GRAND THEATER WAUSAU

SPRING 2026 newsletter












EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SEAN WRIGHT

A spring full of shows and a summer of construction

It's going to be a very eventful 2026 at The Grand! From now until May, we've got an extremely busy schedule, bringing everything from legendary Broadway hits to music legends, some of the biggest comedy tours on the road today, shows for the entire family and more! And starting May 11, The Grand will be closed for six months…we know you have questions:

Q: Wait, The Grand is going to be closed this summer?
A: Yes, we'll close May 11 for six months of capital enhancements.

Q: Will there be a 2026-27 season and when will it be announced?
A: Absolutely, it will just start a bit later than usual, and feature the types of shows you've loved over the years, plus some new surprises. The new season lineup will be announced in early June as usual. Follow our various channels for details.

Q: What work is being done and how much does it cost?
A: The $17 million project will transform our historic theater, Great Hall, backstage, and spaces throughout the entire block, plus repair infrastructure, because the theater is nearly 100 years old!

Q: How can I get involved?
A: There are many ways to support this campaign, from the smallest donation to naming opportunities, visit www.grand100.org for details.

Q: How exciting is this for The Grand, the community, and entire region?
A: Incredibly exciting. This campaign and work will help set the path for the next century of our iconic theater, which serves the entire north-central region of Wisconsin, bringing some of the world's best artists to Wausau. We hope you are as excited about it as we are!



THE GRAND

GRAND THEATER WAUSAU

TICKETS AND INFO ONLINE
grandtheater.org
tickets.grandtheater.org

THE GRAND'S ASPIRUS TICKET OFFICE
Open: Mon-Fri 9:00 am-5:30 pm
Call: 715-842-0988 or 888-239-0421 toll-free
Visit: 401 N. Fourth St., Downtown Wausau

TEMPORARY TICKET OFFICE LOCATION DURING SECOND CENTURY CONSTRUCTION MAY 11-NOV 2 WILL BE ANNOUNCED THIS SPRING.

BUY ONLINE NOW:
Scan code to go directly to our ticketing pages

RICHARD THOMAS IN MARK TWAIN TONIGHT!

BY HAL HOLBROOK

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17

"UPROARIOUSLY FUNNY!"
— TIME MAGAZINE

"TWAIN IS BACK, AS FRESH AND FUNNY AND SNAPPY AND SNIPPY AS EVER."
- HARTFORD COURANT

Emmy-Award winning actor Richard Thomas brings to life "the nation's one true comic genius" (The New York Times) in *Mark Twain Tonight!*, written and originally performed by Hal Holbrook. Join the millions who have cheered for the legendary one-man show that's bursting with Twain's "uproariously funny" and "pungently wise" humor (Time Magazine). Richard Thomas most recently performed on Broadway in *Our Town*, on tour as Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, on Netflix's *Ozark*, and is beloved to generations as John-Boy Walton. Thomas is the first and only actor authorized to perform the play since the original. "There's something to make everybody laugh and something to make everybody go, 'Ouch,'" Thomas told The New York Times. "Twain has such a clear picture of what's terrific and what's ailing about America. And he hasn't lost his edge."

