Join us for our 48th Season!

Once, page 3  Ladysmith Black Mambazo, page 10  Cirque Dreams Holidaze, page 9
WELCOME TO THE 48TH ANNUAL
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES AT STEPHENS!

Our stage is set for another exciting season of sharing a long list of world-class music ensembles and professional touring Broadway shows. Stephens is your auditorium and your participation is valued and appreciated. If you are interested in becoming more involved, here are a few ways you can play a leading role at Stephens Auditorium:

**Become a Season Subscriber**
Season subscribers receive a discount on regular ticket prices. Three subscription plans are available for the 2016–2017 season.

- **5-Show World View Music Package starting at $125 (pages 7, 10, 13, 14 and 15)**
- **4-Show Broadway Package starting at $100 (pages 3, 8, 12 and 16)**
- **Create-Your-Own-Series starting at $75**

Season subscribers also receive priority ticket processing, flexible ticket exchanges, ticket replacement, savings on additional tickets, and an invitation to the 2017-2018 Series Preview Party. If you are a business owner, consider purchasing a season package to share with special clients, employees, and guests.

This season, all subscribers will enjoy the opportunity to purchase priority tickets to two special performances: The Nutcracker Ballet and Ballet Des Moines A Triple Bill. See page 19 for more details.

**Become a Donor**
Making a gift to the Performing Arts Fund is a way of supporting all of the Performing Arts Series performances, programs, and events. Donors receive VIP priority ticket processing and parking, plus a host of other benefits.

**Sponsor a Show**
Event sponsorships offer the opportunity for businesses to support the performing arts in a manner that is mutually beneficial. Sponsorships include advertising visibility, client cultivation, business development, employee recruitment, employee hospitality, community relations, and shared memorable experiences.

**Underwrite a Performance**
Performance Underwriters are a select group of individuals who believe in the value and importance of the performing arts. Donors who contribute $2,500 or more have the option of choosing a performance and being listed as Performance Underwriter for the selected performance.

For information about sponsorships, performance underwriting or becoming a donor, contact Paul Ferrone at 515-294-1238 or via email at ferrone@iastate.edu.

Supported by [Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau]
Winner of eight 2012 Tony Awards® including Best Musical, Once is a truly original Broadway experience. Featuring an impressive ensemble of actor/musicians who play their own instruments onstage, Once tells the enchanting tale of a Dublin street musician who’s about to give up on his dream when a beautiful young woman takes a sudden interest in his haunting love songs. As the chemistry between them grows, his music soars to powerful new heights. Emotionally captivating and theatrically breathtaking, Once draws you in from the very first note and never lets go.

Monday, October 10 at 8 pm
$78, $65, $42, $25

Join us for a pre-show dinner!
Advanced tickets are required.
For more information, visit
www.center.iastate.edu/pre-show-dining
Legendary balladeer Gordon Lightfoot weaves tales of love and longing in eloquent musical masterpieces that have become enduring standards. His poetic journeys have been told with such timeless, thought-provoking songs as “If You Could Read My Mind,” “Sundown,” “Early Morning Rain,” “Carefree Highway,” “The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald,” “Canadian Railroad Trilogy” and many more. Combined with his rich, warm voice and nimble guitar technique, Lightfoot’s songwriting talent has led him from the 1960’s coffeehouse scene in his native Canada to pop chart hits with ground-breaking multi-platinum albums and accolades that include five Grammy® nominations and 17 Canadian Juno Awards.

This performance is made possible, in part, by a generous gift from:

JACK AND CECILIA HORNER
With the race for president heating up, now is the best time to see the Capitol Steps and their unique brand of political comedy! The material writes itself and both sides of the political spectrum will leave Stephens Auditorium laughing. Founded in 1981 by Senate staffers planning Christmas-party entertainment, the Capitol Steps have been hilariously deconstructing political headlines ever since. This election year, take a break from Facebook rants and television advertisements and enjoy the humor inherent in our political system.

