North Central College

SEASON 2016-2017
FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

Ana Popovic
Photo Credit: Ruben Tomas

An Evening with Jazz Trumpeter Art Davis

En Vogue

ArtsPower National Touring Theatre - The Rainbow Fish
Photo Credit: Thomas Mohr

Alyssa Allgood

North Central College
Naperville, Illinois
Founded 1861
Sometimes good things come in small packages. There is a song “Bigger Isn’t Better” in the Broadway musical “Barnum” sung by the character of Tom Thumb. He tells of his efforts to prove just because he may be small in stature, he still can have a great influence on the world. That was his career. Now before you think I have finally lost it, there is a connection here. February is the smallest month, of the year, of course. Many people feel that’s a good thing, given the normal prevailing weather conditions in the month of February in the Chicagoland area. But this little month (here comes the connection!) will have a great influence on the fine arts here at North Central College with the quantity and quality of artists we’re bringing to you. Smooth, right?

February kicks off with another great evening with the renowned North Central College jazz faculty, featuring Art Davis on trumpet. What better way to warm the chilly nights of this diminutive month than with hot jazz of our faculty. Good choice to be here!

When I told people we were presenting En Vogue in the concert hall, the reaction was a uniform “Are you kidding me? They will be here in Naperville?” Yes, we are starting February with the iconic En Vogue in the acoustic perfection of Wentz Concert Hall. All that amazing material by these wonderful ladies will be here on our stage.

Our cabaret series this year features several performances by North Central College alumni. February features a performance by the hottest young jazz vocalist in the city of Chicago, our own Alyssa Allgood. She has so many accolades recently that I don’t have room to mention them all. I think one of my fondest memories of Alyssa was seeing her on stage at last summer’s jazz festival in Millennium Park. The announcer fondly referred to her as lady bird, the title of her premiere CD. The audience could see the warmth and fondness for this next generation jazz singer about to perform. What was especially touching was, following the performance, Alyssa had a difficult time holding back the tears. Seeing all that she has accomplished combined with her humility was a beautiful thing. If you are reading this and it is not her concert night, stop by the box office and get your tickets. You will be able to say you saw her on her rise to stardom!

Ana Popovic first came to us as a support act for Jonny Lang for our 2015 homecoming concert. When she started on her guitar, Ana had everyone’s attention. Wow! I am fond of telling people who have not been in the concert hall before that it’s a beautiful room that sounds better than it looks. Ana Popovic is the performer equivalent of my boasts about the hall. The universal comment during the break after she performed was that Jonny had better be on his game. Lucky for us, of course, he was. But when I was offered the opportunity to bring Ana back as the headliner, I jumped at the chance! Fasten your seatbelts, you are in for an amazing evening!

To close out February I think it’s appropriate that we have a performance with our younger audiences in mind. “The Rainbow Fish” will have two performances in the concert hall on Sunday, February 26. Treat your younger aficionados of the arts to a performance tailored especially for them here in the Wentz. In fact, why don’t you make an afternoon of it by stopping by one of our restaurant partners either before or after the performance? What a great way to introduce younger audience members to the joy of live theatre while supporting some of the great restaurants here in Naperville. When you combine that with free parking and the closeness of the college venues, you have the perfect storm.

So, for such a small month, we really have something great for all tastes here at North Central College. Thank you for joining us. We hope you come back soon. And now, on with the show!

Brian Lynch
Fine Arts Director
North Central College
Join **Friends of the Arts** today and receive exclusive benefits.

Thanks to our many contributors, world-renowned artists such as Yo-Yo Ma, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Boys Choir, Wynton Marsalis, Celtic Woman and many more have performed in our venues. But the cost of performance tickets only covers half our expenses to bring these great artists to the College’s stages. The generous support from the Friends of the Arts ensures the College can continue to bring world-class performers to our world-class venues.