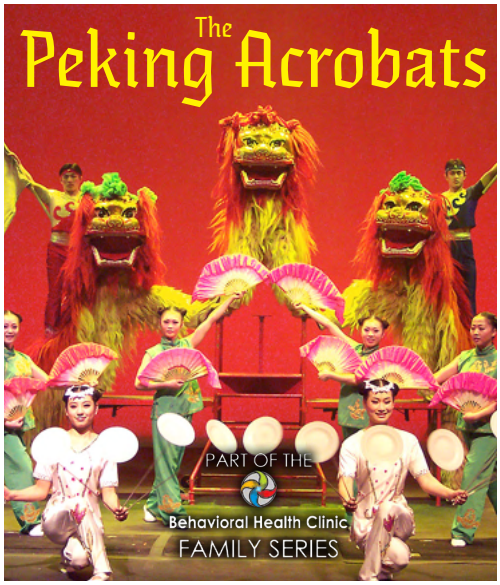




PART OF THE
Wheelers
WHEELERS CHEVROLET GMC
BROADWAY
SERIES



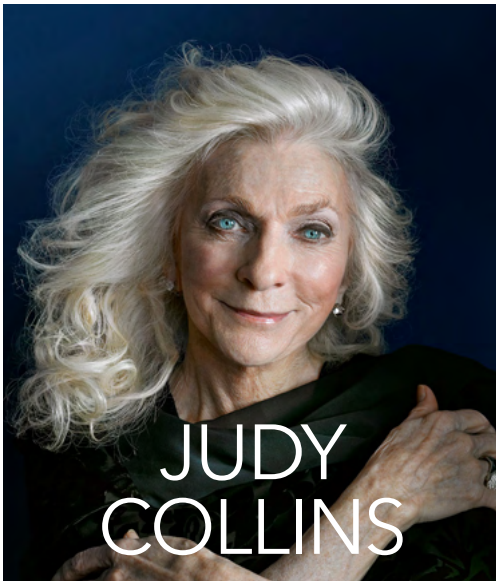
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

They perform daring maneuvers atop a precarious pagoda of chairs, and display their technical prowess at trick-cycling, precision tumbling, juggling, somersaulting, and gymnastics. They push the limits of human ability, defying gravity with amazing displays of contortion, flexibility, and control. And more! This awe-inspiring show combines time-honored Chinese music with high-tech special effects and acrobatic feats to create an exuberant entertainment event with the festive pageantry of a Chinese Carnival.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

The iconic voice of folk music, Judy Collins embodies five decades of music history, inspiring generations with her stunning vocals, luminescent presence, powerful songwriting, and commitment to social causes. Her classics like "Both Sides Now" and "Send in the Clowns" have earned her Grammy Awards and widespread acclaim. She remains a beloved and active figure in music, with her 55th album, *Spellbound*, earning a 2023 Grammy nomination for Best Folk Album.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: WSAW-TV



THURSDAY, MARCH 5

A night of *craic* (fun), *ceol* (music), and *traidisiún* (tradition). The Celtic Angels' impassioned homage to their beloved Emerald Isle will have you clapping your hands, wiping tears and stamping your feet. Revel in the raucous rhythms of the champion Celtic Knights Dancers. Smile to Irish traditional and contemporary tunes performed by the Trinity Ensemble and Celtic Angels singers.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: The Mint Cafe · FEATURED SPONSORS: NBC 12 · WSAU

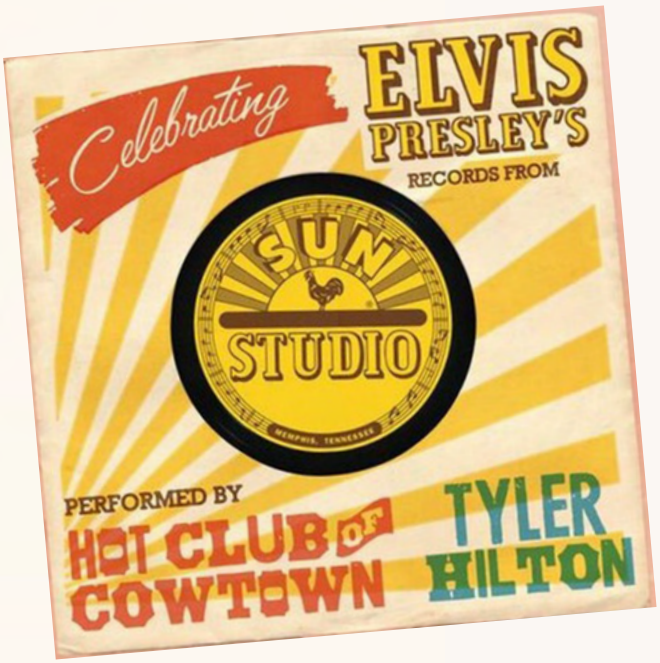
"An unforgettable night of music that blended VINTAGE CHARM with MODERN FLAIR. We couldn't stop tapping our feet the whole night."

-Broadway World



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

America's premiere hot jazz Western swing band joins with their ultra talented, super charismatic friend Tyler Hilton to channel early Elvis from the Sun Sessions in this concert of rock 'n roll history and Cowtown's joyful, virtuosic flair. A musician and actor, Hilton portrayed Elvis in the blockbuster biopic *Walk the Line*, and made numerous appearances in the CW hit *One Tree Hill*.





