



DSI

THE GRAND THEATER

#### COME SEE HOW THE WORLD COULD BE









FAMILY SHOWS & SPECTACLES





# Bringing world-class performances to Wausau

It seems like the 2023/24 season just started, yet here we are again, ready to announce another exciting lineup at The Grand! The current season has certainly been a memorable one—a record 33 sellouts, recognition again as one of Pollstar's Top Theaters in the world, and many, many incredible artists on our historic stage.

We're sure you'll be just as excited about the 2024/25 season, which brings over 35 world-class performances to the stage. We are thrilled to welcome our best Broadway season ever, with the Wausau debuts of Tony Award-winning musicals Dear Evan Hansen, Hadestown, and Ain't Too Proud–The Life and Times of the Temptations, plus smash hits Pretty Woman, Cirque Dreams Holidaze, and The Simon and Garfunkel Story!

Beyond Broadway, there's certainly something for everyone: the world's greatest touring chamber orchestra, The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields; music greats including Ben Folds and Marty Stuart; comedy from Dena Blizzard and Whose Live Anyway?; plus great family shows, the return of some Wausau favorites, and so much more! Plus, as we lead up to our 100th Anniversary in 2027, we have exciting plans for the Second Century here at The Grand that we can't wait to share with you in the season ahead.

We are so grateful for the support of our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and of course patrons like you – it's your support that allows The Grand to thrive. We hope you enjoy the upcoming season and look forward to seeing you at The Grand!

Sean Wright, Executive Director

#### JUNE 5 Season subscription orders begin through the Ticket Office and online at grandtheater.org. Advance priority seating is assigned by best available and/or your preference. Refer to the center tear-out section of this brochure for details, and at grandtheater.org.

# **JULY 1**

### Select-your-seat subscription orders begin.

Season packages purchased through our website or Ticket Office starting July 1 include the option to choose specific seats (as available) for each show.

## JULY 9 Single shows on sale to the general public

online, by phone, and in person. This is our biggest ticketing day of the year. It's typical to see limited seats remaining for the most popular shows by the end of this week!

# Why subscribe?

### Subscriptions begin with just FOUR or more shows!

Savings up to 15%. Preferred priority seating. Pre-sale access to most add-on shows and outside promoter events. And more!



SEPTEMBER The Ozark Mountain Daredevils FRIDAY SEPT 13 • pg 8

Daniel O'Donnell FRIDAY SEPT 20 • pg 9

WHOSE LIVE ANYWAY? SATURDAY SEPT 21 • pg 10

OCTOBER

Leonid & Friends TUESDAY OCT 1 • pg 11 Little River Band FRIDAY OCT 4 • pg 12

Ben Folds TUESDAY OCT 8 • pg 13

Mania: The ABBA Tribute FRIDAY OCT 11 • pg 14

**Celebrating Meat Loaf** FRIDAY OCT 25 • pg 15

Sons of Mystro TUESDAY OCT 29 • pg 16

NOVEMBER Don McLean FRIDAY NOV 1 • pg 17

The Fab Four THURSDAY NOV 14 • pg 18

Terri Clark SATURDAY NOV 16 • pg 19

Dena Blizzard: I Love You, Get Away From Me! SATURDAY NOV 23 • pg 20 DECEMBER Dear Evan Hansen MONDAY DEC 9 TUESDAY DEC 10 • pg 21

**The John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza** FRIDAY DEC 13 • pg 22

**Cirque Dreams Holidaze** WEDNESDAY DEC 18 THURSDAY DEC 19 • pg 23

JANUARY 2025 HADESTOWN MONDAY JAN 6 TUESDAY JAN 7 • pg 24

Hyprov SATURDAY JAN 25 • pg 25

The Simon & Garfunkel Story THURSDAY JAN 30 • pg 26

FEBRUARY Dirty Dancing In Concert SATURDAY FEB 8 • pg 27

Pretty Woman: The Musical THURSDAY FEB 13 FRIDAY FEB 14 • pg 28

Ailey II SUNDAY FEB 16 • pg 29

I Am He Said: Celebrating Neil Diamond THURSDAY FEB 20 • pg 30

The Magic of Rob Lake SUNDAY FEB 23• pg 31 MARCH Academy of St. Martin in the Fields SATURDAY MAR 1 • pg 32

Yamato: The Drummers of Japan FRIDAY MAR 7 • pg 33

Legends of Country Rock FRIDAY MAR 14 • pg 34

Jazz at Lincoln Center: New Orleans Songbook FRIDAY MAR 21 • pg 35

**Listen To Her Heart: The Tom Petty Experience** SATURDAY MAR 22 • pg 36

**Red Hot Chilli Pipers** FRIDAY MAR 28 • pg 37

APRIL Classic Albums Live: U2's The Joshua Tree SATURDAY APR 5 • pg 38 Ain't Too Proud–The Life and Times of the Temptations TUESDAY APR 15 WEDNESDAY APR 16 • pg 39

**Step Afrika** TUESDAY APR 22 • pg 40

MAY Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives FRIDAY MAY 2 • pg 41

Invincible: A Glorious Tribute to MJ SATURDAY MAY 3 • pg 42

**Riverdance** WEDNESDAY MAY 14 THURSDAY MAY 15 • pg 43

**The Rush Tribute Project** SUNDAY MAY 18 • pg 44

These shows, which comprise the bulk of our mainstage season, qualify for subscriber discounts. Shows added to our season or presented by outside promoters are not eligible for subscription packages. See page 51 for a full calendar of shows and events announced as of June 2024.

# BROADWAY 2024/2025 SEASON **AT THE GRAND**

#### **DEAR EVAN HANSEN** DECEMBER 9 & 10

Declared "one of the most remarkable shows in musical theater history" by the Washington Post, DEAR EVAN HANSEN is the first musical to take a groundbreaking look at our complex, interconnected, and social media-filled lives.





#### HADESTOWN JANUARY 6 & 7

Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards® including Best Musical and the 2020 Grammy® Award for Best Musical Theater Album, HADESTOWN is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.

#### THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY **JANUARY 30**

The immersive concert-style theater show returns to The Grand following two sold-out performances! Using huge projection photos and original film footage, the SIMON show chronicles the amazing journey of the folk-rock duo.



#### PRETTY WOMAN: THE MUSICAL **FEBRUARY 13 & 14**

PRETTY WOMAN: THE MUSICAL based on one of Hollywood's most beloved romantic stories of all time, springs to life with a powerhouse creative team. The show will lift your spirits and light up your heart. Are you ready to fall in love all over again?

#### AIN'T TOO PROUD-THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS APRIL 15 & 16

AIN'T TOO PROUD is the electrifying smash-hit Broadway musical that follows The Temptations' extraordinary journey from the streets of Detroit to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, set to the beat of the group's treasured hits.