### YOUR GIFT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name recognition in program</th>
<th>Performance opportunity for select performances</th>
<th>Access to Impresario Lounge*</th>
<th>Pre-Show Recognition Dinner</th>
<th>Complimentary tickets to North Central College presented events (per season)</th>
<th>Backstage meet and greet opportunity (subject to artist availability)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAESTRO</strong> ($10,000+)</td>
<td>*</td>
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<td><strong>BRAVO</strong> ($5,000 - $9,999)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STANDING OVATION</strong> ($1,000 - $4,999)</td>
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<td><strong>PERFORMANCE</strong> ($250 - $499)</td>
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<td><strong>OVERTURE</strong> ($100 - $249)</td>
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<td><strong>AUDIENCE</strong> ($25 - $99)</td>
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*Annual gifts made at the Standing Ovation level and above will also include membership into the North Central College Presidents Club. The Presidents Club consists of donors who make a minimum gift of $1,000 or more to one or more areas of the College. Presidents Club members are annually invited to the Presidents Club BBQ in September, and the Presidents Club dinner and theater event in November.

*The Impressario Lounge offers refreshments and appetizers in a private setting and is available for three events during the upcoming season. Impressario members will receive an e-mail message with details at the beginning of the season.

### 2016-2017 FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Recognition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **MAESTRO** ($10,000 OR MORE) | Rick and Pat Spencer  
Cathy Vekkos  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wehrli  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Williams  
Stephen R. Williamson  
Lawrence A. Writt and Courtney Bobosky |
| **BRAVO** ($5,000 - $9,999) | Myron Wentz and Prudence Conley |
| **STANDING OVATION** ($1,000 - $4,999) | Adrian and Jacqueline Aldrich  
Bangkok Village and Steven & Wijjd Fay  
Joni Witz-Berkley and Ross P. Berkley  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Brand Bobosky  
David Bowers  
Rosemarie Breske Garvey  
Daniel and Christine Bukowski  
Richard and Janet Coffey  
Eric Coppolino  
Jeffrey A. Coros  
Nick and Jane Dempsey  
Beverly Z. Esler  
Paul and Joanne Fries  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Hagmeyer  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wehrli  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Williams  
Stephen R. Williamson  
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Mr. and Mrs. Don Hagmeyer  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wehrli  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Williams  
Stephen R. Williamson  
Lawrence A. Writt and Courtney Bobosky |
| **PERFORMANCE** ($250 - $499) | Lyle E. Allison  
James and Linda Burner  
Bob and Nancy Calderon  
Lynne B. Caldwell  
Mr. and Mrs. William Edison  
Bruce and Mary Feay  
Eileen B. Fleshy  
Suzanne Fleshy  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Hagmeyer  
Cecilia and David Hoh  
Elizabeth Kammens  
Tami Kidd-Brown and Christopher C. Brown  
Daphne C. Lee  
Mrs. Rita Mathern  
Tom and Cheryl McRoberts  
Larry Michelson  
Gary and Berneil Mroz  
Laura Pohl |
| **OVERTURE** ($100 - $249) | Linda J. Allison  
Barry Beckwith  
Llinnae Bonenberger  
Kristolina L. Bonn  
Boychen Bradshaw and Kelly Fronsee  
Susan R. Bradshaw  
Mark Bucksath  
Robert Burlingham  
Dick and Dottie Carney  
Mary Cella  
Emilie L. Clark  
Camille Conforti  
Rev. Carol Cory  
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Currie  
Hailey T. Dammeyer  
Tarran M. D'Andrea  
Beverly Exterly  
Ron and Kandi Gasperini  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Girard  
Dora Glass  
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy J. Hannon  
Toby Hayer  
Sherllyn Holdeman  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Husarik  
Shirley Montalbo McMahon  
Arian and Geraldine Mendelsohn  
Marisa A. Miko  
Sally Page Olson  
Mr. and Mrs. John Palter  
Charles Papanos  
Ms. Penelope Parrish  
Alison and Kenneth Prokopec  
Rosemary and Frank J. Prucha III  
Douglas E. Ralston  
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Roberts  
James and Maureen Sault  
Mr. and Mrs. John Sauntry  
Carol Sawka  
Shirley Montalbo Schaff  
Bethany and Georgine Schick  
Michael Schroek  
Neal Shaughnessy  
Melissa L. Sheehy  
Tom Siebers  
Avery A. Sipla  
Dr. Karen J. Solomon  
Dr. Ann M. Struck  
Eloise J. Suk  
James G. and Abby L. Swanson  
Donald D. Topp  
Daniel Trasatt  
Kelsey Tyler  
Theodore M. Utchen  
William Vickery  
Carmen Giese Woodring |

