



PORTLAND OVATIONS

2019 | 2020



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YOUR SUPPORT

- Keeps ticket prices affordable
- Underwrites discounted and free tickets for students
- Helps to maintain a vibrant arts community

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INNOVATORS • \$10,000+ • <i>All benefits below + one pair of tickets to all performances</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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. • Free parking for all Merrill Auditorium performances. 		

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Dear Friends,

As we enter Ovation's 39th season, we look forward to Maine's 200th year. The bicentennial inspires us to think about the people and place that make Maine wholly unique.

Maine's artistic legacy is rich and growing. Along with those artists who've made Maine home for generations, every day artists are choosing to live and create in Maine. Communities around the state are experiencing cultural renaissances.

Ovation is proud to share the creative joy of Maine artists: from the co-commission of a new dance work to a national broadcast featuring our youngest virtuosic performers to the inclusion of Maine musicians in a Broadway National Tour, and many more.

Artists are not the only newcomers to Maine. For hundreds of years Maine has benefited from people coming "from away" – from across the country and around the world. We seek moments that bring people together to experience a global society in which everyone is from somewhere, has something to offer and for whom Maine is home. Celebrating and sharing cultural traditions is a hallmark of Ovation's programming that rings especially true in this bicentennial year.

In addition to our people and vibrant cultures, it is undeniably the landscape that makes Maine special. From our mountains and forests to our rivers, lakes and coastlines – a deep sense of place and environmental stewardship are symbolic of Maine values. Performances this bicentennial season raise awareness of the critical relationship between humankind and the earth.

There is no better kick off to this special bicentennial year than a performance by the charismatic Taylor Mac and his own rendition of his inimitable A 24-Decade History of Popular Music (Abridged). Spanning Maine's bicentennial including Maine-based artists, and embracing Maine's many histories both known and less visible, Mac's tour-de-force theatrical concert reminds us of the resiliency and joy we possess as Mainers.

With great gratitude,

Aimée M. Petrin
Executive & Artistic Director

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INSPIRE. CONNECT. ENTERTAIN.

Taylor Mac: A 24-Decade History of Popular Music (Abridged)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 • 7:30 PM

STATE THEATRE, PORTLAND

Co-Presented with the State Theatre

“A necessary and great American epic for our time.”

— LOS ANGELES TIMES

Fabulous. Fierce. Unforgettable. MacArthur Fellow and Guggenheim Award-winning performer Taylor Mac chronicles an unseen history of America through a hand-picked selection of songs ranging from murder ballads to disco and everything in between. At its core, this immersive and outrageously entertaining performance reveals the resilience of communities. Bedecked and bedazzled in gloriously irreverent regalia and joined by an incomparable band and special guests from Portland’s local community, Mac sets the stage for a year-long celebration of Maine’s bicentennial with this night described as “startlingly unique... a must see for anyone who wants to see a kinder, gentler society.” (*HuffingtonPost*)

Mature Content

CABARET TABLE €55

PRICES START AT • \$40 • \$30

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



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NEW THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE ARTS



"IT'S SOME KIND OF WONDERFUL!"



Beautiful

The Carole King Musical

BROADWAY NATIONAL TOUR

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2019 • 8 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019 • 2 PM & 8 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

"OUT OF CONTROL AMAZING!"

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Beautiful tells the inspiring true story of King's remarkable rise to stardom, from being part of a hit songwriting team with her husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history. Along the way, she made more than beautiful music, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation. Featuring a stunning array of beloved songs written by Gerry Goffin/Carole King and Barry Mann/Cynthia Weil, including

"I Feel The Earth Move", "One Fine Day", "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman", "You've Got A Friend" and the title song, "Beautiful" has a book by Tony® Award-nominee and Academy® Award-nominated writer Douglas McGrath, direction by Marc Bruni, choreography by Josh Prince, and took home two 2014 Tony® Awards and a 2015 Grammy® Award.

PRICES START AT • \$75 • \$65 • \$45

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.

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MEDIA SPONSOR:



Kittel & Co.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 • 7:30 PM
PORT CITY MUSIC HALL, PORTLAND

“Equally skilled in the worlds of jazz, classical, and Celtic fiddling...an exhilarating stage presence”

— STRINGS MAGAZINE

Grammy-nominee Jeremy Kittel is recognized as one of the most exceptional violinists and fiddlers of his generation. Joined by his band Kittel & Co., this extraordinary trio of musicians inhabit the space between classical and acoustic roots music, Celtic and bluegrass aesthetics, and folk and jazz sensibilities. From the Telluride Blues Festival, to Chris Thile's *Live From Here* to Celtic Connections, Kittel & Co. “takes the string band tradition to marvelously rarefied levels of collective virtuosity.... thrillingly spontaneous.” (*Times UK*)



