

MESA ARTS CENTER

PERFORMING LIVE

2025 - 2026 SEASON



MESA
ARTS
CENTER

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CONCERTS & EVENTS



THE CIRCUS FARM

SUN, JUL 13, 20, 27, 2025 | 1:00 PM & 3:00 PM

NESBITT-ELLIOTT PLAYHOUSE THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$16.25

The Circus Farm returns! Escape the summer heat and join us for a family-friendly Mesa Arts Center experience. The day features a 60-minute air-conditioned family circus, with games, balloons, juggling, unicycle stunts, a hula hoop, LED lighted props, a giant robot and Aerial Lollipop. Also, be sure to come early to enjoy a pre-show experience hosted by MABEL (Mobile Arts Based Engagement Lab)! MABEL is an adaptable and flexible creative space and pop-up arts center on wheels with activities meant to create connections on the spot, prompt discussion, catalyze change and spark creativity through the arts.

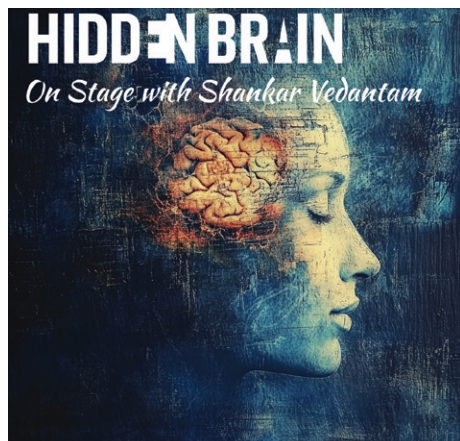


THE AUSTRALIAN PINK FLOYD SHOW • WISH YOU WERE HERE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

FRI, AUG 22, 2025 | 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$74.50 | VIP AVAILABLE

Performing the music of Pink Floyd with note for note perfection, this critically acclaimed show has been astonishing audiences worldwide for more than three decades. Always striving to reproduce the complete Pink Floyd experience and bring the music to new audiences, the show continues to include a stunning light and laser show, video animations, state of the art, high resolution LED screen technology and other special effects. In addition, and in true Pink Floyd fashion, there are several huge inflatables, including a giant pig and their own unique Pink Kangaroo.



HIDDEN BRAIN ON TOUR!

SAT, AUG 23, 2025 | 6:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$56.50

Are there parts of our minds that are hidden from us? This question launched the Hidden Brain podcast ten years ago. Since then, Hidden Brain has helped millions of listeners accomplish their goals, improve their relationships, and develop a deeper understanding of their emotions. Now, host and creator Shankar Vedantam brings seven key insights from the first decade of Hidden Brain to the stage. Whether you're new to the show or a longtime listener, this evening of science and storytelling will change how you think about yourself. Come share your own thoughts and ideas with Shankar and other fans of the show! **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**



SCOTT BRADLEE'S POSTMODERN JUKEBOX MAGIC & MOONLIGHT TOUR

**FRI, AUG 29, 2025 | 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$46.00
VIP AVAILABLE**

Even in the age of AI and virtual realities, there is nothing that compares with the thrill of hearing classic genres of music performed live. The revamped show will blend modern-day earworms and iconic pop hits with the original styles that put American popular music on the map: Ragtime, Swing, Big Band, Country/Western, Doo Wop and Soul.

Everything new is old again—leave the AI at home and take a road trip to experience life in the past lane! **Dressing in vintage attire is encouraged.**



WILL WOOD • MR. WOOD IS DEAD TEN-YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR WITH SUPPORT FROM FISH IN A BIRDCAGE

SUN, AUG 31, 2025 | 7:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$46.00

In the ten years since the release of his debut album, indie singer-songwriter Will Wood has played the roles of drug-addled shock jockey, cryptic art-rock recluse, self-deprecating chamber-pop balladeer and storytelling alt-comic with paradoxically equal parts authenticity and theatricality. While it may have served Wood well to fall in line with the demands many artists face when confronted with an unexpected viral moment, the cult singer-songwriter has remained defiantly himself. In the theater, Wood's emotive storytelling and standup intertwine with his widely varying style of music in a way that refuses to conform to either tradition, and when with his band, his raucous "Tapeworms" concerts are equally unconventional. **For ages 18+. Presented in partnership with Live Nation.**

CONCERTS & EVENTS

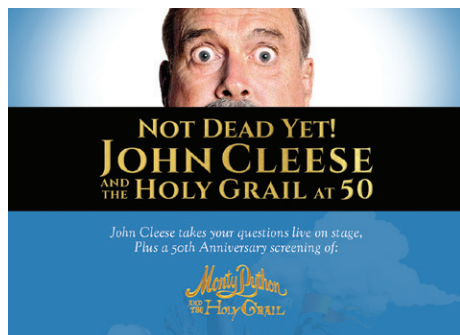


ALICIA VILLARREAL

FRI, SEP 5, 2025 | 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$52.00

Latin GRAMMY®-winning artist Alicia Villarreal returns to the stage with her highly anticipated Donde Todo Comenzó 2.0 (Where It All Began 2.0) tour. After kicking off in Mexico, the beloved Mexican songstress will bring her signature blend of ranchera and Tejano hits to major cities across the U.S. and Mexico through November 2025. Fans can expect an unforgettable evening of emotional ballads and high-energy anthems, including classics like Te Quedó Grande La Yegua and Ay Papacito. Don't miss the chance to experience Alicia Villarreal live!

La artista ganadora del Grammy Latino, Alicia Villarreal, regresa a los escenarios con su muy esperada gira "Donde Todo Comenzó 2.0". La gira dio inicio en México, pero la querida cantante mexicana también llevará su emblemática mezcla de éxitos rancheros y tejanos a las principales ciudades de Estados Unidos, concluirá en noviembre de 2025. Los fans podrán disfrutar de una noche inolvidable de baladas emotivas y composiciones vibrantes, que incluyen clásicos como "Te quedó grande la yegua" y "Ay papacito". ¡No se pierdan la oportunidad de disfrutar de Alicia Villarreal en vivo!