SUNDAY, MARCH 8 • 7:00 PM

The vocal wonders from Down Under bring their electrifying 30th Anniversary World Tour to Wausau after rave reviews and sold-out tours across Europe and Australia. Celebrated globally for their soaring harmonies, dynamic stage presence, and genre-defying performances, The Ten Tenors' special anniversary show features classical crossover, Neapolitan classics, and rock anthems, all delivered with their trademark Aussie charm and vocal brilliance.

PRESENTING SPONSORS: 7 WSAW-TV, Jefferson Street Inn & Event Center FEATURED SPONSOR: WSAU 550 am • 95.1 mx • 99.9 nx News • Talk • Sports



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 • 7:00 PM

The Celtic rock juggernaut returns to warm up your St. Paddy's Day spirit to HOT with their famously infectious music that will have everyone bouncing in their seats and jumping to their feets. Since appearing in the film *Titanic* (performing "Irish Party in Third Class"), Gaelic Storm has topped the Billboard World Chart six times and regularly headlines the largest Irish Festivals across the country. Don't miss their concert of genre-bending Irish rock mixed Celtic traditions, with special guest JigJam. ↓



PRESENTING SPONSOR: Jefferson Street Inn & Event Center FEATURED SPONSOR: Point



THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Feel the soul-stirring sounds of this Southern rock institution that has been captivating audiences since 1972. Experience this legendary concert, as the band delivers their timeless hits like "Heard It in a Love Song," "Can't You See," and "Fire on the Mountain." Original bandleader Doug Gray sees no end to what lies ahead for The Marshall Tucker Band, whose legacy is being carried forward by the man himself still making music on the road with "a lot of stories yet to tell."

PRESENTING SPONSOR: Jefferson Street Inn & Event Center FEATURED SPONSORS: NBC 2 WGLX Classic Rock

SHOWTIMES 7:30 PM EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

"A TRIUMPH" Time Magazine

"SMASHING" Newsweek

"BROADWAY'S MOST ELECTRIFYING SHOW" Entertainment Weekly

CHICAGO THE MUSICAL

TUESDAY, MARCH 3 • 7:30 PM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 • 7:00 PM

CHICAGO is still the one musical with everything that makes Broadway shimmy-shake: a universal tale of fame, fortune, and all that jazz, with one showstopping song after another and the most astonishing dancing you've ever seen. In the whirlwind of Chicago's Jazz Age, two of the Cook County Jail's most notorious murderesses—vaudeville star Velma Kelly and chorus girl Roxie Hart—become fierce rivals as they compete for headlines amidst a media frenzy.

Whether you're looking for your first Broadway musical, whether you've seen the Academy Award-winning film and want to experience the show live on stage, or whether you've seen it before and want to recapture the magic, CHICAGO always delivers! Broadway's longest-running musical has been razzle dazzling audiences for over 28 years, and after more than 10,000 performances, 6 Tony Awards, 2 Olivier Awards, and a Grammy, we're just getting started. **Come on, babe! Head to CHICAGO! We're hotter than ever.**



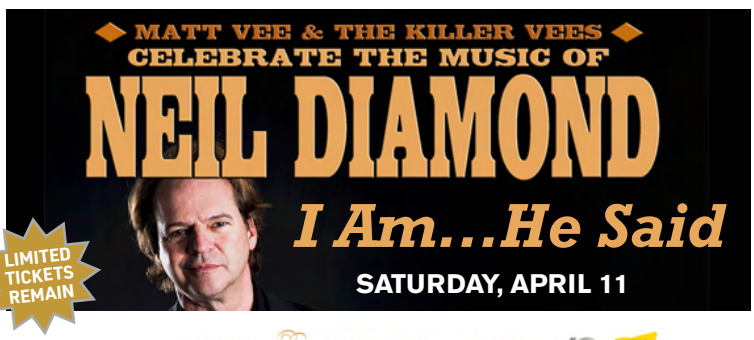
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Women of Americana

A Celebration of American Music

From Joan Baez and Bonnie Raitt to Alison Krauss, Brandi Carlile and Woody Guthrie

Thursday, March 26



Celebrate the soul of a nation through song with WOMEN OF AMERICANA featuring Cristina Vane and Brennen Leigh. In advance of the USA's semiquincentennial on July 4, 2026, this heartfelt celebration of early folk, gospel, and Western swing takes you on an exuberant journey through the roots of American music. Cristina and Brennen perform iconic songs by Woody Guthrie, Bob Dylan, John Prine, Lucinda Williams, Bonnie Raitt and more.

