



Walton Arts Center

OnStage

Fall/Winter 2026/27



*Buena Vista
Social Club™*



Good Co



Samara Joy



*Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain
Christmas Carol*

also inside:

- > Recognizing An Outstanding Arts Educator
- > Live Music
- > Meet our *Friends*
- > *Dirty Dancing: The Musical*



UNDERWOODS

It's where you buy the best.



The most beautiful words aren't always spoken.

Sometimes they're simply understood.

A hand held.

A knowing smile.

A lifetime of choosing each other.



For generations, Underwoods has believed that jewelry should reflect that same enduring promise. That's why we personally evaluate every diamond and gemstone, design jewelry with uncompromising craftsmanship, and stand behind every piece.

Because love isn't measured by a single moment. It's revealed over a lifetime.



PROUDLY
SUPPORTING
OUR COMMUNITY
On and Off the Stage

*At Sterling Bank, we believe great
service should never miss its cue.*

VISIT US TODAY AND EXPERIENCE TOP-NOTCH CUSTOMER
SERVICE THAT ALWAYS PUTS YOU IN THE SPOTLIGHT.



FAYETTEVILLE | ROGERS | BENTONVILLE | sterbank.bank



Walton Arts Center

Twilight in Concert



From the President/CEO

Welcome to our 35th Season

There is something extraordinary that happens when the lights dim, the curtain rises and a room full of strangers becomes a community sharing a single moment. Whether it's the laughter that ripples through the theater, the collective gasp at a breathtaking performance or the emotion of a story that stays with you long after the final bow, the arts have a remarkable ability to bring us together.

We invite you to experience that magic again and again.

The first half of our season is filled with unforgettable moments, from the powerful storytelling of *The Notebook* and the groundbreaking energy of *The Outsiders* to the joy, the rhythms and rich musical traditions of *Buena Vista Social Club™* and the celebration of music in *Dirty Dancing: The Musical* and *Jersey Boys*. These Broadway productions are part of a season designed to surprise, move and inspire audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Beyond Broadway, our stages will come alive with incredible artists, musicians, dancers, comedians and family performances that reflect the creativity and diversity of our world. There truly is something for everyone to discover.

While the performances you see on our stages are the heart of what many people know about Walton Arts Center, our mission extends far beyond the spotlight. Every ticket purchased, every subscription and every gift helps us fulfill our purpose as a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching lives through the arts. Through arts education programs, affordable access initiatives, community partnerships and opportunities for people of all ages to experience creativity, we help ensure the arts remain accessible and meaningful throughout Northwest Arkansas.

The impact of Walton Arts Center belongs to all of us — the artists who share their talents, the educators who inspire young minds, the volunteers who give their time, the donors who invest in our future and, most importantly, the patrons who fill our halls with energy and enthusiasm.

Thank you for being part of all that we do. Your presence in our audience is what transforms a performance into a shared experience and our building into a vibrant gathering place for our community.

We are honored to welcome you this season. I hope you discover new favorites, create lasting memories and experience the moments that make you laugh, reflect, connect and say "wow."

See you at the theater.

Warmly,

President and CEO
Walton Arts Center

Peter B. Lane
President/CEO

Walton Arts Center Council

Karen Roberts,
Chair
Diana Marshall,
Vice Chair
Megan Timberlake,
Vice Chair
Justin Tennant,
Vice Chair
Matthew Waller,
Vice Chair
Tony Waller,
Vice Chair
Barry Bryan,
Secretary/Treasurer
Julie Barber
Brett Biggs
Terri Chadick
Brandy Cox
Al Dominguez
Joel Freund
Ryan Harrington
Mark Kinion
Claire Kolberg
Michelle McAuliffe
Rick Thorpe
Danielle Williams

Walton Arts Center Foundation

Kelly Sudduth,
Chair
Nate Hodne,
Secretary/Treasurer
Jeff Clapper
Amanda Daily
Marybeth Hays Brock
McKeel
Molly Rapert
Susan Slinkard
Anna Zajicek

Cover clockwise:
The Broadway
company of BUENA
VISTA SOCIAL CLUB
- Photo by Matthew
Murphy. Cast of
DOLLY PARTON'S
SMOKY MOUNTAIN
CHRISTMAS CAROL
- Photo by Adam
Paris/AP Imagery.
Samara Joy - Photo
by AB+DM. Good Co -
Photo by Sam Veatch.

.....
This publication may not be
reproduced in whole or in
part without permission.
Contents © 2026.
All rights reserved.
Produced by DOXA/VANTAGE.



Contents

6	Event Calendar	23	Q&A with a "Sparkling" Arts Educator	33	Impact That Resonates
8	Our Sponsors	26	The Great American Songbook Reimagined	36	Hip-Hop 101 Sparks Confidence and Creativity
10	Friends of Walton Arts Center	27	Legacy Giving	38	Symphony of Northwest Arkansas
13	Friends Spotlight: Ryan & Jenna Gill	28	Volunteer Appreciation	40	<i>Dirty Dancing: The Musical</i>
15	Live Music Lives Here	30	Giving Local Visual Artists a Place to Shine	41	Spotlight on Corporate Leadership Council
17	Shows Wrapped in Holiday Cheer	32	Shows for the Young and Young at Heart	45	Media Partners / OnStage Advertiser Index
18	<i>Buena Vista Social Club</i> ™				
20	Staff Spotlight: Nathan Bell				
22	Diamond Awards Finalists Make Their Broadway Debut				

Do you have a creative kid?

Arkansas Arts Academy offers your future star a variety of visual and performing arts classes, arts-integrated core classes, and excursions specifically designed to foster and encourage academic excellence and creativity.

Arkansas Arts Academy

Arkansas Arts Academy in Rogers is the only arts-integrated, PreK-12, public charter school in the state.

Learn more by visiting artsk12.org



The Sound of Music



Lyle Lovett and his Small Large Band



Neko Case: *Neon Grey
Midnight Green Tour*



Hadestown



*The Unauthorized Hallmark(ish)
Parody Musical*



STOMP

Welcome to our 35th Anniversary Season!

Procter & Gamble Broadway Series

The Outsiders
Sept. 1-6

Buena Vista Social Club™
Dec. 15-20

The Notebook
Feb. 24-28

The Sound of Music
April 13-18

*Operation Mincemeat:
A New Musical*
May 25-30

Just In Time
July 6-11

Land O'Lakes Concert Series

Trout Fishing in America's
50th Anniversary Tour Kickoff
Sept. 24

The War And Treaty
Oct. 7

Neko Case: *Neon Grey
Midnight Green Tour*
Nov. 2

Lyle Lovett and his Small
Large Band
Nov. 15

Leslie Odom, Jr.
The Christmas Tour 2026
Dec. 1

An Evening with Samara Joy
March 5

John Pizzarelli and Catherine
Russell: *Salute to Ella
Fitzgerald, Joe Pass &
Oscar Peterson*
April 2

Coca-Cola Night Out Series

Choir! Choir! Choir!
presents *Landslide: An EPIC
Fleetwood Mac Singalong!*
Nov. 18

Dolly Parton's *Smoky
Mountain Christmas Carol*
Dec. 8

Twilight in Concert
Jan. 16

Hadestown
Feb. 5-7

Jazz at Lincoln Center
presents *World on a String:
Swinging Songs of Broadway*
April 25

Off-Dickson Series

*The Carpenters Songbook:
A Live Celebration*
Nov. 5

*The Unauthorized
Hallmark(ish) Parody Musical*
Dec. 22

STOMP
Jan. 30-31

An Evening with David Sedaris
April 27



*Operation Mincemeat:
A New Musical*



← Scan here for the most up-to-date calendar listing!



Parsons Dance



Cirque Dreams
Holidaze



Cirque Kalabanté:
WOW (World of Words)



Davina & the Vagabonds



Piano Battle



Noah Preminger Quartet



Beetlejuice

Pringles Family Fun Series

Jim Henson's Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock LIVE
Nov. 1

Cirque Dreams Holidaze
Dec. 4-6

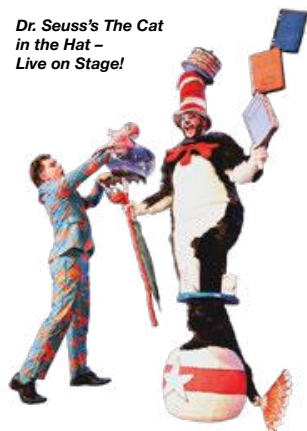
SoNA & WAC present The Snowman: A Family Concert
Dec. 13

Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat – Live on Stage!
March 10

Tall Stories' The Gruffalo
March 11

Tutti Frutti's The Boy Who Cried Wolf
April 1

Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat – Live on Stage!



10x10 Arts Series

Jake Shimabukuro
Sept. 16

Good Co
Oct. 28

Time for Three
Nov. 10

Mariachi Herencia de México: A Mariachi Christmas
Dec. 3

Dover Quartet
Jan. 7

Aquila Theatre's Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
Feb. 17

Piano Battle
March 12

Cirque Kalabanté: WOW (World of Words)
March 14

Chanticleer: A Cappella Classics
March 31

Parsons Dance
April 6

West Street Live Presented by Neal Pendergraft

Henhouse Prowlers
Sept. 11

Carlene Carter
Oct. 1

Adam Hood
Nov. 6

The Wooten Brothers
Nov. 19

Davina & the Vagabonds
April 3

Nashville Songwriters
April 24

Starrlight Jazz Club

Matthew Whitaker Trio
Sept. 12

Simon Moullier Trio with Alex Claffy and Steve Pruitt
Oct. 2

Huntertones
Jan. 15

Noah Preminger Quartet
Feb. 20

Edward Simon Trio
April 23

Songbook Salon

From Cole Porter to Bob Dylan featuring Isabella Isherwood
Sept. 10

Flying High: Big Band Canaries Who Soared
featuring the Champion Fulton Trio
March 13

Let's Be Frank: Celebrating the Frank Sinatra Small Group Songbook
featuring Sachal Vasandani & The Christian Tamburr Trio
May 6

More Great Shows!

Bored Teachers: Is It Friday Yet?! Comedy Tour!
Oct. 10

Dirty Dancing: The Musical
Oct. 21-25

Nurse Blake: But Did You Die? Comedy Tour
Nov. 4

Christmas with C.S. Lewis
Nov. 20-22

A Celtic Christmas
Nov. 21

Jersey Boys
Nov. 27-29

Kinky Boots
April 30-May 2

Diamond Awards
May 23

Beetlejuice
June 4-6



Matthew Whitaker
Trio



Walton Arts Center Box Office
495 W. Dickson Street / Fayetteville, AR 72701
Located just inside the West Ave. entrance
Phone: 479.443.5600

All ticket prices in this publication are all-in standard pricing and subject to change.

Thank You Sponsors & Funders!