VIP SEATING • \$45

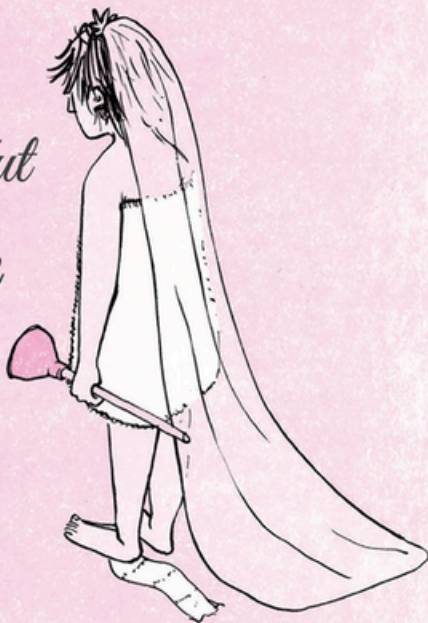
GA SEATING • \$35

GA STANDING • \$25

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



SARA JULI'S
*Burnt-Out
 Wife*



Sara Juli: *Burnt-Out Wife*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019 • 7 PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019 • 7 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019 • 7 PM & 9 PM

SPACE, PORTLAND

Co-commissionandworld premiere co-presented with SPACE

“An imaginative and brave show performed with fearless vulnerability by the warm, wild, and untamed Sara Juli.”

— BROADWAY BABY

A world premiere of Maine-based artist Sara Juli’s latest feminist solo, *Burnt-Out Wife*. Taking on topics such as monogamy, intimacy, loneliness, and other marital taboos, Juli employs her physical and comedic talents to explore autobiographical issues of importance to all women. This full-length, multimedia work defies genre and will spark conversations while exploring the detritus and decay of one woman’s marriage — blowing up the institution with humor, reflection, and a complete re-imagining.

Mature Content

PRICES START AT • \$30

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 10% off full-
 priced tickets.



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Songhoy Blues

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019 • 8 PM
PORT CITY MUSIC HALL, PORTLAND

“Songhoy Blues **puts its own exuberant take on African sounds.**”

— THE WASHINGTON POST

Sons of Mali, musical refugees, groundbreaking artists, virtuoso performers, survivors. Steeped in the deep traditions of classic Malian music and desert blues infused with youthful and super-charged sounds of today, Songhoy Blues makes music that is unique, exciting, contagious and paradigm-shifting. Unforgettable and undeniable, these young men from Timbuktu play their way into the hearts and minds of audiences with their electric and kinetic music.

VIP SEATING • \$45

GA SEATING • \$35
GA STANDING • \$25

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



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The Kingdom Choir

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019 • 8 PM
MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

“...their vocal power and ecstatic harmonies make for spine-tingling moments...”

— THE GUARDIAN

They say you shouldn't upstage a bride on her big day, but luckily The Kingdom Choir didn't get the memo. Their show-stopping performance of “Stand By Me” was the highlight of 2018's Royal Wedding between Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, launching the London-based choir to worldwide fame and acclaim nearly 25 years after their founding by award-winning conductor Karen Gibson. Their recent debut album is a joyful compilation of both the secular and the sacred, interspersing top hits from John Legend, Beyoncé and Coldplay with gospel classics. With a mission to create a sound that resonates in people's hearts, the Kingdom Choir makes their Maine debut with *Ovations*.

Dedicated to the life and memory of Jane C. Wellehan.

PRICES START AT \$60 • \$50 • \$40 • \$25
STUDENT DEAL • \$20

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



Magic Tree House: *Showtime with Shakespeare*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 • 3 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

“I’m thrilled that Showtime with Shakespeare will be touring this year! Stage Fright on a Summer Night has long been one of my favorite titles in my Magic Tree House series...”

— MARY POPE OSBORNE, SERIES AUTHOR

Let us whisk you back to Elizabethan England for an adventurous meeting with the Bard himself — all to a *Hamilton*-style hip-hop beat. This new, high-energy musical is based on the Magic Treehouse adventure *Stage Fright on a Summer Night*. Discover, with the beloved brother-sister duo Jack and Annie, how history is shaped by those who learn to overcome their fears. As you time travel through the treehouse, expect an hour packed with mad rhymes, rich choreography, and a storyline entertaining for all ages.

PRICES START AT •\$15

MEMBERS

•\$12





NPR's *From the Top*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2019 • 7 PM
MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

“Young musicians that will knock your socks off.”

— TODAY SHOW, NBC

National Public Radio's *From the Top* returns to Portland Ovation to elevate and celebrate the amazing talent and captivating personalities of virtuosic young musicians from Maine and beyond. A favorite of longtime classical musical enthusiasts and newcomers alike, *From the Top* combines serious music, light-hearted skits and informal interviews in a delightful and entertaining concert. Join us to cheer on some of our most outstanding young musicians as they perform for two live national broadcasts on NPR. Special guest host to be announced.