We apologize if we have inadvertently made an error concerning your gift. Please contact the box office at 630-637-7469 so we can correct our records.
## FEBRUARY 2017 EVENT PRICE
- **February 4** 29th Annual Gospel Extravaganza Chicagoland Showcase ★ $15, $10
- **February 10** An Evening with Jazz Trumpeter Art Davis ★ $20, $15
- **February 11** En Vogue ♬ $85, $75
- **February 12** DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Russian Majesty” ★ $38-$15
- **February 17** Explore the Sound ★ $10, $3
- **February 19** Alyssa Allgood ★ $35, $30
- **February 23, 24, 25, 26** “Once On This Island” ★ $15, $10
- **February 24** Ana Popovic ★ $35, $25
- **February 26** ArtsPower National Touring Theatre “The Rainbow Fish” ★ $12, $8

## MARCH 2017 EVENT PRICE
- **March 4** Chords for Kids Concert for Children with Autism Free (ticket required)
- **March 5** Laury Shelley “The Music Never Ends: Laury Shelley Sings Michel Legrand” ★ $35, $30
- **March 9** Symphony Band & Instrumental Chamber Players Winter Concert ★ $5, $3
- **March 10** An Evening with Jazz Vibraphonist Brad Stirtz ★ $20, $15
- **March 11** Los Lonely Boys ♬ $65, $55
- **March 18** Theatreworks USA “Miss Nelson is Missing” ★ $12, $6
- **March 18, 19** DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Gershwin Greats” ★ $38-$15
- **March 25** Chicago Sinfonietta “More Than a Letter” ★ $60, $48, $10
- **March 26** Jo Dee Messina ★ $65, $55

## APRIL 2017 EVENT PRICE
- **April 1** America ★ $70, $60, $50
- **April 2** Theatreworks USA “Charlotte’s Web” ★ $12, $6
- **April 7** An Evening with Jazz Saxophonist Mitch Paliga ★ $20, $15
- **April 8** Kathleen Madigan “Bothering Jesus Tour” ♬ $40, $30
- **April 9** Mandy Nousain Boothe ★ $35, $30
- **April 20, 21, 22, 23** “The Navigator” ★ $10, $8
- **April 25** Concert Winds Return From Tour Concert ★ $5, $3
- **April 27** Chamber Singers “Metamorphosis” ★ $5, $3
- **April 29** Russian National Ballet “Giselle” ★ $40, $30, $25
- **April 29** ArtsPower National Touring Theatre “The Monster Who Ate My Peas” ★ $12, $6

Artists, dates, times, prices and locations are subject to change

★ North Central College performance

♩ Impresario Society event
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAY 2017</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 5, 6, 7</td>
<td>“Improv: On Ice!”</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>Women’s Chorale “Finale!” Concert</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<td>May 12</td>
<td>Chicago Sinfonietta “Rightness in the Rhythm”</td>
<td>$60, $48, $10</td>
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<td>May 12</td>
<td>Revenge of the Rhythm Section Drummer Jack Mouse and Bassist Kelly Sill</td>
<td>$20, $15</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Springtime Celebration”</td>
<td>$38-$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Gin Blossoms</td>
<td>$65, $55, $45</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18, 19, 20, 21</td>
<td>“Troilus and Cressida”</td>
<td>$10, $8</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>Cardinal Chorus and Chamber Strings Spring Concert</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Girls Like Us</td>
<td>$35, $30</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Concert Winds, Symphony Band &amp; Instrumental Chamber Players Spring Concert</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>The Spring Great Evening of Jazz</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Concert Choir Graduation Concert</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Artists, dates, times, prices and locations are subject to change