Star Level



Producing Level



Directing Level



Performing Level



Contributing Level



Supporting Level

Abide Coffee
Arkansas Meadery
Arkansas Wine & Spirits
Athletic Brewing Co.
Atlas the Restaurant
Bienvenue
The Biggs Family
Bloom Cheese Collective
Bordinos
Brothers Meethouse
Casa Alejo
Catering Unlimited
CDI Contractors
The Cellar on B Street

Central Distributor
Cintas
City Park
Clorox
Corbett's Hot Dogs
Core Brewing & Distilling Co.
Crown Group
Crystal Ridge Distillery
Deep Branch Winery
Delta Dirt Distillery
Diamond Beverage
Eats by Annie
Georgia-Pacific
Gracies Goodies

Guisinger Cocktail Club
Honeycomb Kitchen
Hotvine Wine Shop
Jerry R. Harrod Wine &
Spirits Broker of Arkansas
King James Winery
KPMG
Kraft Heinz
Lamar
The Larder & Atrium
The Leroy Lounge
Lost Forty Brewing Company
Mood Brû
Moon Distributor

National Beef
Natural State Beverage Company
Oak Steakhouse
Outlyr
Pinchos
Plomo Quesadillas
Post Vineyards
RG Macon & Carson Apple Brandy
Ria Pizzeria
Rock Town Distillery
Sassafras Winery
Secondhand Smoke
Skrazo Imports
Smith Hurst, PLC

The Sous Chef
Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits
Speakeasy Truffles
Stoic Brewing Company
Tall Pines Distillery
Theo's
TLC Sampling
Tusk & Trotter American Brasserie
Tuskers Tavern
Two Chicks Cocktails
Vino Distributing
Warfield Distillery
Wiederkehr Wine Cellars

Contact sponsorship@waltonartscenter.org to learn about the benefits of being a sponsor.



MORE IS AMERICA'S ART MUSEUM MORE

Plan your visit at
CrystalBridges.org

Photography by Tim Hursley



**Crystal
Bridges**



As a nonprofit, our shows, arts education and ticket access programs are made possible by the generosity of so many community members. **Thank you all for setting the stage so everyone can experience the arts!**

CHANDELIER

\$50,000+

Bob & Becky Alexander
Elda & Eric Scott
Melissa & Todd Simmons

\$25,000+

Kara & **Brett Biggs**
Bozie Foundation
Prudy & Dale Caudle
Seth Malley & Luke Bridges
Ben & Lindsay Rabicoff
The Starling Family
The Starr Foundation & Family
in Memory of Billie Jo Starr
LeAnn Underwood Family

\$18,000+

Wendy Brant
Reed & Mary Ann Greenwood
Peter B. Lane* & Barbara Putman
Rick & Tracie Layton
David & Pam Parks
Tony Waller
Brandon & Sarah Wilson

\$10,000+

Serrhel & Patty Adams
Les & Mina Baledge
Ted Belden
Greg & Rachel Billingsley
Joel & Lynn Carver

Carol & Ed Clifford
Malcolm & Ellen Hayward
Bryan & Mandy Hunt
Johnelle Hunt
Paula Jenkins & Lee Brown
Cynthia Jones
Tom & Jill King
Greg Lee Family
John & **Diana Marshall**
Shelly & Travis Mauldin
Marybeth & Micky Mayfield
Kevin & **Michelle McAuliffe**
Natalie & **Brock McKeel**
Anton & Linda Myers

Nichols Family
The Reed Family
Mary Lynn Reese
Richie & **Karen Roberts**
Margaret & Dick Rutherford
Dennis & Evelyn Shaw
Patrick & Anne Travis
Jason Viator
John & Kitten Weiss

SPOTLIGHT

\$6,000+

Russ & Sue Beck
Wendy Jean Bennett
Elaine Briggs & Carol Sheehan
Katherine & Curt Calaway
Sandy Edwards
James & Amy Gilmore
Rick & Sheri Hammond
Todd & Marjorie Hanus
Terry & Shannon Ortego
Bob & Diane Shaw
William & Eneida Silcott
Carol & Jason Vella
Carole & Jim Williamson
Ann Marie Ziegler

\$3,500+

8th & Walton
Biff & Ann Averitt
Leslie & Robin Reeves
J. Kevin & Edith Bell
Yvette & Donald Bell
Kent & Nancy Blochberger
Susie Boyce
Robert & Melissa Brown
Nick & Carolyn Cole
Thomas & Susetta Cole
Roger Collins
Vernon Collins
Cynthia Coughlin
Jon & Joanie Dyer
Daniel & Chauna Ellis
Chuck & Suzy Fehlig
James & Barbara Freeman
Harrison & Rhonda French Family
Dash Goff
Lyle & Sue Gohn
Jim & Diane Hammons
Linda & David Hargis
Don & Debra Harris Family
Charitable Trust
Brad & Kathy Hicks
Dr. Michael Hollomon & Eric Wailes
Sarah & Curtis Howells
Dr. Anthony & Susan Hui
Rebecca Hurst & Jim Smith
Terry & Mike Johnson
Sara Jones
Terry & Mary Ann Klefisch
Christine Klinger

Beverly & Charles Lee
Elaine & David Longer
David & Deborah Thomas Malone
Jeff & Janyl Mann*
Ellis & Kay Melton
Jerry & Cherie Moye
The Tim Ogg Family
Richard & Amy Perrin & Family
Paul & Linda Pinneo
Edward & Jennifer Prewitt
Pruitt Tool & Supply Company, Inc.
Dallie & Greg Ricca
Jason & Amie Ricks
Robert & Elizabeth Stauffer
Marti & **Kelly Sudduth**
Jeremy & Jamie Thomas
Sidney & Mirela Vinson
Jim & Lynne Walton
Terrica Weatherford
William & Rebecca White
Linda L. Wray
Gracie & Michael Ziegler

\$1,800+

Elizabeth Adam
Gary & Carol Adams
Aaron & Cindy Alexander
Henry & Amy Alvarado
Jodie Arrington-Franklin & Kevin Ruff
Frank & Patricia Bailey
Phillip & DeeDee Baldwin
Andy & Stacy Barron
Bobbie Beecher
George & Mary Benjamin
Jing & Vince Biondo
Larry Bittle Insurance Agency, Inc.
The James Burton Blair Family
Foundation
The Bliss Family
Patrick & Holly Brannan
Keith & Becky Brink*
James & Salena Brown
Barry Bryan
Mike & Dottie Lou Buffington
Raymond & Katie Burns
Robert Burns & Cris Hamer
Juan, Marcy, & Joaquin Camacho
Amelia Catanzaro
Jeff & Ann Cato
Steven Charles R.Ph.

Connie & Bill Clark
Steve & Suzanne Clark
CoBare Plumbing
Mike & Sandy Cockrell
Bart & Heidi Cohen
Heather & Tony Cook
Barry & Debra Cooksey
Wayne & DeLane Cox
Nancy Cullins
Mike & Susan Daniels
LeeAnn Danner
Rich & Kim Davis
Jake & Brittany Deans
Barb & Doug Degn
Susan & Joe Delacruz
Nene Lynch & Bruce Dixon
Lamar & Joy Drummonds
Timothy & Dr. Stephanie Ensley
Richard & Suzanne Ezell
Donald & Karolyn Farrell
Tim & Carey Fenton
Mike & Carolyn Fincher
Lance & Kelly Foster
Perry & Shirley Franklin
Carl & Josh Frazier-Sparks
Drew & Martha Frits
D. Andrew Gibbs
Nan Ginger
Nancy Garner & Mort Gitelman
Howard & Treva Hamilton
Josh Hannay
John & Lynne Hehr
Mary Jo & Paul Henry
Retta & Eddie Hight
Tina & **Nate Hodne**
The Huerta Family
Andrew & Sarah Huntsinger
Derek & Andrea Jackson
Jennifer R. Jackson
Joan & Bruce Johnson
Jerre Jouett
Bob & Linda Kelly
Amy Knight & Bill Mines
Jeff & Sara Koenig
Clara Konkle
David & Johnna Kosnoff
Katie Lafferty
Alicia Levy
Robert & Vella Lewis
Ann-Marie Magre

Cathy & Stephen Marak
Bill & Sabra Martin
Joel & Erika McCourt
Gary & Athina McLendon
Bart & Jason Miller
Tim & Rhonda O'Donnell
Larry & Susan Patrick
Perry Roofing
David Petersen & Shannon McNeill
Ed & Tish Pohl
Martin & Lisa Porter
Porter Family in Loving Memory of
Bernice Harner
Barbara & Doug Prichard
Daniel Quin
Cindy Ragan
Jon P. Robinson
In Memory of Christina Rae Brewer
Jennifer & Dr. Kenton Ross*
Derek & Amanda Ruscin
Linda Rye & Randall Webb
Peter & Mary Savin
Libby & Bart Schaller
Grant Schneider & Charles Hart
Dave & Becky Schoewe
Dr. David & Becky Seidl
Julie & Larry Shackelford
Cait & Ken Shemin
Ken & Celia Shireman
Barb Sieger
Jared, Natasha, & Zoe Sims
Sandra Sims & Maggie
Cook-Turnbull
Judge Jim & Dixie Spears
Joyce Stafford
Richard & Anna Marie Steeneck
Don & Kathryn Stroessner
Brittany Swiderski & Amin Nasehi
Philip & Mary Ann Taldo
Mike & Pam Thorn
Mike Thurow
Robert & Rachael Tovey
Kelly Tucker
Steve & Susan Tucker
Underwood's Fine Jewelers
Larry & Janice Vanden Bosch
Tom & Barbara Verdery
Jerry & Kimberly Vest
Jim & Susan Von Grempe
Chris & Kristin Wages

Bill & Nika Waitsman
Diane & Ron Warren
Tom Wells
Dianne & Erin White
Charline & Bill Wilkins
Jeffrey Williams & Janet Penner-Williams
Paul & Peggy Winborn
Dan Worrell

\$1,000+

Wes & Colleen Abbott
Brittany Adcock
Zack, Lauren, Lundy & Evelyn Adcock
Gary & Melanie Alecusan
Debbie Alsop
Stephanie R. Anderson
Dr. SL Armstrong
Christy Arnold
Susie Arnold & Bruce Strom
Bob & Theresa Arvin
Jan & Ben Atwell
Trey & Lisa Auten
Bryan Bair
Phillip & Oteeka Baker
Carole & John Bell
Timothy & Loyanne Ballard
Elizabeth Barlet
Barrett Directline
Diane Bashuk
Brad Beach & Elkin Perez
Don & Maxine Bechtel
Thad & Melanie Beck
Louis & Patricia Beland
Sarah Bell & Sarah Clinard
Laureen Benafield
Amy & Casey Benincosa
Aaron Berg
Elaine Berg
Anabelle Steelman
Dr. Jon & Suzanne Berry
Tracy & Christopher Berry
Mark & Tami Bever
Bickell Family
Jessica Billingsley
Sherry Bishop
Ashley & Steve Blair
David & Karmen Boddie
Dr. Michael & Mary Jane Bolding
Ray & Brenda Boudreaux
Ed Boun
John & Hope Bradberry
Lorraine & Dennis Brewer
Candice Bright
Steve & Derie Briman
Jim Bob & Kelly Britton
Bob & Carol Brooks
Dona Buckingham & Suzie Simmons
Gene & Debi Buckley
Fred & Marianne Buehler
James & Happy Burgmeier
Paula Burks & Bill Edwards
Toni Burns
Connor J. Button
Kristi & Rob Button
Ellen Byars & Jeffrey O'Dea
Christina & Jeffrey Byron
Nadine K. Carfagno
Keri Beertema
Mike & Brenda Catlett
Catt Family Foundation
Miles Chism & Dr. Quincy Spencer
Valerie & Gary Colburn
Jim & Judy Cole
Lindsey Collins
Kimberly & Jennings Copley
James Correll

