These programs are partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

North Central College

SEASON

2018-2019

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

DENNIS DEYOUNG
THE GRAND ILLUSION 40TH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM TOUR

6th Annual Jazz Faculty Christmas Concert

David Benoit

An Evening with Jazz Trumpeter Art Davis

An Evening with Marc Cohn

Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC & THEATRE VESTBURELL HALL, ARTS CENTER

These programs are partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts.
For those of you who have been coming to our concerts for a while, especially the holiday season concerts, you know that I am a sap for the holidays. I love everything about this time of year starting with Thanksgiving and moving into the holiday season—it’s a time of celebration!

We are excited to have our own special celebrations here at North Central College this season. November 15, 2008 was the grand opening of the Wentz Concert Hall and Fine Arts Center. This facility has changed the face of Naperville forever with the acoustic perfection of the concert hall and the intimacy of the Madden Theatre. That opening night featured the Chicago Symphony Orchestra—I can still see the musicians, the greatest symphony orchestra in the world, and our audience sitting back enjoying the wonderful performance.

To celebrate the 10th year anniversary of the opening of the Wentz Concert Hall and Fine Arts Center, we are bringing back the amazing Marc Cohn. Marc performed for us before and we felt it was fitting to invite him for the anniversary of the hall. So welcome, Marc, and happy anniversary to us!

The Wentz Concert Hall and Fine Arts Center is not the only reason to celebrate this season. We are thrilled to continue the celebration with the return appearance of David Benoit and his Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown. David is bringing his special guest Sara Gazarek but we will also have our own special guests. We are honored to present the Young Naperville Singers who are also celebrating an anniversary. This wonderful organization is celebrating their 35th season, currently under the guidance of Angie Johnson. Thank you to Angie, the staff and all the members of the Young Naperville Singers for bringing the joy of Christmas to the Wentz Concert Hall.

And don’t forget about Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells, playing the same day! We hope many of you decided to make a day of the arts here at North Central. We also hope you took advantage of our Home for the Holidays in Naperville program where our restaurant partners offer specials combined with a lower ticket price at the College. If you missed it be sure to take advantage next season.

The North Central College jazz faculty will perform their Christmas Concert in what has become an annual event. If you don’t have tickets for this event yet, hurry! It is always a sell out and for good reason. The sounds of the season performed with that special jazz twist by experts in the business is a not-to-be-missed event.

We close the holidays with Dennis DeYoung and his only Chicago appearance. I am almost certain that by the time you are reading this, the concert will be 100 percent sold out! It’s nice way to celebrate the holidays at North Central, letting us know that you support the arts.

Thank you to our sponsors, our Friends of the Arts and our patrons for making these wonderful performances possible. I sincerely hope you enjoy the celebration; and now, on with the show!

Brian Lynch
Fine Arts Director
North Central College

During its first 10 years, the Wentz Concert Hall and Fine Arts Center has served as the cornerstone venue for the College’s spectacular Fine and Performing Arts seasons.
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.

2018-2019 FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

MAESTRO ($10,000 OR MORE)

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Tami Kidd-Brown and
Christopher C. Brown
Gary and Sharon Kovener
Nicolle C. Lahan-Murray and
Thomas Murray
Ms. Diane Lewis
Joan E. Long
Paul and Sue Loschieder
Brian and Mary Jean Lynch
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BRAVO ($5,000 - $9,999)

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Foundation
Rick and Pat Spencer
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STANDING OVATION ($1,000 - $4,999)

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Bangkok Village and Steven &
Wijd Fay
Joni Wilz-Berkley and Ross
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David Browers
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Mr. and Mrs. Jerald Johnson
Twila J. Kaiser
Mr. and Mrs. Ketchmark
Tami Kidd-Brown and
Christopher C. Brown
Gary and Sharon Kovener
Nicolle C. Lahan-Murray and
Thomas Murray
Ms. Diane Lewis
Joan E. Long
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Foundation
Rick and Pat Spencer
Cathy Vekkos
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wehrl
Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Williams
Stephen R. Williams

ENCORE ($500 - $999)