GAREUNKE



#### RIVERDANCE MAY 14 & 15

Celebrating 30 years, **RIVERDANCE** brings its magic to audiences around the world. This spectacular production rejuvinates the much-loved original show with new innovative choreography and costumes.









# LITTLE RIVER BAND

Bringing their vocal and musical energy along with great arrangements of their timeless classic hits, Little River Band creates new memories for the audience.

## TERRI CLARK

November 16

The multi-JUNO Award winner continues to captivate audiences with her line of chart-topping country hits.

## CIRQUE DREAMS: HOLIDAZE

#### December 18 &

Cirque Dreams: Holidaze dazzles with a brilliant and whimsical family holiday spectacular! This ultimate holiday gift is sure to put a twinkle in your eye.

## DIRTY DANCING IN CONCERT

ebruary 8

Enjoy the digitally remastered hit film like never before on a full-size cinema screen, with a live band and singers performing the film's iconic songs.

#### LISTEN TO HER HEART: THE TOM PETTY EXPERIENCE March 22

With spot-on renditions of Tom Petty's iconic music and passionate performances, Listen To Her Heart captures Petty's essence and spirit.

## CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE: U2'S THE JOSHUA TREE

Wausau favorite Classic Albums Live returns, this time to recreate one of the highest-selling albums of all time, note for note, cut for cut.

## INVINCIBLE: A GLORIOUS TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL JACKSON

Celebrate the life and times of Michael Jackson with your favorite greatest hits songs and dances. *Invincible* will delight audiences of all ages!



# **Behavioral Health Clinic**

# 2024/25 FAMILY SERIES

The Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series presents five family-friendly shows with discounted kids tickets available so that patrons of all ages and all families can enjoy the arts!



SONS OF MYSTRO OCTOBER 29 Brothers Malcom and Umoja use violins to interpret everything from reggae to pop to their own creations!



THE FAB FOUR: USA MEETS THE BEATLES NOVEMBER 14 Undoubtedly the Ultimate Beatles Tribute, The Fab Four bring note-for-note renditions of the iconic band's hits.



THE MAGIC OF ROB LAKE FEBRUARY 23 Rob Lake's mind-blowing original illusions are presented on an awe-inspriring scale, sure to dazzle and entertain.



YAMATO: THE DRUMMERS OF JAPAN MARCH 7 The Japanese Taiko drumming group create explosive sound with infectious energy and joy.



STEP AFRIKA APRIL 22 Blending African American fraternities/ sororities dance types with traditional West and Southern African dances.

SHARE THE STAGE WITH EMERGING ARTISTS

# 10×10 SERIES 2024/2025 SEASON



#### THE TWO TRACKS SEPT 17, 2024 | COUNTRY/FOLK

The band's work traverses emotional and natural images of American life. Every arrangement highlights the direct connection between song and listener.

# BRASS QUEENS

This female-led, New York-based brass band's signature sound sits right at the intersection of the Big Apple and the Big Easy.





#### SISTER WINCHESTER NOV 12, 2024 | BLUES/ROCK

This Wisconsin-based, small-town sister duo showcases vocal harmonies and a mix of influences from rock, blues, and folk.

# MARIELLE KRAFT

Self-taught singer-songwriter Marielle Kraft displays craftmanship beyond her years through salient detail, raw emotion, and poignant word choice.



# PLUS THREE MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED!

#### General admission tickets just \$10 in advance.

Single tickets to each of the 10x10 Series shows will be available to purchase starting July 9, 2024. Please contact The Grand's Ticket Office for more information.

# FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$35

With eight albums selling over 2 million copies apiece and worldwide hits like "Jackie Blue" and "If You Want To Get To Heaven" still in regular classic rock radio rotation, the Ozark Mountain Daredevils have come a long way from the Missouri bars and porches where their music was born. Now, after five decades as one of the most decorated countryrock bands of all time, the Ozark Mountain Daredevils are out on their "When It Shines" farewell tour. This final tour promises an electrifying experience, showcasing the band's classic hits, fan favorites, and a retrospective journey through their illustrious career.

PRESENTING SPONSORS:



FEATURED SPONSORS:

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# FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

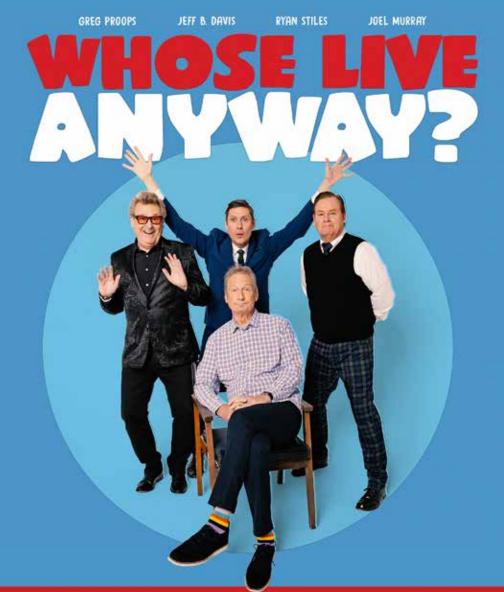
7:00 PM | STARTING AT \$50

You've watched his incredible specials on PBS for years and now you can see famed Irish singer Daniel O'Donnell perform live at The Grand for the first time! The Donegal-based singer is one of the most prolific and successful recording artists in the UK charts. O'Donnell is the only artist in the world to score a hit in the UK album charts every year since 1988 – an unprecedented and unbroken 35-year span that has outshone everyone from Michael Jackson and Madonna, to U2 and the Rolling Stones. He has been inducted into Ireland's Music Hall of Fame, and received multiple Entertainer of the Year/Person of the Year Awards in Ireland and the UK – to mention but a few of the many accolades earned by this charming, one-of-a-kind performer.

DANEL O'DONNELL Om Jour

PRESENTING SPONSOR:





THE HILARIOUS SONGS AND IMPROV COMEDY YOU LOVE ... LIVE! FEATURING MUSICAL DIRECTION BY LAURA HALL

# SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$40

The current cast members of the Emmy-nominated TV show Whose Line Is It Anyway? come to The Grand with their new improv tour: WHOSE LIVE ANYWAY? A returning Wausau favorite, this 90-minute show of hilarious improvised comedy and song is all based on audience suggestions. Cast members Ryan Stiles, Greg Proops, Jeff B. Davis, and Joel Murray will leave you gasping with the witty scenes they invent before your eyes. Audience participation is key, so bring your suggestions and you might be asked onstage! WHOSE LIVE ANYWAY? showcases some of the improv games made famous on the long-running TV show as well as exciting new ones, featuring musical direction by Laura Hall. All ages are welcomed, but please note that some "PG-13" language will be used during the performance.