PRICES START AT \$45 • \$35 • \$25
STUDENT DEAL • \$15

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



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Boston Camerata: *Free America*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2019 • 4 PM
HANNAFORD HALL, PORTLAND

“America’s foremost early music ensemble”

— LE MONDE

A favorite of Ovations audiences, Boston Camerata returns with its latest program celebrating 18th and 19th century songs of rebellion and resistance. With works spanning early America, including music from Maine’s own Shaker community, the unique instrumentation includes voice, flute, fiddle, cello, fife and drum along with a Maine choir. Under the direction of Anne Azéma, Boston Camerata, now in its 65th year, is recognized for its signature blend of keen musicianship, spontaneity, emotional commitment and thoughtful scholarship.



PRICES START AT • \$44

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.

STUDENT DEAL • \$15



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 **maine public**
CLASSICAL

MUSIC BY SARA BAREILLES
("LOVE SONG," "BRAVE")

WAITRESS

A BROADWAY MUSICAL BAKED FROM THE HEART

BROADWAYNATIONAL TOUR:

Waitress

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2020 • 8 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020 • 2 PM & 8 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

"WAITRESS is a little slice of heaven!"

— ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

Meet Jenna, a waitress and expert pie-maker who dreams of a way out of her small town and rocky marriage. Pouring her heart into her pies, she crafts desserts that mirror her topsy-turvy life such as "The Key (Lime)" to "Happiness Pie" and "Betrayed By My Eggs Pie". When a baking contest in a nearby county — and a satisfying run-in with someone new — show Jenna a chance at a fresh start, she must find the courage to seize it. Change is on the menu, as long as Jenna can write her own perfectly personal recipe for happiness.

Brought to life by a groundbreaking, all-female creative team, this Tony Award®-nominated hit features original music and lyrics by seven-time Grammy® nominee Sara Bareilles ("Love Song, Brave"), a book by acclaimed screenwriter Jessie Nelson (*I Am Sam*) and original direction by Tony Award winner - Diane Paulus (*Pippin*, *Finding Neverland*).

PRICES START AT • \$75 • \$65 • \$45

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.

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MEDIA SPONSOR



Gabriela Montero: *Westward*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020 • 4 PM
HANNAFORD HALL, PORTLAND

“Montero’s playing has everything: crackling rhythmic brio, subtle shadings, steely power in climatic moments, soulful lyricism...and, best of all, unsentimental expressivity.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Award-winning pianist Gabriela Montero, lauded for her monster technique and thrilling tone, is equally known as an inspired improviser. Her unique program pays homage to the westward emigration of three great early 20th-century Russian pianist/composers: Rachmaninov, Prokofiev and Stravinsky. The program concludes with Montero's real-time, improvised score to Charlie Chaplin's iconic short film, *The Immigrant*.

PRICES START AT • \$44
STUDENT DEAL • \$15

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priced tickets.



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JERRY AND SUSAN GOLDBERG FUND OF
THE MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

MEDIA SPONSOR:






MOMIX: *Viva MOMIX*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020 • 7 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

Family Friendly Time

“MOMIX is a tension between illusion and reality, apprehension and excitement.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Long live the magic of MOMIX. The miraculous dance company balances whimsy with athleticism, playfulness with artistry, and illusion with invention, creating a signature style that sets it apart. *Viva MOMIX* celebrates the company's 40-year history by featuring favorite vignettes from some of its best-loved and unforgettable performances, including *Botanica*, *Opus Cactus* and *Lunar Sea*. It's an evening of pure talent resulting in pure entertainment. Under Artistic Director Moses Pendleton, innovative lighting, clever costuming and dynamic dancers combine to create fantastical imagery breathtaking to behold. You may never see dance or the natural world around you the same way again.

PRICES START AT •\$50 • \$45 • \$35 • \$25
STUDENT DEAL •\$20

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



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Puelle Design.

GuGu Drum Group

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020 • 7 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM

Family Friendly Time

“The award-winning GuGu Drum Group from Shanghai presents a contemporary take on traditional Chinese percussion.”

— HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Drummers, storytellers, and athletes direct from Shanghai, China, the members of GuGu Drum Group delight audiences of all ages with their high-energy epic drumming, traditional movement and colorful costumes. GuGu represents a powerful lineage, dating back to the emperors of long-ago Chinese dynasties, with a contemporary approach. Using ancient instruments from small finger cymbals to large standing drums, their spectacular performances feature vignettes based on timeless Chinese proverbs, fables, and fairy tales.

PRICES START AT •\$45 • \$35 • \$25
STUDENT DEAL •\$20

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priced tickets.



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Avi Avital and Bridget Kibbey

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020 • 7:30 PM
HANNAFORD HALL, PORTLAND

“Much as Andres Segovia brought the classical guitar into the concert hall, the Israeli virtuoso Avi Avital is doing the same with the mandolin.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

“Bridget Kibbey makes it seem as though her instrument had been waiting all its life to explode with the gorgeous colors and energetic figures she was getting from it.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Called “explosively charismatic” by *The New York Times*, Avi Avital is considered the driving force behind the reinvigoration of the mandolin repertory. More than 90 contemporary compositions — 15 of them concertos — have been written for this champion of the mandolin — all enhanced by Avi’s infectious spirit of adventure and the warm rapport he fosters with his audience. He is joined in a program including Ravel, Bach, Tchaikovsky, Bartók, De Falla and Traditional Armenian Folk Tunes by in-demand harpist Bridget Kibbey.