TICKETS NOW JUST $25 FOR THE 250TH

FEATURED SPONSORS:

SHOWTIMES 7:30 PM EXCEPT WHERE NOTED



Jason Petty & Gail Bliss

A Musical Tribute to Hank Williams & Patsy Cline

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

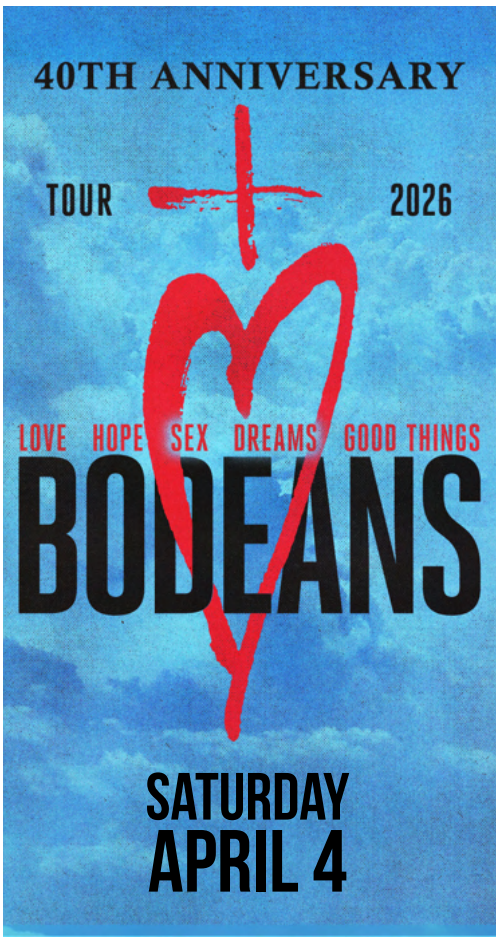
Two incredible performers pay tribute to beloved legends of country music: Hank Williams and Patsy Cline. Jason Petty began performing *Hank Williams: Lost Highway* in 1996 at the Ryman Auditorium and on Off-Broadway that won him an Obie Award. Gail Bliss played the legendary Patsy Cline in the national tour of *A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline,* and continued her portrayal of Patsy, endorsed by the Cline Estate, in Branson, Missouri, with "Patsy! A Worldwide Tribute to Patsy Cline." Backed by a live band, these entertainers bring to life iconic songs from music history.



SUNDAY, MARCH 22 • 7:00 PM

American Idol star Tristan McIntosh creates a stunning portrayal of Linda Ronstadt in the prime of her career. Supported by a superb band, Tristan's formidable vocals and stage presence transport you to a time when Ronstadt ruled the airwaves as one of the most popular female vocalists in music history. Hear smash hits "You're No Good," "When Will I Be Loved," "That'll Be The Day," "Blue Bayou," plus classic hits by Jackson Brown, Elvis Costello, Tom Petty, Neil Young, Warren Zevon, The Rolling Stones & more!

PRESENTING SPONSORS:



PRESENTING SPONSOR:

SOUL ASYLUM
ACOUSTIC

THURSDAY, APRIL 2 • 7:00 PM



Don't miss this rare opportunity to see SOUL ASYLUM's Dave Pirner and Ryan Smith perform an intimate, one-of-a-kind acoustic set. Grammy award-winning and multi-platinum selling rock band SOUL ASYLUM started in Minneapolis' punk scene, with their 1992 breakthrough album, *Grave Dancers Union*, featuring the international hits "Runaway Train," "Black Gold" and "Somebody to Shove." SOUL ASYLUM has released 13 original albums with multiple live albums and Greatest Hits collections. Their famous 1993 MTV Unplugged performance was released for the first time on vinyl as a coveted Record Store Day exclusive, and November 2025 also saw the 30-year-anniversary reissue of their *Let Your Dim Light Shine* album.

HOUGUM LAW FIRM, LLC

10x10 SERIES

THE GRAND



See nationally touring SINGER-SONGWRITERS and exciting emerging artists, with cabaret-style seating on the stage of the historic Grand Theater. General admission, ALL WITH TABLE SEATING, is **just $10** in advance, $15 at the door if available.

