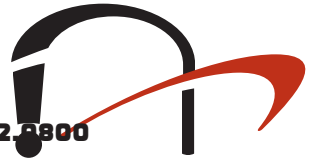


2014 | 2015

To purchase tickets call PortTIX **207.842.8900**



**PORTLAND
OVATIONS**



From the Executive Director



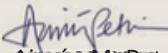
Dear Friends,

There are few activities over the course of a season that are more rewarding — and more agonizing — than putting together the season brochure. With a staff of seven, it's all hands on deck!

When the first draft of the mainstage brochure arrives, we all gather around and "oo" and "ah." We see connections we hadn't seen before. Artists we were already excited about suddenly appear larger than life. As we spend more and more time with the brochure drafts, discussion and buzz builds within the Oventions offices with staff becoming quite animated and devoted to their favorites. (See the side bar for Staff Picks.)

Buoyed by our ever-increasing excitement, we charge through the several rounds of copywriting and editing, date checking, ticket price proofing, photo choosing, gaining approval by artists/agents, Oventions Offstage activity wrangling, and arriving at a favorite cover image. These are the many things that go into this annual ritual. (And I don't use the word ritual lightly.) Most fortunate for us, we have the creative team at Puelle Design to see us through it all.

We hope you enjoy the fruits of our labors. I can say we sure enjoyed bringing it all together.


Aimée M. Petrin
Executive Director

"Each year I am astounded by our classical series, and feel that everyone needs to experience the high-level of musicianship and artistry that emanates from the stage. I am determined to grow this audience!"

—CHIP

"Coming from a dance background Savion Glover's *StEPz* because the improvisational aspect of tap has always intrigued me — it creates a completely different vibe than a fully choreographed dance."

— BETHANY

"Abigail Washburn and Béla Fleck top my list — I've loved her voice and her unique sound for years and can't wait to hear both of them live. And Prez Hall, to be transported back to my days in NOLA."

— LAURA

"Yo La Tengo... Are you kidding? Who isn't dying to see and hear a combination of this terrific band and Bucky?"

— GRETCHEN

"I'm looking forward to the Nordic Fiddlers because I enjoy string concerts of all sorts, especially when fused with sentimental and joyful folk music styles."

— VANESSA

"Moscow City Ballet: As a former ballet dancer, I always look forward to seeing a ballet, especially *Swan Lake*. And the Moscow City Ballet's reputation is one that can't be beat."

— MARY



INSPIRE. CONNECT. ENTERTAIN.

Portland Oventions staff (left to right): Laura Stauffer, Vanessa Romanoff, Bethany Roberge, Chip Kibort, Aimée M. Petrin, Mary Campbell, Gretchen Berg

SPECIAL
EVENT

POP! An Auction Benefit

PORTLANDCOMPANY, 58 FOREST STREET, PORTLAND



“...the party
atmosphere
was alive.”

— PORTLAND
PRESS
HERALD

Kick off Portland Ovarions' 2014-15 season in style at POP!, our annual auction benefit. A waterfront warehouse is transformed into a bustling indoor street fair with “pop-up” performances, delicious foods from Southern Maine's best-loved restaurants, and extraordinary auction items — including some Ovarions' exclusives! Join your fellow arts patrons for an evening of incredible sights, sounds and savory bites, all to support Ovarions Offstage and our 84-year legacy of connecting people of all backgrounds and ages to the performing arts in Portland.

To purchase POP! tickets call 207.773.3150.

Tickets

\$35 IN ADVANCE • \$40 AT THE DOOR

Members

\$25

Metropolis Ensemble: "Brownstone" CLASSICAL & BEYOND

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 3, 2014

SPECIAL TICKETED PREVIEW AND RECEPTION • 5:30 PM

FREE PERFORMANCES • 6:30 PM & 7:30 PM

VICTORIAMANSION, PORTLAND

Presented in collaboration with VictoriaMansion.



What would a house sound like if it could sing? Part electro-acoustic concert, part installation, Metropolis Ensemble's *Brownstone* is at once experimental and experiential. Sited among the majestic rooms at Portland's Victoria Mansion, the soundscape will fill halls and stairways, creating a sonic tapestry of instruments blending in different ways depending on one's location — resulting in a First Friday experience like no other. The Metropolis Ensemble, created and led by Maine native Andrew Cyr, is an exciting, Brooklyn-based chamber orchestra dedicated to classical music in its most contemporary forms.

"Metropolis Ensemble presents a seductive vision of classical music's future... they make music that is both emotionally stirring and progressive."

— WNYC'S MORNING EDITION

Tickets

PREVIEW & RECEPTION • \$50

Reserve Space at Free Showings

CALL 207.772.4841 EXT. 101.



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Classical
96.9 WBACH 106.9

5

Khumariyaan

ON TOUR AS PART OF CENTER STAGESM

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 16, 2014 • 7:30 PM

HANNAFORD HALL, USM CAMPUS, PORTLAND



“...their smooth blend of the rubab and keyboards with a dash of the guitar will send you into a trance.”

— THE EXPRESS
TRIBUNE
WITH THE
INTERNATIONAL
NEW YORK
TIMES

Making their U.S. debut, Khumariyaan leads the movement to revitalize and bring out of the shadows the instrumental traditions of Pakistan. These dynamic and passionate musicians sink their teeth into entrancing grooves rich with string trills and rhythmic breaks, and moving, bittersweet *rubab*-driven melodies. The lute-like Pashtoon *rubab* — which can have the forceful twang of a banjo or a percussive, hypnotic thrum — is the musical meeting point, intertwining with the djembe-like *zerbaghali* (clay or wooden goblet drum) and Pushtoon sitar. Underpinned by driving acoustic guitars, Khumariyaan embodies the intoxicating sound of a Pushtoon musical renaissance.