Kristi Bonn
Ms. Ashley Dubikra &
Mr. Marshall Dubikra
Michelle Conrad
Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Faessel
David and Debbie Haines-
Rubenstein
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Harris
Julie A. Lagodine
Barbara and Roger Liska
Rita M. Mathern
Mr. Eric Pauga
Rebecca Satterfield
Patricia A. Sonnenschein

PERFORMANCE ($250 - $499)

Lyle E. Allison
James and Linda Burner
Lyne B. Caldwell
Rev. Fred C. Eisenhut
Bruce and Mary Feay
Suzanne Freshley
John Fuglestad
Dora Glass
Mr. and Mrs. Don Hagmeyer
Cecilia and David Hoh
Elizabeth Kammens
Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Kraft
John Kubinsky
Daphne C. Lee
Mrs. Rita Mathern
Matthew D. McClure
Tom and Cheryl McRoberts
Larry Michelson
Mark Milz
Ms. Susan Mink
Gary and Berneil Mroz
Laura Pohl
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Pusateri
Jonathan Rippe
Lauren Stewart
Theodore M. Utchen
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Van Buskirk

OVERTURE ($100 - $249)

Linda J. Allison
Lyle Allison
Boychen Bradshaw and Kelly
Froosee
Rogene Buchholz
Robert Cunningham
James Burner

Mr. Nancy Calderon & Mr. Bob
Calderon
Dick and Dottie Carney
Camilo Conforti
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Currie
Thomas W. Dekant
Ray Denson
William Edison
Barbara Esterly
Ron and Kandi Gasperini
Robert Gath
Keith Gustafson
Linda Hagen
Stanley Harr
Dennis Henneman
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth J. Hopkin
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Janice Huffman
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Husarik
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Robert Jenik
Jill M. Johnson
Mary Junkroski
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Kelling
Theresa Kenaga
Garth and Susan Kennedy
Richard and Cerie Kraft
Robert Lehman
Mark Lindberg
Greta Macias
Mr. and Mrs. John MacLeod
Maria Malak
Nancy Mashman
MaryBeth McCarthy
Matthew McClure
Patricia McIntosh
Mary McMahon
Myra and Barry Riskedal
Margaret Ryan
Mr. James F. Sanders
James and Maureen Sault
Mr. and Mrs. James Segal
Avery Siglo
Patricia Sonnenschein
Mr. and Mrs. David Spiegler
Steve Tsai
Peter Van Upporp
William Vicker
Joseph Weigel
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Wetzel
Carmen Woodring
Dale & Lorraine Hein
Wordelman
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Yost

