

ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY



2026 - 2027 PLAYBILL



Marc Falato '87 & Mark Wilson

DEAR FRIENDS,

It is my honor to share some exciting news about the future of Zoellner Arts Center.

A longtime collaborator, partner, and Lehigh alumnus has made a meaningful commitment to both our present and our future by endowing the Executive Director position. I am proud to now serve as the **Marc Falato '87 Executive Director of Zoellner Arts Center**. This support for the arts at Lehigh University represents something deeper. It is a belief in this place, in this work, and in what we can continue to build together.

That work continues to grow through purposeful partnerships.

Our collaboration with the Carnegie Hall Weill Music Institute through Well-Being Concerts and the Lullaby Project has allowed us to expand our Arts & Wellness initiatives across campus and the Lehigh Valley. We are building a system in which the arts are not an extra but an essential civic infrastructure of how a community cares for itself.

At the same time, we remain committed to artistic excellence through the world-class artists we bring to our stage. The season opens with a generational voice in Graham Nash, followed by the sharp, observant wit of David Sedaris, and the unmistakable presence of LeAnn Rimes. We welcome Andy Grammer, whose music brings joy and meets audiences exactly where they are, lifting them just a bit higher.

If you ever wanted to run away with the circus, you will have three opportunities to see this art form with Cirque Alfonse, Minty Fresh Circus, and Gravity & Other Myths. The National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine is a remarkable ensemble whose music reminds us that even in turbulent times, there are moments of beauty, reflection, and restoration. Family programming remains central to who we are. This season, Pete the Cat is a highlight of our Family Series as we start a Choose-What-You-Pay model because we believe access to the arts is for all. When you come to Zoellner, you also help us make a difference in supporting 10,000+ K-12 students who attend our School Shows, bringing curriculum to life for children across the Lehigh Valley.

In celebration of America's 250th founding, the Lehigh University Music Department finds all the right notes performing compositions by Sousa, Joplin, Bernstein, and more. The Department of Theatre explores powerful themes of agency, freedom, and reinvention through four contemporary plays. Remember, it is always a good time to visit LUAG, Lehigh University's free public museum, while you are on campus.

When I think about this season, I don't just think about performances. I think about how we bring the world to the Lehigh Valley...how we bring joy to our community...how we connect our beautiful campus to the rest of the Greater Lehigh Valley. You are all welcome to experience the arts with us.

With Gratitude,

Mark Wilson

Marc Falato '87 Executive Director
of Zoellner Arts Center



**Arts &
Libraries**

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

Zoellner Arts Center is now closely aligned with the Lehigh University Art Galleries and University Libraries under a new Vice Provost for Arts and Libraries, further elevating the arts and maximizing impact on our community.

THANK YOU

Leadership Funding:

Victoria E. and Robert E. Zoellner '54 GP'15

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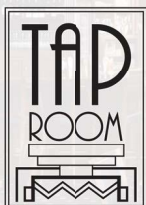


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SEP 1 ^{Tue}
7:00pm | Baker Hall

An Evening with **MARTIN GUITAR**



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2026.2027
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"Zoellner Arts Center received funding from Pennsylvania Creative Industries, powered by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts."



ABOUT

Martin & Co.[®]

EST. 1833



Christian Frederick Martin IV, known as “Chris,” is the executive chairman of the world-renowned C. F. Martin & Co. and the sixth generation of Martin family members to run the business. Martin acoustic guitars are prized worldwide for their exceptional tone, design, craftsmanship, and attention to detail. The iconic company’s contributions in music history are unparalleled, and Chris Martin is a key figure in its long and illustrious history. Under Chris Martin’s direction,

the company has maintained its integrity and industry-wide respect while growing and prospering to unprecedented manufacturing and sales levels.

Born and raised in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Chris’s familiarity with the family business was limited to occasional visits with his grandfather, Christian Frederick Martin III, and to summer jobs working at the factory. While in Los Angeles, where he attended UCLA, Chris apprenticed at Westwood Music, building a classical guitar and familiarizing himself with the retail end of the business. After just a year, he moved back to Nazareth, Pennsylvania, to work in the guitar factory, where he learned more about the design and construction of the Martin guitar and became familiar with many of the different operations. He eventually became more involved in the company, first as assistant to the President, then as vice president of marketing. When C. F. Martin III passed away in 1986 at the age of 91, Chris Martin became the company’s 30-year-old Chairman.