Tickets
\$30

Student Deal
\$10

Members save **10%**
off full-priced tickets.

6

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Foundation

CENTERSTAGE™

Paul Dresher Ensemble:

CLASSICAL
& BEYOND

Double Duo

WESTBROOKPERFORMINGARTSCENTER

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 23, 2014 • 7:30 PM



Called “one of the most interesting among the current scene of active composers,” Paul Dresher continues to innovate and surprise. Classically based and inventively performed, Double Duo combines traditional chamber instruments, performed by Bang on a Can All Stars founding member Lisa Moore on piano, and long-time collaborator Karen Bentley on violin, together with a pair of newly invented instruments: a Marimba Lumina played by percussionist Joel Davel and a Quadrachord, a 14-foot long guitar-like stringed instrument invented by Dresher that is plucked, bowed, hammered and strummed. This contemporary music concert, performed on both “old” and new instruments, results in a wholly unique live performance experience that is both visual and aural.

“The poetic quality of the music soon expanded into thunderous percussive sonorities

...The audience threw concert tradition to the wind and showed their appreciation with cheers, whistles and stamping.”

— CITYNEWS, AUSTRALIA

Tickets

\$36

Student Deal

\$10

Members save **10%** off full-priced tickets.



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96.9WBACH | 106.9

PortTIX 207.842.0800

7

CLASSICAL
& BEYOND

Minguet Quartett

with Andreas Klein (piano)

HANNAFORDHALL, USMCAMPUS, PORTLAND

WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 29, 2014 • 7:30 PM



“A fascinating artist with all the indispensable qualities — temperament, taste, touch, tone — the four T’s of pianism.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

“[The Minguet Quartett] possesses a refinement and polish that commands attention and effortlessly pleases.”

— CALGARY HERALD

German-born pianist Andreas Klein joins the esteemed Minguet Quartett for a delightful and thoughtful program that pays homage to the enigmatic, iconic Canadian composer and pianist, Glenn Gould. Klein has distinguished himself as a compelling performer with his command of a wide range of tonal colors and imaginative interpretations. *The New York Times* praises him as “a pianist who makes silences sound like music.” A lauded string quartet, the Minguet performs at major European concert venues such as London’s Wigmore Hall and the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, among others. The provocative program includes J. S. Bach’s *The Art of the Fugue - Contrapuncti 1, 3, 4 and 9* and his *Concerto in D minor BWV 1052*; Mendelssohn-Bartholdy’s *Capriccio (op. 81)* and a rare performance of Gould’s *String Quartet, op. 1*.



Tickets

\$40

Student Deal

\$10

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off full-priced tickets.

8

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Sam Green and Yo La Tengo: “The Love Song of R. Buckminster Fuller”

INNOVATIONS

WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 29, 2014 • 8PM

STATE THEATRE, PORTLAND

Co-presented with the State Theatre in collaboration with SPACE Gallery.



Spilling beyond the screen, *The Love Song of R. Buckminster Fuller* is a unique live cinematic collaboration between independent pioneers of both film and music. Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Sam Green (*The Weather Underground*) and venerated indie rock band Yo La Tengo come together in this engaging and eye-opening “live documentary” where film and music work together on stage. Green narrates the film that traces the career of futurist, architect, engineer, inventor and author R. Buckminster Fuller — famously known for the geodesic dome — while Yo La Tengo performs the original soundtrack that resonates between the sonically subtle and richly atmospheric.

“Anyone familiar or unfamiliar with Fuller will be lucky to experience his life’s work through the enthralling interpretation by Green and Yo La Tengo.”

— FILMMAKER MAGAZINE

Tickets

\$45 • \$35 • \$20

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THE PORTLAND
PHOENIX

PortTIX 207.842.0800

9

MUSIC OF
THE WORLD

Béla Fleck, Abigail Washburn

& Del McCoury Band

MERRILLAUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 1, 2014 • 8 PM



**“The unofficial
‘first family of the
banjo’ combines
powerful vocals
and revolutionary
instrumental
techniques.”**

—NPR

Banjoists Béla Fleck and Abigail Washburn have mastered the intricate art of the duet. Washburn’s beguiling composing, playing and singing blend with Fleck’s riveting and virtuosic musicianship to create music unique yet familiar in texture. Widely acknowledged as the world’s most innovative banjo player, Fleck is the winner of 15 Grammys. Washburn draws on the cultural influences of her adopted second homeland of China, taking her far beyond the old-timey comfort zone, and creating a sound unlike anything heard before. The only thing that could rival these two on stage is the presence of 50-year music veteran Del McCoury. The distinguished statesman of traditional bluegrass appears with his Grammy Award-winning five-piece Del McCoury Band.



Tickets

\$65 (GOLD CIRCLE) • \$50 • \$45

Members save **10%**
off full-priced tickets.

10

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Savion Glover: “STePz”

DANCE

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



Tony Award-winning tap dancer and choreographer (*Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk*) Savion Glover returns to scorch the Merrill stage in his first Portland appearance in over a decade. His new production, *STePz*, is an exuberant celebration of tap dance that pays homage to tap masters, while cementing Glover's own place in history. "There is nothing boring about his dancemaking...watching his latest piece is like going on every ride at the carnival" (*The New Yorker*). In *STePz* Glover not only exhibits his mastery, he also reveals his wit and his joy in performing. Backed by an electrifying soundtrack that includes the music of Prince, Stevie Wonder and John Coltrane, Glover and his ensemble of virtuosic dancers take tap dance to new heights — and levels.