☆ North Central College performance  ♫ Impresario Society event
AN EVENING WITH JAZZ TRUMPETER

Art Davis

February 10, 8 p.m.
Madden Theatre
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
ABOUT THE PERFORMER

One of Chicago’s leading jazz trumpet artists, Art Davis has had a varied career. He toured with Ray Charles, Frank Sinatra and Rosemary Clooney. As a charter member of the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, he appeared with Joe Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Clark Terry, Nancy Wilson, Kurt Elling and Jimmy Heath, among others. He also performed and recorded with such notables as Maynard Ferguson, the Woody Herman Orchestra, Natalie Cole, Diane Schuur, Sammy Davis Jr., and Tony Bennett, Frank Mantooth and the Chicago Jazz Orchestra. As a member of the Janice Borla Group, Davis is featured on all of her recordings, including her current release “Promises to Burn.” He is also featured on Jack Mouse’s CD “Range of Motion.”

A highly respected jazz educator, Davis has degrees in music education and musicology from the University of Illinois. As a graduate student, he specialized in ethnomusicology with an emphasis in African music. For over 20 years, he has been mentored by such master drummers as Gideon Foli Alorwoyle and Abubakari Luna.

The concert will feature other members of the College’s acclaimed jazz faculty: Mitch Paliga (saxophone), Tim Coffman (trombone), Chris White (piano), Kelly Sill (bass) and Jack Mouse (drums).
En Vogue

February 11, 8 p.m.
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

En Vogue has never been afraid to break the mold and step outside the norm. From “Free Your Mind” to “Whatta Man,” the group has been trendsetters in music and style. Today, affectionately known as the “original funky divas,” they are redefining the idea of beauty and what it means beyond the traditional sense with their distinctive fusion of music and style.

Recognized as one of the top five highest-selling American female music groups in history, En Vogue has sold over 20 million albums and effortlessly transitioned into the digital age, amassing over 30 million streams and 26 million YouTube views on their top six hit singles alone: the R&B and Pop smashes “Hold On,” “Free Your Mind,” “Never Gonna Get It,” “Giving Him Something He Can Feel,” “Don’t Let Go” and “Whatta Man featuring Salt N Pepa.”

Now, in 2016, the group will present its most creative music yet with the release of “Electric Café.” The new music explores a variety of sounds, like electric guitars on “Oceans Deep,” yet stays true to its signature sound on the harmonious, “Déjà Vu.” In support of the new music, En Vogue will embark on a world tour with shows throughout North America (U.S. and Canada) and Europe (Holland, the U.K., Denmark).

For the last two decades, En Vogue has continued to cement its legacy via stirring live performances on The Grammys, “Saturday Night Live,” “Oprah” show to major events such as the Kentucky Derby, Super Bowl and delighting U.S. troops in Iraq. The ladies of En Vogue believe each day is a living affirmation that they are born to sing and have no plans to ever let go.

Since En Vogue’s debut it has set a standard for female R&B and pop groups as trendsetters and is regarded as one of the top female acts of all time by publications and media such as Billboard, Rolling Stone, BET, MTV, HuffPost, FUSE, New York Times, Complex, and US Weekly.