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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOVEMBER 2018</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>An Evening with Jazz Trumpeter Art Davis</td>
<td>$17-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>The Fall Great Evening of Jazz</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8, 9, 10</td>
<td>“Peter and The Starcatcher”</td>
<td>$8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>Chicago Sinfonietta “Sea of Light: Reflections on Diwali”</td>
<td>$10-62</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>Concert Winds Invitational Concert</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Chamber Players and Symphony Band Fall Concert</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>An Evening with Marc Cohn</td>
<td>$56-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 17</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Romantic Rhapsodies”</td>
<td>$15-38</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECEMBER 2018</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>“Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells”</td>
<td>$6-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>David Benoit Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown with Special Guest Sara Gazarek</td>
<td>$40-55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>6th Annual Jazz Faculty Christmas Concert</td>
<td>$20-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>Naperville Chorus “Another Swingin’ Christmas with the Pete Ellman Big Band”</td>
<td>$20-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15</td>
<td>DENNIS DEYOUNG: THE GRAND ILLUSION 40TH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM TOUR</td>
<td>$65-85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 16</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Joy to the Holidays”</td>
<td>$8-18</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>JANUARY 2019</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 12</td>
<td>Jim Peterik and World Stage</td>
<td>$60-70</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>An Evening with Jazz Saxophonist Mitch Paliga</td>
<td>$17-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>Chicago Sinfonietta “Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Tribute Concert”</td>
<td>$10-62</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 24, 25, 26, 27</td>
<td>“Logan’s Comedy”</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>Joan Curto: Songs of the Leading Ladies of Broadway</td>
<td>$30-35</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY 2019</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Gospel Extravaganza 31</td>
<td>$10-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>“Pinkalicious The Musical”</td>
<td>$6-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 7, 8, 9, 10</td>
<td>“The Opportunities of Extinction”</td>
<td>$8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 9</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “From the Heart of Europe”</td>
<td>$15-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>Winter Choral Gala</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>An Evening with Jazz Vibraphonist Brad Stirzt</td>
<td>$17-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>“We Shall Overcome” A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.</td>
<td>$40-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21, 22, 23, 24, 28</td>
<td>“Sweeney Todd”</td>
<td>$10-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 2019</td>
<td>EVENT</td>
<td>PRICE</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1, 2, 3</td>
<td>“Sweeney Todd” ⭐</td>
<td>$10-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>&quot;Chords for Kids&quot; Concert for Children with Special Needs ⭐</td>
<td>Free, but ticket is required for admittance</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Chamber Players and Symphony Band Winter Concert ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>An Evening of Big Band ⚫</td>
<td>$17-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>Gabriel Sanchez presents: The Prince Experience ⚫</td>
<td>$20-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Luck o’ the Irish”</td>
<td>$15-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>Chicago Sinfonietta “In Darkness We Rise: A Concert of Remembrance”</td>
<td>$10-62</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>The Four C Notes ⚫</td>
<td>$30-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>Revenge of the Rhythm Section with Kelly Sill and Jack Mouse ⭐</td>
<td>$17-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Chicago Harmony Sweeptakes “A Cappella Festival”</td>
<td>$30-40</td>
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<tr>
<th>APRIL 2019</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>“Pete The Cat” ⚫</td>
<td>$6-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>Tower of Power ⚫</td>
<td>$50-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “Wanted: Dead and Alive”</td>
<td>$8-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11, 12, 13, 14</td>
<td>“Action! Shape Your World” ⭐</td>
<td>$8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Return from Tour Concert ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>An Evening with Jazz Trombonist Tim Coffman ⚫ ⭐</td>
<td>$17-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Chamber Singers “Metamorphosis” Concert ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAY 2019</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
<td>“Out On a Limb” ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>DuPage Symphony Orchestra “May the Fourth”</td>
<td>$15-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Women’s Chorale “Finale!” ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Chicago Sinfonietta “SoundSketch: Portraits in Rhythm, Blues and Beyond”</td>
<td>$10-62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>An Evening with Jazz Pianist Chris White ⚫ ⭐</td>
<td>$17-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>Jefferson Starship ⚫ ⚫</td>
<td>$40-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Girls Like Us: It’s My Party, the Girls and the Groups of the 1960’s ⚫</td>
<td>$30-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Cardinal Chorus and Chamber Strings Spring Concert ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Concert Choir Graduation Concert ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>Department of Bands Spring Concert ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>The Spring Great Evening of Jazz ⭐</td>
<td>$3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>Opera Workshop ⭐</td>
<td>Free, but ticket is required for admittance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ⚫ Shows that qualify for season subscription discount
- ⭐ Impressario event
- ⭐⭐ North Central College performance
- ⚫⭐ Home for the Holidays discount
North Central College thanks our Fine & Performing Arts 2018-2019 season sponsors and partners.
North Central College presents

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
DINNER & A SHOW!

Naperville’s Fine & Performing Arts District partners a fine arts performance with a fine dining experience!

Come and celebrate the holidays in Naperville this year! North Central College is featuring three incredible performances as part of its new Home for the Holidays in Naperville series.

DECEMBER 1
Junie B. Jones
JINGLE BELLS, BATMAN SMELLS
H4HJUNIE

DECEMBER 1
David Benoit
CHRISTMAS TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE BROWN WITH SPECIAL GUEST SARA GAZAREK
H4HD penned

DECEMBER 15
DENNIS DEYOUNG
THE GRAND ILLUSION 40TH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM TOUR
H4HDENNIS

How it works: North Central College and its Naperville Restaurant Partners are offering a special “dinner and a show” discount with 20% off ticket prices and various offers at participating restaurants. For more information and a list of participating restaurants please visit finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/home-holidays.

To take advantage of this special offer, please call the North Central College Box Office at 630-637-SHOW (7469) and mention “Home for the Holidays” or purchase online and use the discount code below each show at checkout.
We’re here to help.

At BMO Harris Bank, we take pride in our local communities. That’s why, each year, through various sponsorships and community involvement, we are committed to providing our support.

