



PERFORMING ARTS  
FOUNDATION, INC.

2017-18  
SEASON

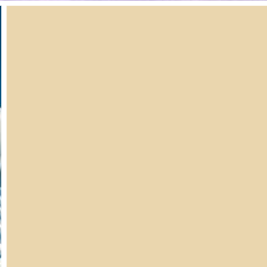
WINTER 2017  
NEWSLETTER

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR MAY 1ST SHOW



**RIVERDANCE:**  
COMING FOR 3  
NIGHTS!

*Learn more on page #4*



**WHAT'S  
HAPPENING**  
THE GRAND'S  
90TH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION

*Learn more on page #6*



# FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



On November 24, 1927, The Grand Theater opened its doors with the new film Dress Parade starring William Boyd, who would go on to much greater fame in later years as Hop-a-Long Cassidy. It's amazing to think that 90 years later, The Grand is still right here in the heart of Downtown Wausau, an arts and entertainment destination woven into the fabric of the community.

As we celebrate our 90th Anniversary, we certainly have much to be thankful for, as 2017 has been an incredible year: over 134,000 patrons came through our doors, we sold out a record 18 shows, were recognized for the first time as one of Pollstar's Top 200 Theaters in the World (#174

to be exact), and brought world-class artists from across genres to the stage of The Grand. We thank all of you who have supported us this year and made it one of our most successful years ever!

As we say goodbye to 2017, we are incredibly excited about what 2018 holds in store. From three nights of the international dance phenomenon Riverdance to the Tony Award winning Broadway hit Kinky Boots, plus a dozen other great shows, there are amazing performances to come. Plus, we'll be continuing to showcase emerging artists from across genres in our 10x10 Series, including the season-ending performance from the winner of our inaugural Wausau's Big Gig, Porky's Groove Machine!

The new year will also feature the continued expansion of our efforts to build engagement through the arts. You'll also have an opportunity to see the first performances from our first Tommy Ensemble, showcasing the best of high school musical theatre talent in the region. Our Community Engagement Series will offer opportunities to connect to the performances and artists in new and meaningful ways, while our Access For All and School Matinee Series will ensure that individuals of all ages get to experience the transformative power of the arts.

We're certainly excited for what is to come, but first as the year comes to a close, we'll be kicking off our annual fund drive. Even in the strongest of seasons, ticket revenue alone doesn't support our mission or operations, much less maintenance of our 90-year old theater, as eighty percent of ticket sales go to the costs of the show and the artists themselves. Your support helps us ensure that we can continue to engage the best artists, to create meaningful engagement opportunities, and to use the arts to 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.

For 90 Years, The Grand has been a fixture for the community because of your support, and we look forward to 90 more great years! Best wishes to you and yours for a wonderful holiday season!

We would not be The Grand without you. Our performances and outreach programs depend on you. Help keep the magic alive;

**DONATE  
TODAY**

Learn more at [grandtheater.org](http://grandtheater.org)



The entire season at The Grand 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

<b>Bill Blagg's Science of Magic</b>	Friday, January 26 -- SOLD OUT
<b>13-Story Treehouse</b>	Monday, February 12
<b>Guess How Much I Love You</b>	Thursday, February 15
<b>How I Became A Pirate</b>	Tuesday, March 13
<b>Go, Dog. Go!</b>	Thursday, April 5

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





## 3 REDNECK TENORS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 | 7:30PM

The 3 Redneck Tenors are unlike any other artists in the "tenor genre"—their musical comedy features down-home laughs with big city music! It's Larry the Cable Guy meets Pavarotti for a fantastic evening of music and comedy!

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. Critics rave "beautiful singing is combined with humor and costuming to create an entertainment experience that is unique, beautiful, funny, and unforgettable."

FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



## CALMUS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12 | 8:00PM

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 both audiences and critics with their charming stage presence, flawless technique, and entertaining presentations. The Grand is proud to partner with the WCDA to bring this classical cappella quintet to headline the conference, where the state's best vocal students will come to Wausau for a weekend of workshops and performances.