Dr. & Mrs. James S Counce
Alexandra Craig
Christine Culpepper
Diana Danforth & Kurt Doege
Jess & Lindsay Daniel
Darmon-King Trust
Philip & Kirby Davis
Jarrett Denker
Shana DeSmit
Cat Dickerson
Mark & Leslie Driver
Tom & Kathy Duba
Donna Duncan
Justin & Sara Eichmann
Drs. Travis & Callie Embry
Lauren Enix
Patrick & Sarah Erwin
David & Cathy Evans
Michael & Megan Farris
David & Samantha Fish
Ted & Julie Fish
Robin Ezell Forbis
Mickey & Patty Freeman
Carla Crawley & **Joel Freund**
Liz Fulton
Jorge Garcia
Ed & Mary Lou Garrison
John Gaudin & Corky Patton
Richard Gerety
Ryan & Jenna Gill
Cristie & Walter Ginther
Jeanna & Matt Giordano
Mike Goddard
Garrett & Rachel Graham
Adella & Gary Gray
In Loving Memory of Ed Gray
Jodi Greve
Kathy & Lowell Grisham
Dr Bob & Brenda Gullett
Steven Gunter
Linda & Samantha Gutierrez
Kelly & Kim Hadley
Martha & Mark Haguewood
Mary Lou Haley
Adam & Bethany Halford
Chris Hardin
John Harrington
Neil & Christy Harris
David Hausam
Jana Wrenay & Chris Elkins
The Heiliger Family
Patricia Heim
Garry & Linda Henbest
Tanner & Jaclyn Henderson
Kyle & Lindsay Hennarichs
Heroncrest at Elmdale Estate
Jeremy Hess & Peggy Treiber
Blake & Meredith Hilliard
Hooper & Mullen Families
Brandon & Carrie Hoover
Mark Hoskyn
Elizabeth Houle & Nadine Rippelmeyer
Greg House & Beverly Block
Jeremy & Ivone Hudson
JazzyJaeNWA
Randy & Cynthia Hutchinson
Eric & Jenny Jackson
Joel & Karen Jewell
Lee Johnson
Courtney Johnson
Ann & Weldon Johnson
Kandy & Steve Johnson
Theresa Johnson
Don & Donna Johnston
Marsha Jones
Whit & Lindsay Karnes
Barry & Judy Katz

Kara Kazazean
Heather Kees
Kim & Carl Kernodle
Jacob Keyton & Myndi Keyton
David & Robyn King
Jay & Julie King
John & Sally King
George & Vicki Knight
Dr. Andy & Shelly Koehler
Dr. Billy Kyser & Linda Stiles
Tony & Jill Law
Shawn & Jalane Lee
Carolyn Leonard & Becky Jones
Bernard & Deborah Levitt
Rebecca Levy & Jeff Pugh
Kristen Lienhart & Chad Gossett
Charles Lincoln
Amy Linimon & Jeff Stinson
Lisa & Steve Lockwood
Bo & DeDe Long
Gene & Cheryl Long
Larry & Nancy Long
Britton & Drew Lott
Robert & Jan Luper
Roy & Amanda Madrid
Doris Marks
Marsha Martin Charitable Fund
Mary Carter Martin
Todd & Martha Martin
Rachel & Kyle May*
Marisa Mayall
Matt & Katie McClanahan
Kim & William McComas
Dr. Jay & Judy McDonald
Duane & Allison McElroy
Leo McMahon
Paul McNeil
Angela Courage & Tom Mellott
Rob, Kathy, & Michelle Merry-Ship
& Cristoph Meyer
Dwight & Brandy Mitchell
Carol & John Mitchell
Kerstin Moeller
Dr. Priscilla Mondt
Hillary & Taylor Morgan
Patrick & Peggy Moriarity
Don Moseley
Debra Murray
Ron & Susan Neyman
David & Betty Nichols
Andy & Joan Noble
Larry & Marilou Noller
Doug & Cathy Norwood
Tara & Weston Nutt
Bob & Linda O'Connell
Ernie & Gayle Olsen
Stephen & Beverly Ozanne
Murphy & Carol Pair
Adam & Anita Parisi
Jorge & Ulyssa Parodi
Luke & Janet Parsch
Sarah E. Taylor
Robert & Lindsey Parvis
In honor of Jeff Stripling
Randall & Mary Payne
Lee & Cheri Peden
Tommi & Larry Perkins
Marilyn K. Peterson
Alisha Pettigrew & Jaxon Pettigrew
Jan & Don Phillips
Judy & Phil Phillips
Lou Phillips
Kathy & Rick Pierce
Darrin & Marci Pitts
Andrew & Laura Plaukovich
Sandy Poore
Ronny W. Pope
Paul & Pam Prebil

Precision Comfort Heating & Cooling
Marshall Prettyman & Judy Dunleavy
Mary Purvis
David & Carol Ratcliff
Matt & Kristin Ray
Kylie & Donald Rhodes
Paul & Tracy Rice
Brandon Richmond
Randy & Tia Risor
Lauren Roberts
Deborah & Darrell Robinson
Randy & Anna Robles
Shelby E Rogers
James & Andrea Romine
Joe & Catherine Ross
Ann Rosso
Susan & Paul Rountree
John & Denise Rowland
Dennis & Patti Sanders
Cheryl Sanford
Katie Schifano
Doris A Schuldt
Brian & Lynn Shaw
Ron & Regena Shelby
Heather & Ian Shell
Sabrina Shepherd
Tarsha Shepherd
Tony & Mary Beth Sherman
Shannon & Jason Siefker
Robert Silcox
Toby & **Susan Slinkard**
Carolyn Smart
Leah Smith
Kristin Rogers & Mindy Smith
Michael & Edwina Smith
David & Nancy Smith
Tammy & Tom Smith
Amy & Rick Sorrell
Ronald Souza
Stephanie & Kevin Springate
Josh Spurgers*
Bob & Jenny Srygley
Mallory & Sheldon Steinert
Mary Stockland
Thomas Stoddard
Ben & Brandi Strickland
Culpepper Family
Richard & Vicki Sutton
James & Marsha Swim
James Swindle
Brad & Sherry Thavenet
Lark & Robert Tommey
Jennifer Sutton Tucker
Michele Tyler
Van der Koon Family
Karen & Dave Van Horn
Mary K Vandiver
Rex & Dee Vaughn
Tim & Fern Vogt*
Jim & Susan Walker
Gary & Shea Weidner
Beth Whitlow
Troy & Sandi Whitlow
Amy & Jason Watson
Christine Wilburn
Scott & Cheryl Williams
Pattie & David Williams
Mark Woodyear
Alexandria Wooten
Carol Sue & Alan Wooten
Dane & Michelle Workman
Drew & Paula Workman
Beth Wright
Todd & Emily Wulf
Benjamin Yeager
Denise Yealy
David & Ata Zemlicka

LIMELIGHT

\$600+

In Memory of Cameron Bobbitt
 Tammy Baars
 Jackie & Jana Bays
 Monica Brinker
 Richard Bushkuhl
 Brian & Day Crowne*
 Renee & John Dickens
 Dana & Tom Dykman
 Katherine Fritz
 Sarah Gallant
 Jerry & Candace Geisler
 Rigo & Laura Gomez
 The Grand Family
 Michael & Alison Griffino
 In Memory of Roger Gross*
 Rachel Grubb
 Janet Hailey
 Laura Harkins
 Dr. Jacob & Michelle Hayward
 Thomas Hinton
 Bart L. Howell
 Cheryl Hull
 Lauryl & Tim Hynes
 Teresa Keller
 Williams Kendall
 Kevin & Gloria King
The Kolberg Family
 Priscilla Kumpe
 David & Jo Martinson
 Kaylin & Brandon Mason*
 Elizabeth McLaughlin
 Nathan Miller
 Rachel Mills
 Tonya Mobley
 Mr. James L. Oelke
 Curt & Marisa Owens*
 Ben & Amber Pinter
 Berta L. Seitz-Cobbs
 Rachel & Zach Strickland*
 Bill & Peggy Tate
 Jessica & Dustin Temple*
 Brad & Lindsay Vester
 Larry & Karen Worden
 Min Yoo

\$300+

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Baer
 Nathan Bell* & Elon Turner
 Bob & Patty Besom
 Mimi & Mark Blackwood
 The Bloodworth Family
 Jason & Sarah Brunner
 Bill & Rhonda Burks
 Ron & Kitty Burton

Wendy & David Carlisle
 Robert Rodweller & Cathy Case
 John & Karen Cole
 Scott Davies
 Judy Davison
 Sue Keith Elverston &
 Brand L. Elverston
 Emily Fourmy
 Samantha Gillip
 Mark & Debbie Griffin
 Hank & Cheryl Harrison
 Dr. Laura Hokett & Mr. Dean Stone
 James & Angela Hopkins
 Tammy & Read Hudson
 Helen Barrack-Huff
 Karen Hughes
 Cade & Laura Jacobs
 Bonnie Johnson & Mike Smets
 Hugh & Brenda Kincaid
 Timothy Kral & Connie Hendrix-Kral
 Tena & Mark Larsen
 Paul & Maxine Leblanc
 Gary & Bonnie Martineck
 McBride Distributing Co.
 Bill & Deeg Mitchell
 In Honor of Kassie Misiewicz
 Marilyn & Joel Newcome
 Derrik & Julie Olsen
 John & Lorie Oswalt
 Steve & Cindy Parette
 Jim & Kay Pickett
 Bob & Stevie Pless*
 McBride Distributing Co.
 Craig & April Shy
 Justin & Morgan Stout
 Rebecca Summerlin
 Loyd & Carole Swope
 Colleen McCarthy & Mark Tocco
 Ken & Susan Tonymon
 Larry & Debbie Tuttle
 Chris & Melissa Wick
 Garnett & Julie Wise
 Tyler Wood

\$120+

Susan & Johnny Adkins
 Cheryl Ahart
 Randon & Rachel Arney
 Janet Ayers
 Ed & Angie Baker
 Marian G. Bolen Family
 The Croken Family*
 Katherine & Howard Brill
 Sara & Chris Jones*
 Rob & Becky Brothers

Ann Bunch
 Kimberly & Alan Cameron*
 Holly Childs
 Lyle Clapper
 Lisa Clark
 Zebulun & Miranda Clark
 Andy, Karen & Olivia Conner
 Leslie & Alex Cowles*
 Andrew Crosser*
 Marsha Rabb-Daniel
 The Deans
 Thomas & Jessica DeBari*
 David Douglas & Anastasia Strokova
 Paul & Cybil Duncan
 Ewald Family
 James & Betty Ezell
 George, Rosemary, &
 Abby Rose Faucette
 Travis Finck
 Earl & Gayle Fochtman
 Lisa Hamby
 Kathleen & Fred Fullerton
 Missy Gocio
 Christina & David Gray
 Dale & Marilyn Green
 Nancy Guisinger
 Bill Hammond
 Susie & Jim Henley
 Essa Hicks
 Kaitlin Higgins*
 Richard Higgins
 Denise Hoffman & Nichole Sadler
 Holley Household*
 Gabe Hollingsworth
 Glen & Ann Hopkins
 Charissa & Preston Hoyt*
 Keith Hurley*
 Marcia B. Imbeau
 Clark & Georgi Irwin
 Jerome & Harriet Jansma
 Tom & Cathy January
 Mike & Kim Johnson
 Sharon & Roger Kidd
 Cathy King
 Chris King
 Jacqueline S. King
 Kirlin Family*
 John & Mal Krim
 Mike & Stephanie Krupka
 John & Telma Largent
 Jim & Jacqui Lefler
 Beth Keck & Ken Leonard
 Sarah Lewis & Kelly Tribell
 Bill & Barbara Long
 Jason & Ellen Love

Bob & Madeline Marquette
 Donald & Marisa Mayall
 Judith & Tom McCartan
 Scott & DeNisha McCollum
 Debbie McLoud
 Jeanette Millar
 Mary Miller*
 Tessa Miner*
 Earnie & Dona Montgomery
 Terry & Jane Morton
 Patrick Murphy
 Leon & Nancy Nicholson
 Mrs. Gina Nida
 Ozarks Sales & Marketing Company
 Marianne Retallick
 Joyce Richards
 Georgia & Bill Ross
 Chris & Angie Roy
 Charles & Shirley Russell
 Alfred Angulo, Jr. & Mary Sanders
 Maribeth Prewitt Sayre, MD
 The Schmieding Foundation
 Rachael & Jordan Schneider*
 Jesse & Mary Beth Simpson
 Lorinda Smith*
 Kathy Sprouse & Alan Sweitzer
 Ruth W. Stock
 Bob & Sheila Suvino
 Marie & Jerry Swenson
 Dan & Jaida Szkudlapski*
 Gary & Julia Thorn
 John & Joan Threet
 Sandi Villinski
 David N Walton
 Thomas Ward, Jr.
 Dave & Cindy Weston
 Jennifer & Michael Wilson*
 Tiffany & Jim Wimberly
 Nick & Sallie Zazal*

All Contributions to Walton Arts Center Council, Inc., a nonprofit 501c3 organization, are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Listings are current as of **July 1, 2026**. If we have inadvertently omitted your name or you would like your name to appear in a different way, please call 479.384.4989 so we can make that correction for the next OnStage edition.