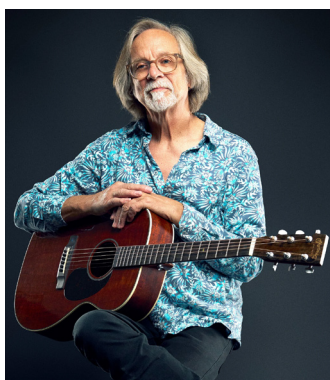
After taking over a family business that had been in existence for over 189 years, Chris implemented new strategies to invigorate the brand, refocusing the company on its primary strengths: steel-stringed acoustic guitars and strings. Chris’s decade-long efforts to turn the company around has helped them achieve impressive business milestones and reestablished the company’s reputation

worldwide for building the highest quality guitars. Martin has also maintained its long history of collaborative relationships with artists and brand ambassadors, always a key component to its success, and has continued to attract artists from all over the world and musical landscape. The current Americana and singer/songwriter explosion has also generated renewed interest in acoustic guitars and widened Martin's fan base immensely. Over the past two years, Martin Guitar has also experienced the acoustic guitar boom virtually, with a rapidly growing online community of musicians and players engaging with the brand.

"The current acoustic guitar boom-and for that matter, ukulele boom-these are exciting moments I have had the joy of experiencing several times throughout my career with Martin," says Chris. "This is the third time in my history with the company that the acoustic guitar has been the go-to instrument for the pop world. We are well positioned and ready to take the lead on being the guitar of choice for singer/songwriters looking for the best instruments to help express their creativity."

Chris's commitment and dedication extends beyond the factory floor. He is recognized as one of the leading philanthropists in the Lehigh Valley, working to serve the local community on various levels. Martin Guitar also works diligently to support key issues that affect the broader guitar industry and make the company stand out as a leader, including in environmental sustainability.

Chris is very enthusiastic about the company's future, especially when it comes to his family's legacy. Chris's daughter, Claire Frances Martin ("C. F. Martin!"), is the seventh generation of the Martin family in America, and of course there are high hopes that one day she will wish to be involved in managing the company that bears her name.



Craig Thatcher is a highly accomplished guitarist, band leader, and international clinician and ambassador for C. F. Martin & Co., known for his versatility across rock, blues, jazz, and fingerstyle acoustic guitar. As the leader of the Craig Thatcher Band, he has been entertaining audiences since 1992, performing throughout Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley region and abroad. Craig also leads tribute shows honoring music legends like Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, George Harrison, and more.

A longtime ambassador for Martin Guitar, Craig has performed at events for the company since 2004 and has been traveling globally since 2009, often alongside Chris Martin IV, to share the rich history of Martin Guitar and showcase new models. His career has seen him perform with and open for countless iconic musicians such as Jorma Kaukonen, G.E. Smith, Bill Kirchen, and Laurence Juber. He has performed in one capacity or another in nearly every U.S. state and over 40 countries. Craig is also the creator and host of the PBS show *Behind the Guitar*, where he interviews world-class guitarists in front of live audiences. His musical expertise and passion have earned him numerous local and regional awards throughout his career.

Two Centuries of History, And We're Just Getting Started.

C.F. Martin & Co. of Nazareth, PA, has been making the finest handcrafted acoustic guitars for nearly two hundred years. For some of the biggest names and the most revered musical legends across every genre and every decade. They do this with a pure artistic passion, a deep love for all things music, and an unwavering commitment to their community and the environment.

A Martin isn't just a guitar. It's playable history; part of a long line of legendary instruments stretching back to the company's beginnings in 1833. Our guitars were strummed by Civil War soldiers around campfires, helped shape the sound of modern music at the turn of the 20th century, and were played by music's first superstars like Jimmie Rodgers and Gene Autry. Decades later, Martins floored the crowd at Woodstock, then took center stage on MTV Unplugged, and can be heard on countless classic and contemporary songs across all genres of music. Artists like Elvis Presley, Joni Mitchell, Bob Dylan, John Lennon, Kurt Cobain, John Mayer, Ed Sheeran, and many others all played Martins, creating much of the soundtrack of the last century. And who knows? With one of Martin's instruments in your hand, you could help write the soundtrack for the next century.

Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation

Started in 1996 by C. F. Martin IV, the Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation supports causes we believe in by giving to nonprofit music, arts, education, environmental action, and human services groups. Foundation trustees manage assets conservatively to promote long-term planning. We seek to achieve the best value from our grant-making for the people and causes grantees serve.

***50% of the proceeds from tonight's event benefit
The Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation.***

COMING UP...

WU FEI & ABIGAIL WASHBURN



FRI OCT 16 | 7:30PM

It might feel a bit strange to use the words “rockstar” and “guzheng” in the same sentence, but if anyone can take this 2,000-year-old Chinese stringed instrument and crank it up to 11, it would be Wu Fei. She is single-handedly responsible for bringing this once-elitist court instrument out of the palaces of the Qin dynasty and into the streets, using it in entirely unexpected and captivating ways. And matching her string for string and note for note is Abigail Washburn, a banjo virtuoso (and wife of fellow picker Béla Fleck) and TED Fellow who happens to also be fluent in both the language and culture of China. These two remarkable musicians come together for an evening of musical storytelling that crosses continents to find common ground.

COMING UP...

ANDY GRAMMER

ONE MAN SHOW



SUN NOV 8 | 6:00PM

Experience an intimate high-energy evening with multi-platinum artist Andy Grammer. Stripped to its core, this one-man show blends acoustic performance, spoken word, storytelling, and real-time audience connection into something deeply personal and undeniably uplifting. With only a piano, a guitar, and a room full of voices, Andy turns the stage into a shared experience: moving effortlessly between chart-topping hits, new songs, and the stories behind them. Raw, funny, and fully present, it's an invitation into the heart of the music.

Inspiring fans around the world, he has over 3 billion global streams and a social media following of nearly 5 million. His catalog consists of numerous hits, including the 5X platinum single *Honey, I'm Good*; the 2X platinum singles *Keep Your Head Up*, *Fresh Eyes*, and *Don't Give Up On Me*; the platinum singles *Good To Be Alive (Hallelujah)* and *Fine By Me*; and the gold albums *Andy Grammer* (2011) and *Magazines Or Novels* (2014). *When Don't Give Up On Me* became the soundtrack for ESPN's 13th annual V Week for Cancer Research, he garnered a Sports Emmy for Outstanding Music Direction and a Clio Award.

ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER LEHIGH UNIVERSITY



The Board of Trustees of Lehigh University gratefully acknowledges and recognizes the following alumni, friends, corporations and foundations for their generosity in supporting the annual campaign for the Friends of Zoellner Arts Center:

This list recognizes gifts received between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. Gifts made after these dates will be updated in January and July on our digital recognition list found at zoellnerartscenter.org/support.

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INFORMATION

CAN'T MAKE IT? EXCHANGE OR DONATE YOUR TICKETS.

Contact us before the show to either **exchange** for another event, or convert the value of your tickets to a charitable contribution to Zoellner Arts Center. Subscribers and Friends may exchange for free, just \$1 per ticket for all others. Patrons are responsible for any difference in ticket price, exchanges must occur within event category (e.g., Music Dept. ticket for Music Dept. ticket). Excludes rental events. No refunds.

PARKING IS FREE in the garage attached to the center for all Presenting Series, Lehigh University Music Dept. and Dept. of Theatre events (excluding some weekday morning events, Christmas Vespers in Packer Chapel and Dolce in Lamberton Hall). Please note, there may be a parking charge for non-Zoellner sponsored events.

GROUPS SAVE UP TO 15% Just buy 10 or more tickets to a performance. Orders incur a one-time per-performance fee of \$6 per group order in lieu of per-ticket fees.