“Tap done by pros like these is electrifying — sparks seem to fly when bodies move so fast, on the edge of abandon but in complete control.”

— THE NEW YORKER

Tickets

\$50 • \$40 • \$30

Student Deal

\$20

Members save **10%** off full-priced tickets.



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PortTIX **207.842.0800**

11

FAMILY
SERIES

“Big Nate”

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 8, 2014 • 11 AM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



“Bursting with energy and fun music, great lyrics and true to life comic strip characters.”

—DCTHEATRESCENE

Based on the nationally syndicated comic strip and best-selling books by Portlander Lincoln Peirce, *Big Nate* follows the trials and travails of Nate Wright, a detention-riddled sixth grader as he attempts to woo the beautiful Jenny away from her boyfriend Artur by winning the first prize in his school’s Battle of the Bands. Set to an energetic rock and roll soundtrack with such highlights as “Even Year-Old Cheez Doodles Are Better Than Love,” and featuring sets and costumes inspired by Peirce’s drawings, this “homage will strike just the right rock-star-worthy note” (*The Washington Post*).

Recommended for children 5-13 years old.



Tickets

\$12

12

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dispatch

Reinventing Radio:

INNOVATIONS

An Evening with Ira Glass

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 8, 2014 • 8 PM



Winner of all of the major broadcasting awards. 2.1 million weekly listeners. The most popular podcast in the country. With *This American Life*, radio icon Ira Glass blurs the lines between journalism, documentary and fiction to create something wholly original, thought provoking and humorous. As it approaches its twentieth year, join Glass for a fascinating evening of insight into the cultural force and how it's put together: what makes a compelling story, where they find the amazing stories for their show, and how he and his staff are trying to push broadcast journalism to do things it doesn't usually do. Combining his distinct narration with taped segments, Glass recreates the sound and feel of the show live onstage for the audience to experience.

“...a distinctive literary imagination, an eccentric intelligence and a sympathetic heart.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tickets

\$50 • \$40 • \$30

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off full-priced tickets.

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MPBN
Maine Public Broadcasting Network

13

BROADWAY NATIONAL TOUR:

“Sister Act”

SATURDAY • JANUARY 17, 2015 • 3 PM & 8 PM
MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



**“All’s right in
the kingdom of
musical comedy.”**

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Sister Act is Broadway’s feel-amazing musical comedy smash! *The New York Post* calls it “ridiculously fun,” and audiences are jumping to their feet in total agreement! Featuring original music by eight-time Oscar® winner Alan Menken (*Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Little Shop of Horrors*), *Sister Act* tells the story of Deloris Van Cartier, a wannabe diva whose life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a crime and the cops hide her in the last place anyone would think to look—a convent! Under the suspicious watch of Mother Superior, Deloris helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own. A sparkling tribute to the universal power of friendship, *Sister Act* is reason to rejoice!

Tickets

\$70 • \$55 • \$45

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off full-priced tickets.

14

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The Portland Sun

Alexander Tharaud (piano)

CLASSICAL
& BEYOND

HANNAFORD HALL, USMCAMPUS, PORTLAND



With an international reputation as an artist of unique vision and originality, Alexandre Tharaud is heralded for his brilliantly conceived programs and bestselling recordings that range from Bach, Chopin, Rameau, and Ravel to music inspired by 1920s Paris cabaret life. His playing has been praised by *The New York Times* as “exquisite, crisp and beautifully textured” and noted for its “refinement and daring.” He made his Carnegie Hall debut during the 2012-13 season in a sold-out program of Scarlatti and Liszt. That year also saw Tharaud star in and provide the soundtrack to the film *Amour*, which took the top prize at the Cannes Film Festival. His Ovarion debut will include Couperin’s *Pièces de clavecin*; Mozart’s *Piano Sonata in A Major, K.331*; Schubert’s *16 German Dances, D. 783*; and Beethoven’s *Piano Sonata No. 31 in A-flat Major, op. 110*.

**“Fingertips
with the force
of nature.”**

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tickets

\$42

Student Deal

\$10

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off full-priced tickets.



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96.9 WBACH 106.9

PortTIX 207.842.0800

15

CLASSICAL
& BEYOND

Ray Chen (violin)

WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 4, 2015 • 7:30 PM

HANNAFORD HALL, USMCAMPUS, PORTLAND



**“Colors dance,
moods swing,
and Chen’s
artistry blazes.”**

— TIMES OF LONDON

“From the first notes there [is] no doubt of being in the presence of something special,” says *The Strad* of award-winning violinist, Ray Chen. Lauded as “one of the greatest hopes of the violin world” (*Rondo*), Chen has a reputation for uncompromising rhythmic integrity, rock-solid technique and lush sound. His Carnegie Hall debut with the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic as well as his sold-out Musikverein concert with the Gewandhaus Orchestra were both met with standing ovations. Maine audiences know him from the Bowdoin International Music Festival’s Virtuosi program. In his Portland Ovations debut, Chen and pianist Julio Elizalde will perform Schubert’s *Rondo in B Minor, op. 70*; Stravinsky’s *Divertimento*; Part’s *Fratres*; Debussy’s *Claire de Lune*; and Ravel’s *Tzigane*.