BMO Harris Bank is proud to support North Central College Fine & Performing Arts.
Naperville’s Fine & Performing Arts District Partners a Fine Arts Performance with a Fine Dining Experience!

With so many restaurants to choose from just walking distance from North Central College it’s the perfect opportunity to make it Dinner and a Show!

dine NAPERVILLE DineNaperville.com

Call today for your free Dining Guide 1.866.996.2757 and don’t forget to visit us online to see dining specials and upcoming performances.
AN EVENING WITH JAZZ TRUMPETER

Art Davis

November 2, 8 p.m.
Madden Theatre
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
PERFORMER BIOGRAPHY

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, Art 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, Art 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 more than 20 years, he has been mentored by such master drummers as Gideon Foli Alorwoyle and Abubakari Luna.
An Evening with Marc Cohn

November 16, 8 p.m
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Avenue, Naperville
After winning a Grammy for his soulful ballad “Walking in Memphis,” Marc Cohn solidified his place as one of this generation’s most compelling singer-songwriters, combining the precision of a brilliant tunesmith with the passion of a great soul man. Rooted in the rich ground of American rhythm and blues, soul, and gospel and possessed of a deft storyteller’s pen, he weaves vivid, detailed, often drawn-from-life tales that evoke some of our most universal human feelings: love, hope, faith, joy and heartbreak.

Cohn followed up his platinum-selling debut with two more releases in the 1990s, at which point Time magazine called him “one of the honest, emotional voices we need in this decade” and Bonnie Raitt declared, “Marc is one of the most soulful, talented artists I know. I love his songs, he’s an incredible singer, and I marvel at his ability to mesmerize every audience he plays for.”

Raitt, James Taylor, David Crosby, Graham Nash and Patty Griffin all made guest appearances on Cohn’s early records for Atlantic as his reputation as an artist and performer continued to grow. In 1998, Cohn took a decade-long sabbatical from recording, ending in 2007 with “Join the Parade”. Inspired by the horrific events following Hurricane Katrina and his own near fatal shooting just weeks before, “Parade” is his most moving and critically acclaimed record to date.

About his album “Listening Booth: 1970,” a collection of reimagined classics from that seminal year in music, Rolling Stone said, “Cohn has one of rock’s most soulful croons – a rich, immediately recognizable tenor that makes these songs his own.” In late 2014, Cohn released “The Coldest Corner in the World,” the title song to the documentary “Tree Man” and his first original song released in more than seven years.

On March 25, 2016, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of his platinum-selling debut album, Cohn released “Careful What You Dream: Lost Songs and Rarities” along with the bonus album “Evolution of a Record,” featuring never-before-heard songs and demos dating back to years before his debut album and the Grammy award that followed.

Marc’s momentum continued into a busy and fruitful 2017, which he spent in part on the road with the legendary Michael McDonald, garnering critical acclaim across the U.S. His writing talent was also drafted for work with a roster of American music greats including soul survivor William Bell, who won his first Grammy at age 78 with Marc’s help; Marc co-wrote a solid half of Bell’s celebrated album “This is Where I Live,” including the passionate opening cut “The Three Of Me.” The album revived the sound of Stax soul’s golden age, when Bell had first cut his teeth as an artist, and which had influenced Marc Cohn so powerfully in its way, completing a circle and letting Marc give back to one of the originators of the sound that shaped him.

Marc revisited another corner of American music’s rich heritage with the Blind Boys of Alabama on the Grammy-nominated song “Let My Mother Live,” and also worked with David Crosby on the album “Lighthouse.” As powerfully influenced by the singer-songwriter tradition as he is by the legacy of soul and gospel, working with the ’60s icon was a project that got right to Marc’s creative core.