En Vogue’s magical formula of fusing style, sophistication, sass and sex appeal helped the group sell over 2 million copies of its first album, “Born To Sing” and over 5 million of its album “Funky Divas.” They went on to record four more albums: “EV3,” “Masterpiece Theatre,” “The Gift of Christmas” and “Soul Flower.” Additionally, they have been featured on soundtracks: “Why Do Fools Fall In Love,” “Set It Off” (featuring Billboard No. 1 hit, “Don’t Let Go”), Sesame Street’s “Elmo’s Elmopalooza!” and Disney’s “Simply Mad About the Mouse.” Group member Terry Ellis also experienced success with her album “Southern Girl.”

Contrary to belief, En Vogue has never disbanded. As true music veterans who have withstood ever-changing music industry fads and trends, the group continues to record and perform worldwide with original members Cindy Herron-Braggs, Terry Ellis and newest member Rhona Bennett.

Cindy Herron-Braggs says it best: “We find total freedom and fulfillment when we hit the stage. It’s the ultimate connection with our fans. It’s about the energy you receive, the love and the reciprocation from the message in the music.”
Alyssa Allgood

February 19, 6 p.m.
Madden Theatre
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
ABOUT THE PERFORMER

Chicago-based jazz vocalist Alyssa Allgood has been described by jazz historian Scott Yanow as “one of the top up-and-coming jazz singers around today.” Allgood fell in love with jazz at age 12, when she first attended the Janice Borla Vocal Jazz Camp at North Central College. She attended the camp for the next eight summers and worked closely with vocal jazz greats Peter Eldridge, Jay Clayton, Rosana Eckert and Madeline Eastman. She completed her bachelor of arts in jazz studies from North Central College, where she won the coveted Downbeat Magazine Student Music Award for Best Collegiate Vocal Jazz Soloist in 2014.

She was recently named a 2016 Jazz Fellow through the Luminarts Cultural Organization in Chicago and second-place winner in the 2016 Mid-Atlantic Jazz Voice Competition. She placed as a top 10 semifinalist in the 2015 Shure Montreux Jazz Voice Competition; where she competed live in Switzerland for a jury presided by jazz legend Al Jarreau.

Allgood has received several other jazz awards/recognition, including being selected as a top 40 semifinalist in the 2014 and 2015 Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competitions and winning the People’s Choice Award in the 2015 Luminarts Jazz Improvisation Competition.

She is quickly establishing herself in Chicago’s vibrant jazz scene. Allgood maintains an active performance schedule at various music venues and restaurants and she has appeared at The Jazz Showcase, Fitzgerald’s Nightclub, Merriman’s Playhouse, The Whiskey Lounge and as a special guest with groups at The Taste of Chicago and Andy’s Jazz Club. She was featured in the inaugural episode of a new radio show called “Chicago Jazz Live” that airs on WDCB 90.9 FM.

Her debut EP “Lady Bird” was named a Best Release of 2015 on All About Jazz and it was hailed as “the most refined offering in the genre yet.” The Chicago Jazz Magazine highly recommends this debut recording and described it as “a wonderful exploration of the lost art of bebop vocalese.” Allgood was applauded for the “delightful arrangements”, “command” and “superbly delivered approach” that was showcased on the recording.

She released her first full-length album in the fall of 2016. This project celebrates the classic Blue Note recording era from the 1950s and 60s, and featured her original lyrics and arrangements of these great instrumental compositions.
Ana Popovic

February 24, 8 p.m.
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
The DuPage Foundation is the leader in matching people’s charitable passions with the needs of our community. Whether you give today or leave a legacy, we’re here to help you achieve your charitable goals and ensure that the causes you care about are supported forever. Give through us and make a difference in your community now, and for generations to come.

DuPage Foundation
3000 Woodcreek Drive, Suite 310
Downers Grove, IL 60515
630-665-5556
dupagefoundation.org

The DuPage Foundation is a proud supporter of the arts.