Tickets
\$42

Student Deal
\$10

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16

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Preservation Hall Jazz Band

MUSIC OF
THE WORLD

MERRILLAUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



Right in time for Mardi Gras, the “quintessential New Orleans institution” (*The New York Times*) brings the sounds of the French Quarter to Portland. One can’t hear the funky tuba lines, backbeat drumming, sax rifts or indelible grooves without being instantly transported back to the pulsing and influential era of 1960s New Orleans. Having recently celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with a recording and sold-out Carnegie Hall concert that included My Morning Jacket, Tom Waits, Merle Haggard, Mos Def and others — Preservation Hall is set to usher in the next decade of world class jazz. With many musicians related to the original players by blood — and all connected through the sheer power of tradition — their music embodies a joyful, timeless spirit, whether performing at Lincoln Center or around the corner from Bourbon Street. *Laissez les bons temps rouler!*

“With members ranging from 20-somethings to octogenarians, these musicians play the indigenous, traditional Crescent City jazz in a way that might make fans believe the saints are really marching in.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tickets

\$44 • \$36

Members save **10%**
off full-priced tickets.

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dispatch

PortTIX 207.842.0800

17

BROADWAY NATIONAL TOUR

“Million Dollar Quartet”

SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 21, 2015 • 4 PM & 8 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

THE TONY® AWARD-WINNING BROADWAY MUSICAL

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET

INSPIRED BY THE ELECTRIFYING TRUE STORY



ELVIS PRESLEY • JERRY LEE LEWIS • CARL PERKINS • JOHNNY CASH

“A dazzling, raucous spectacle that sounds like a million bucks!”

— NEW YORK MAGAZINE

Million Dollar Quartet is the Tony® award-winning Broadway musical inspired by the electrifying true story of the famed recording session that brought together rock ‘n’ roll icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for the first and only time. On December 4, 1956, these four young musicians were gathered together by Sam Phillips, the “Father of Rock ‘n’ Roll,” at Sun Records in Memphis for what would be one of the greatest jam sessions of all time. *Million Dollar Quartet* brings that legendary night to life with an irresistible tale of broken promises, secrets, friendships and celebrations, featuring timeless hits such as “Blue Suede Shoes,” “Great Balls of Fire,” “I Walk the Line,” “Whole Lotta Shakin’ Goin’ On,” “Fever,” “Folsom Prison Blues,” “Hound Dog” and more.

Tickets

\$70 • \$55 • \$45

Members save 10% off full-priced tickets.

BROADWAY NATIONAL TOUR:

BROADWAY

“Memphis”

SATURDAY • MARCH 14, 2015 • 4 PM & 8 PM
MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



From the underground dance clubs of 1950s Memphis where rock and roll was born, comes the four-time Tony® award-winning musical that bursts off the stage with explosive dancing, irresistible songs and a thrilling tale of fame and forbidden love. *Memphis* tells the story of DJ Huey Calhoun, a good ole’ local boy with a passion for R&B music and Felicia Farrell, an up-and-coming black singer that’s ready for her big break. Come along on their incredible journey that’s filled with laughter and roof-raising rock ‘n’ roll.

“Memphis blasts you out the door humming and happy!”

—NEW YORK
DAILY NEWS

Tickets

\$70 • \$55 • \$45

Members save **10%**
off full-priced tickets.

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COMPANY**

MEDIA
SPONSOR:

dispatch

DANCE

Moscow City Ballet: "Swan Lake"

WEDNESDAY • MARCH 18, 2015 • 7 PM

MERRILLAUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



"...quite simply the best, most beautiful version of 'Swan Lake' I have ever seen and one I would quite happily watch over and over again."

— THE GAZETTE

With unwavering perfection set against lush sets and costuming, Moscow City Ballet's *Swan Lake* is the epic dance event of the season. Featuring outstanding principals, stunning soloists and a sublime corps de ballet, the company's many international tours have long-established its reputation as one of Russia's leading ballet companies. Set to Tchaikovsky's sweeping score, *Swan Lake* is one of the great romantic stories, filled with drama and exquisite choreography. When Siegfried, a dashing young prince, falls in love with Odette, the beautiful Queen of the Swans, the sorcerer Von Rothbart is determined to use his evil magic to thwart their happiness.

Presented at a special family-friendly time.



Tickets

\$50 • \$40 • \$30

Student Deal

\$20

Members save **10%** off full-priced tickets.

20

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MEDIA SPONSOR:



bangordailynews.com

“Basetrack”

THURSDAY • MARCH 26, 2015 • 7:30 PM

WESTBROOK PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

INNOVATIONS



Visually arresting, sonically engaging and emotionally gripping *Basetrack* draws on the power of individual stories to examine the collective experience of Marines stationed abroad, and their families, as they struggle to cope with separation and the uncertainties of war. A dynamic multi-disciplinary work at the intersection of theater, music, new media, journalism and technology, *Basetrack* grew out of a Facebook page by photojournalist Teru Kuwayama that has since received over five million hits and become a lifeline for Marines and their families to connect. Produced by the innovative theater company En Garde Productions, *Basetrack* takes actual text from these social media sites and pairs it with interviews with Marines filmed while in the theater of war to create an educational, moving, and inspirational theatrical work. A true multimedia experience, a live quintet, narration and projected images combine to tell the powerful story of war and humanity.

“An artistic approach can speak to the heart and the soul in ways that speaking to the head does not.”

— RETIRED
ARMY
CHAPLAIN
(COL) DAVID
FORDEN

Tickets

\$32 • \$28

Student Deal

\$15

Members save 10%
off full-priced tickets.



