North Central College
SEASON 2016-2017
FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

Theatreworks USA
"Miss Nelson Is Missing"

Jo Dee Messina

Los Lonely Boys

An Evening with Jazz Vibraphonist Brad Stirtz

Laury Shelley
"The Music Never Ends: Laury Shelley Sings Michel Legrand"

Photo Credit: Steve Starr

Photo Credit: J. Zocco

Theatreworks USA

Sponsored by

NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE
NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS
FOUNDED 1861
The month of March brings with it anticipation. Anticipation for warmer weather, the birds returning and the landscape coming alive once again. March is also a time of anticipation at North Central as we welcome some incredible performers to our stages this month, like Laury Shelley, Brad Stirtz, Los Lonely Boys, Jo Dee Messina and the children’s show, “Miss Nelson Is Missing.”

We were thrilled when we were able to get Laury to perform in our cabaret series. She has an amazing pedigree, having sung with the legendary Michel Legrand. Of course, you know Michel Legrand. He wrote practically every song you can imagine, including the score to the movie “Yentl.” And with Laury’s voice, you’re in for a treat!

I would be remiss if I did not point out our own jazz faculty in performance, featuring Brad Stirtz. If you are reading this at Laury’s cabaret, be sure to get your tickets for a wonderful evening of jazz before we sell out, because we will sell out!

Several years ago, North Central was graced with a special musical performance by Los Lonely Boys for underprivileged youth in this area. These artists donated their time to perform for a room full of beaming young audience members to give back to the community. When I had the chance to bring them back, I jumped at the opportunity! For any of you who are part of our Impresario Society, be sure to RSVP for the dinner prior to the concert. Yes, there will be a special treat that evening if all goes as planned.

March is also your chance to treat our younger audience members to a performance designed just for them. Theatreworks USA will present “Miss Nelson Is Missing.” You don’t want to “miss” this one. (Sorry, I just had to; it was just too easy of an opening!)

And then March closes with Jo Dee Messina in the Wentz Concert Hall.

We really do try to provide something for everyone and for every interest in the fine arts. I think March captures that. Where else will you find such a variety of performers in such wonderful venues with such great customer service?

Thank you to our Friends of the Arts, too. Those of you who donate above and beyond the price of your tickets help us to continue to bring you these artists. A special thank you to our Impresario Society members, the highest level of donors to the arts. We welcome any new members to this wonderful group. Please stop any of our staff, either before or after any performance, if you should have any questions about the Friends of the Arts.

We are busily preparing the next season, which we will announce first to our Friends of the Arts on April 28 in the Wentz Concert Hall. For our members, please watch for your invitation to be the first to know. If you are not a member, well…I’m relentless, I know!

So, that’s it. Welcome to a wonderful performance. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOUR GIFT</th>
<th>Sneak preview of next year’s season</th>
<th>Name recognition in program</th>
<th>Name recognition in Wentz Concert Hall lobby</th>
<th>Private Schoenheerr Gallery showing and tour</th>
<th>Pre-Sale 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 great opportunity (subject to artist availability)</th>
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<td>MAESTRO</td>
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<td>STANDING OVATION*</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 BBG in September, and the Presidents Club dinner and theatre event in November.

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

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**2016-2017 FRIENDS OF THE ARTS**

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- Myra and Barry Riskedal

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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.
## March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Chords for Kids Concert for Children with Autism</td>
<td>Free (ticket required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>Laury Shelley “The Music Never Ends: Laury Shelley Sings Michel Legrand”</td>
<td>$35, $30</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>Symphony Band &amp; Instrumental Chamber Players Winter Concert</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>An Evening with Jazz Vibraphonist Brad Stirtz</td>
<td>$20, $15</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Los Lonely Boys</td>
<td>$65, $55</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Theatreworks USA “Miss Nelson Is Missing”</td>
<td>$12, $6</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18, 19</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Gershwin Greats”</td>
<td>$38-$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Chicago Sinfonietta “More Than a Letter”</td>
<td>$60, $48, $10</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>Jo Dee Messina</td>
<td>$65, $55</td>
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## April 2017

