

Standing OVATION



Cirque Mei

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 | 7 p.m.



Stephens Auditorium
2019-2020 Performing Arts Series

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY | center.iastate.edu | 515.294.2479

From the Executive Director

Welcome to Iowa State University's Stephens Auditorium – this grand facility is celebrating her 50th birthday and we invite you along for a fantastic season of shows. Hans Christian Andersen said, "Where words fail, music speaks." We hope you find the magic, passion and connectedness that live entertainment offers at tonight's performance.

This year's 13-show season showcases five Broadway musicals that are making their first appearance in Ames and five (5) international acts/artists including a first time visit by the Siberian State Symphony Orchestra. Our first two shows of the season are internationally based: Cirque Mei from the People's Republic of China, Hebei Province and The Kingdom Choir founded in London.

With the support of more than 500 donors, our Performing Arts Fund supports our Series shows and so much more including pre-show talks, a non-profit ticket program and outreach activities in the schools and community. Our performance underwriters program and corporate support continue to grow and provide crucial financial support to our shows allowing more diverse programming to be enjoyed by our patrons.

It's not too late to purchase a subscription to our series shows. Subscriber perks include discounted tickets and flexible ticket exchanges within the season. Stop by our guest services booth to pick up a brochure or call our Ticket Office at 515-294-2479 for more information.

We will leave you with this quote from Plato – "Rhythm and Harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul." Please enjoy tonight's entertainment and come back and see us soon.



Tammy Koolbeck

Tammy Koolbeck, CVE
Executive Director
Iowa State Center

P.S. Consider a gift of \$50 for 50 years and join our current donors in our vision to educate, inspire and entertain.

Helpful Hints for Your Experience

In Case of an Emergency

Doctors, parents or guests expecting phone calls are advised to leave their seat location (located on ticket) with the appropriate parties and with the Guest Services Desk, which is located in the main floor lobby. The emergency telephone number during performances is 515-294-2313.

Finding Your Seat / Late Seating

Seating begins 30 minutes prior to curtain time. Late seating is subject to the discretion of the staff and according to the artist's contract.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Audio or visual recording devices and all photography are prohibited during performances unless otherwise announced. Please turn off all cell phones, beepers, video games and other electronic devices prior to the performance. All electronic devices are to be disabled during the performance.

Photography

Presence at this performance will constitute your consent and agreement to be photographed and/or recorded in connection with the advertisement and promotion of the Performing Arts Series and Stephens Auditorium, in any and all media now known and hereinafter devised, in perpetuity.

Parking

Stephens Auditorium has convenient parking in lots adjacent to the building. Lots A-1 and B-3 are reserved for Performing Arts Fund Donors who contribute \$300 or more. Parking for mobility-impaired guests is available in Lot F located west of Stephens Auditorium.

Smoking

Smoking and/or vaping are not allowed in Stephens Auditorium. As part of the Iowa State University Campus, all Iowa State Center buildings and surrounding university grounds are entirely smoke-free. Please note that there is no re-entry into the event.

Medical Assistance

If you have a medical need, please notify an usher. Medical services are provided by Mary Greeley Medical Center.

Refreshments

Food and drink is generally allowed in the auditorium with the exception of orchestral performances. If food and drink are not allowed, signage will be posted at concession stands and near doors.

Accessibility Features

- Accessible parking adjacent to the theater in Lot F
- Accessible restrooms



Wheelchair seating and special seating for the hearing and visually impaired is available.



Headphones with infrared listening devices are available for use at no charge at the Guest Services Desk.



American Sign Language interpretation may be arranged at least one month in advance of performances. Guide and service dogs are welcome.

Please notify the Ticket Office in advance at 515-294-2479 if you have any special requests or concerns regarding accommodations. We are pleased to assist you with your needs.

ATM

An ATM is located on the ground floor.

Children

All children attending a performance must be able to sit quietly in their own seats without disturbing other guests or they may be asked to leave the auditorium. Please use discretion when choosing to bring a child, and remember that everyone must have a ticket.

Lost and Found

Lost items may be reported, turned in or claimed at the Guest Services Desk located on the main floor during an event. After an event, please contact us at 515-294-3348, Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Lost and found items are kept for 30 days.

Ticket Exchange

Ticket exchange is an exclusive benefit available only to Performing Arts Series Subscribers and only available for Performing Arts Series events.