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21

Boston Camerata with Sharq Arabic Music Ensemble: "Sacred Bridge"

SATURDAY • MARCH 28, 2015 • 4PM

HANNAFORD HALL, USMCAMPUS, PORTLAND



**"A many-colored
tapestry —
[an] elegant
performance."**

—THE
WASHINGTON
POST

Weaving together the shared musical pasts of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths in Medieval Spain, *Sacred Bridge* conveys the poignancy and hope of intersecting cultures that remains relevant today. Jewish minstrels and folk songs, Christian psalms set to music, Gregorian and Koranic chants among other forms all find new meaning when performed alongside one another. Boston Camerata's performances are renowned for their blending of spontaneity and emotional commitment with careful research and scholarship. With its distinguished roster of singers and specialists in early instruments, the Boston Camerata tours regularly in the US and all over the world. The Camerata is joined by the Sharq Arabic Music Ensemble for this contemplative program whose interest goes well beyond its purely ecumenical qualities.



Tickets
\$42

Student Deal
\$10

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off full-priced tickets.

22

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“Skippyjon Jones”

FAMILY
SERIES

MERRILLAUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



Skippyjon Jones wants to be the best Chihuahua ever. Not just any Chihuahua, but a swashbuckling, sword-fighting, romantically noble one. The only problem: he’s actually a Siamese cat! Before you can say “Holy guacamole,” Skippyjon’s wild imagination transforms him into El Skippito Bandito, the greatest canine sword fighter in Mexico. Judy Schachner’s bestselling book is brought to life onstage in TheatreWorks USA’s musical adaptation that boasts “witty lyrics” and a “multitextured score” (*The New York Times*).

Recommended for children 5-10 years old.

“Everything a discerning 5-year-old is looking for in the theater.”

— BACKSTAGE.COM

Tickets

\$12



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dispatch
THEATREWORKS USA'S MUSICAL ADAPTATION

PortTIX 207.842.0800

23

MUSIC OF
THE WORLD

“The Nile Project”

SUNDAY • APRIL 12, 2015 • 7 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND



“Nothing else existed but the beautiful sounds of perfectly collaborated music.”

— EGYPT
INDEPENDENT

Flowing from the rich cultural traditions, geopolitical issues and the great beauty of the world’s longest river comes *The Nile Project*. Led by charismatic Ethiopian-American singer Meklit Hadero, a pan-Nile percussion section drives this orchestra of Ethiopian *masenko* and saxophone; Egyptian *ney*, *oud*, violin, *simsimiya*, and *tanbura*; Ugandan *adungu*; bass guitar; and vocalists singing in multiple languages. *The Nile Project*’s unique sound comes from intensive work among the various musicians, learning from one another and translating that experience into collectively composed new songs. The result is an unprecedented collaboration that garnered *The Nile Project*’s first recording, *Aswan*, a coveted spot on NPR’s Top 5 Must-Hear International Albums of 2013.



Tickets
\$36 • \$28

Student Deal
\$15

Members save **10%**
off full-priced tickets.

24

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NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS



Nordic Fiddlers Bloc

MUSIC OF
THE WORLD

HANNAFORD HALL, USMCAMPUS, PORTLAND



Hailing from Norway, Sweden and the Shetland Islands, Olav Luksengård Mjelva, Anders Hall and Kevin Henderson are three of the finest young fiddlers working in the international folk music scene today. Performing reels, polskas and ballads with mesmerizing fervor and graceful bowing, the Nordic Fiddlers Bloc brilliantly integrates old traditions with innovative ideas and expressions while blending their own individual styles to create a sound that is distinct, expressive and invigorating. "Seldom before have three fiddles sounded so much like four and at times five instruments without using electronic trickery" (*The Herald*).

"Not just for fiddle heads, the dense, rich harmony and pulsing cross-rhythms of this trio are endlessly varied, powerful and beautiful."

— THE SCOTSMAN

Tickets

\$36

Student Deal

\$10

Members save **10%**
off full-priced tickets.



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PortTIX 207.842.0800

25

DANCE

Lucky Plush: "The Queue"

WESTBROOK PERFORMINGARTSCENTER



**"...dancer/
choreographer
Julia Rhoads...
has emerged
as a witty,
media-savvy
choreographer
of substantial,
often satirical
dance theater."**

Equal parts dance and theater, *The Queue* unfolds in a fictional airport, where travelers stumble humorously, tragically and awkwardly into each others' private lives. Created by Lucky Plush founder/director Julia Rhoads and collaborator Leslie Danzig, *The Queue* finds its influences in early 20th-century forms of slapstick, vaudeville, Busby Berkeley-style choreography, creaky one-act plays and a 1746 farcical play about a family inheritance. These sources and performance vocabularies collide with contemporary dance and the distinctly non-theatrical context of waiting to create a dance-theater production, showcasing Lucky Plush's signature blend of immediacy, humor and kineticism.

— DANCE
MAGAZINE



Tickets
\$36 • \$28

Student Deal
\$15

Members save **10%**
off full-priced tickets.

26

SUPPORTED BY:



MEDIA
SPONSOR:



BROADWAY NATIONAL TOUR:

“Mamma Mia!”

WEDNESDAY • MAY 13, 2015 • 7:30 PM

THURSDAY • MAY 14, 2015 • 7:30 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

BROADWAY

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!



PENNY ANDERSSON & RÍÖDN LILVAELIS



Over fifty-four million people all around the world have fallen in love with the characters, the story and the music that make *Mamma Mia!* the ultimate feel-good show! Writer Catherine Johnson’s sunny, funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter’s quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother’s past back to the island they last visited twenty years ago. The story-telling magic of ABBA’s timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship, and every night everyone’s having the time of their lives! With more productions playing internationally than any other musical, *Mamma Mia!* is the World’s No. 1 Show!