NOT DEAD YET!

JOHN CLEESE AND THE HOLY GRAIL AT 50

SAT, SEP 6, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$56.00 | VIP AVAILABLE

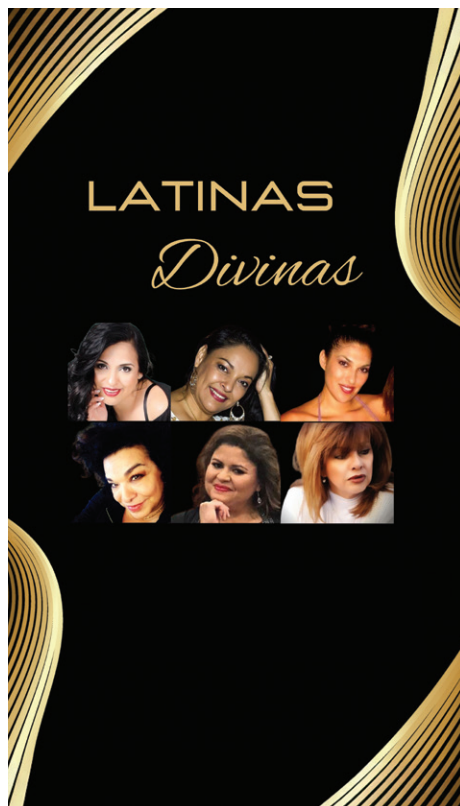
Living comedy legend, John Cleese, returns to Mesa for a truly unforgettable evening of conversation and audience Q&A. **Absurd and/or ridiculous questions only are requested, please.** John will tell stories of his life and career and you just may finally find out the airspeed of an unladen swallow. The audience will get to see Monty Python and the Holy Grail in its entirety on the big screen. **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**



WARDRUNA • WITH SPECIAL GUEST CHELSEA WOLFE

SUN, SEP 7, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$45.50

Wardruna returns to Mesa Arts Center, with Birna, their sixth studio album. Rooted in ancient traditions yet resonating with modern soundscapes, Birna is a tribute to the bear—nature's lost guardian—symbolizing the balance between humanity and the wild. Led by composer Einar Selvik, Wardruna continues to weave powerful, immersive soundscapes using ancient instruments, Nordic mythology, and the raw voice of nature. Don't miss this opportunity to experience their mesmerizing live performance, where past and present merge in a ritual of sound and storytelling. **Presented in partnership with Emporium Presents.**



LATINAS DIVINAS

SAT, SEP 13, 2025 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$52.00

The “Latina Divinas II” concert celebrates the global impact of Latina artists from the Americas, honoring legends like Celia Cruz, Selena Quintanilla-Pérez, Gloria Estefan, Lila Downs, Rocío Dúrcal, Lola Beltrán, Jenni Rivera, and Chavela Vargas. Their music will be brought to life by Phoenix’s own award-winning Latina singers and musicians, including Carmela Ramirez, Mary Hurtado, Olivia Calderon, Diana Lee, CeCe Ya, and Angie Gomez-Byrd, with guest performances by guitarist Donna Cruz and Mariachi Sonido de Mexico. Ballet Folklorico Quetzali, led by Vanessa Ramirez, adds a vibrant visual element through dance. This heartfelt performance is a proud cultural tribute from Phoenix’s Latina artists, uniting audiences through the universal power of music and art.

El concierto “Latina Divinas II” celebra el impacto global de las artistas latinas de las Américas, honrando a leyendas como Celia Cruz, Selena Quintanilla-Pérez, Gloria Estefan, Lila Downs, Rocío Dúrcal, Lola Beltrán, Jenni Rivera y Chavela Vargas. Su música será traída a la vida por las galardonadas cantantes y músicos latinas de Phoenix, incluyendo a Carmela Ramírez, Mary Hurtado, Olivia Calderón, Diana Lee, CeCe Ya y Angie Gómez-Byrd, con actuaciones especiales de la guitarrista Donna Cruz y el Mariachi Sonido de México. El Ballet Folklórico Quetzali, dirigido por Vanessa Ramírez, agrega un elemento visual vibrante a través de la danza. Esta sentida actuación es un orgulloso tributo cultural de las artistas latinas de Phoenix, uniendo al público a través del poder universal de la música y el arte.



TOAD THE WET SPROCKET • GOOD INTENTIONS TOUR 2025 WITH SPECIAL GUESTS KT TUNSTALL AND VERTICAL HORIZON

SAT, SEP 13, 2025 | 7:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$52.00

Toad the Wet Sprocket, the beloved alternative rock band from Santa Barbara, California, first captured audiences in the late 1980s with their heartfelt lyrics and melodic sound. Rising to prominence with albums like *Fear* (1991) and *Dulcinea* (1994), they became known for hits such as “Walk on the Ocean,” “All I Want,” and “Good Intentions.” Their ability to blend introspective songwriting with catchy, folk-influenced rock has cemented them as a lasting presence in the music world. **Presented in partnership with Lucky Man Concerts.**

CONCERTS & EVENTS



Photo Credit: David Turecky

THE SWELL SEASON • NORTH AMERICAN TOUR

TUE, SEP 16, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$66.00

The Swell Season returns with *Forward*, their first full-length album in 16 years, marking a new chapter for Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová. Known for their Academy Award-winning song *Falling Slowly* and the beloved film *Once*, the duo brings their signature blend of heartfelt storytelling and intimate melodies to the stage once again. *Forward* captures their evolution, with both artists sharing the spotlight as equals, creating a sound both nostalgic and new. Joined by longtime band members, their live performance promises a moving journey through past classics and fresh, deeply personal songs. **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**



AMERICA

SAT, SEP 20, 2025 | 7:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$66.75

GRAMMY®-winning rock legends America bring their timeless sound and deep catalog of hits to the stage, including the iconic “A Horse With No Name.” Their signature blend of melodic pop rock, folk-jazz, and Latin rhythms made songs like “Ventura Highway,” “Sister Golden Hair,” and “Tin Man” staples of 1970s radio. More than just hitmakers, America continues to captivate with their rich musical artistry and enduring appeal. **Presented in partnership with Outback Presents.**