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<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>America</td>
<td>$70, $60, $50</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>Theatreworks USA “Charlotte’s Web”</td>
<td>$12, $6</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>An Evening with Jazz Saxophonist Mitch Paliga</td>
<td>$20, $15</td>
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<td>April 8</td>
<td>Kathleen Madigan “Bothering Jesus Tour”</td>
<td>$40, $30</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>Mandy Nousain Boothe</td>
<td>$35, $30</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 20, 21, 22, 23</td>
<td>“The Navigator”</td>
<td>$10, $8</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
<td>The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute</td>
<td>$45, $35</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>Concert Winds Return From Tour Concert</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<td>April 27</td>
<td>Chamber Singers “Metamorphosis”</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Russian National Ballet “Giselle”</td>
<td>$40, $30, $25</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
<td>ArtsPower National Touring Theatre “The Monster Who Ate My Peas”</td>
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## May 2017

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<td>May 4, 5, 6, 7</td>
<td>“Improv: On Ice!”</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>Women’s Chorale “Finale!” Concert</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>
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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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<td>May 21</td>
<td>Girls Like Us</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Concert Winds, Symphony Band &amp; Instrumental Chamber Players Spring Concert</td>
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<td>May 24</td>
<td>The Spring Great Evening of Jazz</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Concert Choir Graduation Concert</td>
<td>$5, $3</td>
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RESTAURANTS:
Catch 35
35 S. Washington St. Naperville
Sullivan’s Steakhouse
244 S. Main St., Naperville
The Bangkok Village
22 E. Chicago Ave. Suite 122, Naperville
Dark Horse Pastries
28 W. Chicago Ave. Naperville
Delirio
5 Jackson Ave. Naperville
Eddie Merlot’s Prime Aged Beef and Seafood
28254 Diehl Rd. Warrenville
Heaven on Seven
224 S. Main St., Naperville
Hugo’s Frog Bar & Fish House
55 S. Main St., Naperville
Mesón Sabika
1025 Aurora Ave. Naperville
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For more information about corporate sponsorship opportunities, please contact Megan Lynch, director of corporate relations at 630-637-5210 or mwlynch@noctrl.edu.
Laury Shelley

“THE MUSIC NEVER ENDS: LAURY SHELLEY SINGS MICHEL LEGRAND”

March 5, 6 p.m.
Madden Theatre
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
Praised as “a singer of musical integrity” by Kevin Moore of WSBC Radio/Chicago, while displaying enormous range and versatility, the celebrated recording artist/vocalist/songwriter Laury Shelley puts her own indelible stamp on every song she sings. Whether it’s jazz, pop, rock or soul, Shelley has a voice that acts as its own instrument and has been called a “musician’s musician.” She makes each performance unforgettable and is someone you need to hear and experience.

Whether it’s performing with Oscar and Grammy-winning composer Michel Legrand at Carnegie Hall (where the legendary icon Lena Horne came backstage to praise her), singing her single “Hide Your Love Away” on the nationally televised CW/WGN “America’s Midday Show,” or to her more intimate solo club concerts at New York City’s Metropolitan Room and Chicago’s Jazz Showcase, Shelley brings passion to everything she sings. WGN Chicago radio host Rick Kogan enthusiastically called her “the real deal.”

A career-defining moment occurred when Shelley asked five-time Grammy and three-time Oscar-winning composer Legrand, who was performing at Chicago’s famous night spot Mr. Kelly’s, if she could sing for him. Legrand, whose brilliant scores range from movies such as “The Summer of 42,” “Brian’s Song,” “The Thomas Crown Affair” and the Academy Award-winning score for Barbra Streisand’s “Yentl,” said yes. He was so astounded by what he unexpectedly heard, that for the next five and a half years, Shelley lived a dream performing as Legrand’s soloist.

She sang at the world’s most prestigious concert venues, including Carnegie Hall, The Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas, Red Rocks Amphitheater in Denver, Miami’s Stars Under The Stars Concert Series at Marine Stadium and New York’s The Westbury Theatre, as well as concert halls in Montreal, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Shelley shared stages with many musical icons, including Tony Bennett, Buddy Rich, Cleo Laine and John Dankworth, while performing and recording with jazz greats Phil Woods, Ron Carter, Grady Tate, Randy Brecker and Joe Beck.

Shelley historically reunited with Legrand at The Dakota Jazz Club in Minneapolis on his 2011/2012 U.S. tour. Shelley is also featured singing a duet with Legrand of the Academy Award-nominated song “Pieces of Dreams” on the recordings “Michel Legrand and Friends” and the recently released CD “Michel Legrand The RCA Years,” which also includes musical luminaries Lena Horne and Jack Jones.