Tuesday, October 18 at 7:30 pm
$55, $35, $25

This performance is made possible, in part, by a generous gift from:
STEVE AND RANDI PETERS
Peppa Pig’s Big Splash is an action-packed live show based on the popular Peppa Pig television series and designed to deliver to preschoolers and young fans an unforgettable first live theater experience. A fully immersive musical production featuring a dozen familiar and original songs as well as an interactive sing-a-long, the live stage show will have fans laughing and dancing — just like Peppa.

An interactive experience full of singing, dancing, games, and muddy puddles, Peppa Pig’s Big Splash is a guaranteed blast for preschoolers and parents alike!
THE HAVANA CUBA ALL-STARS: CUBAN NIGHTS

Tuesday, October 25 at 7:30 pm
$55, $35, $25

Embrace the rich culture of Cuba with the Havana Cuba All-Stars’ fresh sound and inventive songwriting. Direct from Havana and drawing inspiration from traditional Cuban Son — a genre that evolved into Salsa — the All-Stars celebrate the songs and music of the rich culture of the Cuban people for this electrifying concert.

With this debut U.S. tour of Cuba’s greatest musicians, Cuban Nights embraces the extraordinary musical legacy and traditions of the Cuban musical art form, staying true to an acoustic base.

The Havana Cuba All-Stars is composed of the nation’s most prominent musicians and is devoted to promoting the entire tapestry of Cuban music, showcasing the great musical traditions of the Cuban people.

This performance is made possible, in part, by a generous gift from:
BRENT AND MAGGIE WYNJA

Major Sponsor:

This presentation 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 General Mills Foundation.

www.center.iastate.edu
Saturday, November 5
7:30 pm
$65, $50, $37, $25

Starring leading cast members from Broadway’s Jersey Boys!

America’s favorite vocal group with two PBS top specials and legions of faithful fans, Under the Streetlamp performs an electrifying evening of classic hits from the American Radio Songbook. Under the Streetlamp, comprised of leading cast members from the Tony Award-winning sensation Jersey Boys, brings their unique blend of tight harmonies and slick dance moves to your favorite Doo-Wop, Motown and old time Rock ‘n’ Roll hits.

Join us for a pre-show dinner!
Advanced tickets are required. For more information, visit www.center.iastate.edu/pre-show-dining
Cirque Dreams Holidaze lights up the 2016 holiday season with its critically acclaimed holiday extravaganza. Not to be missed, this circus-like holiday stage spectacular features ornaments, costumes and acrobatics that come alive celebrating holiday themes, music and traditions for the entire family. With over 300 costumes, 20 acts and 30 artists from every corner of the globe, Cirque Dreams Holidaze is the greatest variety show on the planet!

Thursday, December 1 at 7 pm
$65, $50, $37, $25

This performance is made possible, in part, by a generous gift from:
BRIAN AND TANYA ANDERSON
Sunday, February 5 at 2:30 pm
$55, $35, $25

With the power of gospel and the precision of Broadway, Ladysmith Black Mambazo is the undisputed king of mbube, South African a cappella singing. The group came together in the early 1960s and continues to thrill audiences around the world with its strong, proud melodies harmonized in layers of call and response. Over the years, the original members have welcomed a younger generation in their mission, passing along the tradition of storytelling and spreading their message of peace, love, and harmony to millions of people.

“It isn’t merely the grace and power of their dancing or the beauty of their singing that rivets the attention, but the sheer joy and love that emanates from their being.” — Paul Simon
Considered one of the best vocalists of all time, Karen Carpenter captured the attention of a generation with the surprisingly deep material of her unabashedly catchy pop music. Singer and playwright Lisa Rock has compiled a moving tribute to the music and life of Carpenter and brings it to the stage with her 6-piece band. Dedicated to re-creating the true sound of The Carpenters, Rock and her band showcase some of the most memorable songs of the 70s including “We’ve Only Just Begun”, “Rainy Days and Mondays”, and of course “Close to You”.