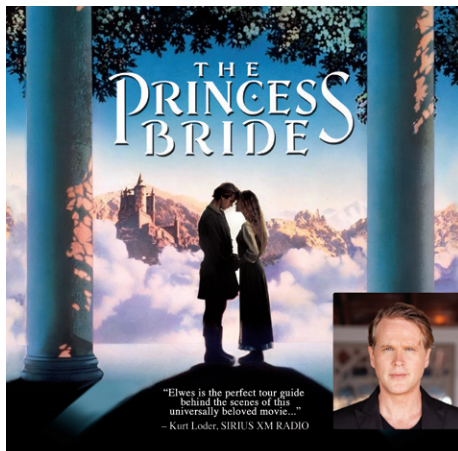


TWILIGHT IN CONCERT • THE FILM WITH LIVE BAND

THU, OCT 2, 2025 | **SOLD OUT!** | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$46.50

Experience the legendary romance saga with this epic film-to-concert event—featuring the original movie accompanied by a sensational live band on stage and an enchanting candlelit atmosphere. TWILIGHT IN CONCERT offers a unique opportunity for fans to relive the story that started it all in a cinematic live experience like no other. An exceptional 12-piece ensemble of outstanding rock and orchestral musicians will take the stage to perform the beloved film score in perfect synchronization with the original movie, presented in its entirety on a full-size cinema screen. Be captivated by the magical atmosphere as over a thousand twinkling candles illuminate the grand stage, creating an ambiance that sets the stage for a truly romantic journey. **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**



THE PRINCESS BRIDE • AN INCONCEIVABLE EVENING WITH CARY ELWES

**SAT, OCT 11, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$56.50
VIP AVAILABLE**

Join Cary Elwes (Westley) for a behind-the-scenes look at life on and off the set of the classic film, *The Princess Bride*. After a screening of the iconic movie, Elwes will share personal stories from behind the making of the movie and will engage in a moderated discussion revealing never before shared secrets and tales of inconceivable antics! Journey back to the lands of Florin and Guilder in an adventure filled with fencing, fighting, torture, revenge, giants, monsters, chases, escapes, miracles, and of course, true love. Don't be a "Humperdinck," make haste to see *The Princess Bride: An Inconceivable Evening with Cary Elwes* for a night you will always "tweasure." Presented in partnership with Gate 52.



CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE & BRAD MEHLDAU

SUN, OCT 19, 2025 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$57.00

Two of the most respected artists in contemporary jazz join forces in this duo. Hailed "one of modern jazz's most innovative musicians" by *Glide Magazine*, Christian McBride says, "Brad is justifiably revered as one of the greatest pianists of all time." Named "one of our greatest living pianists" by NPR, Brad Mehldau says, "Playing with Christian, especially in this configuration, is both joyful and daunting all at once. His level of sophistication and swing, of emotional power and grace, is unsurpassed—not in the least on what he has achieved on his instrument, but also as one of our strongest voices in the music more generally, at the top of his game."



BLACK JACKET SYMPHONY PRESENTS AC/DC "BACK IN BLACK"

TUE, OCT 21, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$33.00

Remember putting on an album and listening start to finish? Relive that with The Black Jacket Symphony as they recreate AC/DC's iconic *Back in Black* live—note for note, sound for sound—plus a full set of AC/DC's greatest hits. Over the past decade, they've performed 40+ classic rock albums for over a million fans across the U.S. With hand-picked musicians tailored to each album, no sonic detail is overlooked—it's rock and roll magic with a one-of-a-kind visual experience. Don't let the name fool you—these black-jacketed pros are known for stunning live recreations of rock's greatest albums. *Back in Black* is next. Black jackets for them, blue jeans for you. Presented in partnership with Emporium Presents.

CONCERTS & EVENTS



MASTERCHEF ALL-STARS LIVE

WED, OCT 22, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$51.50

The Heat. The Competition. The Culinary Magic—LIVE! Get ready, food lovers! MasterChef All-Stars Live! is bringing your favorite chefs to Mesa! This high-energy stage show delivers the ultimate MasterChef experience! Witness epic head-to-head battles, thrilling challenges and jaw-dropping culinary creations. Plus, hear from your favorite all stars on what it's like to cook in America's famous kitchen plus tips and tricks to take to your own home kitchen. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime night of food, fun and fierce competition! **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**



STARDEW VALLEY • SYMPHONY OF SEASONS

**SAT, NOV 1, 2025 | 3:00 PM & 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$61.00**

Experience Stardew Valley like never before with Symphony of Seasons! Curated by ConcernedApe, this concert features a 35-piece orchestra performing the game's most beloved music, accompanied by gameplay footage and exclusive visuals. Journey through the valley's most iconic locations, from Pelican Town to Ginger Island, as the seasons unfold in this unforgettable live experience. **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**



PENN & TELLER • 50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

THU, NOV 6, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$61.50

For over 50 years Penn & Teller have defied labels—and at times physics and good taste—by redefining the genre of magic and inventing their own very distinct niche in comedy. The duo has enjoyed sold out runs on Broadway, world tours, Emmy-winning TV specials and hundreds of outrageous appearances on everything from Fallon to Friends. They currently star in the hit series Penn & Teller: Fool Us! for The CW Network, on which up-and-comers and magic veterans try to fool Penn & Teller for a chance to star in the pair's hit Las Vegas stage show.