PRICES START AT • \$44

STUDENT DEAL • \$15

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10% off full-
priced tickets.



MEDIA SPONSOR:



New Orleans Jazz Orchestra: *The Music of Congo Square*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 • 7:30 PM
MERRILL AUDITORIUM

“...vibrant and swinging...”

— JAZZTIMES

Just in time for Mardi Gras, Grammy Award-winning New Orleans Jazz Orchestra features 18 of the finest Crescent City musicians on the scene today. Under the direction of drummer Adonis Rose, an alum of Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, NOJO possesses the swing and swagger of a true New Orleans big band. With *The Music of Congo Square*, NOJO honors the wide-ranging influence of the Big Easy’s own Allen Toussaint — the legendary composer, musician, and producer — and the broader musical culture of their hometown.

PRICES START AT • \$65 • \$45 • \$35 • \$25

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MICHAEL A. BOYSON AND THE DOWNEAST GROUP AT
Morgan Stanley





ANNUAL BENEFIT BASH

Lady Rizo with guest Ari Shapiro

Emcee & Auctioneer Christine O'Leary

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019 • 8 PM

VIP AND SPONSOR RECEPTION • 7 PM | AURA, PORTLAND

“A formidable belter who can sustain phrases and notes even when sprawled on her back on a piano and scissoring her legs.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

“[Shapiro is] a scene stealer, not just with his singing but his humor.”

— THE SEATTLE TIMES



A once-in-a-lifetime pairing in an intimate club setting for Ovations audiences only, the charismatic Lady Rizo returns with her very, very special guest Ari Shapiro. A provocateur with a razor sharp wit, Grammy Award-winner Lady Rizo transforms cabaret standards and pop hits into soulful music experiences. Meanwhile Shapiro, known to NPR audiences and fans of Pink Martini, is the consummate crooner who appears to simply glide across the stage. Lady Rizo's repertoire stretches from Peggy Lee and Edith Piaf to Bruce Springsteen and the Talking Heads. Her signature mix of sophistication, brazen banter and luscious vocals leave audiences wanting more. *The Evening Standard* advises "Hold onto your socks or Lady Rizo will knock them off." The evening will be hosted by comedienne and auctioneer extraordinaire, Christine O'Leary. With three megawatt performers, let's see who steals the scene.

TICKETS ON SALE

\$75 • \$150
LIMITED SEATING

SPONSORSHIP TABLES AVAILABLE
PLEASE CONTACT 207.773.3150 ext. 5

Ovations' annual fundraiser supports its non-profit mission of bringing the power of live performance to Maine stages, classrooms and community settings.

SPONSORED BY:
THE DOWNEAST GROUP AT

Morgan Stanley





Malpasos Dance Company

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020 • 7:30 PM
WESTBROOK PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

“...A pinch-me moment, one of those times when you catch an artistic dawning...Malpasos’s dancers were exceptional.”

— LOS ANGELES TIMES

Passionate and precise, Cuba’s Malpasos Dance Company blends their classical training with “lushly earthy modern dance” (*Boston Globe*) alongside influences of social dances and capoeira. Though their name translates to “misstep,” the 11 dancers of Malpasos are never out of sync. Their Ovation’s program reflects Malpasos’s commitment to leading international choreographers as well as emerging Cuban voices, featuring *Why You Follow*, Ron K. Brown’s melding of African and Cuban dance traditions; *24 Hours and a Dog*, artistic director Osnel Delgado’s enduring work inspired by dancers’ lives in Havana, set to the Afro-Cuban strains of Arturo O’Farrill; and *Being (Ser)*, a brand new piece by company member Beatriz Garcia.

PRICES START AT \$38 • \$30
STUDENT DEAL • \$15

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PHIL STEELE & FRANCESCA
GALLUCCIO-STEEL

Miwa Matreyek: *Glorious Visions in Animation*

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020 • 3 PM & 8 PM
WESTBROOK PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
3pm Family Friendly Performance

“Magical...The sheer breadth of the imagery...is unlike anything you’ve seen before”

— LOS ANGELES TIMES

Merging cinematic vistas with intricate shadow play, multimedia performance artist Miwa Matreyek creates magical, surreal, visually rich fusions of intricate animation and live performance that leave audiences spellbound. Her latest work, “Infinitely Yours”, included only in the evening performance, explores the undeniable web of connections between humans and climate change. In “This World Made Itself” the fantastical kaleidoscopic experience is sophisticated yet full of childlike wonder, leading audiences from earth’s birth to today’s complex, fast-paced world. Especially for families at the 45-minute 3 pm performance, Matreyek also performs “Myth” and “Infrastructure”, which traverses seascapes, cityscapes and domestic spaces to conjure dreamlike scenes with nuanced layers of light and shadow.

PRICES START AT \$25
STUDENT DEAL • \$15

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



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Russian National Ballet: *The Sleeping Beauty*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020 • 7 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

Family Friendly Time

“The Russian National Ballet...is a cut above.”