BEN MULWANA SOLD OUT
SOUL ROCK | FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

LESLIE MENDELSON
FOLK ROCK | TUESDAY, MARCH 10

DAMN TALL BUILDINGS
FOLK BLUEGRASS | FRIDAY, APRIL 10

JFDR NEW DATE
FOLK/ELECTRONIC | THURSDAY, APRIL 23

JUSTIN WILLMAN
ONE FOR THE AGES TOUR

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
7:00 PM

ALL NEW MATERIAL



Fresh off the release of *Magic Lover*—Netflix's first-ever magic comedy special—Justin Willman is hitting the road with an all-new tour. Willman is best known as the star and creator of Netflix's *Magic for Humans* and *Magic Prank Show*, where his signature mix of mind-blowing magic and relatable humor has made him a streaming favorite, a viral hit, and a fan favorite for families, comedy lovers, and skeptics alike. He's performed to packed theaters across the country, and made grown adults openly weep over a card trick. But the live show? That's where the real magic happens. ONE FOR THE AGES is Justin's biggest tour to date, an interactive, laugh-filled, sleight-of-mind experience that's smart, silly and astonishing. It's the kind of show you can bring your kids, your date, or your dad to. All ages. All generations. All-new. This is One for the Ages.

DALLAS STRING QUARTET

"THE END RESULT IS UNBRIDLED GLEE"
-VENTS MAGAZINE



THURSDAY, APRIL 16

DSQ returns to give you **STRINGS UNLEASHED: A ROCK FUSION EXPERIENCE.** This thrilling electric concert brims with popular rock songs performed on string instruments with DSQ's famous "Bach-meets-Bon-Jovi" flair. Your ears will be delighted, your feet will be tapping, and your eyes captivated by DSQ's dynamic stage presence. The violin and viola are accompanied by bass, guitar and drums for a super sonic classic rock experience with favorites from Led Zeppelin, Metallica, ACDC, Journey, Bon Jovi and more!

"THEY JUST HAVE THAT SPECIAL SOMETHING, THAT 'IT' FACTOR."
- HOLLYWOOD DIGEST

PRESENTING SPONSORS: NEWS 9, Jefferson Street Inn & Event Center
FEATURED SPONSOR: WSAU

SHOWTIMES 7:30 PM EXCEPT WHERE NOTED



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

BMX, basketball, breakdancing, acrobatics, drumming and more! The international smash hit 360 ALLSTARS connects the street with the elite to deliver a supercharged urban circus delivered with music, special effects, and video. Boasting a stellar cast of world champion and record-holding athletes, and award-winning musicians, this spectacular fusion of artistry and street culture will astound all of your senses! This global smash hit has been seen by more than one million people!

"A SUPERCHARGED SHOW... HEART-PUMPING MUSIC, DAZZLING LIGHTS AND VIDEO, AND INCREDIBLY TALENTED ATHLETES AND MUSICIANS"
-THEATERMANIA, NEW YORK