Walton Arts Center Council and Foundation board members denoted in **bold**; staff members denoted with an asterisk.

Special thanks to all those who wish to remain anonymous as well as the following companies who match employees' donations and foundations that support Walton Arts Center.

American Endowment Foundation
 Arkansas Community Foundation
 Bank Of America Charitable Gift Fund
 Becky & Bob Alexander Charitable Foundation
 Bozie Foundation
 Catt Family Foundation
 Colgate-Palmolive
 ConAgra Brands
 Daf Giving 360
 Edward Jones
 Eli Lilly & Company Foundation
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

Giveclear Foundation
 Go Daddy
 Google
 Greater Horizons
 IBM Corporation
 Kimberly-Clark
 LPL Financial
 Merck Partnership for Giving
 Merrill
 Microsoft
 Morgan Stanley
 Novus International

Pershing
 Prudential Foundation
 Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund
 Starr Foundation, Inc.
 Texas Presbyterian Foundation
 The U.S. Charitable Gift Trust
 Tyson Foods, Inc.
 Vanguard Charitable
 The Walmart Spark Fund For Charities
 Walmart Foundation
 Walton Family Foundation, Inc.
 Williams

Ryan and Jenna Gill



Tell us about a special memory from attending a show at Walton Arts Center.

Ryan: I've been going to Walton Arts Center since 1995, and a favorite memory is one of the first times I took my son to a show. We saw *STOMP*, and at the time he didn't play drums, but now he plays a big drum kit because he was mesmerized by what he saw at the theater.

Jenna: My first show at Walton Arts Center was Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* in 2010. We had just started dating, and I had never been to a Broadway show. I fell in love with all of it, and it is still hands down one of my favorite shows.

How have the arts impacted your life and the lives of those around you?

Jenna: One of our favorite things is bringing family, clients or friends to the theater for the first time and seeing them fall in love with it and then wanting to share it with others too. Building

community in this way has definitely positively impacted our lives. Also, the education and access programs resonate with me as a former teacher. I know the importance of teaching kids about theater, introducing them to the arts and all of the things they can learn through the education programs that Walton Arts Center provides.

Think back to your first time making a *Friends* gift, what drew you to donate?

Ryan: I've always loved the arts and wanted to start giving back. The donation goes towards expanding opportunities for more people to experience the arts. My mom was a big theater buff and introduced me to the performing arts – a lot of people don't have an opportunity like that. I like knowing that I am paying it forward.

Share the **transformative experience** of the arts
and **enjoy exclusive benefits** all season long.

Become a
FRIEND

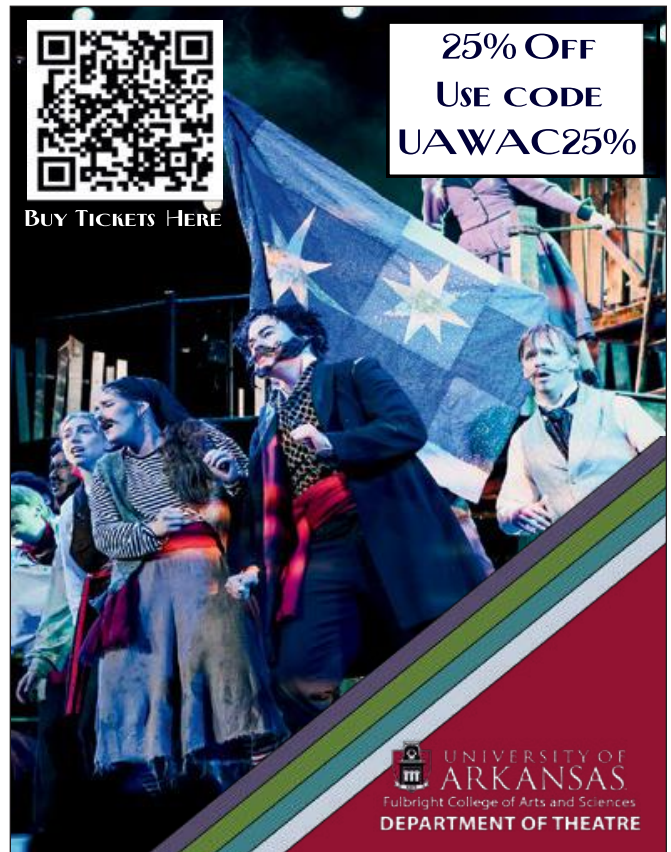
Visit waltonartscenter.org/friends to explore all the exciting benefits available and make a *Friends* gift.

479.384.4989 | friends@waltonartscenter.org





South by Northwest Catering
 SOUTHERN FOOD COMPANY | THEO'S | EAST SIDE GRILL | TUSKER'S TAVERN
ELEVATED SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY AT YOUR FINGER TIPS
 479-684-8033 | catering@southxnw.com | southxnw.com



25% OFF
USE CODE
UAWAC25%

BUY TICKETS HERE

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
 Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

ENGINEERING ARKANSAS



Crafton Tull

ANKR
 INSURANCE | BONDS | PAYROLL | TAXES

**Anchored in Trust,
 Driven by Service**

Coverage made simple—for life, work,
 and everything in between.

THEANKRGROUP.COM

Springdale Public Schools

**COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE,
 DEDICATED TO THE FUTURE**

We proudly support the **Walton Arts Center!**
 31 Schools, One Family: Building Confident Achievers
 Through Personalized Success.



THE SPRINGDALE ADVANTAGE:

- Captivating Arts
- Innovative Academics
- Unmatched Athletics
- Workforce Readiness

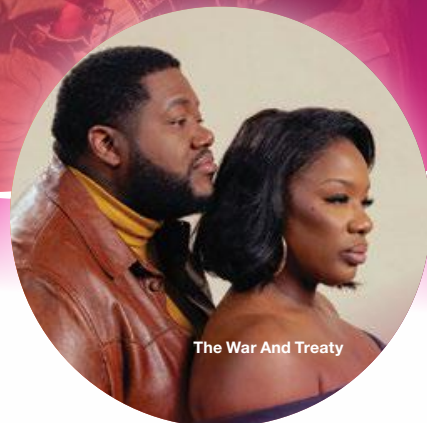


More Information:
SDALE.ORG

Live Music Lives Here



Henhouse Prowlers



The War And Treaty

There's no shortage of concerts and live music around here (see walmartamp.com for more). Join us throughout the season to see a variety of artists, from young musicians pioneering fresh sounds to some of the biggest names on tour.

West Street Live

presented by Neal Pendergraft

West Street Live offers six intimate performances featuring renowned musicians and singer-songwriters in an atmosphere reminiscent of neighborhood listening rooms and nightclubs.

Henhouse Prowlers
Friday, Sept. 11

Carlene Carter
Thursday, Oct. 1

Adam Hood
Friday, Nov. 6

The Wooten Brothers
Thursday, Nov. 19

Davina & the Vagabonds
Saturday, April 3

Nashville Songwriters
Saturday, April 24

Starrlight Jazz Club

The accomplished artists in this series are known for lending their skills to award-winning projects and pioneering their unique takes on the jazz genre. Experience the exhilaration of live jazz performed in the intimate ambiance of Starr Theater.

Matthew Whitaker Trio
Saturday, Sept. 12

Simon Moullier Trio with Alex Claffy and Steve Pruitt
Friday, Oct. 2

Huntertones
Friday, Jan. 15

Noah Preminger Quartet
Saturday, Feb. 20

Edward Simon Trio
Friday, April 23



Huntertones

Land O'Lakes Concert Series

Baum Walker Hall provides the perfect stage for bigger bands and music acts that have a devoted, large audience. This series includes a variety of genres and boasts the ultimate listening experience.

Trout Fishing in America's 50th Anniversary Tour Kickoff
Thursday, Sept. 24

The War And Treaty
Wednesday, Oct. 7

Neko Case: Neon Grey Midnight Green Tour
Monday, Nov. 2

Lyle Lovett and his Small Large Band
Sunday, Nov. 15

An Evening with Samara Joy
Friday, Mar. 5

John Pizzarelli and Catherine Russell: Salute to Ella Fitzgerald, Joe Pass & Oscar Peterson
Friday, April 2



Carlene Carter



**WAKE UP
AND WATCH**

5 NEWS THIS MORNING+

STREAM IT ONLY ON

5 NEWS+

5-9 A.M. WEEKDAYS

Roku firetv apple tv

DOWNLOAD ON YOUR TV.
WATCH FOR FREE!



**POLK
STANLEY
WILCOX**

architecture | interior design | planning
hospitality | education | corporate | residential | healthcare

www.polkstanleywilcox.com

**ROGERS
HISTORICAL
MUSEUM**
REAL. TRUE. FUN.

Real objects from our past.
True stories about our community.
Family **Fun** and life-long learning.

**313 S. Second Street
Rogers, AR**
**Open Tuesday - Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
rogershistoricalmuseum.org




Benny's
BAGELS • SANDWICHES
BREAKFAST • LUNCH
FAYETTEVILLE

*New York Style Bagels
Made From Scratch Daily*

479-332-0600
826 N Leverett, Fayetteville AR
@bennysfayetteville
Open 7 am - 2 pm
Seven days a week

Order Online for Delivery or Pickup



**EUREKA SPRINGS
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**

*Workshops in Art &
Fine Craft Since 1998*

Blacksmithing • Ceramics
Stained Glass • Woodworking
Painting & Drawing • & More

Artist Residencies
Group Retreats
Free Events • & More

ESSA-ART.ORG

**ONCE YOU
POP
THE POP
DON'T STOP**



PRINGLES

Shows Wrapped in Holiday Cheer

Filled to the brim with festive cheer and theater magic, these shows are the perfect way to welcome in the most wonderful time of the year. Start a new tradition or treat yourself to a night at the theater – either way, you'll leave feeling holly, jolly and ready for the season.



Leslie Odom, Jr.
The Christmas Tour 2026

Leslie Odom, Jr. *The Christmas Tour 2026*

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7pm /

Tickets start at \$69

With his signature charm, stunning vocals and message of peace, Tony® and Grammy®-winning artist Leslie Odom, Jr. brings the spirit of the season to life in a show that's equal parts soulful, uplifting and unforgettable.

Concert Series Sponsor:

Farmer-Owned
LAND O LAKES®

Mariachi Herencia de México: *A Mariachi Christmas*

Thursday, Dec. 3, 7pm / Tickets \$10

Ring in the season with the heartwarming sounds of Mariachi Herencia de México! Back by popular demand, the Grammy-nominated band performs both Mexican and American holiday favorites and hosts a colorful celebration of holiday traditions.