PRESENTING  
SPONSORS:



## Moscow Festival Ballet

*Romeo & Juliet | Carmen*

## MOSCOW FESTIVAL BALLET

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24 | 7:30PM

After a sold-out performance of *Swan Lake*, world-class ballet returns to The Grand as the Moscow Festival Ballet performs two of the greatest tragic masterpieces of all time, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Carmen* in this double-bill of stunning one-act ballets.

**SPECIAL PRE-SHOW EVENT -- The Tasting Barre returns!** Join The Grand for an exclusive pre-show reception, featuring a wine and whiskey tasting and hors d'oeuvres by Urban Street Bistro. Tickets available now for \$25.

FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



## THE MAGIC OF BILL BLAGG LIVE!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26 | 7:30PM

The Magic of Bill Blagg LIVE! brings grand-scale magic and illusions to The Grand for one show only! Critics and audiences alike rave about this incredible show that will have you rubbing your eyes in disbelief. 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! People will float in mid-air, vanish in the blink of an eye, and so much more! This is one show you can't afford to miss!

FEATURED  
SPONSORS:







## CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE: FLEETWOOD MAC'S RUMOURS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 | 7:30PM

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. Go back in time with this perfect recreation of an unforgettable classic album which remains one of rock's most loved, containing some of the band's biggest hits, including "Go Your Own Way," "Don't Stop," and "Dreams." It's one of the world's greatest classic rock albums performed live! This isn't a tribute band, just incredible musicians recreating a classic album: note for note, cut for cut.

PRESENTING  
SPONSORS:



FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



WAUSAU DAILY HERALD  
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



## GOBSMACKED!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | 7:30PM

Direct from sell out tours in London, Hong Kong and Edinburgh comes the amazing a cappella show GOBSMACKED!

Featuring three-time undefeated UK Beatbox Champion and current World Team Champion BALL-ZEE and an international cast of world-class vocalists, GOBSMACKED! is the best a cappella group ever to set foot on stage. This all-singing, all-beatboxing, all-awesome theatrical experience is one you won't want to miss!

PRESENTING  
SPONSOR:



FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



## RIVERDANCE: THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY WORLD TOUR | COMING FOR 3 NIGHTS

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1 | 7:30PM

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. Riverdance - The 20th Anniversary World Tour is composed by Bill Whelan, produced by Moya Doherty and directed by John McColgan, and returns directly to North America from a sold-out run across Europe and Asia.

FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



Behavioral Health Clinic  
OF WAUSAU



WAUSAU DAILY HERALD  
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## SWITCHBACK

FRIDAY, MARCH 16 | 7:30PM

Get your St. Patrick's Day weekend off to a rousing start with the award-winning duo, Switchback! Featuring mandolin, guitar, and bass, these talented artists mix traditional Irish music and original Americana songs to create a sound everyone will enjoy. It's American Roots and Celtic Soul with Switchback!

SPECIAL PRE-SHOW EVENT -- Celebrate St Patrick's Day at the Grand Theater with a traditional Irish feast catered by The Mint in the Greenheck Lounge before the night's show. Tickets available now for \$25.

FEATURED  
SPONSORS:







## RED HOT CHILLI PIPERS

THURSDAY, MARCH 22 | 7:30PM

It's a bagpipe rock show with the Red Hot Chilli Pipers! With a sound you will have to hear to believe, the Red Hot Chilli Pipers fuse traditional pipe tunes and contemporary anthems to create amazing covers and mash-ups; including 'Clocks' by Coldplay, 'We Will Rock You' by Queen, and a rock medley of Deep Purple's 'Smoke On The Water.' The night will also feature traditional folk songs such as, 'Flower of Scotland', 'Amazing Grace' and 'The Hills of Argyll' are remastered as well, Chilli style of course! You won't want to miss one of the "hottest" bands on the planet!

PRESENTING  
SPONSORS:



FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



## TAO: DRUM HEART

MONDAY, APRIL 2 | 7:30PM

Enthralling audiences in sold-out halls throughout the world, TAO brings a fusion of explosive Japanese Taiko drumming, contemporary costumes and eye-popping choreography to The Grand.