SARAH MILLICAN • LATE BLOOMER

SAT, NOV 8, 2025 | SOLD OUT! | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS STARTING AT \$45.50

When Sarah Millican was a child, she wouldn't say boo to a goose. Quiet at school, not many friends, no boobs 'til she was 16. Now? NOW she is loud, with good friends, a cracking rack and goose booing all over the shop. In Late Bloomer, Sarah's brand-new stand-up show, she explores how one became the other. Plus, lots of stuff about dinners and lady gardens. Come along and join Sarah on her second American tour, laugh at her, with her, beside her. **Presented in partnership with Live Nation.**



STANLEY CLARKE • N•4EVER TOUR

FRI, NOV 14, 2025 | 8:00 PM | PIPER THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$64.00

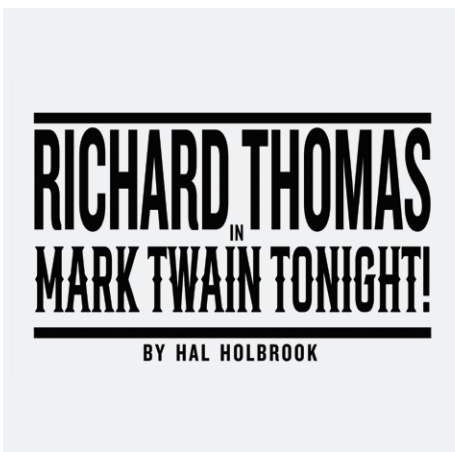
Four-time GRAMMY® Award winner Stanley Clarke is thrilled to be back on the road with his exciting new band 4EVER. The Stanley Clarke N•4EVER Tour emphasizes Clarke's jazz fusion legacy. As expected, for this tour Clarke will be performing exciting new and sophisticated arrangements. True to the evolution of jazz fusion, expect a powerful combination of jazz harmony and improvisation with rock, funk, R&B, hip-hop and electronic music influences.



THE FAB FOUR • TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES' HELP! AND THE HITS

FRI, NOV 14, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$39.50

If you want to experience the best Beatles tribute ever, you won't want to miss The Fab Four-The Ultimate Tribute. The 2025 tour brings their all-new show to the stage, celebrating The Beatles' second film, HELP!, with performances from the movie soundtrack, as well as the Beatles' greatest hits of every era. The Emmy Award Winning Fab Four is elevated far above every other Beatles Tribute due to their precise attention to detail. With uncanny, note-for-note live renditions of Beatles' classics such as "Help!," "Yesterday," "A Day In The Life," "Twist And Shout," "Here Comes The Sun" and "Hey Jude," the Fab Four will make you think you are watching the real thing. **Presented in partnership with Emporium Presents.**



RICHARD THOMAS IN "MARK TWAIN TONIGHT"

FRI, NOV 21, 2025 | 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$47.00

Emmy® Award winning Actor Richard Thomas brings to life "the nation's one true comic genius" (The New York Times) in Mark Twain Tonight!, written and originally performed by Hal Holbrook. Join the millions who have cheered for the legendary one-man show, bursting with Twain's "uproariously funny" and "pungently wise" (Time Magazine) humor.



THE VOICE OF WHITNEY A SYMPHONIC CELEBRATION

SAT, NOV 22, 2025 | 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$57.00

Experience Whitney Houston's astounding musical legacy like never before. This new concert tribute features original master recordings of Whitney's vocals set to new orchestrations of her biggest hits—including "I Wanna Dance with Somebody," "Higher Love" and "I Will Always Love You"—accompanied by home movies, film performances, and never-before-seen footage.

Presented in collaboration with the Estate of Whitney Houston, Park Avenue Artists, and Primary Wave Music.



STAYIN' ALIVE • ONE NIGHT OF THE BEE GEES

FRI, NOV 28, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$23.00

STAYIN' ALIVE offers to their audiences the songs and sights of a full Bee Gees playlist, singing blockbusters such as "How Deep Is Your Love," "You Should Be Dancing," "Stayin' Alive" and more. STAYIN' ALIVE is the largest and most definitive production of its kind, offering big screen video clips, photos and dazzling imagery. STAYIN' ALIVE is the quintessential tribute band to the Bee Gees, capturing the excitement of live performance and the tender subtleties of the human voice! **Presented in partnership with Emporium Presents.**



Photo Credit: Colin Peck Photography

**DAVE KOZ & FRIENDS • CHRISTMAS 2025 TOUR
FEATURING JONATHAN BUTLER WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
HALEY REINHART, CASEY ABRAMS AND KAYLA WATERS
WED, DEC 17, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$75.00**

Dave Koz & Friends continue their annual holiday tradition at Mesa Arts Center! With nine GRAMMY® nominations, eleven No. 1 albums on Billboard's Current Contemporary Jazz Albums chart and a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, saxophonist Dave Koz has maintained a commitment to celebrating the magic of the holiday season like few other artists of his genre or generation.



GENTRI CHRISTMAS

FRI, DEC 19, 2025 | 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$56.00

Celebrate 10 years of GENTRI Christmas with a spectacular anniversary show! Enjoy their soaring harmonies and masterful storytelling as they bring beloved classics like "O Holy Night," "Little Drummer Boy" and "Silent Night" to life, along with brand-new, never-before-heard music premiering exclusively on this tour. Experience the magic, music and meaning of Christmas like never before! **Presented in partnership with MagicSpace Entertainment.**



CIRQUE MUSICA HOLIDAY WONDERLAND

**SAT, DEC 20, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$65.50
VIP AVAILABLE**

This holiday season, experience the magic of cirque like never before with the all-new Cirque Musica Holiday Wonderland! A thrilling blend of world-class circus artistry and your favorite holiday music, this spectacular production will transport you to a winter wonderland of awe and enchantment. With breathtaking acrobatics, soaring aerial performances and an all-new production for this year, Cirque Musica Holiday Wonderland delivers an unforgettable holiday experience for the whole family. Feel the holiday spirit come to life with heart-pounding feats and beloved seasonal melodies. **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WITH RICCARDO MUTI

THU, JAN 15, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$57.00

An Arizona exclusive! The Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) is hailed as one of the greatest orchestras in the world. The CSO's talented musicians are the driving force behind the ensemble's famous sound heard in memorable performances and on best-selling recordings.

Internationally renowned conductor Riccardo Muti served as the orchestra's tenth music director and is now its Music Director Emeritus for Life. His leadership has been distinguished by the strength of his artistic partnership with the orchestra, command of repertoire of the past and present, including 17 world premieres, as well as 12 recordings together with 3 GRAMMY® awards among them.