Moving forward, he continues to do what he does best: infuse American music with both a fresh perspective and a reverence for its deep roots.
Junie B. Jones
IN “JINGLE BELLS, BATMAN SMELLS”
December 1, 2 p.m.
Pfeiffer Hall
310 E. Benton Ave., Naperville
PERFORMER BIOGRAPHY

It’s holiday time and everyone’s favorite first grader is back to celebrate! All of the students in Room One are happily creating the perfect holiday party. Except how is Junie B. supposed to enjoy anything when she has drawn the name of her arch nemesis, Tattletale May, for her Secret Santa Gift? But wait — the Secret Santa gift is the perfect opportunity to give May exactly what she deserves…maybe. Holiday fun with a lesson about giving is a perfect treat for the holiday season!
David Benoit
A CHRISTMAS TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE BROWN WITH SPECIAL GUEST SARA GAZAREK

December 1, 8 p.m.
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville
For three decades, the Grammy-nominated pianist/composer/arranger David Benoit has reigned supreme as one the founding fathers of contemporary jazz. Born in Bakersfield, Calif., he grew up in Los Angeles and was bitten by the jazz bug after watching a Charlie Brown special on television and listening to the music of Vince Guaraldi in 1965. “I was already a fan of the comic strip,” he says, “but when I heard that jazz piano trio, that was the defining moment when I decided that I wanted to play like Vince Guaraldi.”

At the age of 13, Benoit studied privately with pianist Marya Cressy Wright and continued his training with Abraham Fraser, who was the pianist for famed conductor Arturo Toscanini. He also studied music theory and composition, and later studied orchestration with Donald Nelligan at El Camino Junior College and film scoring from Donald Ray at UCLA. He studied conducting with Heiichiro Ohyama, assistant conductor of the L.A. Philharmonic, and furthered his musical education with Jan Robertson, head of the conducting department at UCLA, and UC Santa Barbara Symphony Orchestra music director Jeffrey Schindler.

After working with Lainie Kazan as her musical director/conductor in 1976, Benoit released albums on the AVI label from 1977 to 1984. He later released several chart-topping recordings for GRP, including “Freedom at Midnight” (1987), “Waiting for Spring” (1989) and “Shadows” (1991), which all topped Billboard’s Contemporary Jazz Charts at #5, #1, and #2, respectively. His other noteworthy recordings include “Letter to Evan” (1992), his tribute to another piano influence, Bill Evans, and “Here’s to You, Charlie Brown: Fifty Great Years” (2000). Benoit also recorded with Russ Freeman on their album “The Benoit/Freeman Project” (1994), and on their follow-up collaboration, “2” (2004), which was released on Peak Records. His other recordings for the label include “American Landscape” (1997) and “Orchestral Stories” (2005), which featured his first piano concerto, “The Centaur and the Sphinx,” and a symphonic work, “Kobe.” In 2012, he released “Conversation” on Concord’s Heads Up International imprint. His latest and 35th recording as a leader and his first with a vocalist, “2 In Love,” was released in 2015 featuring Jane Monheit, the Grammy-nominated, cool-toned chanteuse from New York, who burst on the scene in 1998 as the first runner-up in the Thelonious Monk International Vocalist Competition.

Benoit received three Grammy nominations in the categories of Best Contemporary Jazz Performance for “Every Step of the Way” (1989), Best Large Ensemble Performance for GRP All-Star Big Band (1996), and Best Instrumental Composition for “Dad’s Room,” the latter from the album “Professional Dreamer” (2000). In 2010, Benoit received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Smooth Jazz Awards, and he’s worked with an impressive potpourri of musicians including the Rippingtons, Emily Remler, Alphonse Mouzon, Dave Koz, Faith Hill, David Sanborn, CeCe Winans and Brian McKnight.

Benoit’s film scores include “The Stars Fell on Henrietta” (1995), produced by Clint Eastwood, and “The Christmas Tree,” produced by Sally Field, which was voted Best Score of 1996 by Film Score Monthly. He has served as conductor with a wide range of symphonies including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Asia America Symphony Orchestra and the London Symphony Orchestra. A longtime guest educator with the Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation, he received that organization’s Excellence in Music Award in 2001. His musical selections have been featured on The Weather Channel and his version of Vince Guaraldi’s “Cast Your Fate to the Wind” is included on compilation “The Weather Channel Presents: Smooth Jazz 11” (2008). Benoit also currently hosts a morning radio show on KKJZ 88.1 FM in Long Beach, Calif.
6th Annual Jazz Faculty Christmas Concert

December 7, 8 p.m.
Madden Theatre
171 E. Chicago Avenue, Naperville
PERFORMER BIOGRAPHY