Their new show, DRUM HEART— features incredible athleticism and contemporary costumes combined with explosive Taiko drumming and innovative choreography. Critics rave that TAO is "stunning... extraordinary...unforgettable" and audiences agree, as every single show on TAO's last North American tour sold out! You'll want to act quickly to see this exhilarating group at The Grand!

PRESENTING  
SPONSORS:



FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



## THE TEXAS TENORS

FRIDAY, APRIL 6 | 7:30PM

Few vocal groups have captured the imagination of audiences across the globe like The Texas Tenors, and they'll bring their incredible harmonies to The Grand next April. From their start on America's Got Talent and with Emmy Award winning TV specials, Billboard Top 10 albums and the best-selling residency in Branson, the Tenors have truly become America's favorite new tenors. It's country, pop, rock and classics all rolled into one evening of fantastic music!

FEATURED  
SPONSORS:



## KINKY BOOTS

TUESDAY, MAY 1 - TICKETS AVAILABLE | 7:30PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 - SOLD OUT

KINKY BOOTS is Broadway's huge-hearted, high-heeled hit! Winner of six Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Score and Best Choreography, and featuring songs by pop icon Cyndi Lauper, this joyous musical celebration is about the friendships we discover, and the belief that you can change the world when you change your mind.

FEATURED  
SPONSORS:





# SPECIAL EVENTS

OTHER EVENTS THE GRAND IS PROUD TO BE A PART OF

## 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 continue the 10x10 Series, a concert series that brings emerging artists to the historic Grand Theater. Tickets are just \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door! Experience The Grand like never before!

Tickets are now on sale for these upcoming 10x10 Shows! Lost Lakes (2/2/18) and Sammy Miller and The Congregation (4/5/18).

## IT'S A VERY Joe.e CHRISTMAS & THE RETURN OF THE BROKEN TOY SHOW

### A VERY JOE.E CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 13, 2017 | JEM PRODUCTIONS  
SOLD OUT

Returning to The Grand for its fourth year, It's a Very Joe.e Christmas brings a night of holiday celebration benefiting 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 are invited. Tickets for this event are sold out.



### STATE CHORAL CONVENTION

JANUARY 12-13, 2018  
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 Calmus, hailed as "one of Germany's premier vocal ensembles."

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE GRAND

### THE GRAND THEATER'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

On Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1927, the Grand Theater opened its doors. Today, 90 years later, The Grand continues to bring the best of the performing arts to North Central Wisconsin.

All year long, The Grand will celebrate with community outreach opportunities, customer appreciation events, and the sharing of stories to connect the community to the theater's history and future.

Celebrate with us by sharing your own memories and stories of the Grand Theater. Visit our website at [www.grandtheater.org](http://www.grandtheater.org) for more information.

### THE NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN TOMMY ENSEMBLE

We are proud to collaborate with Overture Center in Madison and the Marcus Center in Milwaukee to bring the Tommy Awards to North Central Wisconsin. The program recognizes and honors excellence in high school musical theater across Wisconsin.

With 10 Central Wisconsin schools participating, this year The Grand has expanded the program to include the Central Wisconsin Tommy Ensemble, a premier performance ensemble featuring student performers from all across the region. This year's Ensemble features 12 talented performers from Wausau, Merrill, Stevens Point, Marshfield, and Eagle River. Ensemble members will spend the year building their technical singing, acting, and dancing skills, while having the opportunity to perform at the Grand Theater, the Overture in Madison, and more.





11th Annual December 8-10, 2017

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

Theatre tickets make great Christmas gifts!

Presented by Wausau Community Theatre

April 12-14, 2018

**JOSEPH**  
AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE GRAND THEATER 715-842-0988  
ONLINE AT WWW.GRANDTHEATER.ORG

June 14-16, 2018  
www.WausauCommunityTheatre.org

WCT

**RON WHITE**

THE GRAND SATURDAY APRIL 7 7:00PM

BE A 200 PROOF VIP AND MEET RON WHITE! GET INFO AT TATERSALAD.COM - FOR MATURE AUDIENCES

THE GRAND THEATER TICKET OFFICE, CHARGE BY PHONE AT 715-842-0988 OR ONLINE AT GRANDTHEATER.ORG

@THETATERSALAD @RON\_WHITE @RONWHITEOFFICIAL

**JUST ANNOUNCED!**

**JOHN ANDERSON**

Monday, April 23 at 7:30pm

Get your tickets today at the Grand Theater's Ticket Office!