Latest album features her own songs of pop, rock & soul. The project kicked off with her electrifying funk-tinged single of Legrand/Bergman’s “The Windmills of Your Mind,” an arrangement by Shelley and producer Vijay Tellis-Nayak. Laury’s 2011 release “Pieces of Dreams” received critical acclaim, international airplay and accolades that included being named “Artist of the Month” by WFLM Chicago’s Smooth 87.7FM. Her solo recordings are available on iTunes and Amazon.

In addition to touring with Legrand, Shelley has performed at some of the nation’s top concert halls and music festivals, including LA’s Cinegrill and The Gardenia, Milwaukee’s Summerfest and Chicago’s Jazz Festival and Taste of Chicago.

Praised by nationally renowned Grammy Award nominee, pop and jazz music author and critic Mort Goode as “the possessor of an incredible vocal instrument,” Shelley was also one of the most in-demand commercial jingle singers, including those for McDonald’s, Kellogg’s, United Airlines, 7-Up and Coors Light Beer.

From her awe-amazing vocals as well as her talents as a songwriter and arranger, the many colors of Shelley’s talents inspired the legendary four-time Grammy Award-winning alto saxophonist Phil Woods to say “like a fine wine Laury Shelley is better than ever.”
CONCERT INFO

Barbra Streisand’s “Yentl,” the melancholic tear-jerking “Hands of Time” from “Brian’s Song,” the haunting “Summer Knows” from “The Summer of ’42,” and the Oscar-winning “Windmills of Your Mind” from the Steve McQueen/Faye Dunaway classic “The Thomas Crown Affair:” These are just a few of the songs that have made Legrand one of the greatest composers in the history of film.

The concert pays a musical homage to the man who discovered her and called her “a very talented singer,” not so puny of a compliment from a man who worked with Barbra Streisand, Johnny Mathis, Tony Bennett, Lena Horne and Sarah Vaughan.

Shelley toured as the vocal soloist for over five years with Legrand and shared stages with many musical icons. Shelley and Legrand had a historic reunion while the maestro was on his 2011-2012 U.S. tour.

Displaying enormous range and versatility, Shelley puts her own indelible stamp on every song, making each performance unforgettable.
Take your future into your own hands with a graduate degree from North Central College.

M.B.A.
M.A. EDUCATION IN CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION
M.A. EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PRINCIPAL ENDORSEMENT
M.A. LIBERAL STUDIES
MASTER OF LEADERSHIP STUDIES
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*Pending Higher Learning Commission approval March 2017

Accepting applications for Spring 2017. Classes start March 27.

For more information visit northcentralcollege.edu/graduate or call 630-637-5555.
AN EVENING WITH JAZZ VIBRAPHONIST

Brad Stirtz

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

Vibraphonist Brad Stirtz has gained a reputation as an outstanding professional mallet percussionist, both onstage and in the studio. Stirtz’s music career has spanned the globe, with concerts in Uganda, Trinidad and throughout the United States. He has performed or recorded with such jazz luminaries as Ed Thigpen, Patricia Barber, Jerry Goodman, Dan Haerle, Fareed Haque, Jay Clayton, Madeline Eastman, Peter Eldridge, Suzanne Pittson and John McLean. He toured with the Janice Borla Group and is featured on her CDs “Lunar Octave” and “Agents of Change.”

A native of Minden, Nebraska, Stirtz earned his master of music degree in percussion performance at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. He has a second master’s degree in theology from Concordia University Chicago. As a jazz/percussion educator, he previously served on the faculties of the American Conservatory, Roosevelt University, Benedictine University, North Illinois University and the Janice Borla Vocal Jazz Camp. Currently, Stirtz is director of Worship and Music at Peace Lutheran Church in Lombard, Illinois. He has been a member of the faculty at the Birch Creek Percussion Camp in Door County, Wisconsin, for over 30 years, where he teaches jazz improvisation and the techniques of playing world percussion instruments.

The concert will feature other members of the College’s acclaimed jazz faculty: saxophonist Mitch Paliga, pianist Chris White, bassist Kelly Sill and drummer Jack Mouse.
March 11, 8 p.m.
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville

Los Lonely Boys

Sponsored by
ADVANCED DATA TECHNOLOGIES
ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

Beloved Texan brother trio bounces back from adversity with adventurous album, “Revelation.”

