group embodies the rich choral tradition of its hometown of Leipzig, Germany, while captivating audiences and critics alike with their charming stage presence and flawless technique.

Moscow Festival Ballet: Romeo & Juliet and Carmen – Wednesday, January 24

After the 2016-2017 Season’s sold-out performance of Swan Lake, classical ballet returns to The Grand with the Moscow Festival Ballet performing two classic and world-renowned tragedies, Shakespeare’s Romeo & Juliet and the Spanish-style dance of Carmen.

The Magic of Bill Blagg LIVE! – Friday, January 26

The Magic of Bill Blagg LIVE! brings grand-scale magic and illusions to The Grand for one show only! Bill Blagg is earning a well-deserved reputation as one of the nation’s top illusionists. His brand-new show is packed with mind-blowing illusions and audience interactions that make this show a great family event.

Classic Albums Live: Fleetwood Mac’s Rumours – Friday, February 16

The world-class musicians of Classic Albums Live take on Fleetwood Mac’s legendary Grammy Award winning album Rumours almost forty years after its release. This performance is a perfect recreation of an unforgettable classic album which remains one of rock’s most loved, having sold more than 40 million copies and containing some of the band’s biggest hits, including “Go Your Own Way,” “Don’t Stop,” and “Dreams.”

Gobsmacked! – Friday, February 23

Featuring seven incredible singers, including world Beatbox champion Ball Zee, Gobsmacked! is a groundbreaking a cappella show comprised of world-class singing and beatboxing. Direct from a critically-acclaimed run in London, this incredible theatrical experience pushes the limits of the human voice.

Riverdance (Three Nights!) – February 27-March 1

The international Irish dance phenomenon is back by popular demand in Riverdance - The 20th Anniversary World Tour. Drawing on Irish traditions, the combined talents of the performers propel Irish dancing and music into the present day, capturing the imagination of audiences across all ages and cultures in an innovative and exciting blend of dance, music, and song.

Switchback – Friday, March 16

The Grand will kick off St. Patrick's Day Weekend with a performance from the award-winning traditional Celtic music duo Switchback. Their music, featuring an exciting mix of mandolin, guitar and bass, reflects both their Irish heritage and Midwestern roots.

Red Hot Chilli Pipers – Thursday, March 22

The Red Hot Chilli Pipers are not just your run-of-the-mill bagpipers. Their set list features a fusion of traditional Scottish folk songs and blazing bagpipe versions of contemporary songs like Coldplay's "Clocks," Queen's "We Will Rock You," Deep Purple's "Smoke On the Water" and AC/DC's "Thunderstruck."

TAO: Drum Heart – Monday, April 2

TAO has sold out venues across the globe with their traditional Japanese Taiko drumming, eye-catching contemporary costumes, and incredible choreography. Their newest show, Drumheart, sold out every single show on their last North-American tour.

The Texas Tenors – Friday, April 6

Back by popular demand are The Texas Tenors, whose incredible vocal renditions of country, pop, and rock classics began on America's Got Talent and quickly skyrocketed to Emmy Award winning TV specials, Billboard Top 10 albums, and the best-selling artist residency in Branson, MO.

Kenny G – Thursday, April 26

The most iconic and best-selling musician of all time, Kenny G comes to The Grand for the very first time. In a career spanning over three decades and more than 20 albums, the Grammy Award winning saxophonist has fused elements of R&B, Pop, and Jazz to become one of the top artists in contemporary instrumental music.

KINKY BOOTS – Wednesday, May 2

Winner of six Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Score and Best Choreography, and featuring songs by pop icon Cyndi Lauper, KINKY BOOTS celebrates the friendships we discover and the belief that you can change the world when you change your mind. With direction and choreography by two-time Tony Award winner Jerry Mitchell and a book by four-time Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein, KINKY BOOTS is one of the best musicals of the last decade!

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