PRESENTING SPONSORS:









# TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$35

Few shows garnered as much buzz at The Grand as Leonid & Friends did with its debut concert last year. Prepare to be amazed again by the authentic sound of this Chicago tribute band with multiple sold-out U.S. tours under its belt and hundreds of thousands of online fans. Leonid & Friends astound live audiences with their uncanny ability to capture the spirit, musicality, and fire of American supergroup Chicago. Comprised of the finest musicians in Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus, Leonid & Friends replicate the band's complex arrangements note for note. It started in 2014, when Leonid Vorobyev gathered some fellow musicians in Moscow to record a video of them playing his favorite Chicago tune, "Brand New Love Affair," and the YouTube video went viral around the world. Along with the fantastic songs by Chicago, you'll hear hits from Earth, Wind and Fire, Steely Dan, and more.

> PRESENTING SPONSORS:





FEATURED 97.9 WSPT



# Little River Band

# FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$50

PRESENTING

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The Eagles founding member, the late Glenn Frey, knew what he was saying when he dubbed Little River Band "the best singing band in the world." Little River Band has claimed their place as one of the great vocal bands of the 70s and 80s with chart-topping hits including "Reminiscing," "Lady," "Cool Change," "Lonesome Loser," "Take It Easy On Me," and many more! With worldwide album and CD sales now topping 30 million, they bring their vocal and musical energy along with great arrangements to their timeless classic hits. Their worldwide album, CD, and digital downloads amass to more than 350 million. LRB continues to deliver distinctive harmonies and vocal abilities under the direction of 41-year LRB veteran, lead vocalist and bass player Wayne Nelson. Join the Little River Band for a night of fantastic music, memories and more.

SUN

FFATURED

SPONSORS:

#### 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$45

UESDAY OCTOBER

Ben Folds is widely regarded as one of the major music influencers of our generation. The Emmynominated singer-songwriter-composer has created an enormous body of genre-bending music that includes his early success with Ben Folds Five, whose acerbic, genre-bending take on piano pop helped define an entire era of alternative rock. For the past three decades, he's toured as a pop artist, releasing multiple solo albums, and numerous collaborative records while also performing with some of the world's greatest symphony orchestras.

EN FOLDS

PAPER AIRPLANE REQUEST TOUR

A best-selling author and podcast host, Ben also composes for film, tv and theatre, guest stars in films and TV, and serves as the Artistic Advisor to the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.











#### FROM LONDON'S WEST END



50th ANNIVERSARY TOUR

"Close yo<mark>ur eyes</mark> and it could have been ABBA"

\*\*\*\* Sky News \*\*\*\*\*

# FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$35

The world's number one touring ABBA tribute returns to The Grand for another stellar concert party. Featuring an extraordinary cast of musicians and performers, Mania: The ABBA Tribute delivers an authentic, unforgettable tribute to the legendary Swedish band. Stunning visuals, energetic choreography, and impeccable musicianship combine to recreate the magic of ABBA's music in all its glory. From "Dancing Queen" to "Waterloo," "Mamma Mia" to "Take a Chance on Me," the band performs all of ABBA's greatest hits with passion and precision, transporting you back to the joyful disco era of the 1970s. Mania has toured in over 35 countries to sellout crowds, and their electrifying performances bring back fans every year! If you're looking for a reason to party, reminisce, or simply soak in the best music ever, reserve your seat now!







THE ONLY SHOW OFFICIALLY ENDORSED BY MEAT LOAF!



### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$35

This stunning concert is the only authentic reimagining of the legendary Meat Loaf and Jim Steinman songbook, performed brilliantly by world-class alumni of Meat Loaf's official band, The Neverland Express – the same musicians who brought his musical visions to life both in the studio and on stages around the world.

American Idol winner Caleb Johnson has established his legitimacy as the premier lead vocalist for this timeless music through his powerful interpretations and furiously electrifying stage presence. Led by Meat Loaf's longtime producer/ music director/ guitarist Paul Crook alongside fellow alumni John Miceli (drums), Randy Flowers (guitar), Lyssa Lynne (female lead/ backing vocals) and Danny Miranda (bass), the band and Caleb perform a curated setlist of Meat Loaf's best-loved classics such as "Bat Out of Hell," "Paradise by the Dashboard Light," "I Would Do Anything For Love," and more! As a Halloween season bonus, the show includes hit songs from *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, in which Meat Loaf starred as luckless delivery driver Eddie and sang the showstopper "Hot Patootie, Bless My Soul."

> PRESENTING SPONSORS:



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PART OF THE Behavioral Health Clinic: FAMILY SERIES

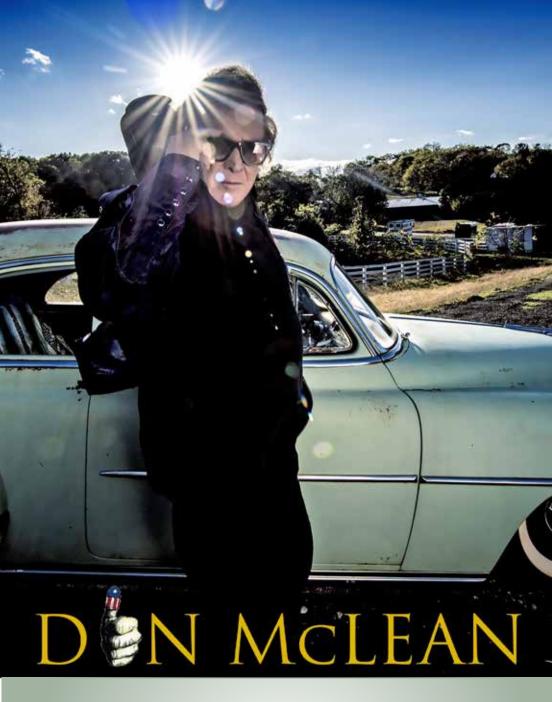


# **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29**

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$20

Rising stars in the music world, Sons of Mystro will fill The Grand with exciting modern sounds and charisma that will have all ages jumping in their seats! Critics hail brothers Malcom and Umoia as "innovators of sound" and "masters of musical fusion." Together, they use their violins to interpret reggae classics, American pop songs and their own creations. Accompanied by a talented DJ and a powerhouse drummer, the Sons of Mystro create an awe-inspiring and emotional experience for their audience. The strings of their violins resonate with passion, delivering a performance that is both technically masterful and emotionally resonant. Their mentors, the acclaimed Black Violin duo, rave that "Sons of Mystro are an innovative musical force that is ready to take the world by storm."





# FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$40

Join us to hear a true music legend when Don McLean returns to The Grand after a sold-out show in 2019! For over 50 years, Don McLean has established himself as one of America's most enduring singersongwriters, forever known for classic hits like "Vincent (Starry Starry Night)," "Crying," and one of the biggest songs of the century "American Pie." Still writing and recording music to this day, McLean presents a night of classic hits performed by a master of his craft.









**Behavioral Health Clinic** FAMILY SERIES

PART OF THE



# The Best Beatles Show in The World" - LA Times

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$35

It's a night for Beatles fans of all ages with The Fab Four- The Ultimate Tribute, featuring their all-new show celebrating The Beatles' first visit to the USA. You'll hear performances from the Ed Sullivan show and the Meet The Beatles album, as well as the Beatles' greatest hits of every era, all from a group of musicians who will make you think you're seeing the real thing and rockin' with John, Paul, George and Ringo! Come see why this Emmy Award-winning, loving tribute has amazed audiences around the world.

18 | GRANDTHEATER.ORG

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# SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$40



Country superstar Terri Clark hits the stage of The Grand for a night of incredible hits! From humble beginnings playing for tips at Tootsie's Orchid Lounge in Nashville to holding the honor of being the only Canadian female member of the Grand Ole Opry, Terri Clark has solidified her place in the history books of country music. The multi-JUNO Award winner boasts over 5 million albums sold, 13 top ten singles including six number ones! With hit singles like "Better Things To Do," "Poor Poor Pitiful Me," "Girls Lie Too," "Northern Girl," and "I Just Wanna Be Mad," this will be a night of great country you'll aways remember.



PRESENTING SPONSORS:





# SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

UENA BLIZZARD

One Funny Mother comedian Dena Blizzard's new show "I Love You, Get Away From Me!" is a three generation comedy show about finding the funny in life's transitions with Dena's mom, Diana, and her son, Dean. Whether it's becoming a widow at 75, divorcing and empty nesting at 50 or trying to act like a grown up at 23...there's plenty to laugh (or cry) about. I Love You, Get Away From Me is perfect for anyone starting over, going through some sh\*t or just wants everyone to GET AWAY FROM HER!











# MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 • 7:30 PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 • 7:00 PM

PART OF THE BROADWAY AT THE GRAND SERIES

STARTING AT \$75

Declared "one of the most remarkable shows in musical theater history" by the Washington Post, DEAR EVAN HANSEN is the first musical to take a groundbreaking look — from the point of view of both the parents and young people — at our complex, interconnected, and social media-filled lives.

Evan Hansen is a high school student who always feels like he's on the outside looking in. Evan finally gets what so many of us are searching for the chance to finally fit in. What follows is a poignant, funny, and powerful musical about how even though it can be hard, we can find each other and ourselves—along the way.

Including some of the most iconic musical theatre songs from the last decade, including "You Will Be Found," "Waving Through A Window," and "For Forever," DEAR EVAN HANSEN features an uplifting score by the Tony, Grammy, and Oscar winning team behind *The Greatest Showman* and *La Land*, Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, and a book by Tony Award-winner Steven Levenson.









# The Altenburgh CHRISTNAS EXTRAVAGANZA

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$45

Johnny's back for the holidays to fill The Grand's stage with some of the finest and most fun musicians around the state. Nothing says Christmas in Wausau like John Altenburgh's Christmas Extravaganza. With years of sold-out shows, this true Wisconsin tradition has long been the hottest holiday ticket in town. And with an all-star lineup, it's a night of powerful jazz, blues, rock, gospel, and holiday standards, all performed with a local flair that leaves audiences filled with Christmas spirit.



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ANET

PRESENTING SPONSORS:



FEATURED SPONSORS: Greenhed



RANDY



# WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18 • 7:30 PM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19 . 7:30 PM

STARTING AT \$55

CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE dazzles with a brilliant and whimsical family holiday spectacular. As the longest running cirgue holiday theatrical event, this annual tradition wraps a Broadway-style production around an infusion of contemporary circus arts. As lights dim and the music swells, audiences will have visions of sugarplums dancing in their heads as a fantastical cast of holiday storybook characters come to life on stage. With an original musical score, twists on holiday classics sung live, and with new sets, scenery, and storylines, this ultimate holiday gift for the entire family is sure to put a twinkle in your eye!

> PRESENTING SPONSOR:



Holin



# NINNER B TONY AWARDS EST MUSICAL

COME SEE HOW THE WORLD COULD BE

HADES

# THE MYTH. THE MUSICAL

HUSHC, LITRIES & BOOK BY ANAIS MITCHELL

BEVELOPED WITH & DIRECTED BY

PART OF THE BROADWAY AT THE GRAND SERIES

# MONDAY, JANUARY 6 • 7:30 PM TUESDAY, JANUARY 7 • 7:00 PM

STARTING AT \$75

Welcome to HADESTOWN, where a song can change your fate. Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards including Best Musical and the 2020 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album, this acclaimed new show from celebrated singersongwriter Anaïs Mitchell and innovative director Rachel Chavkin (Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812) is a love story for today... and always.

HADESTOWN intertwines two mythic tales — that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone — as it invites you on a hell-raising journey to the underworld and back. Mitchell's beguiling melodies and Chavkin's poetic imagination pit industry against nature, doubt against faith, and fear against love. HADESTOWN is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.





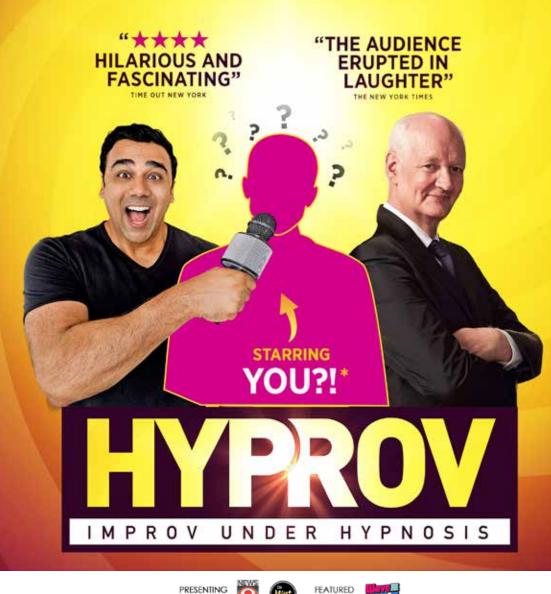


# SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

The 90-minute live show combines hypnosis and improv – two art forms that have mystified and entertained fans, skeptics and everyone in between worldwide – for a totally unique comedy experience that The Times of London declared "a celebration of the human imagination." Your evening begins with world renowned hypnotist Asad Mecci welcoming 20 volunteers\* on stage to be hypnotized. The most receptive to hypnosis then join Colin Mochrie (Whose Line is it, Anyway?) to improvise the rest of the show, while hypnotized. In the hands of two experts, and solely crafted from the volunteers' uninhibited, unconscious minds and audience suggestions, each show is an entirely original and completely unforgettable theatrical experience. Whether in the audience or on stage performing, get ready to have the time of your life!