Mariachi Herencia de México:
A Mariachi Christmas



*Cirque Dreams
Holidaze*

Cirque Dreams *Holidaze*

4 shows

Dec. 4-6 / Tickets start at \$46

This captivating show combines Broadway-style production and awe-inspiring contemporary circus arts. Guests of all ages will be on the edge of their seats as a cast of holiday characters comes to life, singing beloved seasonal songs and performing gravity-defying stunts.

Show Underwriters:

John & Diana Marshall | Brandon & Sarah Wilson

Family Fun
Series Sponsor:



Premier Series
Support:

Todd & Melissa Simmons

Dolly Parton's *Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol*

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7pm /

Tickets start at \$40.25

Set in the 1930s in the Smoky Mountains, this production reimagines Scrooge as the owner of a mining company town, where his greed blinds him to the joys and gifts of the season. Featuring Dickens' classic characters and Parton's one-of-a-kind songwriting, this is a holiday show meant to share with those you love.

Night Out Series Sponsor:



The Unauthorized *Hallmark(ish) Parody Musical*

Tuesday, Dec. 22, 7pm /

Tickets start at \$33.35

Packed with your favorite holiday movie tropes and original pop songs such as "Judge That Cookie" and "It Feels Like Christmas (Because It Is Literally Christmas)," this show offers a hilarious twist on the classic holiday movies you already know and love.

Show Underwriter: *Jason P. Viator*



The Unauthorized Hallmark(ish) Parody Musical

Combining History and Imagination to Write Broadway's

BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB™

THE TONY AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL

8 SHOWS /

Dec
15-20

Hailed as a “jaw-dropping, soul-stirring must see” (*The Washington Post*), the Tony® and Grammy® award-winning *Buena Vista Social Club*™ is a journey through music and memory into the beating heart of Havana. A world-class company brings the story of the iconic album to thrilling life in this tale of big dreams, second chances and music that needs no translation.

Learn more about the creation of this show from book writer Marco Ramirez. This Q&A was written by Ruthie Fierberg, published by *Broadway News* and reprinted with permission.

You were asked to come on as the musical's book writer — but you get to decide what the story is and where it goes. What was your first kernel of an idea?

“I want to make sure we honor the music, whatever we do, and that the songs stayed in Spanish. This is, I think, one of the greatest pieces of art ever made by humankind. I would put it up there with the work of Michelangelo and *The Godfather*. Even in the history of recorded music, I think it really stands out. So the story of how it got made is always really exciting. This record was made at a very pivotal, interesting, tricky time in Cuban history. How can we make this musical to help [audiences] understand [the record] a little further — how the making of it was so special?”

In ordering the songs to tell a story through the music, you're not relying on lyrics — though Spanish speakers have a bonus of understanding them. Is the arc you're creating simply an emotional one?

“When we were presenting a song, it would be presenting a new character, a new location, a new conflict, a new theme, a new depth of an argument. I'm a fluent Spanish speaker and it's my first language, so I [don't] write off the audience who speaks Spanish — they're going to see it in “3D.” But my writing principle was: I know what these songs sound like, the audience who even doesn't speak Spanish might know what they sound like, but my job is to show them what they look like, feel like and where they came from.”

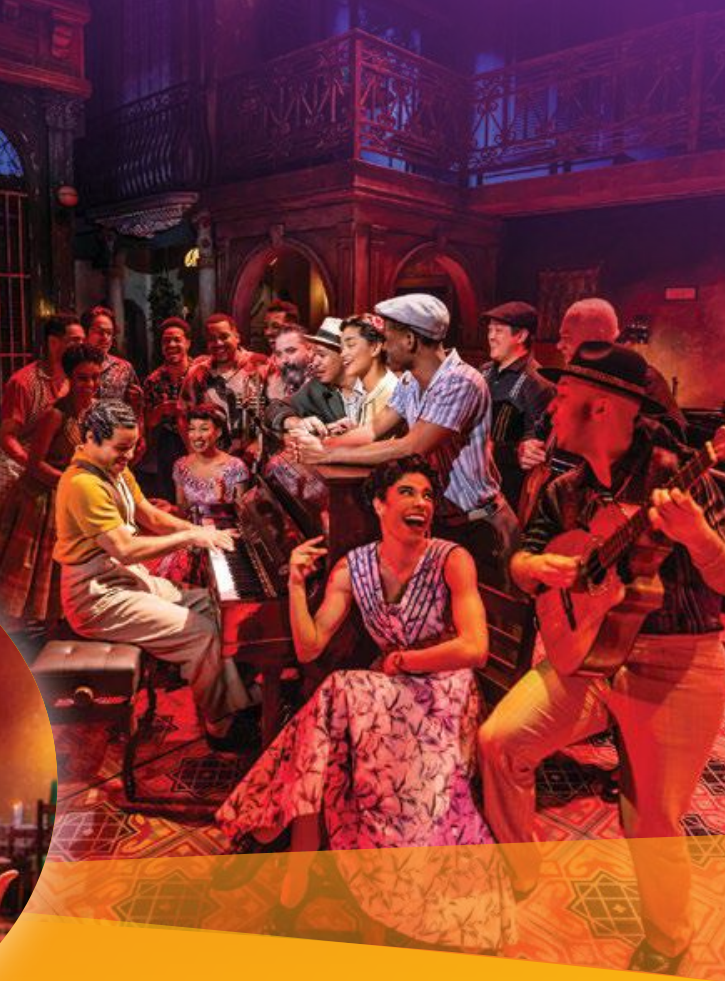
Who are the characters driving the story?

“Even though this is the story of a band [mainly four of its members], as we say at the top of the show, it is framed as a story of Omara Portuondo, who, when we meet her, has not sung in many years for serious reasons. When we meet her, a young producer is saying, ‘I

The Broadway company of
BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB.
Photos by Matthew Murphy.

**“I want to make
sure we honor
the music,
whatever we do...”**

— Marco Ramirez



have an opportunity. I'd love to make one more record.' And much like the gunslinger who has hung up her rifle, she says, 'I don't do that anymore.' But he tempts her with this idea of making beautiful music again, maybe with some people she knows from back in the day.

As she starts singing these songs, memories start coming back – memories of the younger Omara, an artist who wants to make authentic, heartfelt music while her sister wants to make very commercial music. It's ultimately the story of two sisters who used to be close but decide to part ways. That's told parallel to the '90s story of a woman kind of coming back to make music but realizing this is kicking up a lot of old stuff, and it's essentially therapy."

Broadway Series Sponsor:

Procter & Gamble

Premier Broadway Support:

Bob & Becky Alexander | Elda & Eric Scott

Show Sponsor:

Tyson Foods

Show Underwriter:

The Starling Family

Series Support:

Friends of Broadway



Scan here to read the full story on our blog.

Planning Your Best Retirement



Apartments



Cottages



Village Homes



For 40 years, Butterfield Trail Village has set the standard for active senior living in NWA. Situated on 45 beautifully maintained acres, residents enjoy independence, connection, and a vibrant lifestyle with a vast array of activities and amenities at your fingertips.

Planning ahead has its privileges. Carriage Club membership offers early access to select amenities while you prepare for your move.

Call to schedule your private consultation and tour today.



**1923 E. Joyce Blvd. | Fayetteville, Ark.
479.695.8011 | butterfieldtrailvillage.org**

Staff Spotlight

Nathan Bell

Senior Manager of Patron Services



Describe your role and a typical day at Walton Arts Center/ Walmart AMP.

I oversee our team of house managers, who make sure everything from the tip of the stage to the entry doors is running smoothly, and our volunteer program — over 230 volunteers who generously donate their time to Walton Arts Center. I also work with visiting productions to advance needs for VIP experiences, meet and greets and merchandise settlements. A typical day for me is rarely typical! Patron services intersects with every department in some way, so we play a huge role in the operations and planning for everything that happens here, both this week and things happening two months from now. There is truly never a dull moment, and I have an amazing team that helps make it happen!

What is the most interesting thing about your job?

We have such a diverse group of volunteers from all different backgrounds, and it's always fascinating to hear about their life experiences and travels. As a huge theater nerd, I also love getting a little peek behind the curtain at how the magic happens. The first time I walked backstage, *Cats* was in the house, and seeing those iconic costumes up close was such a surreal experience!

What would you like patrons to know about Walton Arts Center/ Walmart AMP?

Volunteers are truly the heartbeat of what we do here and because of the time that they donate to the organization,

we're able to invest more deeply in mission-driven programming — like our Classroom Series, which offers free or low-cost performances to children from across the region. This enables us to do so much more for our community than we could otherwise. And if you've ever thought about getting involved, it's easier and more fun than you might think! We welcome new volunteers throughout the season, and flexibility is built right in — you create your own schedule and sign up for what works best for you. It's a wonderful way to give back and connect with your community.



The Best Of Fayetteville Is Always In View



INN AT

Carnall Hall

LAMBETH
LOUNGE

ELLA'S TABLE

479.582.0400 • INNATCARNALLHALL.COM
465 N. ARKANSAS AVENUE, FAYETTEVILLE, AR



GRAND RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

Grand Living. Grand Life.



Discover a lifestyle of freedom, fun, and fulfillment in Northwest Arkansas' premier senior living community. Our facility is designed to provide a vibrant and engaging environment, where you can embrace an active lifestyle while enjoying the comforts of a well-appointed home.

Grand Living offers:

- Indoor Pool
- Fitness Center
- Saunas & Massage Therapy Rooms
- 100 seat theatre
- Outdoor grill and dining areas
- Library
- Lounge and bar
- Pool table and shuffle board
- Card games
- Hiking trail
- Frequent outings throughout Northwest Arkansas

Get in touch for floor plans, pricing, and availability!



www.grandretirement.com • 479.435.7500



Diamond Awards Finalists Make Their Broadway Debut



DIAMOND AWARDS



Walton Arts Center's Diamond Awards recognize achievement and excellence in local musical theater and shine the spotlight on Arkansas students. During the 2025/26 school year, 12 high school musical theater productions were adjudicated and nominees from those programs gathered at the second annual Diamond Awards showcase and ceremony. Cali Ferguson from Alma High School and Eli Taylor from Bentonville West High School, the best actress and actor winners, advanced to compete with peers from more than 50 regional awards programs at the Broadway League Foundation's National High School Musical Theatre Awards®, "The Jimmy Awards®" in New York City this past June.

Ferguson and Taylor spent 12 days preparing and rehearsing for the 17th annual Jimmy Awards show, working with industry professionals and making their Broadway debut on the Minskoff stage. Though the bulk of their time was spent rehearsing, they also experienced *MJ* on Broadway and listened to a cast talkback after the show, saw their headshots on a billboard in Times Square, visited The Museum of Broadway and met previous Jimmy Award nominees Fabiola Caraballo Quijada (who you may know as Juliet in the *& Juliet* national tour), Eva Noblezada and Andrew Barth Feldman, among many others.

Ceremony Underwriter: *Margaret & Dick Rutherford*

"This experience helped me grow as a performer ... I learned to come out of my shell and gained a lot more confidence. I am going to carry that into this next year as I prep for college auditions."

– Eli Taylor

Q&A with Arts Educator and 2026 Sparkle Award Winner



The Diamond Awards are about more than just recognizing excellence among high school musical theater students. It's also a chance to shine the spotlight on an outstanding arts educator.

Students nominate teachers for the Sparkle Award, and it is announced at the annual Diamond Awards Ceremony in May. Meet the 2026 Sparkle Award winner, Samantha Burrow.