ANA POPOVIC BAND
- Ana Popovic: lead guitar & vocals
- Adam Ahuja: keys + b-vocals
- Lavondo Thomas: bass + b-vocals
- Carl Lemar Carter: drums

ABOUT THE PERFORMER

Ana Popovic is back on the road promoting her new triple album “TRILOGY,” her most ambitious project yet. With “TRILOGY” Popovic releases three albums in one. Twenty-three funk, rock/blues and jazz tunes produced by Grammy Award-winner Warren Riker (Lauryn Hill, Carlos Santana), Grammy Award-winner Tom Hambridge (Buddy Guy) and Delfeayo Marsalis, one of the top trombonists, composers and producers in jazz today. Guest appearances include Joe Bonamassa, Robert Randolph, George Porter (The Meters), Bernard Purdie (Purdie Shuffle), Cody Dickinson (North Mississippi Allstars) and Ivan Neville.

The only female guitarist part of the ‘all-star’ Experience Hendrix 2014 - ‘17 line-up about the release: “In an era where most are skeptic about the current state and future of the music industry, I wanted “TRILOGY” to tell a different story. The record biz might be broken and Spotify might rip us off, but that can’t keep an artist down. Creativity is very much alive, and music is the celebration of life.”

Popovic and her powerful band are tirelessly touring, playing major blues, jazz and rock festivals. She is endorsed by Fender, D’Angelico, Jim Dunlop and DR strings. She has shared headlining stages with B.B. King, Joe Bonamassa, Gary Clark Jr. and many others. She’s nominated for five Blues Music Awards, appeared on the cover of Vintage Guitar and Guitar Player magazine. Her albums “Can You Stand The Heat” (2013) and “Unconditional” (2011) Pick-Of-The-Week by USA Today and featured on NPR Music. Nearly all of her albums made it to the Top 5 of the Billboard Blues Charts and are being played regularly on radio nationwide.

“Ana Popovic is one helluva guitar-player.” - Bruce Springsteen
“Ana rocks the blues in fine, fine fashion.” - Billy Gibbons (ZZ Top)
ARTSPower National Touring Theatre

“The Rainbow Fish”

February 26, noon and 3 p.m.

Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
“THE RAINBOW FISH”

Gary W. Blackman and Mark A. Blackman
Executive Producers

Greg Gunning
Artistic Director

present

THE RAINBOW FISH

BASED ON THE BOOK BY MARCUS PFISTER

with
Emily Durand
Kirk Geritano
Rachel Leighson
Andi Powers

Marybeth Condon
Stage Manager

Directed by Greg Gunning
Adaptation and Lyrics by Greg Gunning
Music and Orchestrations by Richard DeRosa
Choreography by Nicole DiVincenzo
Incidental Music by Ron Drotos
Costumes by Fred Sorrentino
Set Construction by Tom Carroll Scenery
presents

THE RAINBOW FISH
A one-act musical based on the book by Marcus Pfister

MUSICAL NUMBERS

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<th>Musical Number</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Narrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mirror, Mirror Chant</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That’s Me!</td>
<td>Rainbow Fish &amp; backups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror, Mirror Chant (reprise)</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That’s Me! (reprise)</td>
<td>Little Blue &amp; Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>Play With Us!</td>
<td>Blue, Green, Rainbow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(I Wanna Be A) Big Fish In A Big Pond!</td>
<td>Rainbow Fish &amp; Narrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror, Mirror Chant (reprise)</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>That’s Me! (reprise)</td>
<td>Star Fish</td>
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<tr>
<td>I’m A Star!</td>
<td>Star Fish &amp; cast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mirror, Mirror Chant (reprise)</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>That’s Me (reprise)</td>
<td>Shark</td>
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<td>Stay For A Bite!</td>
<td>Shark &amp; backups</td>
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<tr>
<td>That’s Me! (reprise)</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mirror, Mirror Chant (reprise)</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
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<td>Eastern Chant</td>
<td>Octopus &amp; backups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Share Your Gifts</td>
<td>Octopus &amp; backups</td>
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<tr>
<td>That’s Me! (reprise)</td>
<td>Rainbow Fish</td>
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<td>Play With Us! (reprise)</td>
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<td>Narrator &amp; Rainbow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mirror Song (reprise)</td>
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<td>My Best Mirror’s In Your Eyes (Finale)</td>
<td>Rainbow Fish &amp; Cast</td>
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CAST