“We decided to call this album ‘Revelation’ because we want to make music that reveals something to people about their lives and their world,” says Jojo Garza. He’s talking about the new release by Los Lonely Boys, the close-knit Texas trio that the bassist/vocalist shares with his brothers Henry (vocals, guitar) and Ringo (drums, vocals). “As musicians and artists, we’re here to connect with people and to share our view of things.”

“Revelation” — released on the band’s own LonelyTone imprint, in association with the respected Austin-based indie Playing in Traffic — is a landmark release for the siblings. While maintaining the infectiously melodic mix of bluesy rock ‘n’ roll and rootsy brown-eyed soul that’s long endeared Los Lonely Boys to its fiercely loyal fan base, “Revelation” adds an expansive range of new sonic elements, e.g., the conjunto touches of “Blame It On Love,” the reggae groove of “Give A Little More,” the rustic acoustic textures of “It’s Just My Heart Talkin’” and the baroque pop elements of “There’s Always Tomorrow.”

“We’re always trying to broaden our horizons and advance musically, and that’s something that we were very conscious of in making this record,” Jojo states. “We’re always looking for new ways to communicate and reach people, so we experimented with a lot of different sounds and production approaches.”

Toward that end, the brothers also collaborated with an eclectic cast of cowriters in assembling the dozen new original songs that comprise “Revelation,” including alt-country icon Radney Foster, in-demand pop tunesmiths Matthew Gerrard and David Quiñones, Black-Eyed Peas collaborators George Pajon Jr. and Keith Harris, and Raul Pacheco of Ozomatli.

“Revelation” also marked Los Lonely Boys’ first recording work since Henry sustained serious injuries in a fall from the stage during a February 2013 performance in Los Angeles, necessitating a lengthy and ongoing recovery period.

“We nearly lost Henry, man, and that was a big change for us,” Jojo acknowledges. “The whole experience was a wake-up call for us. It made us rethink every aspect of our lives and our careers, and it reminded us of what’s really important to us.”

The abiding sense of family unity and creative rapport that allowed the band to weather such a potentially devastating event has been built into Los Lonely Boys from the beginning. Indeed, Henry, Jojo and Ringo have been making music together their entire lives. Their father, Ringo Garza Sr., was a member of another sibling band, the Falcons, which played throughout southern Texas in the ’70s and ’80s. When that group disbanded, Ringo Sr. went solo and recruited his three young sons to back him. The family relocated to Nashville in the ’90s, and soon Henry, Jojo and Ringo Jr. began writing and performing their own material as a trio.

After moving back to Texas, the brothers recorded their eponymous debut album in 2003 at Willie Nelson’s Pedernales studio in Austin, with Willie himself guesting on the sessions. Although originally released on small Or Music label, Epic Records picked up Los Lonely Boys for major label distribution in early 2004. The album quickly won the band a large national audience. Its lead single “Heaven” became a Top 20 pop hit, reached the No. 1 spot on Billboard’s Adult Contemporary chart and eventually won a Grammy Award for Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal.
After a prominent guest appearance on the 2005 Santana album “All That I Am,” Los Lonely Boys solidified its success with 2006’s “Sacred,” which brought two more Grammy nominations, and 2008’s “Forgiven,” as well as the holiday-themed “Christmas Spirit.” Meanwhile, the band continued to build its reputation as a singularly powerful live act.

In early 2009, Los Lonely Boys made its LonelyTone/Playing in Traffic debut with the all-covers EP “1969,” followed by the unplugged “Keep On Giving: Acoustic Live!” Those releases set the stage for the band’s acclaimed 2011 album “Rockpango” and for the creative leap forward that “Revelation” represents.

“We want to make music that brings people together, not music that divides people,” Jojo states. “We’re all about having a good time, but we also make an effort to write about things that really matter. A lot of people write songs about superficial things, like how you look and what kind of car you drive and how much money you have, but we’re not interested in that. We want to create music that’s about the love and the energy and the spirit that we all carry as people.

“We’re very thankful that God blessed our family with a drummer, a guitar player and a bass player, and that the three of us get to make music together,” Jojo concludes. “There’s been a few bumps in the road here and there, but that happens in any family and in any band. The main thing is that we stick together, and that we’re trying to pass on that feeling of brotherhood, of familia, in the music that we make.”
A mutual love for the arts

Monarch Landing is proud to support the Fine and Performing Arts programs for our neighbor in Naperville. Through a unique two-way community outreach program, residents work side-by-side with North Central College students. Together, we’re exploring a multi-generational approach to education.