\*Participation is completely voluntary



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"AUTHENTIC & EXCITING"

# THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

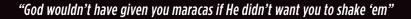
7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$40

Returning to The Grand after two sold-out shows, The Simon & Garfunkel Story is a critically-acclaimed, concert-style theatre show about two boys from Queens, New York who became the most successful music duo of all time. Using state-of-the art video projection, original film footage, incredible lighting, and a live band, this moving and powerful show features all the hits: "Mrs Robinson," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "Homeward Bound," "Scarborough Fair," "The Sound Of Silence," and more!

PRESENTING SPONSOR:







IN CONCERT



# **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$35

Audiences are loving DIRTY DANCING IN CONCERT, the classic film's first live film-to-concert experience. Enjoy the digitally remastered hit film like never before on a full-size cinema screen, with a live band and singers performing the film's iconic songs. With a soundtrack that marked a generation, DIRTY DANCING IN CONCERT promises to bring a thrilling new and unique experience to the 1980s classic. Directly following the film, the band and singers throw an encore party that takes you back to the time of your life as you sing and dance along to your favorite *Dirty Dancing* songs. Immerse yourself in the timeless romance and experience one of the most memorable movies of the past 35 years - now live!

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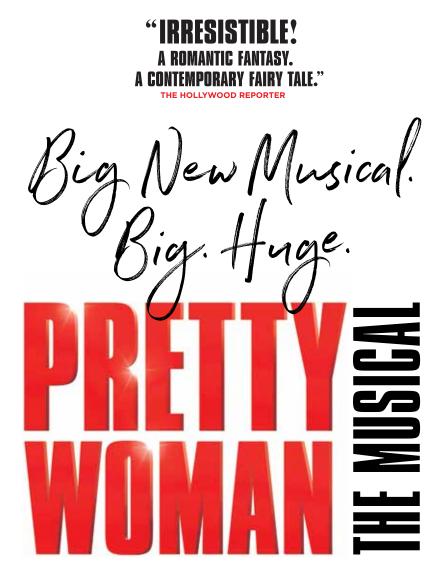
PRESENTING SPONSOR:











# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13 • 8:00 PM FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 • 7:00 PM

STARTING AT \$75

**PRETTY WOMAN: THE MUSICAL**, based on one of Hollywood's most beloved romantic stories of all time, springs to life with a powerhouse creative team led by two-time Tony Award®-winning director and choreographer Jerry Mitchell (*Hairspray, Kinky Boots, Legally Blonde*). **PRETTY WOMAN: THE MUSICAL** features an original score by Grammy winner Bryan Adams and Jim Vallance ("Summer of '69", "Heaven"), and a book by the movie's legendary director Garry Marshall and screenwriter J. F. Lawton. **PRETTY WOMAN: THE MUSICAL** will lift your spirits and light up your heart. "If you love the movie, you'll love the musical!" (BuzzFeed News). Are you ready to fall in love all over again?





Associated Bank

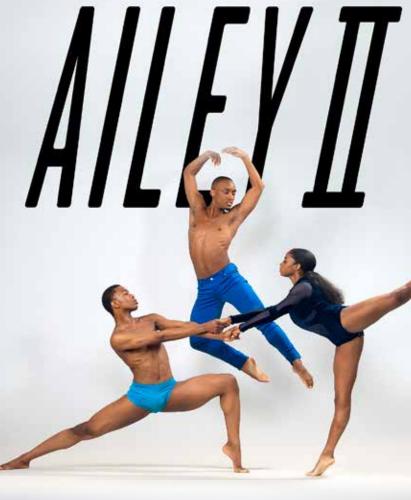
FEATURED

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PRESENTING

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#### THE NEXT GENERATION OF DANCE FRANCESCA HARPER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

7:00 PM | STARTING AT \$35

For more than 50 years, Ailey II – The Next Generation of Dance has merged the spirit and energy of the country's finest early-career dance talent with the passion and creative vision of today's most outstanding and emerging choreographers. Founded by Alvin Ailey in 1974, this universally renowned company embodies his pioneering mission to establish an extended cultural community that provides dance performances, training, and community programs for all people. Under the leadership of Sylvia Waters, who served as artistic director for 38 seasons, Ailey Il flourished into one of the most popular modern dance companies, combining a rigorous touring schedule with extensive community outreach programs. Today, with Artistic Director Francesca Harper at the helm, she brings fresh perspectives to Mr. Ailey's legacy, while nurturing new creative voices and propelling the company forward.

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



# MATT VEE & THE KILLER VEE ELEBRATE THE MUSIC OF DIAM I am... He said

# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

This celebration of the amazing musical icon, Neil Diamond, is selling out shows across the Midwest! Matt, Jeff and Tommy Vee, nephew and sons of the legendary Bobby Vee, respectively, come together with an all-star band to celebrate the music from the timeless catalog of Neil Diamond. With songs like "Cracklin Rosie," "Song Sung Blue," and "Sweet Caroline," Neil Diamond sold over 100 million records worldwide with music that became the soundtrack to one generation after another, spanning five decades "This is not a tribute show," Tommy Vee says, "This is a celebration of an amazing musical icon we all love."

> "Our audience loved the show... Matt is the perfect Neil Diamond, and the band was killer. So good, so good, so good!"

(Big Top Chautauqua)

PRESENTING SPONSOR:





**"ROB LAKE** HAS TURNED THE **ILLUSIONIST GAME ON ITS HEAD**"

-USA TODAY

#### **"A TRULY** MAGICAL **JOURNEY**" -Los Angeles Daily News



PART OF THE

**Behavioral Health Clinic** FAMILY SERIES

# THE MAGIC

# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 7:00 PM | STARTING AT \$35

Rob Lake is one of the biggest-selling magicians touring today and he comes to The Grand for the first time! From his aweinspiring vanishing acts to levitating objects, Rob Lake has mastered the art of grand illusions, mind-boggling sleight of hand and mesmerizing storytelling. The America's Got Talent 2018 finalist — named "World's Greatest Illusionist" by NBC dazzles audiences with his lavish sets, stunning lighting and captivating music in an immersive experience not to be missed!