Rainbow Fish, Emily Durand
Managing Director, Kirk Geritano
Business Manager, Rachel Leighson
Marketing Director, Andi Powers
Company Manager, Marybeth Condon
WHO’S WHO

Emily Durand (Rainbow Fish) Emily is thrilled to swim into her national touring debut as Rainbow in “The Rainbow Fish” with ArtsPower National Touring Theatre! Some previous credits include; “The Fantasticks” (Luisa), “Little Women” (Amy), “The Sound of Music” (Liesl), “Peter Pan,” “Les Miserables,” “White Christmas,” “The Wizard of Oz,” “Puccini’s Gianni Schicchi” (Laurietta) and “Sleeping Beauty” (Aurora). Emily holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre from Millikin University. “So much love to my family, friends and teachers for their endless support!”

Kirk Geritano (Green Fish/Shark) is a recent BFA musical theatre graduate of Montclair State University in New Jersey. Kirk was last seen on George Street Playhouse’s 2015-2016 educational tour, performing in “New Kid” (Nick), “Austin the Unstoppable” (Dylan/Klein) and “Gabi Goes Green” (Captain Carbon/Mr. Brokoff). Kirk is thrilled to join the ArtsPower family as “the coolest fish in the deep blue sea” and hopes you’ll “stay for a bite”!

Rachel Leighson (Narrator) is so excited to be returning to ArtsPower in “The Rainbow Fish”! She previously toured with ArtsPower as Narrator/Elsie in “Chicken Dance.” Other theater credits include Miss Nelson/Viola Swamp (“Miss Nelson is Missing”), “The Christians” (Ensemble) - Playwrights Horizons, “Between Heaven and Earth” (Ensemble) - Carnegie Hall, “West Side Story” (Maria), “Trojan Women” (Hecuba) and “The Real Inspector Hound” (Felicity Cunningham). She is a proud graduate of Oberlin College and Conservatory. Endless thanks to the ArtsPower team and have an awesome time under the sea!

Andi Powers (Blue Fish/Star Fish) is a native of Tulsa, Oklahoma who moved to New York in the summer of 2016. She graduated from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor of arts in theatre (cum laude) and a minor in vocal performance in 2015, where she studied voice under Dr. Anne-Marie Condace. Andi is an Equity Membership Candidate and a member of SAG-AFTRA. Recent stage credits include Maggie in “A Chorus Line,” Ensemble in “Shrek: The Musical” and Celia in “As You Like It.”

Marybeth Condon (Stage Manager) recently graduated with a B.A. in creative arts from Siena College. She’s delighted to begin her postgraduate career with ArtsPower National Touring Theatre and help bring “The Rainbow Fish” to life. As an undergrad, Marybeth stage managed multiple main stage productions including “The Children’s Hour” and “The Drowsy Chaperone.” In January 2016, she received a National Award for Excellence in Stage Management Honorable Mention at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region I. She would like to thank her friends, family, and everyone at ArtsPower for their support. Enjoy the show!

Gary Blackman (Executive Producer) cofounder ArtsPower in 1985 with his identical twin brother, Mark, and serves as ArtsPower’s managing director. Gary received his Bachelor’s degree in psychology from Columbia College, Columbia University and earned a master’s degree in music education from the College of Music at Florida State University. In 2013, he was appointed as a council member to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts by Governor Christie. He is also a graduate of the Commercial Theatre Institute. Gary, his wife Amy and their daughter Emma live in Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

Mark Blackman (Executive Producer) is ArtsPower’s founding codirector and currently serves as director of development. He is a graduate of Columbia College, Columbia University and received a master’s of music education degree from Florida State University’s College of Music. He is also a graduate of the Commercial Theatre Institute. Mark is responsible for ArtsPower’s fundraising and marketing efforts. In a former life, Mark was a jazz saxophone player who was a recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to study for a year with jazz recording artist Eddie Daniels. Mark and his wife, Leslie Sutton-Smith, each have a daughter, Alyssa Blackman and Kelly Sutton-Skinner. They all share their dog Alex in their Montclair, New Jersey home.