For details about our senior living community, call (630) 358-9530 or visit WelcomeToMonarchLanding.com
THEATREWORKS USA

“Miss Nelson Is Missing”

March 18, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Pfeiffer Hall
310 E. Benton Ave., Naperville
TWO BEANS PRODUCTIONS
Rob Barron, Artistic Director
presents

MISS NELSON IS MISSING!
Based on the books “Miss Nelson Is Missing!” and “Miss Nelson Is Back” by Harry Allard and Illustrated by James Marshall

Adapted by Joan Cushing
Book, Music & Lyrics by Joan Cushing
Original Orchestrations by Debra Wicks LaPluma
Originally Commissioned and Produced by BAPA’s Imagination Stage, White Flint, Bethesda, MD
Set Design by Richard Harrison
Costume Design by Hannah Blair Butler
Stage Managed by Matthew Ralph
Choreography by Cynthia Thole
Directed by Rob Barron

Cast
Miss Nelson..........................Madeline Maetzger
Pop Hanson/Mr. Blandsworth/McSmogg........Sam Urdang
Adam........................................Alexis Guarneros
Allison.....................................Julia Veeh
Cheryl......................................Rachael Feldman
Miss Viola Swamp................?????

“MISS NELSON IS MISSING”

ROB BARRON (Director / Artistic Director) is thrilled to be the Artistic Director of Two Beans Productions. In addition to directing in New York City, as well as all around the United States, Rob has directed over 100 theatre productions for young audiences, many of which were for Theatreworks USA, such as: “Charlotte’s Web;” “Ramona Quimby;” “Little Women;” “Around the World in Eighty Days;” and “Romeo and Juliet.” He is also a produced playwright, and some of the musicals he has coauthored include adaptations of “Ferdinand the Bull,” and “The Phantom of the Opera.” His latest play “EXCAVATION” was presented at FutureFest at the Dayton Playhouse and at the Jewel Box Theatre in Oklahoma City. A graduate of the Yale School of Drama, Brown University and the Phillips Exeter Academy, Rob is also the Chair of the Department of Theatre and Speech at the City College of New York (CUNY), as well as a happy husband and the proud father of a 15-year-old and a 9-year-old.
RACHAEL FELDMAN (Cheryl) is a New York-based actor, originally from Framingham, Massachusetts. Recent credits include “Alice” (Alice in Wonderland) and “Epictitus” (The Ancient Gods), both with Hampstead Stage Company, and “Storyteller” (Constellations) with Ebb & Flow Productions. Film credits include Scout in “Adults” (in post-production) and Sophie in “The Killer In The House.” She holds a BFA in acting from Adelphi University and also has trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. When not on stage, she is roaming the halls of her second home, The McKittrick Hotel, and eating dumplings. www.rachaelfeldman.com

ALEXIS GUARNEROS (Adam) graduated from The New York Film Academy’s Conservatory Program of Musical Theater and Acting for film and is more than thrilled to be on his first national tour. His last work was a successful run with the show “My Superhero Roberto Clemente” (Teatro SEA) in Miami. His college theater credits include: “Spring Awakening,” “The Wedding Singer” and readings of the new musicals “Viva Camila” and “Alone in the US” - all produced by The New York Film Academy, which also cast him in the movie musical “Startup.com,” which won a Laurel of Excellence Award in 2016. Alexis counts with “best actor” recognitions from local competitions that took place at his hometown, Mexico City, and a 1st place award from an international Shakespeare Competition organized by The Anglo Mexican Foundation.

MADELINE MAETZGER (Miss Nelson) is a native Texan and recent New York transplant. She studied at The University of Texas and studied musical theatre at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting. Some of her favorite credits include: “Chicago” (Roxie Hart), “Sweeney Todd...” (Joanna), “Steel Magnolias” (Shelby), “Footloose,” “Thoroughly Modern Millie” and “The New Moon.” She thanks her Lord, her family, and her friends for constantly lifting her up and encouraging her.

MATTHEW RALPH (Stage Manager) hails from all over the country, having lived in several major metropolitan areas, including New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Atlanta. After graduating from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a double major in marketing and theatre, he has actively pursued opportunities working as a stage manager. His most recent stage management credits include: “Avenue Q.,” “Curtains,” and “Oklahoma!” (Stagedoor Manor), “The Secretaries” (About Face Theatre), and “The Watson Intelligence” (Theatre Wit). He would like to thank Two Beans Productions for giving him his first touring opportunity and his parents for their constant love and support.