— THE WASHINGTON POST

One of the most famous works of the classical ballet repertoire, *The Sleeping Beauty* is a sumptuous delight for all ages. Artistic Director Elena Radchenko — a legendary dancer of the Bolshoi — and her Russian National Ballet bring the timeless fairy tale to life with a company of 50 set against ornate sets, gorgeous costumes and of course, Tchaikovsky’s iconic score. *The Sleeping Beauty* is a supreme demonstration of what classical Russian ballet is known for: steely pointe work, sharply accented spinning turns, soaring leaps, high extensions and daring lifts.

PRICES START AT \$60 • \$50 • \$35 • \$25
STUDENT DEAL • \$20

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



SPONSORED BY:

OceanView
AT FALMOUTH
A 21st century retirement community™

Las Cafeteras

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020 • 7:30 PM
PORT CITY MUSIC HALL, PORTLAND

“Live, they’re magnetic.”

— LOS ANGELES TIMES

Taking the music scene by storm with infectious live performances that cross genres and musical borders, Las Cafeteras embodies a sound that represents a fusion between Spanish, African, and indigenous musical elements. Using traditional *son jarocho* instruments like the *jarana*, *requinto*, *quijada* (donkey jawbone) and *tarima* (a wooden platform), the high-energy group delivers a “uniquely Angeleno mishmash of punk, hip-hop, beat music, cumbia and rock” (*Los Angeles Times*). With inspiring lyrics sung in English, Spanish, and Spanglish, Las Cafeteras represent the next generation of globally-influenced roots musicians.

VIP SEATING • \$45

GA SEATING • \$35

GA STANDING • \$25

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



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The Snowy Day

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020 • 3 PM
MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

“Childsplay...is one of the best theaters for young audiences in the country, with top-notch acting and production values.”

— ARIZONA REPUBLIC

The Snowy Day celebrates the magic and boundless possibilities of the first snowfall. Follow Peter and his friends as they romp and play, starting snowball fights and making snow angels in this imaginative musical play about the childhood joys and challenges of growing up. Using innovative shadow puppetry, Ezra Jack Keats' treasured characters come to life in this humorous and fun live theater adaptation of the much beloved book by lauded children's theater troupe, Childsplay.



PRICES START AT \$15
MEMBERS • \$12



Blue Man Group

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020 • 7 PM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2020 • 7 PM
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020 • 7 PM
MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

“The show is so winsome, so witty, so energetic that it might ensnare you despite yourself.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Blue Man Group will rock your world, blow your mind, and unleash your spirit. As three bald and blue men explore our world, together we'll discover music, laughter and surprises at every turn. By the end of this spectacular journey, you'll be saying "I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT JUST HAPPENED BUT I LOVED IT."

35 million people of all ages, languages and cultures have experienced the unexpected with Blue Man Group. Now it's your turn to see what all the hype is about!

PRICES START AT • \$75 • \$65 • \$45

Members save
10% off full-priced tickets.

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MEDIA SPONSOR:





New York Philharmonic String Quartet

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020 • 4 PM
HANNAFORD HALL, PORTLAND

“A marvelous ensemble.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

A chance to luxuriate with some of the world’s best string players in works by composers who brought the prestigious quartet form to prominence in the 18th century and beyond: Haydn, the father of the string quartet form; Shostakovich; and Brahms. This quartet, founded in January 2017 during the New York Philharmonic’s 175th anniversary season, comprises four principal musicians from the orchestra, all multiple prize winners: Concertmaster Frank Huang; Principal Associate Concertmaster Sheryl Staples; Principal Viola Cynthia Phelps; and Principal Cellist Carter Brey.

PRICES START AT \$44
STUDENT DEAL \$15

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



MEDIA SPONSOR:



Requiem for an Electric Chair

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020 • 7:30 PM

JOHNFORDAUDITORIUMATPORTLANDHIGH SCHOOL, PORTLAND

Presented in collaboration with Portland High School, Greater Portland Immigrant Welcome Center and Indigo Arts Alliance

“Requiem for an Electric Chair is a work of catharsis and witness, a way of both processing [Toto Kisaku’s] own trauma and alerting the world to the suffering of others.”

— THE ARTS PAPER

With a gun to his head, Toto Kisaku was moments away from being killed when his executioner showed him a moment of mercy. “I cannot kill you, because I know you.” This simple sentence was the saving grace for award-winning playwright Toto Kisaku. It was also the moment that inspired his latest play. Set in an illegal detention center, *Requiem for an Electric Chair* is a powerful and unforgettable solo, multimedia performance about Kisaku’s escape from persecution. Recognized in his native Democratic Republic of Congo for creating theater that shines a bright light on injustices, Kisaku is a masterful storyteller whose work has been presented at festivals around the world.

Mature Content

PRICES START AT •\$25

STUDENT DEAL •\$15

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.



SPONSORED BY: SUPPORTED BY:





International Contemporary Ensemble

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2020 • 8 PM
HALOATTHEPOINT, THOMPSON'S POINT, PORTLAND

“...the new gold standard for new-music...”