Join us for a pre-show dinner!
Advanced tickets are required. For more information, visit www.center.iastate.edu/pre-show-dining
Friday, February 24 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, February 25 at 7:30 pm
Sunday, February 26 at 2 pm
$78, $65, $42, $25

There’s never been a better time to experience CHICAGO, Broadway’s razzle-dazzle smash. This triumphant hit musical is the recipient of six Tony Awards®, two Olivier Awards, a Grammy®, thousands of standing ovations and is the #1 longest-running American Musical in Broadway history. CHICAGO has everything that makes Broadway great: a universal tale of fame, fortune and all that jazz; one show-stopping song after another; and the most astonishing dancing you’ve ever seen. 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!

Join us for a pre-show dinner before the Friday performance! Advanced tickets are required. For more information, visit www.center.iastate.edu/pre-show-dining

Friday’s performance is made possible, in part, by a generous gift from:
STEVE AND RANDI PETERS
Friday, March 3
at 7:30 pm
$55, $35, $25

Cirk La Putyka, one of Europe’s most pioneering physical theater companies, brings us Slapstick Sonata — best described as visual poetry meets physical comedy with a dash of contemporary circus.

This uniquely memorable spectacle of family entertainment introduces us to late night laborers in a darkened warehouse who break out of their mundane routine and shed their drab existence for a vibrant and glorious explosion of color, humor, movement, silliness, and physical theater. See what happens overnight and join the thousands who have cheered as these characters find joy in the most unlikely places.

The Prague-based collective brings an evening of acrobatics, clownery, puppet theatre, contemporary dance and drama to the stage of Stephens. In other words — FUN!
Tuesday, March 7 at 7:30 pm
$70, $50, $25

The National Symphony of Ukraine is considered to be one of the finest symphony orchestras in Eastern Europe, earning international acclaim for its virtuosity and precision. Formed by the Council of Ministers of Ukraine in November of 1918, the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine became one of the most frequently recorded orchestras of the former Soviet Union under Mr. Kuchar’s direction and has received multiple awards.

Theodore Kuchar
Principal Guest Conductor

Dima Tkachenko
Violin Soloist

PROGRAM (subject to change)

Overture to La Forza del Destino (Opera rev. 1869)    Giuseppe Verdi
Violin Concerto No. 2                                                      Yevhen Stankovych
Symphony No. 6 in B Minor, “Pathetique”, Op. 74      Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Pre-Show Dinner
Join us for a pre-show dinner!
Advanced tickets are required.
For more information, visit
www.center.iastate.edu/pre-show-dining

Supported by Ames International Orchestra Festival Association
and Ames Commission on the Arts

5-SHOW WORLD VIEW MUSIC TICKET PACKAGE
SUBSCRIBE & SAVE UP TO 25%
Michael Londra’s Celtic Fire focuses on the traditional culture of song and dance in Ireland that generates an electric atmosphere and sweeps audiences away to Ireland, its culture, its land, its pubs, its music and its heart. Traditional dance presented by world champion Irish dancers, the show has a vital feel; cast members are more creative and dynamic, audiences are more engaged and everyone leaves the show feeling they have been more involved and have had more of an insight into what Ireland and its country really is.

Michael Londra has been described as “one of the greatest Irish singers of our time.” Since his breakthrough role as the Voice of Riverdance on Broadway, Londra has become one of the top international soloists. His credits include two Emmy nominations, Best Irish Tenor at the 2012 Irish Music Awards, “Danny Boy” with over 6.5 million views on YouTube, Special Guest to the 50th anniversary of JFK’s visit to Ireland, and a TV special titled Michael Londra’s “Beyond Celtic” aired across the USA over 400 times.
“Spectacular on every count.”
–Newsweek

Saturday, April 1 at 2 pm & 7:30 pm
$78, $65, $42, $25

Leapin’ Lizards!
The world’s best-loved musical returns in time-honored form. Directed by original lyricist and director Martin Charnin and choreographed by Liza Gennaro, this production of ANNIE will be a brand new incarnation of the iconic original.