Why did you want to become a theater educator?

I always had so many questions about what happens after college or after high school. I wanted to use my professional training to educate students of that age – not just about the "acting" or the "technical theater skills," but about life and how their skills will help them in the world. I want students to feel like they can do anything.

What do you say to students who want to pursue a career in the arts?

There are so many jobs that you can use an arts degree for. Theater kids are hard workers and problem solvers who know how to work together with lots of different personalities and how to communicate ideas (large and small). Most importantly, theater kids can connect on a basic human level and that's what we all need the most right now.

What does it mean to you that your students nominated you for the Sparkle Award?

I don't teach for fame and glory. I don't talk about "what's my legacy going to be?" But I believe that kids can't truly learn and be open to learning until they feel comfortable and safe. That's one of my biggest goals as an educator. So for them to feel safe enough to let their guards down and think that I should be recognized was the highlight of my career because that's not why I'm here. I'm here for them, not me.



STONE HARBOR
CUSTOM HOMES

DISCOVER THE POSSIBILITIES

HIGH-END CUSTOM HOMES IN NORTHWEST
ARKANSAS FOR OVER 30 YEARS



VISIT OUR VIRTUAL GALLERY AT
stoneharborcustomhomes.com





BEST
REGIONAL HOSPITALS

& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS
RECOGNIZED IN 13 TYPES OF CARE
2026-2027

**Live Life
Knowing**
Arkansas' #1 hospital
is here for you.



Washington Regional lets you live life knowing your health is in good hands. Named Arkansas' #1 Hospital by *U.S. News & World Report* for a sixth straight year, we're proud to bring you nationally recognized care right here in Northwest Arkansas.

For the big things, the little things and all the things in between, you can *live life knowing* Washington Regional is here for you.

Visit [wregional.com/LiveLifeKnowing](https://www.wregional.com/LiveLifeKnowing) to learn more.





The Great American Songbook Reimagined

Flying High: Big Band Canaries Who Soared
featuring the Champion Fulton Trio

The Great American Songbook is an unofficial canon of the most influential 20th-century American popular songs and jazz standards. Spanning roughly the 1920s to 1960s, these enduring tunes were largely written for Broadway, musical theater and Hollywood films, and remain widely performed today. Songbook Salon, Walton Arts Center's newest series, celebrates this music in the glamorous and intimate setting that it deserves. Choose from theater seating at \$43.70 or cabaret seating at \$66.70 in Starr Theater.

Premier Series Support provided *in honor of Mary Ann Greenwood from her family*

From Cole Porter to Bob Dylan featuring Isabella Isherwood

Thursday, Sept. 10 / 7:30pm

Chicago-based pianist, singer and actor Isabella Isherwood is known for her vast and impeccable vocal range. "Thrilling low notes, a middle register that resonates warmth and ghostly obbligatos to enhance an arrangement," says critic Neil Tesser, make for a delightful exploration of the jazz genre and beyond.

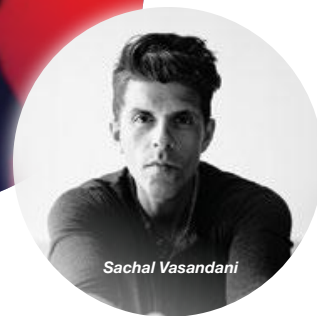
Flying High: Big Band Canaries Who Soared featuring the Champion Fulton Trio

Saturday, March 13 / 7:30pm

Billie Holiday, Anita O'Day, Lena Horne, Peggy Lee, Jo Stafford, Rosemary Clooney and Ella Fitzgerald were "canaries" — women singing with the great Big Bands of the era. Fulton and her trio will celebrate the styles, sounds and music made famous by these jazz canaries once they spread their wings!



*Isabella
Isherwood*



Sachal Vasandani

Let's Be Frank: Celebrating the Frank Sinatra Small Group Songbook featuring Sachal Vasandani & The Christian Tamburr Trio

Thursday, May 6 / 7:30pm

Thoroughly rooted in jazz, award-winning vocalist Sachal Vasandani has the swagger to front the most swinging big bands and the vulnerability to present definitive classic ballads in a trio. With fresh new arrangements, Vasandani leads us through the rare stylings of Sinatra with a small group.



Leave a Legacy that Inspires a Standing Ovation

The arts have given us countless unforgettable moments. You can ensure that continues for generations to come by naming Walton Arts Center as a beneficiary in your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy.

It costs you nothing today but could become one of the most meaningful contributions you make to the arts. Your legacy gift will help Walton Arts Center continue to provide arts education and access to world-class performing arts for years to come.

Explore a Legacy Gift to Walton Arts Center

Call Becky Brink at 479.316.7504. If you have already included Walton Arts Center in your estate plans, please let us know so we can recognize your support today.

Legacy Giving Society Members

Clarence & Rebecca Archer*

Kent & Nancy Blochberger

Anonymous

Tom & Jill King

Robert T Murphy III

Jean Newhouse*

Anonymous

Frances M Scott*

Dennis & Evelyn Shaw

Billie Jo Starr*

Sally Ann Stone*

Dick & Nancy Trammel

Anonymous*

**Members whose legacy gifts have been realized*

Partner with us and tell **your** story.

celebratearkansas.com

DARBY EVERY EVENING
LAURA EVERY MORNING

ACCURATE EVERY DAY

40.29 GET READY WEATHER

LIVE. LOCAL. LATE BREAKING.

Young Professionals Give Back Through Volunteering

Volunteering can fit into any lifestyle, but don't just take our word for it. Talk to Amelia Catanzaro, a young professional who works full time in a corporate job and still volunteers at Walton Arts Center. "Volunteering does not have to be a big-time commitment; you can work three hours or 300 hours and everything in between. That makes it accessible whether you're a working professional, retired or a student. You can work around your schedule and still make an impact."

Catanzaro is just one of several volunteers who carve out time to volunteer in addition to their corporate careers. The company she works for donation-matches her volunteer time, allowing them both to give back to the community.

During a show, volunteers help with a wide range of tasks like scanning tickets and handing out programs, pouring drinks in the *Friends* lounge, helping patrons find their seats and answering questions. For Catanzaro, this variation is what makes volunteering so fun. "It's not like your day job where you know what to expect," she said. "It's different every day because of the shows, the volunteer positions available and all of the different patrons."

"When I graduated college, all those extra arts experiences stopped – I wasn't singing in choir, but I was looking for some way to still be connecting to the arts," she said. As a season



subscriber herself, Catanzaro knows firsthand the joy of live performance, but what drives her most is sharing that feeling with someone experiencing it for the first time. "I am glad I get to be a part of that journey for someone else." Furthering her dedication to the impact of the arts, Catanzaro also donates a gift through the *Friends* program, helping set the stage for free performances for students and teachers through the Classroom Series throughout the year.

The impact of the arts goes beyond just sitting in a chair and seeing a show. "Having a place that makes you feel loved and welcome is amazing," Catanzaro says, "and Walton Arts Center is that place."

"Having a place that makes you feel loved and welcome is amazing, and Walton Arts Center is that place."

– Amelia Catanzaro

**Learn more about volunteering
at waltonartscenter.org/volunteer.**

Walton Arts Center would like to **share our appreciation** for the many **generous volunteers** whose time and dedication make our programming possible.

Heather Agerton
Bruce Ahrendsen
Jolene Ahrendsen
Jacque Allen
Michael Allen
Trish Anslow
Amy Anthony
Pamela Austin
Cassie Baker
Ruth Baker
Jeanie Baltz
Andreina Barrett
Diane Bashuk
Betsy Batey
Pam Beard
Bobbie Beecher
Chris Bell
Linda Bell
Sal Bernard
Marianne Bieker
David Boddie
Karmen Boddie
Penny Bossert
Cathe Bowman
Emma Boyd
Karla Bradley
Sharon Brasko
Lisa Breivogel
Ruth Brenneman
Barry Brown
Colleen Brown
Debi Buckley
Paula Burks
Tammy Cable
Bri Cannady
Ester Carranza
Amelia Catanzaro
Beaura Cavalier
Amanda Chandler

Rene Cheek
Kay Coley
Karen Coyne
Jeanne Crochet
Rhonda Darden
Boyd Darling
Judy Davison
Patti Deen
Mary DeGolyer
Barton Dennis
Melody DeVere
Dennis Dinkel
John Dixon
Rebecca Doretti
Mary Foster
Susan Garriss
Karen Gattis
Candy Gearhart
Richard Gerety
Joel Giarrusso
Kimberly Gillow
Carrie Goff
Annette Goll
Sharon Gray
Avi Greene
Peggy Guccione
Nicole Gulas
Ann Hafar
Gina Harris
Mark Harris
Rosie Harris
Mary Harvey
Curtis Hendricks
Jeanne Hickman
Candace Hoggatt
Diana Hoke
Gayle Howard
Carolyn Hudspeth
Kathryn Hunt

Victoria Hurley
Amy Huycke
Mark Huycke
Carole Jackson
Katie Jackson
Mark Jackson
Donn Johnson
Paula Johnson
Parker Jones
Rick Jones
Leah Karp
Kathy Knight
Jenny Knowles
Catherine Koch
Chuck Kraeger
Kathy Krantz
Jenny Lee
Annette Lewis
Michael Lietzke
Morgan Lindsey
Annee Littell
Gabrielle Marcy
Pam Marsh
Denise May
Sharon McCone
Barbara McMullen
Alan Meyer
Victoria Meyers
Ben Micek
Jen Micek
Laura Minick
James Minyard
Shannon Mitchell
Nancy Mock
Sandee Moffett
Paula Mooty
Mario Moreno
Pat Moriarity
Peggy Moriarity

Maureen Neagle
Rachel Nielsen
Uche Ofodile
Carl Owens
David Owens
Sunshine Owens
Janet Oxford
Michael Oxford
Glenda Patterson
Allie Peduto
Tom Perry
Jeannie Philpott
Ann Porta
Leslie Redmon
Laurie Reh
Teresita Reisinger
MariAnne Retallick
Joyce Richards
Heidy Rivera
Connie Robbins
Alex Rouw
Mahtaab Sadeghi
Estefanía Salas
Charlotte Shaffer
Teresa Shelden
Clifton Sherrer
Paulette Sherrer
Ruth Shi
Jeanne Silvestri
Audra Smith
Jen Smith
Kat Smith
Jason Sneed
Charlotte Sorenson
Carol Spears
Stephanie Springate
Donna Starkey
Shelley Steele
Peggy Stovesand

Kerry Stricker
Jerald Swenson
Marie Swenson
Jhonnie Taylor
Lauren Terry
Theresa Thibado
Sharon Thomason
Vicki Thompson
Becky Timmons
Peter Tooker
Peggy Treiber
Patti Van Houten
Marc Villalva
Brent Walker
Diane Walker
Fawne Wallace
Ben Walworth
Terry Wamsher
Rana Weidman
Laura Welkey
Angelika Will
Tiff Wimberly
Rachel Wolverton
Michael Wulf
Nan Yarnelle
Denise Yealy
Kelly Young
Amanda Zoellick

Volunteers who
contributed hours
July 1, 2025 -
June 30, 2026



Giving Local Visual Artists a Place to Shine

ALEXANDER GALLERY

at PORTER ART WAREHOUSE

Now in its second season, Alexander Gallery at Porter Art Warehouse has already become a destination for locals and visitors to the region.

This gathering place for creativity, conversation and community is earning a reputation as a space where regional artists' voices can shine and where everyone can experience something inspiring and new.