TAXES AND FEES

Single tickets ordered by phone or online carry fees ranging from \$2.25-\$8.50 per ticket. Tickets purchased in-person may carry fees of up to 50 cents per ticket. The City of Bethlehem Amusement tax is 5% on tickets above \$10, with a cap of \$2 per ticket. Additional delivery charges may apply, check online for details.

**OUR GIFT CERTIFICATES
NEVER EXPIRE.**

Purchase these at Ticket Services or online
in any amount and give
the gift of entertainment.

Certificates cannot be redeemed for rental events.

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in any amount and give
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Certificates cannot be redeemed for rental events.

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ZoellnerArts



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zoellnerarts



inzactix@lehigh.edu



GO TO WEBSITE

zoellnerartscenter.org

#artshaveimpact

HOUSE NOTES

Concessions: Food and beverage service will likely be limited. Check the “Know Before You Go” email sent to ticket holders the week of the show. Be sure to give Ticket Services your email.

Please silence all mobile devices upon entering the theatre.

To leave theatres during performances, use the rear doors, if you are able, to minimize disruption of performance.

Late seating occurs at suitable intervals. While waiting, you may watch performance on lobby monitors.

Lost & Found: Contact Ticket Services. Not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Families with Children:

We welcome children of all ages to our Family Series shows. For performances not listed as Family Series in our brochure, we recommend that attendees be ages four and over. Everyone entering the theatre must have a ticket, and sit quietly in a seat throughout the performance. There are closed-circuit monitors in the lobby which supervised children may use to watch performances if they need a break.

Accessible seating can be requested when purchasing tickets. Accessible parking is on levels 1 and 3 in the parking garage.

Free assistive-listening devices are available through Ticket Services for amplified performances.

Free Sensory Kits are available to checkout, please inquire at the box office or with an usher.

Questions about your tickets?

Contact Ticket Services:

Phone: 610-758-2787 ext. 0

Email: inzactix@lehigh.edu

Box Office Hours:

TUE 12-6; WED-FRI 12-5

For ticketed events: 90 minutes prior to curtain.

All programs and artists are subject to change. In the event of a cancellation or material change, we will make every effort to contact all ticket holders. We must reserve the right to make any changes whatsoever in the event owing to any unforeseen or unavoidable cause or to cancel the event for any reason beyond our control without being liable to pay any ticket holder compensation for damages other than a ticket of comparable value to an event (based on availability).

Video recording or photography may occur for this performance that might include images of audience members. Your attendance at today's performance grants permission for further usage of such images.

ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER

at LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

2026 FALL SEASON AT A GLANCE



LUVME	FRI AUG 28
HELL'S KITCHEN FUNK ORCHESTRA	SAT SEP 5
PAUL SALERNI BIENNIAL ART RECITAL	SUN SEP 20
GRAHAM NASH	THU SEP 24
WITCH	SEP 25 - OCT 3
ONE VISION OF QUEEN FEAT. MARC MARTEL	SAT SEP 26
DAVID SEDARIS.....	FRI OCT 2
CIRQUE ALFONSE	SAT OCT 3
OUTLANDER IN CONCERT	SUN OCT 11
WU FEI AND ABIGAIL WASHBURN	FRI OCT 16
FREQUENCY STRING QUARTET	SUN OCT 18
CHORAL ARTS	FRI OCT 23, SAT OCT 24
VOCES8	SUN NOV 1
THE HOUSE THAT WILL NOT STAND	NOV 6 - 14
JAZZ REPERTORY ORCHESTRA	SAT NOV 7
ANDY GRAMMER	SUN NOV 8
PHILHARMONIC	FRI NOV 13, SAT NOV 14
PETE THE CAT FAMILY SERIES  FAMILY SERIES	SUN NOV 15
ACADEMY OF VOCAL ARTS	SUN NOV 22
MICHAEL FEINSTEIN	SUN NOV 29
FALL STUDENT JAZZ CONCERT	FRI DEC 4
WIND ENSEMBLE	SAT DEC 5
CHORAL ARTS FREE	SUN DEC 6
THE NUTCRACKER	SAT DEC 12, SUN DEC 13
CHERISH THE LADIES	SUN DEC 20

KEY: **PRESENTING SERIES** | **MUSIC DEPARTMENT** | **DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE**