With over 40 years of experience, he has led prestigious orchestras, including Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and Teatro alla Scala. Muti holds numerous honors, including the Italian Cavaliere di Gran Croce, British Knight Commander and Commander of the French Legion of Honor. He maintains close ties to the Vienna Philharmonic.

PROGRAM:

Brahms: Symphony No 4

Stravinsky: Divertimento from "The Fairy's Kiss"

Ravel: Bolero





JOSHUA KANE • BORDERS OF THE MIND

SAT, JAN 24, 2026 | 3:00 PM & 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$46.00

Can he read your mind? Discover your inner superhero in Mentalist Joshua Kane's amazing interactive performance. Entire audiences experience simultaneous telepathy, and witness dazzling feats of lie detection and what must be psychic phenomena. People of all ages leap to participate in the strange happenings at the Borders of the Mind. In 2022 the Psychic Entertainers Association awarded Joshua the Dunninger Memorial Award, their highest honor, "Awarded for Distinguished Professionalism in the Performance of Mentalism."



DIRTY DANCING LIVE

SAT, FEB 7, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$41.50

Join us for Dirty Dancing in Concert, the classic film's first live film-to-concert experience. Enjoy the digitally remastered hit film like never before on a full-size cinema screen, with a live band and singers performing the film's iconic songs. With a soundtrack that marked a generation, Dirty Dancing in Concert promises to bring a thrilling new and unique experience to the 80s classic. Directly following the film, the band and singers will throw an encore party that will surely take you back to the time of your life as you sing and dance along to your favorite Dirty Dancing songs. **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**

Vocalists pictured L-R: Max Pinson, Rosie Staudt, Michael D'Elia



THE LEGENDARY COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA WITH SPECIAL GUEST NNENNA FREELON

TUE, FEB 24, 2026 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$53.00

The Count Basie Orchestra, a living testament to Basie's enduring influence, thrives under the direction of Scotty Barnhart. Its members, personally chosen by Basie himself, continue to uphold the orchestra's unparalleled reputation. The ensemble has garnered acclaim from every corner of the globe, conquering esteemed jazz polls and amassing an impressive collection of 18 GRAMMY® Awards. Their performances have graced the presence of royalty, captivated audiences in movies and television shows and graced the stages of major jazz festivals and renowned concert halls worldwide.

Photo Credit: Chris Charles

CONCERTS & EVENTS



MARIACHI HERENCIA DE MÉXICO CON LEONARDO AGUILAR • LA NUEVA GENERACIÓN

FRI, FEB 27, 2026 | 8:00 PM | IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$41.00

¡Viva el mariachi! A new generation takes mariachi to whole new heights—two time Latin GRAMMY®-nominee Mariachi Herencia de México pushes the boundaries of traditional mariachi music. Simultaneously honoring the past, celebrating the present, and creating the future of mariachi music, Mariachi Herencia de México presents an electrifying and unforgettable night of Mexican music and culture.



NEW YORK GILBERT & SULLIVAN PLAYERS THE MIKADO

TUE, MAR 3, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$42.00

Don't miss NYGASP's new and critically acclaimed production of *The Mikado*. *The Mikado* features all of your favorite G&S characters: Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo, Ko-Ko, the Lord High Executioner with his "little list" of potential victims, as well as the fearsome Katisha, the hilariously ridiculous Pooh-Bah, and the politely sadistic Mikado himself. A brief new prologue set in the offices of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company frames the classic work for today's audiences. Gilbert's lyrics and Sullivan's melodies—which have delighted comic opera lovers for over one hundred thirty-five years—are still as fresh as "the flowers that bloom in the spring."



GABRIEL RUTLEDGE • DON'T READ THE COMMENTS

SAT, MAR 7, 2026 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$31.00

A past winner of both the Seattle International Comedy Competition and The Laughing Skull Comedy Festival in Atlanta, Gabriel has made numerous television appearances including Comedy Central's Live at Gotham, Nickelodeon's Nickmom Night Out, Laughs on FOX, and Inside Joke streaming on Amazon Prime Video. His Dry Bar Comedy special "A Third of the Room," as well as his YouTube special "Nectarine" have garnered millions of views online. He is also the author of the book "Happiness Isn't Funny: True Stories of a Road Comic." **Presented in partnership with Gate 52.**



CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH LÚNASA

TUE, MAR 17, 2026 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$58.00

The band's complex arrangements and unique sound reshaped the boundaries of traditional music and energized audiences the world over. Lúnasa's current lineup includes Trevor Hutchinson, bassist with The Waterboys; uilleann piper Cillian Vallely, who toured with Riverdance and recorded with Bruce Springsteen; Kevin Crawford, widely considered one of Ireland's greatest flute players; award-winning fiddler Colin Farrell and guitarist Ed Boyd, known on the UK folk circuit for his work with bands such as Flook, Kate Rusby, and Cara Dillon. Currently the band is touring their most recent cd, "Cas."

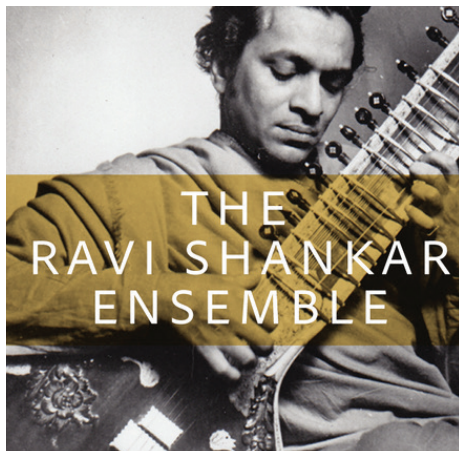
"LÚNASA'S MUSICIANSHIP IS AWESOME ... THE NEW GODS OF IRISH MUSIC ...
BRILLIANT ... THRILLING ... BREATHTAKING" — MOJO



DRUM TAO

THU, MAR 26, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$37.00

Hailed for its high-octane, visionary productions, Drum Tao electrifies Japanese artforms with eye-popping costumes, lavish set designs and bold, complex choreography. Acclaimed as one of the leading taiko drumming groups today, Drum Tao has performed for over 8 million worldwide, including on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. “What we want to do is more than just classical drumming,” Drum Tao’s lead performer Taro Harasaki says. “It’s a very modern style and uses a lot of modern aspects in the show.”