The season kicks off with the sixth annual *Our Art, Our Region, Our Time* regional art exhibition. Hundreds of artists submit pieces they have created over the last year for consideration. The exhibition, curated by Kathy P. Thompson and Walton Arts Center's visual arts team, showcases the artists who are working in our region and the wide variety of work that they create. The exhibition is on display through Sunday, Dec. 20.

Visit the Alexander Gallery for free at 212 N. West Ave. Monday through Saturday 11 am – 2 pm or Thursday through Saturday 5 – 8 pm.



Exhibition Schedule

Our Art, Our Region, Our Time

Sept. 25-Dec. 20

Exhibition Underwriter: *Malcolm & Ellen Haygood*

NOW and THEN

Jan. 15-Feb. 28

A unique group show featuring local Native American selections from the University of Arkansas Museum Collections and works by Elise Boulanger, Terése Conway, Russell Cothren and Leon Niehues.

Signature Artist Exhibition: Kevin Kresse

March 12-April 18

Internationally acclaimed artist known for his statues of Arkansas musicians, including a commissioned bust of Johnny Cash for the U.S. Capitol.

Arkansas Pottery Festival

April 29-May 30

Community Creative Center's sixth annual Arkansas Pottery Festival features pottery works by local artists.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE THAT SPANS GENERATIONS.

Supporting Northwest Arkansas through the iconic brands people trust and rely on.



Shows for the Young and Young at Heart



Jim Henson's *Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock LIVE*

Set off on an exhilarating adventure with Jim Henson's fun-loving Fraggles. The first-ever musical based on the beloved, Emmy®-winning Apple TV series, *Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock LIVE*, comes to Walton Arts Center for one performance only Sunday, Nov. 1 at 3pm.

This all-new family-friendly live stage adventure features colorful new walking versions of the Fraggles and exciting original puppet creature friends – all built by the renowned Jim Henson's Creature Shop. With fan-favorite music, laughter and imagination, it's an unforgettable live experience that will have silly creatures ages 3+ dancing in the aisles.

The interactive live musical is brought to life by writer and director John Tartaglia (*Avenue Q*, *Shrek the Musical*, Stephen Schwartz's *The Secret Silk*), who has served as executive producer, writer, puppet captain and performing puppeteer as Gobo Fraggles, Architect Doozer, Gunge, Barry Blueberry and Sprocket the Dog for the Apple TV show. Featuring classic songs, eye-popping immersive stage effects and all the hilarious, heartwarming magic you expect from Jim Henson's creations, *Fraggle Rock* continues to captivate audiences of all generations.

Family Fun
Series Sponsor:



Premier Series Support:

Todd & Melissa Simmons

More Shows for Young Theatergoers

STOMP

Jan. 30-31

3 performances / ages 5+

An eight-member troupe uses matchboxes, wooden poles, brooms and hubcaps to create an electrifying, inventive, witty and utterly unique experience. Come see what all the noise is about!

Show Underwriter: *Wendy Brant*



Dr. Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat - Live on Stage!*

Wednesday, March 10 / ages 3+

This timeless tale bursts onto the stage (and maybe the aisles) for an energetic retelling full of laughs, surprises and a bit of delightful disorder.

Show Underwriter: *Richie & Karen Roberts*



Tall Stories' *The Gruffalo*

Thursday, March 11 /

ages 3+

The beloved magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book returns by popular demand.



Tutti Frutti's *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*

Thursday, April 1 / ages 3+

Inspired by Aesop's famous fable, this much-loved story is brimming with fun, live music, unforgettable songs and delightful characters.





Impact that Resonates

In 2019, Jessica Fisher, theater director at Van Buren High School, brought a group of students to Walton Arts Center to see the Broadway tour of *The Play That Goes Wrong*. Staff arranged for the group to do a stage combat workshop with Michael Thatcher, a member of the Broadway and touring cast of the show.

"It was amazing!" Fisher said. "He used the play and his knowledge to teach my students a skill that they are not exposed to. They were so excited and engaged the entire workshop."

The field trip inspired Fisher as much as it did her students, and in 2025 Van Buren High School produced *The Play That Goes Wrong*. Though these students weren't part of the workshop, Thatcher still reached out to encourage them.

"He was so excited to send the cast a 'Break a Leg' video and gave them some advice on acting," Fisher said. "It was truly impactful to the cast and crew. They felt so heard and seen. They were motivated and thought that it was the coolest thing!"

But what about those students from the 2019 field trip?

"Some of those students are in college now doing theater, and they still talk about that field trip being a key factor in them pursuing theater as a major."

Fisher continues inspiring her students to create great theater by participating in the inaugural Diamond Awards in 2025 and again in 2026. She's also bringing students to Broadway shows through Broadway Bridges on the Road.

"Opportunities like this are so meaningful to my students," Fisher said. "Seeing shows and professional actors giving time to talk to students is amazing."

The Best Discoveries are Made Together

Scott Family
AMAZEUM

1009 Museum Way Bentonville, AR 72712
amazeum.org



FROST, PLLC IS A PROUD SUPPORTER OF WALTON ARTS CENTER

 4375 N. Vantage Dr. Suite 403 | Fayetteville, AR 72703 | (479) 695-4300

www.frostpllc.com



TREY DAERR DOUG WARNER ALLIE LYNCH JOSH PINEDA DAN SKOFF

ALWAYS STREAMING ALWAYS FREE!

479 FIRST

KNWA FOX 24 KFTA PIG TRAIL NATION YOUR WEATHER AUTHORITY

Roku Apple TV Fire TV SAMSUNG

CitiScapes Magazine is a proud sponsor of

Walton Arts Center



NORTHWEST ARKANSAS

CitiScapes

MAGAZINE

Subscribe online at www.citiscapes.com
@CitiscapesMagazine




*Recruiting
Done Differently.*

stout (479) 361-1114

StoutExecutiveSearch.com



THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER WINNING PERFORMANCE

CHOCTAW
CASINO & RESORT
POCOLA

CHOCTAW PROUDLY SUPPORTS
WALTON ARTS CENTER

choctawcasinos.com

Hip-Hop 101 Sparks Confidence and Creativity

Walton Arts Center's Hip-Hop 101 introduced over 1,200 students to the history and basics of hip-hop just last year. This free, afterschool program touches on not only dance and music, but the fashion, visual art, songwriting, production and engineering that make up the most popular genre of American music.

Nine teaching artists — professionals in the industry — delivered over 100 hours of instruction, teaching students to write their own music, record music videos, create costumes and showcase what they learned at a live, on-stage performance.

"The most rewarding thing was helping kids who thought they couldn't rap, dance or draw realize they could," said teaching artist DJ D. Sewell.

In year two of the program, the students became the teachers for Hip-Hop Knowledge Drops — one day, in-school residencies. Students from the ALLPS Crew — one of the first groups who participated in Hip-Hop 101 — joined teaching artists and shared

their knowledge of the fundamentals of hip-hop dance and breaking, visual arts like graffiti and writing and rapping with more than 1,180 third grade students in Northwest Arkansas.

"This program strengthened our school community and helped every child who participated feel like they belonged. Watching students proudly bring their ideas to life was inspiring," shared Jamie Bureis, principal of Asbell Elementary.

Now in its third year, Hip-Hop 101 will expand to Springdale's George Jr. High School, and Hip-Hop Knowledge Drops will extend residencies to over 20 schools in our region, helping local students build confidence and learn about this uniquely American genre.



Create your own path at one of the nation's top public high schools right here in Arkansas.



asmsa.org/create



**ARKANSAS
SCHOOL**
FOR MATH,
SCIENCES,
+ THE ARTS





General Mills is a proud sponsor of



Walton Arts Center



Symphony of Northwest Arkansas Launches New Era with Music Director Akiko Fujimoto

A new era is set to begin for the Symphony of Northwest Arkansas (SoNA) with the launch of its 2026-27 MainStage season – the first under newly appointed Music Director **Akiko Fujimoto**.

“We could not be more excited to begin a new era of SoNA with Akiko Fujimoto as our Music Director,” says SoNA Executive Director Ben Harris. “After a long season of searching, we are thrilled to have found a conductor who displays outstanding musicianship on the podium, a deeply thoughtful approach to programming and a remarkable ability to connect with the audience.”

Fujimoto was selected following SoNA’s much-celebrated 2025-26 “Season of Discovery,” which featured six guest conductors, including four finalists for the Music Director position. She first conducted SoNA in January 2026, before being announced as its new artistic leader in May.

“My first season with SoNA is one giant love letter to Northwest Arkansas,” says Fujimoto. “I’ve curated a season of masterpieces that celebrate the artistry of our musicians while reflecting the beauty, imagination and energy of Northwest Arkansas.”

The season begins **Saturday, Oct. 3** with **Rites of Renewal: The Firebird**, Fujimoto’s first concert as SoNA’s Music Director. Inspired by ritual, celebration and transformation, the program includes Berlioz’s *Roman Carnival Overture*, Copland’s spirited *Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo* and the exhilarating *Bacchanale* from Saint-Saëns’ *Samson and Delilah*. Stravinsky’s legendary *The Firebird Suite* will bring the evening to a powerful conclusion.

On **Sunday, Nov. 8**, guest conductor **Chelsea Tipton** will take audiences on a cinematic journey with **Modern Mythology: The Music of John Williams**. The Sunday matinee will feature a selection of iconic film and television music by the great living American

composer, from the heart-pounding sounds of *Jaws*, *E.T.* and *Star Wars* to the moving melodies of *Schindler’s List* and *Saving Private Ryan*.

The magic of the holidays returns on **Saturday, Dec. 12** with two performances of **A Very SoNA Christmas**. Guest conductor **Creston Herron** will lead SoNA musicians, the SoNA Singers and special guest soloists in a joyful program filled with holiday favorites. Then on **Sunday, Dec. 13**, presented in partnership with Walton Arts Center, SoNA Assistant Conductor **Sarah Pearson** leads **The Snowman: A Family Concert**, featuring the beloved animated film *The Snowman* with its enchanting orchestral soundtrack performed live.

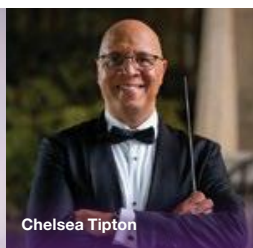
The season continues into the new year on **Sunday, Feb. 21** with **Fate & Triumph: Beethoven’s Fifth**. Opening the program is Carlos Simon’s *Fate Now Conquers*, inspired by Beethoven’s enduring spirit of resilience. Van Cliburn International Piano Competition medalist **Sean Chen** then joins SoNA for Prokofiev’s dazzling *Piano Concerto No. 3*, before Fujimoto and the orchestra culminate the concert with Beethoven’s iconic *Symphony No. 5*.

SoNA closes the season **Saturday, April 10** with **Eternal City: Pines of Rome**, a program inspired by the beauty and grandeur of the natural world. Wagner’s *Forest Murmurs* evokes the mystery of the woodland, while William Grant Still’s *The American Scene: A Mountain, a Memorial, and a Song* paints a vivid musical portrait of the American landscape. SoNA Concertmaster **Winona Fifield** then takes the spotlight in Vaughan Williams’ beloved *The Lark Ascending*, followed by Dobrinka Tabakova’s *Orpheus’ Comet*. And Respighi’s spectacular *Pines of Rome* brings the season to a thrilling close.

Season subscriptions and single tickets are available now, with all performances taking place in Baum Walker Hall. To purchase tickets or subscriptions, visit sonamusic.org or call the Walton Arts Center box office at **(479) 443-5600**.