FEATURED HITS: "Swingin'", "Money in the Bank", "Straight Tequila Night", "Wild and Blue", "Black Sheep", "Seminole Wind", "I'm Just an Old Chunk of Coal", "She Sure Got Away with My Heart", "When It Comes to You", "I've Got It Made", "I Wish I Could Have Been There", "Bend It Until It Breaks" & Many More.

*Loriline*

**KING OF KINGS**

THE GRAND THEATER  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST, 7:30 PM

**NOW ON SALE!**  
Tickets: 715.842.0988  
www.grandtheater.org

**\$54**





715-842-0988 | 888-239-0421  
Performing Arts Foundation, Inc.  
401 N Fourth Street  
Wausau, WI 54403-5420

## GIVE A MEMORY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON...

...with a gift certificate to the  
Grand Theater! It's a gift sure  
to delight!

Available at The Grand's Ticket Office.  
Good for up to three years.

## Coming to The Grand!

### December

- 2-3 Central Wisconsin School of Ballet:  
*The Nutcracker*
- 4-5 Wausau West Choir Concert
- 6 Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's  
Wild & Swingin' Holiday Party
- 8-10 Wausau Community Theatre:  
*A Christmas Carol*
- 13 It's a Very Joe.e Christmas - SOLD OUT
- 15 The John Altenburgh  
Christmas Extravaganza -  
LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE
- 21 Lorie Line: King of Kings

### January

- 5 3 Redneck Tenors
- 12 Calmus
- 12-13 WCDA State Choral Convention
- 24 Moscow Festival Ballet:  
*Romeo & Juliet and Carmen*
- 26 Aspirus Arts in Education:  
*Bill Blagg and the Science of Magic*
- 26 The Magic of Bill Blagg LIVE!
- 27 Wausau Events: Winterfest

### February

- 2 10x10 Series: Lost Lakes
- 9 Dennis DeYoung: The Grand Illusion  
40th Anniversary Album Tour
- 12 Aspirus Arts in Education:  
*The 13-Story Treehouse*
- 15 Aspirus Arts in Education:  
*Guess How Much I Love You*
- 16 Classic Albums Live -  
Fleetwood Mac's *Rumours*
- 23 Gobsmacked!
- 27-28 Riverdance

### March

- 1 Riverdance
- 10 CWSB: *Sleeping Beauty*
- 13 Aspirus Arts in Education:  
*How I Became a Pirate*
- 15 Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble -  
JUST ANNOUNCED
- 16 Switchback
- 18-19 Lamb of God Oratorio
- 22 Red Hot Chili Pipers
- 23 Vic Ferrari

### April

- 2 TAO: Drum Heart
- 5 Aspirus Arts in Education:  
*Go, Dog. Go!*
- 5 10x10 Series: Sammy Miller and  
The Congregation
- 6 The Texas Tenors
- 7 Ron White
- 12-14 Wausau Community Theatre:  
*Joseph and the Amazing  
Technicolor Dreamcoat*
- 17 St. Francis Xavier:  
*James and the Giant Peach*
- 19 An Evening with David Sedaris
- 23 John Anderson
- 26 Kenny G - LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

### May

- 1-2 KINKY BOOTS
- 4-5 CWSB: *Student Showcase*
- 12 Heidi's Dance Recital
- 19-20 DDH Dance Recital

### June

- 2-3 Wausau Academy of Dance
- 8 Beach Boys - SOLD OUT
- 14-16 Wausau Community Theatre:  
*The Little Mermaid*

Calendar is subject to change. Updates will be found on our website and social media.

**TICKETS  
AVAILABLE  
NOW**

**IN PERSON**  
The Grand Theater  
401 N Fourth Street  
Wausau, WI 54403

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**ONLINE**  
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