THE RAVI SHANKAR ENSEMBLE

FRI, MAR 27, 2026 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$57.00

Curated by Sukanya and Anoushka Shankar, the Ravi Shankar Ensemble is a multi-generational collective of world class musicians dedicated to the masterful compositions and enduring legacy of the uniquely legendary musician, Ravi Shankar. In their debut tour, the ensemble presents a special program featuring visual elements from the Ravi Shankar archives alongside a dynamic selection of Shankar's soul-stirring music.

BLACK VIOLIN FULL CIRCLE TOUR 2025



BLACK VIOLIN FULL CIRCLE TOUR

**THU, APR 16, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$52.00**

Step into Black Violin's Full Circle Tour, where GRAMMY®-nominated duo Wil Baptiste and Kev Marcus redefine the possibilities of music by merging classical depth with hip-hop's pulse. This tour captures the essence of returning to where it all began—transformed and reimagined. Each powerful performance invites audiences to reflect on their own journeys, discovering that even as we evolve, we're often drawn back to our roots with renewed purpose.

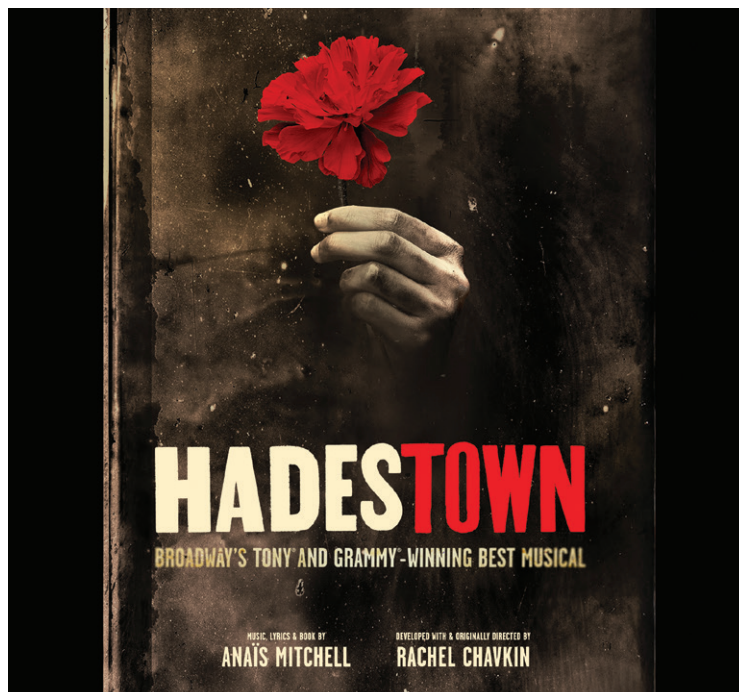
**BROADWAY SERIES SUBSCRIPTIONS AND RENEWALS
PRICING STARTS AT \$137.00**



**TINA – THE TINA TURNER
MUSICAL**

FRI, JAN 30 – SUN, FEB 1, 2026 | TIMES VARY
IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$53.00

TINA – The Tina Turner Musical is the triumphant story of the Queen of Rock and Roll set to the pulse-pounding soundtrack of her most beloved hits! TINA–The Tina Turner Musical presents Tina's journey against all odds to become one of the world's most beloved artists of all time. Featuring her much loved songs, TINA – The Tina Turner Musical is written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Katori Hall.



HADESTOWN

FRI, APR 10 – SUN, APR 12, 2026 | TIMES VARY
IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$62.00

Welcome to HADESTOWN, where a song can change your fate. Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards® including Best Musical and the 2020 GRAMMY® Award for Best Musical Theater Album, this acclaimed new show from celebrated singer-songwriter Anaïs Mitchell and original director Rachel Chavkin (Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812) is a love story for today... and always.

Intertwining two mythic tales—that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone—HADESTOWN is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.



RIVERDANCE 30 | THE NEW GENERATION

FRI, MAY 8 – SUN, MAY 10, 2026 | TIMES VARY
IKEDA THEATER | TICKETS START AT \$52.00

Since Riverdance first emerged onto the world stage, its fusion of Irish and international dance and music has captured the hearts of millions worldwide. The GRAMMY® Award-winning music and the infectious energy of its mesmerizing choreography and breathtaking performances has left audiences in awe and established Riverdance as a global cultural sensation.

To celebrate this incredible 30th year milestone, Riverdance will embark on a special anniversary tour, bringing its magic to audiences around the world. This spectacular production rejuvenates the much-loved original show with new innovative choreography and costumes and state of the art lighting, projection and motion graphics. And for the first time Riverdance welcomes “The New Generation” of performers, all of whom were not born when the show began 30 years ago.



LIVE

LIVE SERIES TICKETS AND RENEWALS START AT \$167.00

MESA ARTS CENTER SERIES SPONSOR:



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A PIRATE'S LIFE LISA BRIGGS • UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGIST

WED, OCT 15, 2025 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$40.00

Pirates might be reduced to a Halloween costume for some people, but they are a year-round fascination for archaeologist and National Geographic Explorer Lisa Briggs. We go on assignment with her to the Mediterranean Sea to explore how pirating shaped the Roman Empire. We also meet the Pirate Queen of China and then head into the lab with Lisa to follow the most famous renegade, Blackbeard.

CHASING MONARCHS JAIME ROJO • PHOTOGRAPHER

WED, JAN 21, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$40.00

Photographer and National Geographic Explorer Jaime Rojo reveals this winged wonder of the insect world in new ways with never-before-seen visuals. Tag along with conservationists and citizen scientists who are helping this species avoid catastrophic threats, all through Jaime's beautiful photos and videos.