Playbill Information

The playbill for each show is made available on each performance page online at center.iastate.edu.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located on the ground floor. Additional restrooms are located on the first balcony level and both loge levels: women's on the east/left side and men's on the west/right.

Ways to Enhance your Experience

Make the Most of Your Experience With These Special Opportunities Before, During and After the Show.

When you think of Stephens Auditorium, we hope you think of it not just as a venue for seeing the performing arts, but also as a place where you are engaged as an active participant in the arts. The following events will enhance your visit and make each experience more fulfilling.

Free Previews in the Celebrity Café:

Engaging presentations offered by experts, ISU faculty members or members of the professional touring group provide unique insights before each performance. Previews are free for ticket holders and occur 30 minutes before curtain time. You'll find the Celebrity Café on the ground floor, on the north side of the auditorium.

Pre-Show Dinners: We offer a pre-show meal prior to seven shows in this year's season: *Beautiful*, *Jersey Boys*, *The Color Purple*, Russian National Ballet's *Swan Lake*, *Finding Neverland*, the Siberian State Symphony Orchestra, and *Waitress*. Meals are held in the Scheman Building and include entree, starch, vegetable, dessert, beverages and cash bar. With an informative presentation or live entertainment to set the mood, these pre-show dinners are a great way to begin a fun-filled evening with like-minded arts supporters. To order, call the Ticket Office at 515-294-2479.

Educational Experiences for Youth

Schoolltime Matinee Series

Parents and educators know that helping a student develop creativity and imagination is one of the most important things they can do. Helping to complete the education formula, our Youth Matinee Series energizes, engages and enhances the overall learning process for students through the magic and wonder of live performing arts produced by professional touring artists. These performances enrich students' lives and illustrate the dynamic relationship between literature, social studies, history, science, math, world cultures and the performing arts. The Youth Matinee Series is underwritten by the Martha-Ellen Tye Performing Arts Institute endowment and sponsored by Greater Iowa Credit Union.

Martha-Ellen Tye Performing Arts Institute

The Martha-Ellen Tye Performing Arts Institute was established through a generous endowment by long-time Marshalltown resident, the late Martha-Ellen Tye. It brings a unique blend of arts experiences to students of all ages through matinee performances, teaching activities in schools, demonstrations and workshops. Now in its 20th year, the program has served more than 250,000 students in grades PreK-12 from across the state of Iowa.

Mrs. Tye believed strongly in the power and importance of arts education and vigorously supported programs that develop the "whole person — body, mind and spirit."

To learn more about these performances, contact Sara Compton, Outreach Coordinator, at 515-294-7389, e-mail scompton@iastate.edu, or visit www.center.iastate.edu.

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Columbia Artists Management LLC Presents

Cirque Mei



Standing OVATION 2019–2020 SEASON

ABOUT CIRQUE MEI

From the People's Republic of China, Hebei Province, **Cirque Mei** features traditional and contemporary Chinese circus acts in a colorful, lively celebration of the internationally renowned Chinese circus arts.

The performance, featuring a company of 30+ elite circus artists and acrobats, include the most popular Chinese circus routines including Hoops Diving, Lion Dance, Collective Bicycle Skills, Flying Meteors, Foot Juggling with Umbrellas, Female Contortion, and Ladder Balancing Act.

The troupe was founded in 1976 and supports a community of over 130 circus performers who tour throughout China and the world.

PROGRAM

OPENING:

Balancing Skills on Ladder and the Charming of Peking Opera

ACT I:

Solo Pole
Diabolo Girls
Hats Juggling in Rhythm
Umbrellas - Foot Juggling Girls
Hoop-diving

Intermission

ACT II:

Lion Dance
Plates Spinning and Ballet on Shoulders
Happy Chef
Foot Juggling with Jars and Tables
Flying Meteors
Adagio Duo
Bicycle Girls
Finale (all performers)

Program Subject to Change

PROGRAM NOTES

Opening: Balancing Skills on Ladder and the Charming of Peking Opera

The Chinese acrobatic balancing act requires solid basic techniques. This program adopts the traditional Chinese Peking opera elements, which provide the reference of character roles, such as the strong and powerful image

Wusheng (a man with martial skills, or a warrior), the slim and slender image of **Qingyi** (a woman with a strict moral code) and **Huadan** (a vivacious woman). Their footwork (theatrical stage walk) and sleeve dance will also impress the audience. The base artist balances the ladder, with 2 layers on his shoulder, and a vase on the head of the top artist. The three artists will jump stairs and do a series of difficult tricks together. The act won the Silver Lion Prize at the 15th China Wujiao International Circus Festival in 2015 and the Silver Elephant Prize at the 6th Spanish Figueres International Circus Festival in 2017.