PRESENTING SPONSORS:









# ACADEMY of ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS Bruce Liu, Piano

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 1 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

Don't miss this rare opportunity to experience a live performance of one of the finest, most highly esteemed chamber orchestras in the world. Based in London, the Academy of St Martin in the Fields (ASMF) is renowned for fresh, brilliant interpretations of the world's greatest orchestral music. Since its formation in 1958, unrivalled live performances and a vast recording output — including the 1969 best-seller Vivaldi's Four Seasons and the soundtrack to the Oscar-winning film Amadeus — have given the orchestra an enviable international reputation for its distinctive, polished, and refined sound.

Academy of St Martin in the Fields is joined by the first prize winner of the 2021 Chopin Piano Competition Bruce Liu on this limited spring tour in the U.S. Liu will perform **Mozart's** Piano Concerto No. 9 "Jeunehomme" or "Jenamy." Named by Alfred Brendel as "one of the greatest wonders of the world," Mozart's concerto is filled with surprises, beginning right at the outset by the second bar, and richly entwining the soloist and orchestra. Known for years as "Jeunehomme," it was revealed in 2003 that the mysterious identity was Victoire Jenamy, the pianist and daughter of the dancer/choreographer Jean-Georges Noverre.

The performance in Wausau also will include **Copland's** Quiet City, **Adams'** Shaker Loops, and **Hayden's** Symphony No. 29.

#### PRESENTED BY THE CHESTER L. SUSKI ARTS FUND





# THE DRUMMERS OF JAPAN

PART OF THE Behavioral Health Clinic FAMILY SERIES

## FRIDAY, MARCH 7 7:30 PM L STARTING AT \$39

After a sold-out show in 2023, Yamato returns to The Grand! For over 25 years, Yamato's acclaimed performances of Japanese Taiko drumming have captivated millions of people across the globe. They've brought their thunderous music, incredible athletic ability and talented showmanship to 54 countries in over 3,500 performances! Their new show "Hito no Chikara" - The Power of Human Strength, will leave you exhilarated by the spectacular, high energy, and explosive performance. But they do not simply make their Taiko drums explode with sound; they also produce delicate music that provides the listener with a palette of meticulously crafted music. YAMATO is sometimes intense, sometimes sad, sometimes comforting, and in the next moment comical. It's an amazing experience for the whole family!

PRESENTING SPONSORS:







# LEGENDS COUNTRY ROCK

PurePrairie League



Just Remember I Love You • Two Lane Highway You Are the Woman • Mexico • Strange Way Let Me Love You Tonight • Amie Falling In & Out of Love • and many more

# FRIDAY, MARCH 14

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$35

It's a night of classic hits as Pure Prairie League and Firefall take the stage to perform their iconic songs. Legends of Country Rock treats you to some of the biggest hits of that golden era of 1970s music, including timeless singles "Amie" and "Let Me Love You Tonight" from Pure Prairie League, and "You Are the Woman" and "Strange Way" from Firefall. With dozens of charting songs between them, you'll be singing along all evening with these true music legends.



# JAZZ AT LINGOLN GENTER PRESENTS **NEW ORLEANS SONGBOOK**



# THE SPIRIT OF MARDI GRAS FEATURING MILTON SUGGS, LUTHER ALLISON AND QUIANA LYNELL

# FRIDAY, MARCH 21 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents brings the soul of New Orleans and the spirit of Mardi Gras to the stage in Wausau. This evening of incredible music celebrates the composers and inspired songs of the Crescent City, the historic epicenter of jazz. From Jelly Roll Morton and Louis Armstrong to Ellis Marsalis and James Black, New Orleans has long been an apex of innovation and inspiration. Led by pianist Luther S. Allison with vocalists Quiana Lynell and Milton Suggs, New Orleans Songbook immerses audiences in the captivating, timeless spirit of this vibrant city.











# SATURDAY, MARCH 22

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$27

Listen To Her Heart: The Tom Petty Experience is a tribute band dedicated to honoring the legendary musician Tom Petty and his iconic music. With their spot on renditions and passionate performances, Listen to Her Heart captures the essence and spirit of Tom Petty's sound, taking audiences on a nostalgic journey through his incredible career. Formed by the Atlanta-based group of musicians Georgia Players Guild, they have quickly gained a reputation for their authentic sound and high-energy live shows. Each band member brings their unique musical expertise to the stage, resulting in a powerful and unforgettable performance that leaves audiences wanting more. From ballads like "Free Fallin" and "Wildflowers" to the energetic anthems like "American Girl" and "Refugee," Listen To Her Heart delivers a set list that showcases the breadth and depth of Petty's catalog, meticulously recreating the signature guitar riffs, soaring harmonies, and heartfelt lyrics that made Petty a rock and roll icon.

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PART OF THE COUNTY SPOTLIGHT SERIES

The Tom Petty Experience

PRESENTING SPONSOR:

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#### FRIDAY, MARCH 28

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$25

Bagpipes with attitude. Drums with a Scottish accent. A blazing rock band and show so hot, it carries its own health warning! It's Bagpipes. It's Rock. It's Bagrock. AC/DC meets the poet Robert Burns. Where rock anthems sit alongside the great tunes from the glens and the mountains of Scotland. It's The Red Hot Chilli PIPERS - (NOT the Peppers!) – a 9-piece ensemble consisting of pipers, guitarists, keyboards, and drummers -- who have been rocking the world from New York to Beijing with a passion for pipes and high musicianship that will leave you breathless. The band has four music degrees from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and all the pipers and drummers have played at the top level in bagpiping. This feel-good, heart-pounding concernt is an experience for all ages!









#### PERFORMS U2 - THE JOSHUA TREE NOTE FOR NOTE - CUT FOR CUT

CLASSIC

#### **SATURDAY APRIL 5**

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

They've played multiple sold out shows at The Grand, and this time Classic Albums Live returns to perform U2's 1987 album The Joshua Tree. One of the most acclaimed albums of all time and containing some of the band's biggest hits, including "Where the Streets Have No Name" and "With Or Without You," The Joshua Tree remains a powerful work of music to this day. As Classic Albums Live founder Craig Martin says: There's a reason why Joshua Tree won the Grammy. It's a sonic tarp that covered a generation. And made us feel united and strong. Imagine this: You've bought your tickets. And you're in seat... As the opening swirl of 'Where the Streets Have No Name' fill the venue, you feel the shiver of excitement sweep over you. You are connected to this album. And CAL is going to pay it the ultimate respect and perform it note for note - cut for cut.