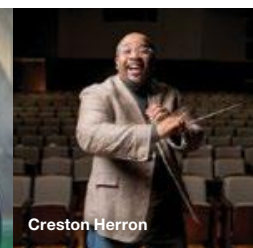
Akiko Fujimoto



Chelsea Tipton



Sarah Pearson



Creston Herron



Sean Chen



Winona Fifield



THANK YOU

A special thanks to this year's Art of Wine sponsors. The annual Art of Wine fundraiser helps **make our arts education mission possible**, inspiring Northwest Arkansas children and strengthening our schools and communities.



Bentonville City Lifestyle | Cutwater Spirits - Canned Cocktails | Fayetteville City Lifestyle
First National Bank | Interior Plant Co. | Rogers City Lifestyle | Signature Bank



Commitment That Never Misses a Cue

Spencer Fane is proud to support Walton Arts Center and its mission to inspire and engage communities across Northwest Arkansas through the arts. We believe strong connections are built on service, collaboration, and shared purpose. Every day, we work to overcome challenges and drive progress. Our commitment to the arts reflects our appreciation for creativity and cultural expression, helping set the stage for stronger communities and enriching the places where we live and work.



Spencer Fane LLP | spencerfane.com
4375 North Vantage Drive, Suite 405 | Fayetteville, AR 72703

© 2026 Spencer Fane LLP. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely on advertisements.

Have the Time of Your Life at *Dirty Dancing: The Musical*



A new stage production based on Lionsgate's beloved film *Dirty Dancing* is headed to Walton Arts Center for eight performances Oct. 21-25. Set against the unforgettable summer of 1963, *Dirty Dancing: The Musical* follows Frances "Baby"

Houseman as she discovers love, passion and independence through her relationship with charismatic dance instructor Johnny Castle. With live music from the original film, this is the feel-good escape you've been craving.

Dirty Dancing is an enduring cultural phenomenon that began with the iconic film that grossed over \$200 million at the worldwide box office and went on to launch two multi-Platinum® soundtrack albums, numerous No. 1 hit singles, won an Academy Award® for best original song and a Grammy Award® for best pop performance by a duo or group with vocals. The original film is one of Lionsgate's all-time best-selling library titles. This new North American stage tour aims to honor that legacy while reinventing the live experience for a new era, reconnecting audiences with the heart, heat and rebellious spirit that made *Dirty Dancing* a worldwide sensation.

Dirty Dancing: The Musical is directed by Tony Award® nominee, Obie Award® winner and two-time Emmy Award® winner Lonny



Price (Sunset Boulevard, Sweeney Todd), who played Neil Kellerman in the original *Dirty Dancing* film, with choreography by Darrell Grand Moultrie (Fat Ham, Beyoncé's World Tour). This production aims to capture the pulse, romance and youthful urgency that have defined *Dirty Dancing* for nearly four decades.

Your reservation at Kellerman's awaits!

Premier Broadway Support:

Bob & Becky Alexander | Eric & Elda Scott

Broadway Support: Friends of Broadway

Show Underwriter:

The Starr Foundation & Family in Memory of Billie Jo Starr

Annalese Starzec (Frances "Baby" Houseman), Blake Zelesnikar (Johnny Castle) and the Company of *DIRTY DANCING: THE MUSICAL*. Photos by Matthew Murphy.

®, TM & © 2026 LIONS GATE ENTERTAINMENT INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

8 SHOWS /

**Oct
21-25**

Todd & Marjorie Hanus



Behind the scenes, more than 30 business leaders serve on Walton Arts Center's Corporate Leadership Council and support fundraising events, like Masquerade Ball, that benefit arts education programs. This support from business leaders in our community is just one of the reasons that Walton Arts Center is able to serve more than 30,000 students and educators annually. We sat down with CLC member **Todd Hanus**, senior vice president of sales at Loacker USA, and his wife **Marjorie** to learn more about their support of the arts.

As a family, you have been *Friends of Walton Arts Center* for 12 years. How did Loacker come to support Walton Arts Center as well?

Todd: Arts and education have always been at the heart of our family. When we moved from the East Coast to Arkansas, supporting the arts felt like the perfect way to connect with our new community, and Walton Arts Center quickly became a natural home. Loacker is an Italian company with more than a century of tradition. Supporting the communities where they live and work is deeply woven into our culture, and Loacker immediately aligned with Walton Arts Center's mission.

What have you learned about Walton Arts Center since becoming *Friends*?

Marjorie: I've been impressed by how the non-profit invests in teachers through its long-standing partnership with the Kennedy Center, offering professional development that helps educators integrate the arts into their classrooms. Seeing how intentionally Walton Arts Center supports students, teachers and schools across Northwest Arkansas has reinforced why supporting the arts here feels so meaningful.

How do you see the arts impacting the community?

Todd: The growth of Walton Arts Center and the Walmart AMP has transformed how Northwest Arkansas experiences the arts. I love hearing friends and colleagues talk about the performances they've seen. The arts spark conversation, connection and joy, and that energy continues to build across our community.

Marjorie: These performances make me laugh, sing along and walk out feeling lighter and more inspired. Supporting the arts means helping ensure that our community continues to have access to those moments of connection, inspiration and pure fun.

What's been your favorite WAC or Walmart AMP show and why?

Marjorie: My favorite Walmart AMP memory is seeing Blake Shelton and Hunter Hayes with our son and daughter on its opening day in June 2014 – being there on day one was electric. It was clear even then that the venue would transform the cultural landscape of Northwest Arkansas.

Todd: Last year's Broadway Series included *MAMMA MIA!* and it truly stood out. It's a joyful story of love, friendship and a wedding told through ABBA's timeless music. With our daughter getting married this year, the show hit especially close to home.

To connect your business with Walton Arts Center, contact Kyle May, senior director of corporate partnerships, at kmay@waltonartscenter.org.





RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS

IS PROUD TO SUPPORT



Walton Arts Center

From The Table To The Main Stage

Tyson Foods® is a proud
sponsor of Walton Arts Center



Learn more at tysonfoods.com

©/™ 2026 Tyson Foods, Inc.

Symphony of Northwest Arkansas

Akiko Fujimoto, Music Director



2026-27 MainStage Season at Walton Arts Center

Rites of Renewal: The Firebird
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 / 7:30PM

Modern Mythology: The Music of John Williams
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 / 2PM | SUNDAY MATINEE

A Very SoNA Christmas
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 / 2PM & 7:30PM | TWO HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES

The Snowman: A Family Concert
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 / 2PM | SUNDAY MATINEE

Fate & Triumph: Beethoven's Fifth
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 / 2PM | SUNDAY MATINEE

Eternal City: Pines of Rome
SATURDAY, APRIL 10 / 7:30PM

Tickets & Subscriptions On Sale Now! sonamusic.org / 479.443.5600



COMMUNITY CREATIVE CENTER

imagine more

CLASSES WORKSHOPS PARTIES GALLERY OPEN STUDIO



CONTACT US TODAY!

COMMUNITYCREATIVECENTER.ORG

505 W. SPRING ST. FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72701

COMMUNITYCREATIVECENTER1@GMAIL.COM

479.571.2706

at Walton Arts Center's Nadine Baum Studios

Coca-Cola®

Refreshing the World



Coca-Cola® is a proud sponsor of



Walton Arts Center

© 2026 The Coca-Cola Company. © 2026 glacéau. ©2026 fairlife, LLC.
© 2026 BA SPORTS NUTRITION, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Media Partners



Advertiser Index

ANKR Insurance	14	General Mills	37	Shake's Frozen Custard	46
Arkansas Arts Academy	5	Grand Village at Clear Creek	21	South by Northwest Hospitality (SXNW)	14
Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts	36	Graduate Fayetteville	46	Spencer Fane	39
Benny's Bagels Fayetteville	16	Inn at Carnall Hall	20	Springdale Public Schools	14
Butterfield Trail Village	19	KFSM Channel 5 News	16	Sterling Bank	3
Celebrate Arkansas Magazine	27	KHBS KHOG 40/29	27	Stone Harbor Custom Homes	23
Choctaw Casino & Resort Pocola	35	KNWA TV	35	Stout Executive Search	35
CitiScapes Magazine	35	Land O'Lakes	20	Symphony of Northwest Arkansas (SoNA)	43
The Coca-Cola Company	44	Meus Floral Shop	46	Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge	48
Community Creative Center	43	The Momentary	47	Tyson Foods	42
Crafton Tull	14	Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects	16	Underwoods Fine Jewelers	2
Crystal Bridges	9	Pringles	16	University of Arkansas Department of Theatre	14
Eureka Springs School of the Arts	16	Procter & Gamble	31	Washington Regional	24
Friday, Eldredge & Clark	46	Rodney Strong Vineyards	42		
Frost, PLLC	34	Rogers Historical Museum	16		
		Scott Family Amazeum	33		

MEUS FLORAL SHOP



100 W CENTER ST
FAYETTEVILLE

479.222.0881
meusfloral.com



Graduate
BY HILTON
FAYETTEVILLE

A Locally inspired stay in Fayetteville

proud to support
Walton Arts Center



YOUR LOCAL ORIGINAL SINCE 1991

SHAKE'S

FROZEN CUSTARD



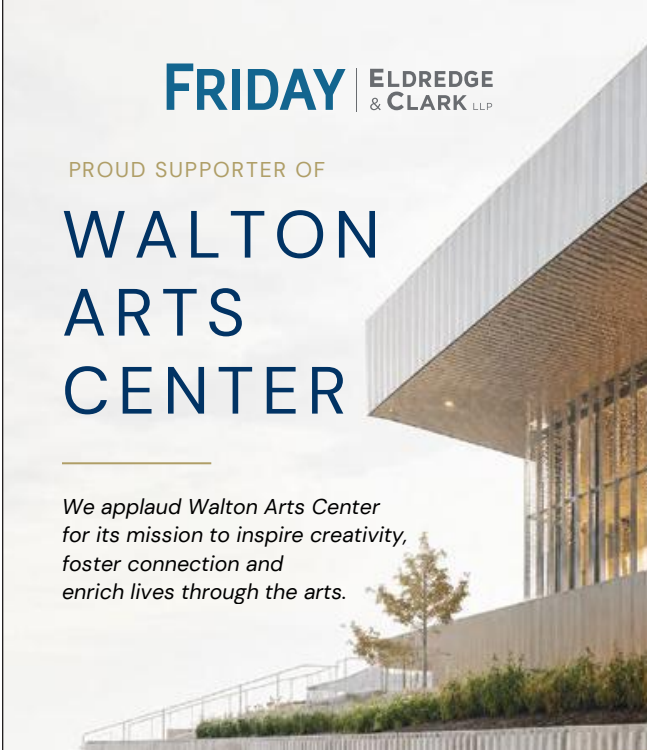
PROUD TO SUPPORT WALTON ARTS CENTER

FRIDAY | ELDREDGE & CLARK LLP

PROUD SUPPORTER OF

WALTON ARTS CENTER

*We applaud Walton Arts Center
for its mission to inspire creativity,
foster connection and
enrich lives through the arts.*



LITTLE ROCK | ROGERS

FRIDAYFIRM.COM



TAKE A MOMENT

The Momentary is a contemporary art space in the middle of Bentonville that is the center of your day: live music indoors and on the lawn, rotating exhibitions, craft cocktails with a view, and the kind of energy that makes a Tuesday feel like the best night of the week. | themomentary.org

 **THE
MOMENTARY**

Meet Thor

Majestic. Powerful. Worth Protecting.

Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge provides lifelong sanctuary for rescued lions, tigers and bears.

Every day, Thor receives expert care, proper nutrition, and the dignity he deserves.

Before the show begins . . .



Scan to meet Thor
and help care for
rescued big cats.