“This high-energy musical brings happiness wherever it goes.”

— TIME MAGAZINE

Tickets

\$70 • \$55 • \$45

Members save **10%** off full-priced tickets.

SPONSORED BY:



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Who We Are



About Us

Annually, Portland Ovarations — a Maine-based, not-for-profit performing arts organization — brings innovative and masterful artists from around the world, including Maine, representing classical music, jazz, dance, theater, and Broadway and connects them to our community through both live performances and season-long educational and outreach programs, Ovarations Offstage. Founded in 1931, with each passing year Ovarations' programs reach further, make a stronger impact, and leave a more lasting impression on those who experience the performing arts.

Vision Statement

To inspire a curious and imaginative community where the experience of the performing arts is a vital part of every day life.

Mission

Portland Ovarations contributes to the cultural, social, and economic well-being of our community by presenting an array of high quality performing artists from around the world and creating diverse educational experiences that bring the enjoyment, energy and enrichment of the arts to all.

Our Venues



Our 2014-15 Venues

Portland Ovation uses various venues to ensure the best possible experience for our patrons and the artists we bring. The five different and dynamic venues that you can experience as part of Portland Ovation's 2014-15 season include:

Merrill Auditorium

A beautifully restored 1,900-seat performance venue, this majestic hall is one of the gems of Portland's downtown Arts District and is located near many excellent restaurants.

Hannaford Hall

A warm and welcoming performance space located on the USM Portland campus, Hannaford Hall is an intimate 520-seat venue with a 130-seat mezzanine. An attached 1,200-car parking garage makes accessing the performances convenient and hassle-free. A truly state-of-the-art 1,000-seat theater that is just minutes from downtown Portland and has free parking available.

Victoria Mansion

also known as the Morse-Libby House, is a landmark example of American residential architecture located in downtown Portland. The brownstone exterior, elaborate interior design, opulent furnishings and early technological conveniences provide a detailed portrait of lavish living in nineteenth-century America.

State Theatre

The State Theatre is a historic 1,680 seat theater located at 609 Congress Street in downtown Portland, which features a combination of Moorish and Art Deco architecture. For directions and seating charts, visit portlandovations.org.



Ovation Offstage

Ovation Offstage integrates the performing arts into community, school and family life by creating resonating moments when artists and audiences connect. Providing inspirational access to the performing arts, Ovation Offstage contributes to the development of the generations who comprise the Maine of today and tomorrow through:

- Pre-performance lectures
- In-school artist workshops
- Masterclasses with visiting artists
- Unexpected “art happenings”
- Lively community discussions
- Meet-the-Artist events
- School-Time Performances (*see page 31*)

Look for the O2 symbol throughout for performances that include Ovation Offstage activities. For more information, visit portlandovations.org/offstage or call us at 207.773.3150.

PHOTO CREDITS:

COVER PHOTO | Savion Glover by Lois Greenfield
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | Bethany Roberge
 STAFF | Jeff Swanson
 Riccardo METROPOLIS ENSEMBLE | Victoria Mansion photo by Andrew Davis
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 WHO WE ARE | Bethany Roberge and Vanessa Romanoff
 O2 Ovation Offstage | Vanessa Romanoff
 SCHOOL-TIME PERFORMANCE SERIES & SUPPORT | Bethany Roberge

School-Time Performance Series



Portland Ovations' School-Time Performance Series connects Maine students and educators with the performing arts in significant ways both on and offstage.

Tickets may be purchased by any public, private, or home school. To request a School-Time Performance brochure with more information about performances and related workshops, please contact Ovations Offstage:

207.773.3150

offstage@portlandovations.org

A wide range of resources for students and educators are available on our website:

www.portlandovations.com/offstage

"Big Nate"

NOVEMBER 7, 2014

"Jabber"

NOVEMBER 20, 2014

David Gonzalez: "Cuentos"

DECEMBER 2, 2014

"Freedom Train"

JANUARY 21, 2015

"Skippyjon Jones"

MARCH 30, 2015

"The Nile Project"

APRIL 13, 2015

"Junie B. Jones"

MAY 18, 2015

Tickets:

\$8



Corporate Sponsorship

Corporate Sponsorship at Portland Ovations is available to all sizes and types of businesses, with a range of levels to fulfill your marketing and philanthropic needs. Your business will grow community presence, visibility and reach a desired demographic, all while supporting one of Maine's most vibrant and active arts organizations. Other benefits include complimentary tickets, discounted tickets for employees, free advertising in our program book, on-site recognition and more.

For more information about sponsorship, please contact Mary Campbell at 207.773.3150 ext. 5, or mcampbell@portlandovations.org.

We truly appreciate the support from all of our sponsors. Thank you.

Foundation Support & Funding Partners

Portland Ovations is thankful for funding from local, regional and national foundations that support the presentation of artists and their work in our community including the National Endowment for the Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts, Elmina B. Sewall Foundation, The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust, Sam L. Cohen Foundation, Davis Family Foundation, Maine Arts Commission, Center for Cultural Exchange Foundation, Roy A. Hunt Foundation, Maine Humanities Council, Maine Community Foundation, National Performance Network, The Bob Crewe Foundation, Portland Education Foundation, and Libra Foundation.

Individual Support

See *"Become a Portland Ovations Member,"* page 34.