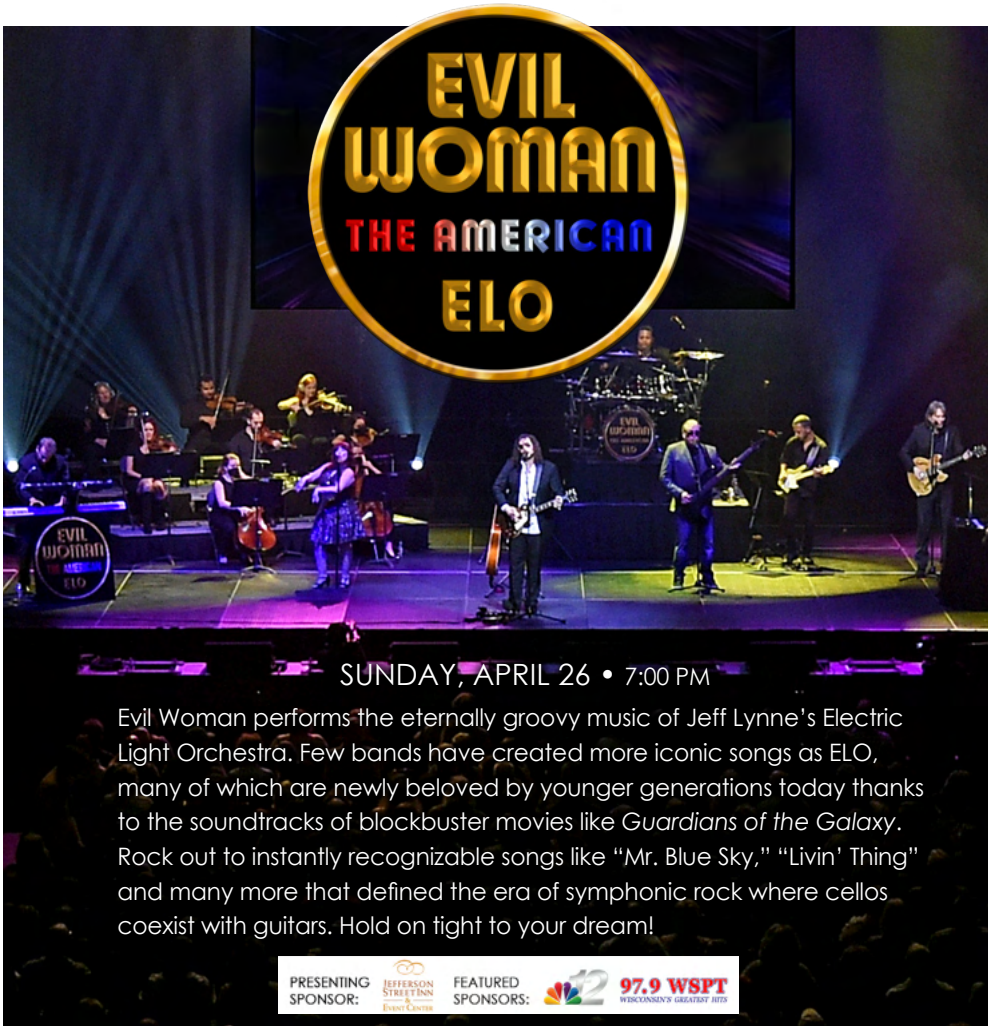
PRESENTING SPONSOR: 7 WSAW-TV



FRIDAY, APRIL 24

What if you could experience all the youthful energy and sonic celebration that was 1980s New Wave and radio pop? Every sound. Every nuance. Every feeling. That's Electric Avenue. These talented, top-tier musicians meticulously recreate every nuance and flavor of your favorite 80s songs. Delving into their personal stash of vintage synthesizers and rare signal processors, an Electric Avenue show is a true labor of love!

PRESENTING SPONSORS: NEWS 9, Jefferson Street Inn & Event Center
FEATURED SPONSOR: Hot 99.3



SUNDAY, APRIL 26 • 7:00 PM

Evil Woman performs the eternally groovy music of Jeff Lynne's Electric Light Orchestra. Few bands have created more iconic songs as ELO, many of which are newly beloved by younger generations today thanks to the soundtracks of blockbuster movies like *Guardians of the Galaxy*. Rock out to instantly recognizable songs like "Mr. Blue Sky," "Livin' Thing" and many more that defined the era of symphonic rock where cellos coexist with guitars. Hold on tight to your dream!

PRESENTING SPONSOR: Jefferson Street Inn & Event Center FEATURED SPONSORS: NBC 12 97.9 WSPT Wisconsin's Greatest Hits



SUNDAY, MAY 3 • 3:00 PM

They've graded the papers, survived the staff meetings, lost their patience, and now they're taking it out on stage! Bored Teachers is back with new jokes, bigger laughs, and the most relatable teacher comedy you'll ever hear. Bored Teachers is the #1 voice of teacher humor—with over 1 billion views, 10 million+ followers, and the #1 teacher-comedy podcast. Laugh until you cry as teacher-comedians share side-splitting stories, savage truths, and hilarious classroom confessions. Whether you're a teacher, parent, or just someone who's been in school, you will be hollering, "That's SO TRUE!"



THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Hailed as one of America's most popular modern pianists/composers, Spielberg is a superbly expressive pianist who has charted several times on Billboard's classical crossover category. A longtime member of the prestigious Steinway Artists Roster, she has over 500 million streams of her music, released 24 recordings, and performed on PBS, CBS, and NPR. Spielberg's concert will feature enchanting pieces for solo piano from her vast repertoire of popular American melodies and originals.