— THE NEW YORKER

Called “extraordinary” by *The New York Times* and “America’s foremost new-music group” by critic Alex Ross, International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) is one of the most exciting ensembles working today. For Ovation audiences only, ICE brings an evening of music inspired by Ashley Fure’s *An Opera for Objects*, and Maine-born composer Suzanne Farrin’s *Martenot’s Wave*. Uniquely staged and featuring an eclectic array of custom instruments, the program explores an otherworldly ecological progression through an immersive audience experience.

PRICES START AT \$44 | Members save 10% off full-priced tickets.
STUDENT DEAL • \$15



SUPPORTED BY:



MEDIA SPONSOR:



BROADWAYNATIONAL TOUR:

Chicago

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020 • 8 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020 • 8 PM

MERRILL AUDITORIUM, PORTLAND

“Chicago still **GLITTERS HYPNOTICALLY.**”

— BEN BRANTLEY, THE NEW YORK TIMES

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 now 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. It's no surprise that *Chicago* has wowed audiences from Mexico City to Moscow, from Sao Paulo to South Africa. And now it's coming to your town! 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!

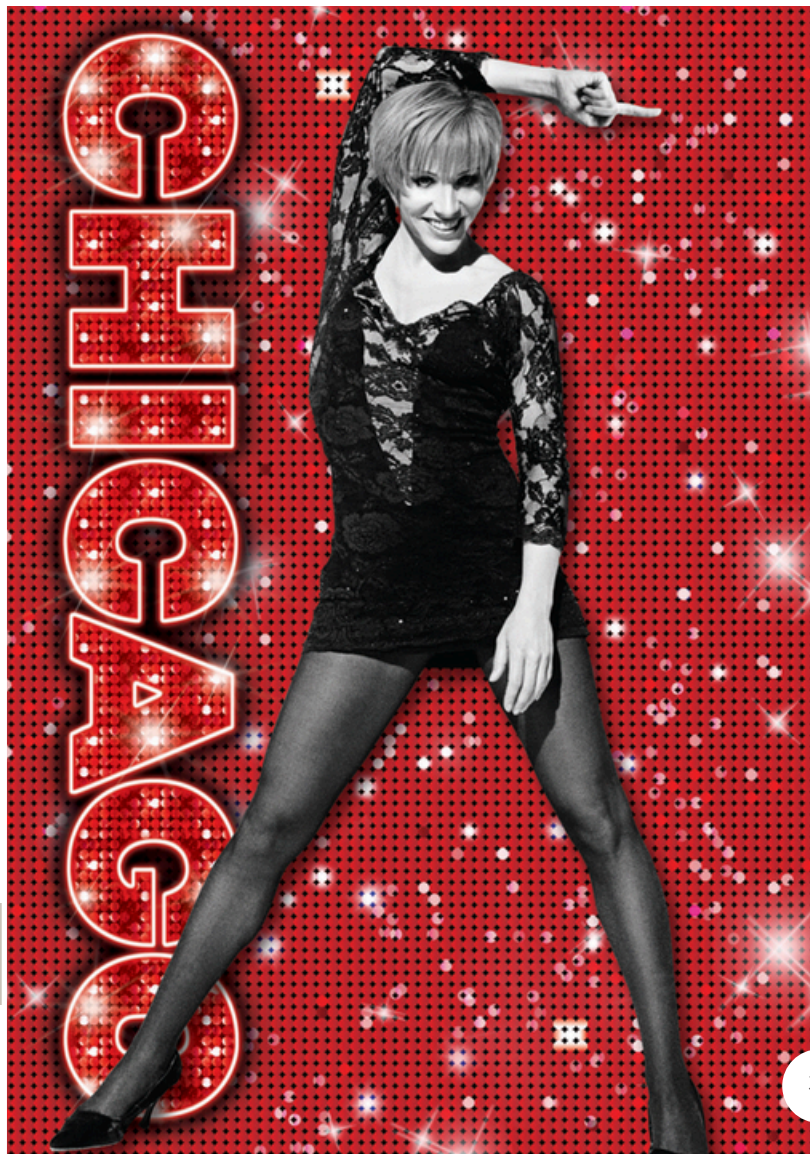
PRICES START AT • \$75 • \$65 • \$45

Members save
10% off full-
priced tickets.

SPONSORED BY:



MEDIA SPONSOR:



Ovations Offstage

A key part of what we do at Portland Ovations is bring performance artists offstage and into the vibrant, daily lives of our communities.

Ovations Offstage (O2) helps ensure access to the performing arts by connecting visiting artists to our many communities and placing the arts into community, school and family life. O2 additionally creates context by expanding the understanding of and appreciation for live performance in three focus areas: skills-based instruction, arts integration, and cultural competence. In collaboration with and grateful for our many community partners, O2 makes possible more than 100 events annually.