Board of Directors & Advisory Council

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Membership

Become a Portland Ovations Member

As a Portland Ovations Member you get the best seats at the best prices for all of your favorite performances while supporting the vital work of Portland Ovations. In exchange for a tax-deductible contribution, Members get a range of benefits including early ticket purchasing privileges at discounted prices. Your support also helps Ovations engage people throughout our community by reaching across socioeconomic boundaries and making the arts accessible to all. Members get the satisfaction of helping Ovations continue its 80+ year tradition of bringing exceptional performing artists to Portland.

Annual Membership Options and Benefits

FRIEND • \$40-\$99

ADVOCATE • \$100-\$499

PARTNER • \$500-\$999

STANDING O CIRCLE • \$1,000-\$4,999

INNOVATOR • \$5,000+

- ● ● ● ● Advanced ticketing opportunities for all performances.
- ● ● ● ● Discount on full-price tickets.
- ● ● ● ● Acknowledgment in Portland Presents, the season's performance program.
- ● ● ● ● Invitation to season preview party.
- ● ● ● ● Membercard, a 2-for-1 Dining Card.
- ● ● ● ● Ticket exchange privileges.
- ● ● ● ● Invitations to receptions, meet-the-artist opportunities and other Members-only performances and Ovations Offstage-related special events.
- ● ● ● ● A pair of complimentary tickets to a performance from a selection of presentations.
- ● ● ● ● (2) tickets to the POP! Auction-Benefit.
- ● ● ● ● Personalized concierge ticket services to guarantee priority ticketing and seating.
- ● ● ● ● Complimentary beverage for (2) at all Merrill Auditorium performances.
- ● ● ● ● An additional (4) complimentary tickets (for a total of 6) to one of a selection of performances.
- ● ● ● ● Courtesy meeting with artists when possible.
- ● ● ● ● Personally tailored opportunities.

PLEASE NOTE: Membership does not entitle Members to voting or decision-making authority within the organization. All exchanges must be made 24-hours prior to the performance. Member discount not available on all performances, see order form for details.

How to Become a Member

You can become a Portland Ovations Member by using the ticket order form on the back panel of this brochure; by telephone when ordering tickets at 207.842.0800; in person at PortTIX, the Merrill Auditorium box office; or online at portlandovations.org. Member tickets bought online are not exchangeable.

For more information about Membership and to become a Member at any time contact Mary Campbell at 207.773.3150, ext. 5.

Tickets & Pre-Sale Bundle



Pre-Sale Bundle Option: Buy 4 or More and Save!

A pre-sale bundle consists of an initial ticket purchase to four or more qualifying performances during the three-week pre-sale period, from June 2-20. By buying a bundle, you can enjoy a 10% discount off your purchase. No additional discounts can be applied to pre-sale bundle.

PLEASE NOTE: Student Deal and Family Series tickets do not qualify towards pre-sale bundle purchasing.

If you have questions about pre-sale bundle buying please contact PortTIX at 207.842.0800.

Pre-sale bundle tickets are not exchangeable.

How to Order

By Mail

Remove and return the order form on the following page to PortTIX, 20 Myrtle Street, Portland, Maine 04101.

In Person

PortTIX is located in the lobby of Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle Street, Portland. Regular box office hours are Monday to Saturday, 12 pm to 6 pm. Closed on Saturdays June-September.

By Phone • 207.842.0800

Call PortTIX Monday to Saturday, 12 pm to 6 pm. Closed Saturdays in June-September.

Online • www.portlandovations.org

Tickets to individual shows may be purchased from our website at any time. Pre-sale bundle, student deals, and other discounts are not available online.

Discounts *(Discounts cannot be combined or retro-actively applied.)*

Member & Pre-Sale Bundle

Members receive a 10% discount on most performances for all season tickets purchased. Those who purchase a pre-sale bundle receive a 10% discount on their initial order only.

Student Discounts

Any full-time student is eligible to purchase tickets for events at a 10% discount as well as our limited deeply discounted "Student Deal" tickets for select events listed throughout this brochure.

Group Discounts

A Portland Ovarations performance makes for a sensational outing at reduced rates for groups of twenty or more. For group sales contact PortTIX at 207.842.0800 ext. 222 or boxoffice@porttix.com.

Senior Discounts

Patrons over 65 are entitled to purchase tickets at a discounted rate.

Exchanges

Ticket exchanges are only available to Portland Ovarations Members at the Advocate Donor level (\$100) or above. Exchanges must be requested at least 24 hours before the performance. Contact PortTIX with any questions.

Ticketing Fees

During pre-sale window: \$1 per ticket for Members and those purchasing tickets to 4 or more performances, includes all modes of purchase.

After June 20: \$2 per ticket for Members, includes all modes of purchase.

After June 20: \$6 per ticket for all others by phone, mail and internet.

Family Series: \$1 per ticket.

ORDER TICKETS

PLEASE NOTE: Pre-sale bundle buyers must choose at least four performances for discount. While deeply discounted

student deal tickets may be purchased with a pre-sale bundle & Member order, they do not count towards the four-event minimum for pre-sale bundle benefits.

Pre-sale bundle deadline: June 20.

GOLD CIRCLE: Prime seats in the first seven rows available for these performances.