LIFE ON THE MOVE LUCY HAWKES • ECOLOGIST

**WED, FEB 18, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$40.00**

Every year, billions of animals migrate in search of food, water, or a mate. Ecologist Lucy Hawkes has scoured the ocean, land, and sky to investigate the astonishing stories of animal perseverance. Join her for a peek into landscapes where some of the planet's most notable animal athletes move and shake, and follow their beautiful, massive migrations across the globe.



DISCOVERING THE GALAPAGOS ALEX HEARN • MARINE ECOLOGIST

**WED, MAR 18, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$40.00**

Explore the Galapagos with National Geographic Explorer Alex Hearn as an expert guide, as we go on assignment to explore the groundbreaking science that's happening with Darwin's finches, giant tortoises, marine iguanas and other remarkable wildlife on these islands.



UNTANGLING THE MIND STEVE RAMIREZ • NEUROSCIENTIST

**WED, APR 8, 2026 | 7:30 PM | IKEDA THEATER
TICKETS START AT \$40.00**

Come explore on a cellular level—the foundations of thoughts, emotions, and memories. The human brain is an electrical web of 100 trillion connections that has made everything possible, from campfires to lunar landers. Neuroscientist Steve Ramirez guides a journey through the most remarkable human organ to see what really makes us, us.



CLASSICAL MUSIC INSIDE OUT SERIES

CLASSICAL MUSIC INSIDE OUT SUBSCRIPTION PRICING STARTS AT \$165.00*

SUBSCRIBER PACKAGE BENEFITS:

- Discounted subscription pricing
- One ticket to each performance
- One preshow reception

Classical Music Inside Out is under the artistic direction of GRAMMY® Award-winning Cellist Zuill Bailey. Zuill Bailey is underwritten by Bill Passey and Maria Silva.

*Plus service fee



MARK AND MAGGIE O'CONNOR

THU, OCT 9, 2025 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$39.00

Experience an evening of virtuosic string playing with Mark and Maggie O'Connor. Mark O'Connor, a three-time GRAMMY® winner has redefined string music by blending classical, jazz and bluegrass influences into a distinct American sound. Performing alongside his wife, violinist Maggie O'Connor, the duo brings to life Mark's original compositions and arrangements. From dazzling fiddle tunes to soul-stirring duets, their performance showcases the depth of American string traditions and the innovation of O'Connor's signature style.



PABLO SAINZ-VILLEGAS • SOLO GUITAR

THU, NOV 13, 2025 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$39.00

Undoubtedly the most virtuoso guitarist of his generation, Pablo Sainz-Villegas has been acclaimed by the international press as the successor to Andrés Segovia and an ambassador of Spanish culture in the world. As an exclusive artist for SONY Classical, he has released three albums. His latest project, 'The Blue Album,' was released in June 2023.

Photo Credit: Lisa Mazzucco



ZUILL BAILEY AND FRIENDS

THU, FEB 26, 2026 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$39.00

Zuill Bailey, widely considered one of the premiere cellists in the world, is a GRAMMY® Award winning, internationally renowned soloist, recitalist, Artistic Director and teacher. His rare combination of celebrated artistry, technical wizardry and engaging personality has made him one of the most sought after and active cellists today.



Photo Credit: Chris Lee

OLGA KERN • PIANO

THU, MAR 19, 2026 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$39.00

Gold Medalist of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Olga Kern is celebrated for her electrifying stage presence and dazzling technique. She has performed with top orchestras worldwide, including the National Symphony and Czech Philharmonic, captivating audiences with her mastery of Rachmaninoff, Chopin, and Tchaikovsky. Don't miss the chance to experience this extraordinary pianist in a performance of brilliance and passion.



Photo Credit: Eliza Yildiz

Photo Credit: Jim McGuire

CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE AND EDGAR MEYER

THU, APR 9, 2026 | 7:30 PM | PIPER THEATER

TICKETS START AT \$39.00

Discover the extraordinary collaboration of jazz legend Christian McBride and genre-defying virtuoso Edgar Meyer in "But Who's Gonna Play the Melody?" This groundbreaking project showcases the stunning synergy of two bass masters blending jazz, classical, and bluegrass influences. With innovative compositions and soulful interplay, McBride and Meyer push musical boundaries, crafting a unique, captivating experience. A must-listen for fans of creativity and excellence in music!

MEMBERSHIP AND SPONSORS



MEMBERSHIP DISCOVER MORE WITH MEMBERSHIP!

By joining the Members Circle, you transform lives and uplift our community. You play a crucial role in fostering a vibrant creative community today and in the future. To show our gratitude for your generosity, we're excited to offer you a variety of exclusive benefits as a heartfelt thank you.

Learn more at: MesaArtsCenter.com/JoinTheCircle

THANK YOU TO OUR MESA ARTS CENTER COMMUNITY PARTNERS





MESA CONTEMPORARY ARTS MUSEUM AT MESA ARTS CENTER



**MESA CONTEMPORARY ARTS MUSEUM IS THE
EXCITING VISUAL ART EXHIBITION SPACE AT MESA
ARTS CENTER. ADMISSION IS ALWAYS FREE.**

SUMMER 2025

Summer exhibitions highlight the artistry of glass, including “Fire to Form;” “Art Glass in the Desert,” a 20-year retrospective of Mesa Arts Center’s Glass Studios; “here. now. close,” a solo exhibition by prospectus winner Sara Hubbs; “Breaking the Silence III,” an immersive installation by Kazuki Takizawa; and “American Glass Now: 2025,” presented with the American Glass Guild.

OPENING RECEPTION | MAY 23, 2025

FREE SUMMER PROGRAMMING

May 25: Artist talk with Kazuki Takizawa
June 14: Family Fun Day with Sara Hubbs
June 15: Artist talk with Sara Hubbs
July 20: Artist talk with Lily Reeves

**SUMMER CLOSURE
AUG 4 – SEP 11, 2025**

FALL 2025

Fall exhibitions include a salon-style showcase celebrating 20 years of the museum’s permanent collection, and a solo show by prospectus winner Yuko Yabuki, a Phoenix-based Japanese American painter whose work explores emotional dualities through fantastical figures and more.