Featuring book and score by Tony Award®-winners Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin, ANNIE includes such unforgettable songs as “It’s the Hard Knock Life,” “Easy Street,” “I Don’t Need Anything But You,” plus the eternal anthem of optimism, “Tomorrow.”
Comprised of 13 current students from the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom, Semi-Toned is the reigning University Champion of Voice Festival UK, having won this honor in April 2015. With their trademark musical wit and charisma, five-star reviews, and a Bobby Award for being one of the most highly rated shows of the 2014 Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Semi-Toned has wowed audiences both in the UK and the United States. Praised for their creativity, uniqueness, vocal acrobatics and whimsical choreography, the group embraces music of a variety of genres to ensure there really is something for everyone in all of their shows.
The National Players brings a powerful production of Steinbeck’s Great American Novel *The Grapes of Wrath*. A story about perseverance against all odds, join the Joads as they trek west, leaving the Dust Bowl behind. They encounter others on the same journey, all striving for their piece of the American dream with both hope and fear about prospects in California.

**Groups of 10 or More**

Groups of 10 or more people to a single performance save $3–$5 off the general public ticket price. All group tickets must be purchased together and in advance by calling the Ticket Office at 515-294-2479.
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE KOREAN PIANIST JI  
Thursday, October 6 at 7:30 pm  
$15, $5  
Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall on the campus of Iowa State University

Pianist Ji, first prize winner of the 2012 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, will be the 19th Young Concert Artist performer hosted by the Iowa State Center. Hailed by the Chicago Tribune as “a gifted, sensitive young pianist who is going places,” Ji, a 25-year-old from Korea, began his career when he appeared with the New York Philharmonic under Kurt Masur at the age of ten as the winner of their Young Artists Competition.

Young Concert Artists is a non-profit organization founded by Susan Wadsworth in 1961, dedicated to discovering and launching the careers of exceptional, but unknown, young musicians from all over the world.

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET  
Saturday, December 10 at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm  
Sunday, December 11 at 1:30 pm  
$25, $20

Follow Clara as she embarks on a journey filled with colorful characters, breathtaking costumes, and majestic scenery. From the captivating dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy to the iconic snow scene, this enchanting holiday classic — set to the beloved music of Tchaikovsky — continues to enthrall audiences of all ages. Whether you’re seeing it for the first time or it’s an annual treat, kick off your holiday season in grand style making memories to cherish with the ones you love.

BALLETS DES MOINES — A TRIPLE BILL  
A trio of stunning contemporary works  
Sunday, January 29 at 2 pm  
$48, $35, $20

The Iowa State Center is thrilled to partner with Ballet Des Moines as a part of our mission of bringing people together through dance and community events. Showcasing the stunning artistry and exhilarating physicality of contemporary dancers, A Triple Bill features a trio of original works and a world-premiere choreographed by Artistic Director Serkan Usta. Ballet Des Moines embodies artistic creation and expression while preserving the tradition of classical ballet and promoting the ingenuity of contemporary dance.
16|17 PERFORMING ARTS SERIES AT A GLANCE

Once | October 10, 2016
Gordon Lightfoot | October 14, 2016
Capitol Steps | October 18, 2016
Peppa Pig | October 19, 2016
The Havana Cuba All-Stars | October 25, 2016
Under the Streetlamp | November 5, 2016
Cirque Dreams Holidaze | December 1, 2016
Ladysmith Black Mambazo | February 5, 2017
Close to You: Music of the Carpenters | February 14, 2017
Chicago The Musical | February 24–26, 2017
Cirk La Putyka: Slapstick Sonata | March 3, 2017
National Symphony of Ukraine | March 7, 2017
Celtic Fire | March 9, 2017
Annie | April 1, 2017
Semi-Toned | April 20, 2017
Grapes of Wrath | Fisher Theater | April 29, 2017

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

In Person: Stephens Auditorium Ticket Office
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Ticketmaster Phone: 1-800-745-3000
Group Sales Hotline: 515-294-2479 (10 or more tickets)

Order subscription packages by downloading an order form at center.iastate.edu.

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Prices, programs and artists subject to change.