## ATTHE SE DECOULD THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS



#### TUESDAY, APRIL 15 • 7:30 PM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16 • 7:00 PM

STARTING AT \$40

AIN'T TOO PROUD-THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS is the electrifying smash-hit Broadway musical that follows The Temptations' extraordinary journey from the streets of Detroit to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Nominated for 12 Tony Awards and the winner of the 2019 Tony Award for Best Choreography, it's a thrilling story of brotherhood, family, loyalty, and betrayal during a decade of civil unrest in America. Set to the beat of the group's treasured hits, including "My Girl," "Just My Imagination," "Get Ready," and "Papa Was a Rolling Stone," AIN'T TOO PROUD tells the unforgettable story of the legendary quintet that Billboard Magazine named the greatest R&B group of all time.





FEATURED SPONSORS:







Behavioral Health Clinic FAMILY SERIES

PART OF THE

A MUSICAL AND MOVEMENT-FILLED CELEBRATION OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT PERFECT FOR ENTIRE FAMILIES -Broadway World

STEP AFRIKA

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 22 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

This is the power of the performing arts. This incredible show will stay in your hearts forever. Step Afrika! performances are much more than dance shows. They integrate songs, storytelling, humor and audience participation. The blend of technique, agility, and pure energy makes each performance unique and leaves the audience with their hearts pounding.

Step Afrika! blends percussive dance styles practiced by historically African American fraternities and sororities; traditional West and Southern African dances; and an array of contemporary dance and art forms into a cohesive, compelling artistic experience. Founded in 1994 by C. Brian Williams, Step Afrika! is the first professional company dedicated to the tradition of stepping. Under Mr. Williams' leadership, stepping has evolved into one of America's cultural exports, touring more than 50 countries across the globe. Step Afrika! now ranks as one of the top ten African-American dance companies in the United States.









#### MARTY STUART AND HIS FABULOUS SUPERLATIVES

"One of the last remaining links to traditional country, roots music and the generation of greats like George Jones and Hank Williams"

#### FRIDAY, MAY 2 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$36

"If country music had a president, it would be Marty Stuart," famed documentarian Ken Burns once proclaimed. "He is the embodiment of the culture." You'll be taking an exhilarating deep dive into Americana when this Platnium five-time Grammy-winner, AMA Lifetime Achievement honoree, and Country Music Hall of Famer performs at The Grand with his revered, long-time band.

Stuart got his start in bluegrass legend Lester Flatts' band at age 13, and by 21 he was working in the studio and on the road with Johnny Cash. Over his 40-plus years as a solo artist, he has released more than 20 major albums, scoring platinum sales, hit singles, and just about every honor the industry could bestow. With a crossover sound of rockabilly, honky tonk, bluegrass and traditional country, Stuart continues to write keenly relevant music that honors country's rich legacy while advancing it into the future (sometimes with a touch of psychedelic rock). "I like to say that the most outlaw thing you can possibly do in Nashville right now is play country music," Stuart says. "There's still a few of us left who know how to do it."





#### INVINCIBLE A GLORIOUS TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL JACKSON

#### SATURDAY, MAY 3 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$30

Embark on a mesmerizing journey through the musical legacy of the King of Pop with INVINCIBLE, hailed by the Jackson family patriarch, Joe Jackson, as the #1 Michael Jackson tribute show in the world! You'll be immersed in the electrifying world of Michael Jackson's legendary artistry, where every step, every beat, and every note resonates with his iconic presence. With state-of-the-art visuals, dynamic choreography, and a powerhouse cast of talented performers, INVINCIBLE promises an evening of pure entertainment and nostalgia for all ages!



#### THE #1 MJ TRIBUTE SHOW IN THE WORLD!

Created, produced, and directed by Darrin Ross for RossLive Entertainment. The Michael Jackson Estate is neither affiliated, nor associated or connected with INVINCIBLE, a Glorious Tribute to Michael Jackson, nor has it endorsed or sponsored INVINCIBLE, a Glorious Tribute to Michael Jackson.









#### **30 BREATHTAKING YEARS** ONE WORLDWIDE PHENOMENON

GENE

PART OF THE BROADWAY AT THE GRAND SERIES

#### WEDNESDAY MAY 14 • 7:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 15 • 7:30 PM

STARTING AT \$70

Since **Riverdance** first emerged onto the world stage, its fusion of Irish and international dance and music has captured the hearts of millions worldwide. The Grammy award-winning music and the infectious energy of its mesmerising choreography and breathtaking performances has left audiences in awe and established **Riverdance** as a global cultural sensation.

To celebrate this incredible 30th year milestone, **Riverdance** will embark on a special anniversary tour, bringing its magic to audiences around the world. This spectacular production rejuvenates the much-loved original show with new innovative choreography and costumes and state of the art lighting, projection and motion graphics. And for the first time **Riverdance** welcomes "The New Generation" of performers, all of whom were not born when show began 30 years ago.

COMPOSED BY BILL WHELAN. PRODUCED BY MOYA DOHERTY. DIRECTED BY JOHN McCOLGAN

PRESENTING SPONSOR:











#### SUNDAY, MAY 18 7:00 PM | STARTING AT \$25

Combining skilled musicianship with commanding and charismatic performances, The RUSH TRIBUTE PROJECT (known as RTP to its fanbase) delivers the magic of Rush's famous live concerts, and they return to The Grand after a sold-out show last year! Covering all 40plus years of Rush's amazing career, RTP painstakingly recreates the sound and energy that made Rush one of the top-selling rock bands of all time. With a lineup that has performed Rush tribute shows for over a decade across North America and around the world, RTP delivers a concert experience for both casual fans and hardcore loyalists of the legendary rock power-trio.

## THE RUSSER TRIBUTE PROJECT

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8

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#### ASPIRUS HEALTH 2024/25 ARTS IN EDUCATION SERIES

The Performing Arts Foundation is dedicated to serving students and teachers in the region through educational and cultural experiences. The Grand brings curriculum-based matinee performances to students through the Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series, engaging kids in the arts, social studies, language arts, math, science, and more through the magic of live performances.

The Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series also supports the Jerry Awards in North Central Wisconsin, as well as the Central Wisconsin Jerry Ensemble. The Grand is proud to partner with Overture Center for the Arts in Madison to bring this program that encourages and honors excellence in high school musical theatre to our region. Now in its eighth year, the Central Wisconsin Jerry Ensemble furthers this mission by providing in-depth training and performance opportunities for local students in this premier performance group.

#### BRINGING 11 PERFORMANCES OF 7 SHOWS THIS SEASON!







USICAL

## HADLEY<br/>FAMILY FUND2024/2025<br/>ACCESS FOR<br/>ALL SERIES

As part of our continued commitment to engage the community, the Performing Arts Foundation created the Access For All program. This outreach program enables families and individuals to experience the performing arts at The Grand regardless of economic status. By partnering with community groups and organizations to distribute tickets to individuals and families facing challenging circumstances, we hope to make the performing arts truly accessible for all.