OPENING RECEPTION | SEP 12, 2025



Photo Credit: Sergio Albarran

2026 SEASONS: SPRING AND FALL

Handwork: Celebrating American Craft 2026 is a national semiquincentennial initiative by Craft in America, honoring 250 years of American craft and the diversity of handmade traditions across the country.

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum joins the celebration with 10+ exhibitions in Spring and Fall, including the 47th Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibition, a solo show by Ann Morton (46th Juror’s Choice Award winner), highlights from the museum’s craft collection and regional group shows.

**SPRING OPENING RECEPTION
FEB 13, 2026**

MesaArtsCenter.com/Museum

EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

ART STUDIOS



Photo Credit: Angela Mason Photography

Fall 2025 Open Enrollment:
Fri, Jul 11, 2025 | Noon

Winter/Spring 2026 Open Enrollment:
Fri, Nov 14, 2025 | Noon

Explore Mesa Arts Center's state-of-the-art visual and performing arts studios! Spark your creativity with a class in ceramics, watercolors, printmaking, glass fusing, metal sculpture and more!

MesaArtsCenter.com/Classes

SUMMER ARTS CAMPS!

Make this summer unforgettable with Mesa Arts Center's Summer Arts Camps! Designed for youth and teens, these immersive camps offer hands-on experiences in ceramics, jewelry, glass, media, and more. Plus, scholarships are available for families in need!

Learn more at:

MesaArtsCenter.com/YouthClassInfo

To register for a camp visit:

MesaArtsCenter.com/YouthCamps

ENGAGEMENT

ARTS IN SERVICE

Thanks to generous grants from The Boeing Company and Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, Arts in Service provides creative pathways for veterans and service members to use studio arts experiences to reach their goals.

Fall 2025 Arts in Service Class Registration begins: Tue, Jul 8, 2025 | Noon

Winter Spring 2025 Arts in Service Class Registration begins: Wed, Nov 12, 2025 | Noon

MesaArtsCenter.com/ArtsInService

EDUCATOR APPRECIATION

Thu, Sept 4, 2025 | 4:00-6:30 PM

Mesa Arts Center

Educate, Elevate and Motivate with as we celebrate teachers and the start of a new school year at this happy hour event! Get a sneak peek at our arts and cultural offerings for schools for 2025-2026! **FREE**

MesaArtsCenter.com/EdAppreciation

MABEL

The Mobile Art Based Engagement Lab takes community arts on the road. The flexible creative space creates connections on the spot, prompts discussion, catalyzes change and sparks creativity. **FREE**

MesaArtsCenter.com/MABEL

MAC PODCAST

Listen to authentic and lively conversations that dive deep into the artistic process and origin stories of creatives and tastemakers.

MesaArtsCenter.com/MACPodcast

LIT INK

Igniting Literacy and Building Connections through the Art of Storytelling

LIT Ink residencies create a brave space for students to embrace new perspectives while exploring their beliefs, ideas and feelings, alongside others in the same storytelling process.

[MesaArtsCenter.com/LIT Ink](https://MesaArtsCenter.com/LITInk)



LITERACY THROUGH DRAMA

Literacy through Drama is an arts integration program that utilizes creative play, drama and performance techniques to activate literacy concepts for young people within a social-emotional learning framework.

MesaArtsCenter.com/LiteracyThruDrama

VOLUNTEER

Give back to the community while enjoying and supporting the arts! Connect with new friends, earn exclusive rewards and gain valuable experience.

MesaArtsCenter.com/GetInvolved

FESTIVALS



Photo Credit: Slaven Gujic

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS FESTIVAL

Sat, Oct 25 | 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM | FREE

Sun, Oct 26 | 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM | FREE

**Relaxed Hour 9-10 am both days!*

FALL OUT TO LUNCH CONCERT SERIES

Thursdays, Oct 23 - Nov 20*

12:30 pm | FREE



Photo Credit: Sergio Albarran

ALT FEST

Fri, Mar 13, 2026

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM | FREE

ALT Fest is a kaleidoscope of Art + Light + Technology that will create an interactive experience sure to brighten up the night! With a focus on intentional use of space on the MAC campus, this one-night outdoor art exhibition will showcase brilliant local visual and music artists while highlighting the engaging programs that take place here every day.

PLAN YOUR EVENT

Host a corporate event, speaking engagement or a theater performance. Our wide range of facilities in the heart of Downtown Mesa offer multiple options for every vision and budget.

Call: 480-644-6589

Email: Rentals@MesaArtsCenter.com

RESIDENT COMPANIES



BALLET ETUDES

The Nutcracker | December 13 – 21, 2025

Ballet Etudes Reparatory 2026

March 14, 2026

EAST VALLEY CHILDREN'S THEATRE

James and the Giant Peach

September 18 - 28, 2025

Disney's Frozen Jr. | December 4 – 14, 2025

The Secret Medusa | February 12 – 22, 2026

The Many Disguises of Robin Hood

April 9 – 12, 2026

Charlotte's Web | June 11 – 21, 2026

MESA ENCORE THEATRE

Sister Act | November 7 – 23, 2025

The Importance of Being Earnest

January 9 – 25, 2026

Pippin | TBA

RENT | May 15 – 31, 2026

METROPOLITAN YOUTH SYMPHONY

November 5, 2025

February 25, 2026

May 6, 2026

SOUTHWEST SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

Elizabeth I: In Her Own Words in Rep with 1984 | October 12 – 26, 2025

Merry Wives of Windsor in Rep with Henry V
February 7 – 22, 2026

Moby Dick | March 20 – April 4, 2026

YOUTH SYMPHONY OF THE SOUTHWEST

September 15, 2025

November 3, 2025

December 1, 2025

April 27, 2026

SYMPHONY OF THE SOUTHWEST

November 15, 2025

December 13, 2025

April 18, 2026

SYMPHONY OF THE SOUTHWEST & YOUTH SYMPHONY OF THE SOUTHWEST

Side by Side Performance

February 21, 2026



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