FEATURED SPONSOR: WSAU 550 AM • 99.9 FM News • Talk • Sports



THURSDAY, MAY 7

Three of Broadway's beloved leading ladies share stories and songs from 18 Broadway shows and 20 years of friendship, all in one night! Kerry Butler, Laura Bell and Marissa Jaret Winokur reunite for the first time since opening *Hairspray* together for a spectacular night of showtunes, laughter and stories, plus props, wigs and choreo! It's a joy bomb wrapped in a dazzling array of popular songs from *Wicked, Sound of Music, Lion King, Little Shop of Horrors, Grease* and many more!

"THE GIRLS' NIGHT OUT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!" -Theatre Mania

"YOU CAN'T STOP THE BFFS!" -Time Out NY

PART OF THE Wheelers WHEELERS CHEVROLET GMC BROADWAY SERIES PRESENTING SPONSOR: 7 WBAY-TV FEATURED SPONSOR: Hot 96.7

GRAND THEATER CALENDAR*

FEBRUARY 2026

17 *Wheelers Chevrolet GMC Broadway Series:* Mark Twain Tonight! **(LOW TICKETS)**

19 *Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series:* The Peking Acrobats **(SOLD OUT)**

19 *Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series:* The Peking Acrobats

20 *Hougum Law Firm 10x10 Series:* Ben Mulwana **(SOLD OUT)**

24 Judy Collins

26 *Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series:* Click, Clack, Moo

27 Hot Club of Cowtown & Tyler Hilton
Celebrate Elvis Presley's Sun Studio Records

MARCH

3 *Community Engagement Series:* Coffee & Curtain Call

3-4 *Wheelers Chevrolet GMC Broadway Series:* Chicago

5 Celtic Angels Ireland

7 Central Wis School of Ballet: Snow White

8 The TEN Tenors

10 *Hougum Law Firm 10x10 Series:* Leslie Mendelson

11 Gaelic Storm

12 The Marshall Tucker Band

13 Country Royalty:A Tribute to Hank Williams & Patsy Cline

15 *Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series:* Drum Tao

16 *Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series:* Drum Tao **(SOLD OUT)**

20 *County Materials Spotlight Series:* Classic Albums Live: The Eagles - Their Greatest Hits **(LOW TICKETS)**

22 The Linda Ronstadt Experience

24 *Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series:* Hare & Tortoise

26 Women of Americana

27 The Glam Band: An Evening of Symphonic Rock

30 *Community Engagement Series"* Community Blood Center Blood Drive

APRIL

2 Soul Asylum Acoustic

3 MR. SPEED - A Night of KISS

4 BoDeans - 40th Anniversary Tour

7 SixtiesMania - A Journey Through the Sixties

8 *Community Engagement Series:* Classical Music Bingo w/ WPR

9 World Ballet Company: Cinderella

10 *Hougum Law Firm 10x10 Series:* Damn Tall Buildings

11 I Am, He Said: Celebrating Neil Diamond

12 Justin Willman

16 *Community Engagement Series:* Behind The Score: Pre-Concert Lecture

16 Dallas String Quartet

17 *Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series:* Billy Goats Gruff & Other Tales

22 *Aspirus Health Arts In Education Series:* 360 ALLSTARS **(SOLD OUT)**

22 *Behavioral Health Clinic Family Series:* 360 ALLSTARS

23 *Hougum Law Firm 10x10 Series:* JFDR

24 *County Materials Spotlight Series:* Electric Avenue: 80s MTV Experience

26 Evil Woman - The American ELO

29 Ridin' The Storm Out: REO Speedwagon Tribute

30 Robin Spielberg

MAY

3 Bored Teachers: Is It Friday Yet?

7 *Wheelers Chevrolet GMC Broadway Series:* Mama, I'm A Big Girl Now

11 CLOSED for Second Century building renovations

THE 2026-27 SEASON WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN EARLY JUNE. PLEASE WATCH FOR DETAILS THIS SPRING.

** Calendar subject to change. Find updates on our website and upcoming newsletters.*

The entire season at The Grand is supported by the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts. These performances are also supported by the Community Arts Grant program of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation, and the City of Wausau's Room Tax Funding.

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