Solo Pole

With the rhythm of music, the artist does a series of difficult hand-balancing tricks on the pole. The act presents a combination of strength and beauty.

Diabolo Girls

This is a very Chinese performance featuring girls who play diabolos with light and graceful gestures accompanied by the bright rhythm of background music.

Hats Juggling in Rhythm

With the jazz-melody music, the artists juggle with straw hats and all kinds of throwing tricks, especially doing tricks on the human-pyramid-building.

Umbrellas - Foot Juggling Girls

Imagine this: It's misting and the breeze animates the bamboo leaves; there is a bridge with flowing water and a house in the distance – a true painting of the Southern China landscape. With an umbrella in hand, a group of graceful and charming Southern China girls dance on the stage. Their nimble feet spin the umbrellas skillfully and steadily. The act won the Gold Lion Prize at the 11th China Wujiao Int'l Circus Festival in 2007, the Silver Prize at the 29th French Cirque de Demain Festival in 2008, and the Bronze Prize at the 11th Italian Latina Int'l Circus Festival in 2009.

Hoop-diving

The talented boys express courage with no fear of difficulty, defying hardship and danger. They do different tricks such as back handspring, backward somersault, full turn, double layout and etc. with a boy passing through a 6-layer-hoop as the final trick. The act won the Silver Lion Prize at the 8th China Wujiao Int'l Circus Festival in 2001, the Gold Prize at the 4th Hungry Budapest Int'l Circus Festival in 2008 and the Gold Prize at the 24th French Cirque de Demain Festival in 2003.

INTERMISSION

Lion Dance

The Lion Dance is one of the most widely known folk dances in China. The lion is the king of animals. In Chinese tradition, the lion is regarded as a mascot which can bring good luck and happiness. **All the acrobatic artists come from Hebei province which is named as the hometown of Lion Dance.** By the highly-skilled movements, the

PROGRAM NOTES

strong lions vividly show their majestic-looking image and figure on the stage. It was an award-winning act at China National Acrobatic Festival and China Wujiao Int'l Circus Festival.

Plates Spinning and Ballet on Shoulders

Holding plates with 3-foot-long poles as thin as pencils, a group of girls spin plates with light and graceful dance, and perform tricks, movements and poses. Ballet on Shoulder is a good combination of the Chinese acrobatic art and the western art element of ballet.

Happy Chef

The comic and humorous chef and waiter have a tacit cooperation with each other. They do the juggling tricks with pans, ladles and plates, presenting their sensational and outstanding skills.

Foot Juggling with Jars and Tables

Each Chinese acrobatic artist has his/her own special skills. With their feet, two skillful girls doing the spinning, passing, tossing and catching tricks with tables and big jars smoothly and steadily.

Flying Meteors

Dancing and moving swiftly with enthusiasm and energy, each of the artists spins the meteors tied to both ends of a rope and throws them up in the air and catches. The act imitates seeing meteors in the night sky. It was an award-winning act at China Wuhan Int'l Circus Festival, Monte Carlo Young Acrobats' Festival, and Hungry Budapest Int'l Circus Festival.

Adagio Duo

A duet of two young boys performing acrobatic tricks.

Bicycle Girls

A group of girls in red costume, ride bicycles on the stage, as swift as swallows. They do tricks on two bicycles or on several bicycles. The climax will be the lotus-blooming pose and the peacock-flaunting-its-tail pose on one bicycle. It will bring good memories to all of the audience. In 2017, it won the Gold Chrysanthemum Prize at the 10th China National Acrobatic Festival and the Honorary Gold Lion Prize at the 16th China Wujiao Int'l Circus Festival.



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2019|2020

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AT STEPHENS AUDITORIUM

SEASON TICKET
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SAVE UP TO 20%!