The concert will feature a collection of well-known holiday favorites with a jazz twist. The faculty artists include vocalist Janice Borla, saxophonist Mitch Paliga, trumpeter Art Davis, trombonist Tim Coffman, vibraphonist Brad Stirtz, pianist Chris White, bassist Kelly Sill and drummer Jack Mouse. At the top of their game, each faculty artist is a talented musician and educator in the College’s jazz studies program. They’re all successful as independent jazz artists, regularly performing in public venues and releasing new recordings. Borla’s latest CD release “Promises to Burn” received numerous outstanding reviews and was named one of DownBeat Magazine’s “Best Jazz Albums of the Year.” Paliga, an active performer and composer, continues to tour worldwide with actor/musician Gary Sinise’s Lt. Dan Band. One of Chicago’s leading jazz trumpet artists, Davis toured extensively with Ray Charles and Frank Sinatra and has played with a “who’s who” of artists, from Dizzy Gillespie and Nancy Wilson to Kurt Elling.

An active trombonist in the Chicago area, Coffman has performed with the best, from Frank Sinatra, Natalie Cole and Stevie Wonder to Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga. Stirtz’s reputation as an outstanding professional mallet percussionist has led to a career spanning the globe. A busy freelance musician, pianist White has performed with David Baker, Jamey Aebersold and Oliver Nelson Jr. and frequently performs at the Jazz Showcase, Andy’s and other Chicago nightspots.

Sill has shared the stage with innumerable jazz icons, including Joe Henderson, Art Blakey, Jackie McLean, Freddie Hubbard, Chris Potter, Louis Bellson and Mel Torme. Mouse has played with such jazz luminaries as Stan Kenton, Clark Terry, Bunker Green, Randy Brecker and received wide critical acclaim for his current releases “Range of Motion” and “Three Story Sandbox.”
DENNIS DEYOUNG: THE GRAND ILLUSION
40TH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM TOUR

PERFORMING THE ALBUM IN ITS ENTIRETY PLUS ALL THE HITS

DENNIS DEYOUNG
THE GRAND ILLUSION 40TH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM TOUR

December 15, 8 p.m.
Pfeiffer Hall
310 E. Benton Ave., Naperville
DENNIS DEYOUNG

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHY

In 1977, history was made upon the release of THE GRAND ILLUSION album. DENNIS DEYOUNG AND THE MUSIC OF STYX celebrate that history by performing the album in its entirety plus all of Styx’s top ten hits: “Lady,” “Babe,” “Come Sail Away,” “Too Much Time On My Hands,” “Best Of Times,” and “Mr. Roboto,” plus classic rock anthems “Renegade,” “Blue Collar Man,” “Suite Madame Blue,” and many more.

DENNIS DEYOUNG is a founding member of STYX and the lead singer and songwriter on seven of the band’s eight top ten hits. DENNIS is a legendary singer, songwriter, keyboardist, composer and record producer with a career spanning more than 40 years. His voice is one of the most recognizable in the music world today and continues to inspire new generations of fans. The original voice….all the classic hits….all the memories….one unforgettable evening.

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Toy Box - Inspiration Through Play
DECEMBER 7 - FEBRUARY 3
Illinois is home to classic toys such as Radio Flyer, Lincoln Logs and TinkerToys. These, like all toys serve as templates to the imagination for children at both social and cognitive levels of development. For adults, toys are vessels for memory that contain identity, activity, and comfort. For many working artists today, a toy represents a creative opportunity to transform the object into an experience that transcends nostalgia and represents an act of discovery. The artwork featured in this exhibition comes directly from artists working across Illinois. The historic objects presented are highlights from the Illinois State Museum collections. Combined, they seek to merge the joyous occasion of imagination during play with the nurtured discipline of creating a work of art.

Century Walk Artists
NOVEMBER 9 - DECEMBER 2
In 1996, Century Walk began as a public art initiative featuring murals, mosaics, reliefs, mobiles and sculptures throughout downtown Naperville. Century Walk has many significant pieces of art reflecting on over 100 years of Naperville’s history.
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Chicago Sinfonietta
“Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Tribute Concert”
January 20

Joan Curto: Songs of the Leading Ladies of Broadway
January 27

An Evening with Jazz Saxophonist Mitch Paliga
January 18

Jim Peterik & World Stage
January 12

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