Greg Gunning (Artistic Director) hails from Chicago and is the man behind ArtsPower’s on-stage magic. He has written every ArtsPower production since 1989. Greg auditions and rehearses ArtsPower’s theatre companies each semester in addition to creating at least one new production each year. A graduate of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and a former actor, Greg has performed in 38 states across the country.
Richard De Rosa (Composer & Orchestrator) orchestrated the scores to ArtsPower’s “Fourscore and Seven Years Ago,” “Olympic Spirit: The Jesse Owens Story,” “Beyond the Miracle” and The Silent Boy. He composed and orchestrated the scores to ArtsPower’s “Jigsaws Jones,” “Anne of Green Gables,” “Laura Ingalls Wilder: Growing Up on the Prairie,” “Terrifically Tilly,” “A Little Princess,” “Caddie Woodlawn,” “Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great,” “Salem Justice,” “Are You My Mother?” “Anastasia Krupnik,” “Highlights for Children,” “Hans Brinker & the Silver Skates,” “Lily’s Crossing,” “The Little Engine That Could Earns Her Whistle,” “From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler,” “Mike Mulligan & His Steam Shovel,” “The Rainbow Fish,” “Amber Brown is Not A Crayon,” “My Heart in A Suitcase” and “Harry the Dirty Dog.” Richard is a respected jazz drummer and arranger and has toured and recorded with jazz legend Gerry Mulligan, Susannah McCorkle, Jackie and Roy, and many other world-class jazz musicians. He is a faculty member at North Texas University where he teaches jazz composition and arranging. Richard is also affiliated with Jazz at Lincoln Center as an arranger for Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra.

Fred Sorrentino (Costumer) has designed and built the costumes for ArtsPower’s “Beyond the Miracle,” “Laura Ingalls Wilder: Growing Up on the Prairie,” “Anne of Green Gables,” “Hans Brinker & the Silver Skates,” “A Little Princess,” “Terrifically Tilly,” “Salem Justice,” “Caddie Woodlawn,” “Are You My Mother?” “Anastasia Krupnik,” “Highlights for Children,” “Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great,” “Lily’s Crossing,” “The Little Engine That Could; Earns Her Whistle,” “From The Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler,” “Mike Mulligan & His Steam Shovel,” “The Rainbow Fish,” “Amber Brown is Not A Crayon,” “My Heart in A Suitcase” and “Harry the Dirty Dog.” Fred is a gifted musician having earned a bachelor’s degree in voice from Jersey City (NJ) State College. A veteran performer in both operatic and musical theatre productions, Fred now maintains a busy schedule designing and building costumes.

ArtsPower National Touring Theatre Celebrating our 31st anniversary season in 2016-2017, ArtsPower is one of America’s largest and most respected producers of professional theatre for young and family audiences. Founded by twin brothers Gary and Mark Blackman in 1985, ArtsPower has created 30 original musicals and plays that have been presented for more than 13 million people throughout 49 states and the District of Columbia. Based in Cedar Grove, New Jersey, ArtsPower hopes you enjoy today’s performance and invites you to share your comments with us at info@artspower.org.

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Angie Lister’s work explores the dynamic relationships between shapes, forms and colors. She is inspired by the natural world and the interplay between the natural world and man-made objects such as glass. Her work focuses on the moments where beauty is found in the midst of life’s unending emotional demands.

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Visit northcentralcollege.edu/show for dates and times of artist receptions.
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