Throughout the season, look for the O2 symbol in this brochure and for the following activities as ways to deepen your engagement with live performance:

- Pre-performance lectures & panels
- Masterclasses with visiting artists
- School-Time Performances
- Family friendly performance schedules
- Unexpected “art happening”
- Community discussions
- Film screenings
- Post-performance Q&A’s
- Open sound checks
- Performance-themed birthday parties
- Meet-the-Artist events



YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT MAKES O2 POSSIBLE



School-Time Performance Series

Tied to Maine's Common Core Standards and rooted in arts integrated teaching and learning, O2's School-Time Performance Series connects Maine students and educators with the performing arts in significant ways both on and offstage. The series includes CULTIVATING CURIOSITY, a signature program that enhances early education experience by combining literacy skills with the performing arts through the delivery of books to attending students.

A wide range of resources for students and educators is available at portlandovations.org/offstage.

2019-20 School-Time Performances
Magic Flute's House of Snowtime with Shakespeare
 FEBRUARY 7, 2020 10 AM
MOMIX's Viva MOMIX
 FEBRUARY 20, 2020 11 AM
El Cucu Drum Group
 MARCH 19, 2020 10 AM
Las Cafeteras

In-School performance available - contact O2 for details
Living Voices, Hear My Voice
 MARCH 20, 2020 12 PM
The Snowy Day
 APRIL 16, 2020 10 AM
Requiem for an Electric Chair



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

207.773.3150 ext. 3
offstage@portlandovations.org

Interested in helping underwrite a class attending one of our School-Time Performances? Please call 207.773.3150 ext. 5

Thank you to our School-Time Performance Series sponsors & funders.



GET MORE OF WHAT YOU LIKE: PACKAGE IT AND SAVE!

Portland Ovations' programs are also available in the following package options, allowing you select more of the type of performances you like best — Broadway? Classical? Dance? — while saving on ticket purchases. We've created these special packages with you in mind! Each package has a defined discount that will be applied at time of purchase when you select four or more qualifying performances in one transaction.



Broadway Bundle

It's BEAUTIFUL! Opening with the Carole King Musical in October and including the acclaimed *Waitress* by the director Diane Paulus to start the new year; the always stunning and unforgettable Blue Man Group to kiss goodbye your March blues; and the iconic Fosse/Verdon song and dance production *Chicago* to wrap up our Broadway national tours.

Buy all four and save 15%:

- *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*
- *Waitress*
- Blue Man Group
- *Chicago*

This will be a Broadway season to remember.



Classical Series

For 89 years, we've led the way in bringing the highest quality and most innovative chamber musicians to Maine, and in this Maine Bicentennial year we've pulled out all the stops.

Select four for \$160 or buy all five for \$200:

• Boston Camerata's special Bicentennial program, *Free America*

- Gabriela Montero's homage to 20th century émigré composers, *Westward*
- Avi Avital with harpist Bridget Kibbey
- New York Philharmonic String Quartet
- The International Contemporary Ensemble

Please join us for this classical conversation.



Bicentennial Series

We honor Maine's 200th year by celebrating Maine's artists, environment and history — both the well-known and the less visible. Begin this journey with the MacArthur Fellow and Guggenheim Award winning Taylor Mac in a show tailored to this Maine milestone, then follow our bicentennial path.

Select four of seven for a 10% discount:

- Taylor Mac: *A24-DecadeHistoryofPopular Music, Abridged*
- Sara Juli: *Burnt-Out Wife**
- NPR's *From the Top*
- Boston Camerata *Free America*
- Miwa Matreyek: *Glorious Visions in Animation*
- International Contemporary Ensemble
- *Chicago*



Dance Package

We're raising the barre for contemporary dance in Maine! Join us this season as we offer five opportunities to see dance in all its many glories, celebrating the form and its growing strength in Portland — we truly have something for everyone.

Select four of five performances for 10% savings and be part of *Raising the Barre*:

- Sara Juli: *Burnt-Out Wife**
- MOMIX: *Viva MOMIX*
- Malpaso Dance Company
- Miwa Matreyek: *Glorious Visions in Animation*
- Russian National Ballet: *The Sleeping Beauty*

**Burnt-Out Wife* counts toward package total but is not eligible for discounts

BUY YOUR TICKETS

Portland Ovations offers many different packages that allow you to save on ticket purchases:

Choose 4 Package

A Choose 4 Package consists of purchasing four or more qualifying performances in one transaction during the season. By buying a Choose 4 Package, you can enjoy a 10% discount off your purchase.

Broadway Bundle

This package includes a 15% discount

- *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*
- *Waitress*
- Blue Man Group
- *Chicago*

Classical Package

Select four for \$160 or buy all five for \$200:

- Boston Camerata
- Gabriella Montero
- Avi Avital & Bridget Kibbey
- New York Philharmonic String Quartet
- International Contemporary Ensemble

Bicentennial Package

This package includes a 10% discount

Pick four or more of the following seven:

- Miwa Matreyek
- International Contemporary Ensemble
- Boston Camerata
- NPR's *From The Top*
- *Chicago*
- Taylor Mac
- Sara Juli: *Burnt-Out Wife**

Dance Package

This package includes a 10% discount

Pick four or more of the following five:

- MOMIX
- Malpaso Dance Company
- Miwa Matreyek
- The Russian National Ballet
- Sara Juli: *Burnt-Out Wife**

Package tickets are not exchangeable or refundable. Discounts cannot be combined or retroactively applied.