	TICKETS			STUDENT DEALS		
	QTY.	TOTAL		QTY.	TOTAL	
Khumariyaan THURSDAY • OCTOBER 16, 2014 • 7:30 PM	\$30		\$	\$10		\$
Paul Drescher Ensemble: Double Duo THURSDAY • OCTOBER 23, 2014 • 7:30 PM	\$36		\$	\$10		\$
Minguet Quartett with Andreas Klein WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 29, 2014 • 7:30 PM	\$40		\$	\$10		\$
Béla Fleck, Abigail Washburn & Del McCoury Band SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 1, 2014 • 8 PM	\$65	\$50	\$45	\$	.	.
Savion Glover: "STePz" THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 6, 2014 • 7:30 PM	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$	\$20	\$
Reinventing Radio: An Evening With Ira Glass SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 8, 2014 • 8 PM	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$	.	.
Broadway National Tour: "Sister Act" SATURDAY • JANUARY 17, 2015 • 3 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
Broadway National Tour: "Sister Act" SATURDAY • JANUARY 17, 2015 • 8 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
Alexander Tharaud (piano) THURSDAY • JANUARY 22, 2015 • 7:30 PM	\$42		\$	\$10		\$
Ray Chen (violin) WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 4, 2015 • 7:30 PM	\$42		\$	\$10		\$
Preservation Hall Jazz Band WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 11, 2015 • 7:30 PM	\$44	\$36	.	\$	.	.
Broadway National Tour: "Million Dollar Quartet" SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 21, 2015 • 4 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
Broadway National Tour: "Million Dollar Quartet" SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 21, 2015 • 8 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
Broadway National Tour: "Memphis" SATURDAY • MARCH 14, 2015 • 4 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
Broadway National Tour: "Memphis" SATURDAY • MARCH 14, 2015 • 8 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
Moscow City Ballet: "Swan Lake" WEDNESDAY • MARCH 18, 2015 • 7 PM	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$	\$20	\$
"Basetrack" THURSDAY • MARCH 26, 2015 • 7:30 PM	\$32	\$28	.	\$	\$15	\$
Boston Camerata with Sharq Arabic Music Ensemble: "Sacred Bridge" SATURDAY • MARCH 28, 2015 • 4 PM	\$42		\$	\$10		\$
"The Nile Project" SUNDAY • APRIL 12, 2015 • 7 PM	\$36	\$28	.	\$	\$15	\$
Nordic Fiddlers Bloc SATURDAY • APRIL 25, 2015 • 8 PM	\$36		\$	\$10		\$
Lucky Plush: "The Queue" WEDNESDAY • MAY 6, 2015 • 7:30 PM	\$36	\$28	.	\$	\$15	\$
Broadway National Tour: "Mamma Mia" WEDNESDAY • MAY 13, 2015 • 7:30 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
Broadway National Tour: "Mamma Mia" THURSDAY • MAY 14, 2015 • 7:30 PM	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$	.	.
MEMBERS AND PRE-SALE BUNDLE TAKE 10% OFF.	A TOTAL: \$			B TOTAL: \$		

	NON-BUNDLE EVENTS	QTY.	TOTAL
Metropolis Ensemble: "Brownstone" FRIDAY • OCTOBER 3, 2014 • 5:30 PM	\$50		\$
Sam Green and Yo La Tengo: "The Love Song of R. Buckminster Fuller" WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 29, 2014 • 8 PM	\$45	\$35	\$20
"BigNate" SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 8, 2014 • 11 AM	\$12		\$
"Skippyjon Jones" SUNDAY • MARCH 29, 2015 • 11 AM	\$12		\$
	C TOTAL: \$		

Discounts do not apply to student deal tickets.

Member & Pre-Sale Bundle Order Form

MR. MS. MRS. MISS

NAME: _____

ADDRESS LINE 1: _____

ADDRESS LINE 2: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Seating Requests & Accessibility Needs: _____

Become a Portland Ovations Member Now

Check the Membership level of your choice:

(See page 34 for a full description of Membership benefits.)

Friend • \$40-\$99

Advocate • \$100-\$499

Partner • \$500-\$999

Standing O Circle • \$1,000-\$4,999

Innovator • \$5,000+

D Please write the amount of your Membership contribution on the designated line below.

Ticket Totals

Members or Pre-Sale Bundle Total: _____

A (from

Student Deal Ticket Total: _____

B reverse)

Non-Bundle Event Total: _____

C (from

2014-15 Membership Contribution: _____

D reverse)

**Tax-Deductible Contribution: _____

(from

reverse)

PortTIX Handling Fee: _____

PortTIX Handling Fee:

(from above)

Pre-sale Period: **\$1 per ticket**
After June 20th: **\$2 per ticket (Members only)**

Please mail my tickets: add \$1.50 _____

Please hold my tickets at Will Call _____

or

Grand Total: _____

Payment | CREDIT CARD • CHECK

Please charge my order to: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

NAME ON CARD: _____

CARD NUMBER: - - -

EXPIRATION DATE: -
Month Year

CARD HOLDER SIGNATURE: _____

or

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK. CHECK NUMBER: _____

(payable to PortTIX)

• ORDER BY PHONE: 207.842.0800 • ORDER BY FAX: 207.842.0810 • TTY: 207.842.0812

Pre-Sale Bundle buying is not currently available online. Membership ticket orders are available online with Member codes.

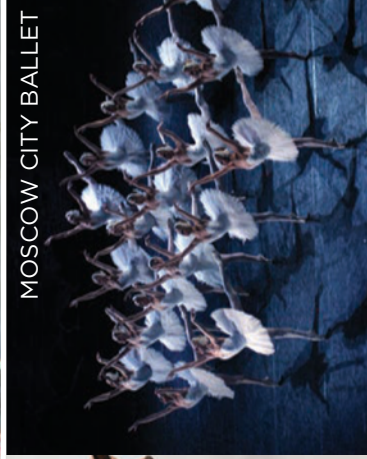
**For fiscal year 2015



“THE NILE PROJECT”



RAY CHEN



MOSCOW CITY BALLET



BÉLA FLECK, ABIGAIL WASHBURN & DEL McCOURY BAND



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