CYNTHIA THOLE (Choreographer), a veteran of the Broadway stage, currently works as a director, choreographer and teacher in the New York area. In addition to choreographing for Two Beans Productions, Cindy has directed and choreographed for Theatreworks USA, Encores City Center Education program, AMDA, TADA! and Camp Broadway. She is currently a member of the dance faculty at AMDA, Montclair State University and Fairleigh Dickinson University. Her regional choreography credits include work for the Allenberry Playhouse, Mill Mountain Playhouse, Reagle Players, Montclair Operetta Club, Penn State Univ. and Fairleigh Dickinson University. Her Broadway experience gave her the opportunity to work with theatre legends such as Susan Stroman, Agnes DeMille, Twyla Tharp, Mike Ockrent and Arthur Lawrence, to name a few. Broadway performance credits include: “My Fair Lady,” “Nick and Nora,” “Me and My Girl,” “Meet Me in St Louis,” “Singin’ in the Rain,” “A Christmas Carol” and “42nd Street.” National Tours include: “Oklahoma!,” “Sugar Babies” and “42nd Street.” She also appeared in the movie version of “The Producers.” Cynthia is a graduate of Butler University and the proud mother of a college graduate daughter.
SAM URDANG (Pop / Blandsworth / McSmogg) is from Boulder, Colorado. His credits include “The Servant of Two Masters” (Theater For a New Audience), “Miss Nelson Is Missing,” “Sherlock!” and “Pygmalion” (Peterborough Players), and he has worked at Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre in London. He attended Rutgers University where he received his BFA in acting.

JULIA VEEH (Allison) is thrilled to bring this childhood classic to life. Recent credits: “Doomocracy” (Waiter), “South Pacific” (Ensign Sue Yeager), “A Christmas Carol” (Ensemble, u/s Beggar Woman), “Happily Whatever After” (Princess). AMDA graduate with a BFA music theatre. Many thanks to Rob, The Romanutti Agency and her amazing family!
March 26, 6 p.m.
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
JO DEE MESSINA

ABOUT THE PERFORMER

Jo Dee Messina is a seasoned veteran in the music industry, always evolving and reintroducing herself and her sound as she gains new experiences in life. Jumpstarting her career, Messina’s breakout song, “Heads Carolina, Tails California,” made her a household name. Following the success of her debut, she posted nine No. 1 hits, 16 Top 40 songs, sold over 5 million albums worldwide, and was honored by the ACM Awards, CMA Awards and Grammy Awards. As Messina’s résumé grew, she proved to be a trendsetter and history-maker, becoming the first female in country music history to celebrate three consecutive multi-week, chart-topping songs.

Messina later parted ways with her longtime record label and embraced the strong, empowered female persona for which she became known. Taking matters into her own hands, she created Dreambound Records, called on her fans to become her dedicated team, and released her most personal album to date, “Me.”

Aside from her studio successes, Messina also has created a reputation for herself as one of the most passionate, high-energy performers in the business. Sharing her hit tunes, newly penned, emotionally driven songs, and personal testimony, she has been traveling the country for many years, receiving rave reviews for her authenticity, commitment, and openness on stage. Hoping to inspire and enlighten fans from all walks of life with every step she takes, Messina has made it her mission to present herself and her story with honesty, allowing people to see behind the masquerade.

With a decorated past in the rearview mirror and endless dreams and an open road of possibility before her, this relatable woman, wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend, speaker, author and incredibly gifted singer-songwriter has only just begun. Fueled by faith, belief and love, Messina pours her heart and soul into everybody she meets and everything she touches, which is perhaps why Jo Dee Messina is such a timeless name in the music industry.

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THROUGH MARCH 26
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Lorraine Peltz
MARCH 31 - MAY 14
Lorraine Peltz’s paintings and works on paper examine the ideas of memory, place and identity—particularly in relation to women. Using imagery culled from both personal history and the contemporary moment, her work incorporates the remembered image of a particular chandelier with a range of painterly events, sometimes including patterned flowers, starbursts and decorative flourishes.

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April 29

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April 29

THEATREWORKS USA
“Charlotte’s Web”
April 2

Kathleen Madigan
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April 8

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