CIRQUE MEI

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 • 7 pm

THE KINGDOM CHOIR

Monday, October 7, 2019 • 7 pm

BEAUTIFUL: THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL

Saturday, October 19, 2019 • 8 pm

JERSEY BOYS

Sunday, November 3, 2019 • 7:30 pm

AILEY II

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 • 7:30 pm

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

Sunday, November 17, 2019 • 3 pm

CANADIAN BRASS

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 • 7:30 pm

A MAGICAL CIRQUE CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 22, 2019 • 6 pm

THE COLOR PURPLE

Friday, January 17, 2020 • 7:30 pm

RUSSIAN NATIONAL BALLET — SWAN LAKE

Thursday, February 13, 2020 • 7 pm

FINDING NEVERLAND

Friday, February 14, 2020 • 7:30 pm

SIBERIAN STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Monday, March 2, 2020 • 7:30 pm

WAITRESS

Thursday, March 12, 2020 • 7 pm



CHOOSE FROM TWO SEASON PACKAGE OPTIONS:

5-Show Broadway Package starting at \$175

4-Show Create-Your-Own Series Package starting at \$76

For best available seating, order today!



Stephens Auditorium
2019-2020 Performing Arts Series

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY: | center.iastate.edu | 515.294.2479

Watch videos, view photos,
order online, and learn more
at center.iastate.edu.



Standing OVATION 2019-2020 SEASON

Thank You for Your Support

Performing Arts Fund and Ames International Orchestra Festival Association Donors as of 9/5/19

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50

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1969 - 2019

As we look forward to celebrating 50 years of the performing arts at Stephens Auditorium, please consider giving a \$50 gift to the Performing Arts Fund in support of accessibility projects and programming.

It is your support that enables us to continue presenting the unique experiences and variety of entertainment you have come to expect.

Thank You!

WAYS TO GIVE:

Online: foundation.iastate.edu/stephens50

Mail: Paul Ferrone, Development Manager
 Scheman Building, Suite 102
 1805 Center Drive
 Ames, IA 50011-1059

Phone: 515-294-1238

Paul Ferrone, Development Manager



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Concert**



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**Siberian State
Symphony, Russian
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Playbill



Ailey II



**Waitress & 50th Anniversary
Celebration**



This engagement is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Iowa Arts Council and the Crane Group.

Ailey II



Canadian Brass



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Kingdom Choir



Ailey II



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The Stephens Auditorium Business Circle offers businesses an environment for client/customer relationship building, employee recognition, and enhancing community relations while creating shared memorable experiences. Members demonstrate their support for the performing arts and benefit from opportunities to foster important business relationships.



Nicholas Testino Agency



Sponsor a Show

We are always looking for businesses and individuals to help make great shows happen. Our sponsorship packages are priced to suit a variety of needs and budgets. Call Paul Ferrone at 515-294-1238 or email ferrone@iastate.edu.

Special Thanks

- ▶ To our venue photographer, Mark Slagell, for his in-kind contributions to Stephens Auditorium.
- ▶ To videographers Rod Bodholdt and Jeff Grummer at B&G Productions.

PERFORMANCE UNDERWRITERS

Performance Underwriters are a select group of individuals who believe in the value and importance of the performing arts. They make it possible for Stephens Auditorium to present great performances, educate adults and students, create shared memorable experiences and build community.

The Kingdom Choir

Elizabeth Beck
Jay and Karen Heldt-Chapman

Beautiful: The Carol King Musical

Steve and Randi Peters

Jersey Boys

John and Suzan Shierholz
Brent and Maggie Wynja

A Very Hungry Caterpillar

Randy and Cathy Fitzgerald

Canadian Brass

Jim Beckwith
Betty and Craig Miller

A Magical Cirque Christmas

Brian and Tanya Anderson

The Color Purple

Todd and Jill Klindt
Mike and Tammy Koolbeck

Russian National Ballet - Swan Lake

Jack and Cecilia Horner

Finding Neverland

Duane and Megan Wolf
Brent and Maggie Wynja

Siberian State Symphony Orchestra

Arthur Klein
Warren and Beverly Madden

Waitress

Jim Beckwith

Russian String Orchestra

Rae Reilly
Peter J. Reilly Estate

The Goldfinch Room

David and Bonnie Orth

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2019-2020 Performing Arts Series

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Standing OVATION 2019-2020 SEASON