* counts towards package but are not eligible for discount.

Series Icons

Ovations builds connections and contexts into all its performances. Look for these icons throughout this brochure:



Includes Ovations' Offstage programming in addition to Main Stage Performance.



Seeking Resonance, a special dynamic series of multidisciplinary projects celebrating the transcendent quality of live performance.



Performances that are offered at a special school time.



Included in our Maine Bicentennial Series Package.



Performances featured in our Dance Package, *Raising the Barre*.

How to Order

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 Saturdays, May-September.

BY PHONE • 207.842.0800

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

ONLINE • portlandovations.org

Tickets to individual performances may be purchased from our website at any time.

Some discounts may not be available online.

Ticketing Fees

Single Tickets: \$7 fee per ticket phone, mail and online.

Groups: \$4 fee per ticket for reservations and phone sales.

Family & Student Deal Tickets:

Discounts

Discounts cannot be combined or retroactively applied.

MEMBERS

Members receive a 10% discount on most performances for all season tickets, unless otherwise noted.

STUDENTS

Any full-time student is eligible to purchase tickets for most events at a 10% discount, as well as our limited deeply discounted "Student Deal" tickets for select events listed throughout this brochure. Student Deal tickets are available over the phone and in person only.

GROUPS

A Portland Ovation performance makes for a sensational outing at reduced rates for

groups. For group sales contact PortTIX at 207.842.0800, ext. 223, or groups@porttix.com.

SENIORS

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

\$3 fee per ticket, phone and mail

Packages: \$3 fee per ticket phone, mail and online.

Members: \$3 fee per ticket phone, mail and online.

Exchanges

Ticket exchanges are available to Portland Ovation 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.



Portland Ovation is committed to providing accessible facilities and programs. For information about accessibility services, please contact PortTIX, the box office at Merrill Auditorium.

Ticket prices subject to change.

If you have questions about buying packages or tickets please contact PortTIX at 207.842.0800. Packages are available through all modes of sale.



TO PURCHASE TICKETS CALL **PORTTIX 207.842.0800**

About Us

Portland Ovations is a Maine-based, not-for-profit performing arts organization curating seasons of innovative performances and masterful artists from classical music, dance, theater, global influences and Broadway. Transcending the boundaries of the stage, we connect artists to our community through Ovations Offstage, our season-long educational and outreach programs. Now in our 89th year, our ever-evolving commitment to uniting our community to the experience of live performance leaves a lasting impression on audiences and inspires the next generation of arts makers and aficionados.

Vision Statement

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

Mission

Portland Ovations 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.

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Executive & Artistic
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LINDA NELSON
Deputy Director



LAURA A. STAUFFER
Associate Director of
Programming



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2019-20 Venues

Portland Ovations uses various venues to ensure the best possible experience for our patrons and the artists we bring. The eight different and dynamic venues that feature Portland Ovations' 2019-20 season include:

MERRILL AUDITORIUM

A beautifully restored 1900-seat performance venue, this majestic hall is one of the gems of Portland's downtown Arts District and is located at 20 Myrtle Street, near many excellent restaurants.

HANNAFORD HALL

A warm and welcoming performance space located at 88 Bedford Street on the USM Portland campus, Hannaford Hall is an intimate 520-seat venue with 130-seat mezzanine. An attached 1200-car parking garage makes accessing the performances convenient and hassle-free.

HALO AT THE POINT

An open concept venue located in the Brick North building of Thompson's Point in Portland. HALO bridges the rugged beauty of its exposed brick and classic 1800's industrial architecture with modern audio and lighting amenities.

JOHNFORDAUDITORIUM

Housed inside historic Portland High School at 264 Cumberland Avenue, the 576-seat John Ford Auditorium is a true community space, offering not only students but also numerous organizations throughout the city.

PORT CITY MUSIC HALL

A live music venue located in the heart of Portland's downtown Arts District at 504 Congress Street. An intimate, club atmosphere lends itself to a variety of patron experiences, ranging from VIP seating with table service, to general admission floor seating, to a standing room only section (ideal for dancing). All seated sections are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

SPACE

SPACE is a contemporary multidisciplinary visual and performance space located in the heart of Portland's Art District at 538 Congress Street.

STATE THEATRE

An iconic 1870-seat performing arts venue located at 609 Congress Street in downtown Portland, featuring a combination of Moorish and Art Deco architecture and state of the art audio and lighting systems.

WESTBROOK PERFORMING ARTSCENTER

A truly state-of-the-art 1000 seat theater that is located at 471 Stroudwater Street in Westbrook, just minutes from downtown Portland, and has free parking available.



GUGU DRUM GROUP



TAYLOR MAC



RUSSIAN NATIONAL BALLET



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