"We are proud to be able to support this program giving opportunities to the community to experience the performing arts. We are honored to give back to the community that supported our business and family for over 51 years."

-MARK & DEB HADLEY



Because EVERYONE deserves the opportunity to experience the power of the arts.



#### PUSHING THE PERFORMING ARTS FROM THE STAGE INTO OUR COMMUNITY

With a mission to ENTERTAIN, EDUCATE, and ENRICH North Central Wisconsin, The Grand is dedicated not only to making the arts more accessible to the community, but also to connecting people to the performing arts and each other.

Through our **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** series, we are pleased to offer:

- CONCERTS
- WORKSHOPS
- KARAOKE NIGHTS
- DANCE CLASSES
- FILMS and COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
- AND MUCH MORE all at no or low cost to our community.

We are pleased to showcase artists and voices from underrepresented communities through our Community Engagement series, as well as provide space for all patrons to come together and enjoy the joys of the performing arts and togetherness.



#### STAY TUNED FOR MORE ON THE FREE CONCERTS, WORKSHOPS, CLASSES, AND MORE COMING IN 2024/25.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, or visit grandtheater.org/programs/community-engagement/ for announcements!

## A CONSTRUCTION THE GRAND HEATER Second CENTURY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN We have exciting plans to share with you in the coming year!

48

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#### OUR MISSION

The Performing Arts Foundation ENTERTAINS, EDUCATES, and ENRICHES the community by offering world-class programming, which develops a lifelong appreciation for the arts in its citizens and enhances the quality of life in the region.

#### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO MAKE OUR MISSION POSSIBLE ...



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#### DON'T FORGET ABOUT THESE GREAT SHOWS COMING SOON, SUMMER 2024

Previously announced add-ons, not eligible for subscription

#### JUSTIN WILLMAN



#### THURSDAY, JULY 11 7:00 PM | STARTING AT \$35

Justin Willman will melt your brain while making you laugh. He's best known for his hit Netflix series The Magic Prank Show and Magic For Humans. You might also recognize him from his many TV appearances (The Tonight Show, The Today Show, Ellen, Conan...) or as a host (Baking Impossible; Cupcake Wars; Win, Lose or Draw...). Now see Justin work his magic live on stage during his new ILLUSIONATI tour that brings an interactive evening of magic, comedy and mind-control for the whole family!





#### THURSDAY, JULY 25

7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$42

The male a cappella sensation Straight No Chaser (SNC) has a massive fanbase and a long list of accomplishments including 2 RIAA Gold Certified albums, over 1.5 million concert tickets sold, and over 1 billion streams. Straight No Chaser is the real deal, the captivating sound of nine unadulterated human voices making extraordinary music that moves people in a fundamental sense... and with a fantastic sense of humor.

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 16 7:30 PM | STARTING AT \$40

Bored Teachers are back with all new material on their "The Struggle is Real!" Comedy Tour. For years, Bored Teachers Studios has brought a sense of humor to teachers around the world to ease their daily struggle in the classroom. They've amassed over a billion views on their viral videos on social media, with over 10 million followers Even non-teacher fans call it one of the funniest stand up shows they've ever seen!

#### GRAND THEATER CALENDAR

#### JULY 2024

- 1 Lyle Lovett & His Large Band
- 11 Justin Willman: ILLUSIONATI Tour
- 13 Blue Hearts Tribute
- 25 Straight No Chaser

#### AUGUST

16 Bored Teachers: "The Struggle is Real" Comedy Tour

#### SEPTEMBER

- 13 The Ozark Mountain Daredevils
- 17 10x10 Series: The Two Tracks
- 20 Daniel O'Donnell
- 21 Whose Live Anyway?
- 26-28 CenterStage Band and Show Choir

#### OCTOBER

- 1 Leonid & Friends
- 4 County Materials Spotlight Series: Little River Band
- 5 Rodney Carrington
- 8 Ben Folds
- 10 10x10 Series: Brass Queens
- 11 Mania: A Tribute to ABBA
- 12 Journey From The Heart
- 17 The Supertramp Tribute
- 19 Wausau Dance Theatre: Thriller
- 25 Celebrating Meat Loaf
- 29 Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series: Sons of Mystro
- 29 Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series: Sons of Mystro

#### NOVEMBER

- 1 Don McLean
- 2 The Prince Experience
- 9 11-11 The Party
- 12 10x10 Series: Sister Winchester

- 14 Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series: The Fab Four
- 16 County Materials Spotlight Series: Terri Clark
- 23 Dena Blizzard: I Love You, Get Away From Me!

#### DECEMBER

- 7-8 Central Wisconsin School of Ballet: The Nutcracker
- 9-10 Broadway at The Grand Series: Dear Evan Hansen
  - 13 The John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza
- 18-19 County Materials Spotlight Series: Cirque Dreams: Holidaze

#### **JANUARY 2025**

- 6-7 Broadway at The Grand Series: Hadestown
- 9 Stayin' Alive
- 25 Hyprov
- 30 Broadway at The Grand Series: The Simon & Garfunkel Story

#### FEBRUARY

- 7 Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series: Doktor Kaboom!
- 8 County Materials Spotlight Series: Dirty Dancing in Concert
- 13-14 Broadway at the Grand Series: Pretty Woman
  - 16 Ailey II
  - 20 I Am He Said: A Celebration of the Music of Neil Diamond
  - 23 Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series: The Magic of Rob Lake
  - 25 Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series: Goodnight Moon & The Runaway Bunny

#### MARCH

1 Chester L Suski Art Fund Presents: Academy of St. Martin in the Fields

- 7 Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series: Yamato: The Drummers of Japan
- 7 Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series: Yamato: The Drummers of Japan
- 13 10x10 Series: Marielle Kraft
- 14 Legends of Country Rock: Pure Prairie League & Firefall
- 19 Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series: Don't Let The Pigeon Drive The Bus
- 21 Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents: New Orleans Songbook
- 22 County Materials Spotlight Series: Listen To Her Heart: The Tom Petty Experience
- 28 Red Hot Chilli Pipers

#### APRIL

- 5 County Materials Spotlight Series: Classic Albums Live: U2's The Joshua Tree
- 15-16 Broadway at The Grand Series: Ain't Too Proud – The Life and Times of the Temptations
  - Wausau Lyric Choir: 'Music and the Mind'
  - 22 Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series: Step Afrika!
  - 22 Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series: Step Afrika!

#### MAY

- 2 Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives
- 3 County Materials Spotlight Series: Invincible: A Glorious Tribute to Michael Jackson
- 6 Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series: Charlotte's Web
- 14-15 Broadway at The Grand Series: Riverdance
  - 18 The Rush Tribute Project

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

## URAZD

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