

# ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY



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PLAYBILL



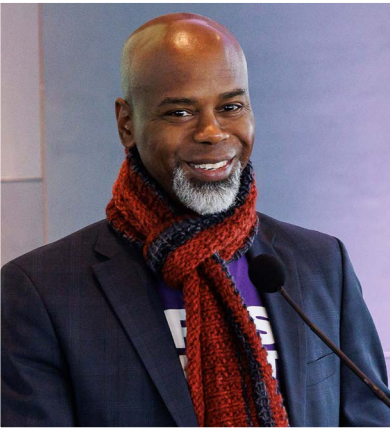


Photo By John Kish IV

## DEAR FRIENDS,

We are at the beginning of a new arts Renaissance. There are moments when one can feel the shifting tides of change and that moment is now as people return to live performing arts. I have had many conversations about the role of the arts in bringing our diverse urban, suburban, and rural Lehigh Valley communities together through shared experiences. The 2024-2025 season will rejuvenate our spirits through world-class artists as we continue to gather.

Montreal-based Cirque Kikasse starts our Presenting Series with a unique twist,

performing their production of *Santé* in front of Fritz Laboratory on our Lehigh University campus. This one-of-a-kind FREE performance, set on a food truck, will connect our campus, surrounding community, and local students in a truly memorable way. Our dedication to inclusivity and diversity in the arts is exemplified by our partnership with the internationally acclaimed disability arts ensemble, Kinetic Light. Their residency, a testament to our shared values, will intertwine with Touchstone Theatre's Festival Unbound, culminating in a breathtaking performance of *DESCENT*. This dance performance promises to be a powerful and moving experience, showcasing the transformative power of art and the positive impact of our partnerships.

In case you missed Marc Martel's sold-out tribute to Queen the last time, he is returning to perform his spectacular show, *One Vision of Queen*. I knew he had to come back. I could not go anywhere without people asking me to bring him back. He's back. And if you happen to be asking for a little R.E.S.P.E.C.T., join us for an electrifying tribute celebrating the music of the legendary Aretha Franklin.

With our commitment to nurturing the next generation of art enthusiasts and helping create a healthy community, we continue our Family Series partnership with Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital events like Family Day Fest, a celebration of community partners, free activities, and music by Somos Amigos featuring Sonia de la Santos and the Grammy Award-winning band, The Okee Dokee Brothers.

Zoellner Arts Center embraces our role as a university-based presenter to transcend entertainment. Lehigh University student artists are integral to this construct as they present concerts and plays celebrating their creativity and that of the faculty that inspires them.

We strive to empower the youth of our community by curating and co-curating high-quality multidisciplinary arts programs with educators that integrate the arts into their classrooms and inspire students to create their own artwork. We remain steadfast in our commitment to foster meaningful dialogue by utilizing the arts as a lens through which we explore and celebrate our shared humanity.

*Mark Fitzgerald Wilson*

Executive Director

# THANK YOU

## Leadership Funding: Victoria E. and Robert E. Zoellner '54 '15GP

### PROGRAM SUPPORT



### MEDIA PARTNERS



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Creative Campus Initiative: Supported in part by the

**Anne R. Kline '81 Endowed Fund for Creatively Integrated Programming**

Notations: **Lehigh University Creative Writing Program** and **Zoellner Arts Center**

Temple Grandin: **Lehigh University College of Education** and **Lehigh University Autism Services**

### SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



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APR 6

Sunday  
7:00pm | Baker Hall

# R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

A CELEBRATION OF THE MUSIC OF  
**ARETHA FRANKLIN®**



Credit: Vincent Bao

**ZOELLNER  
ARTS CENTER**  
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY



2024.2025  
SEASON

Zoellner Arts Center receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



**RIGHT ANGLE ENTERTAINMENT  
&  
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Produced in cooperation with  
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Present

***R.E.S.P.E.C.T.***  
**A CELEBRATION OF THE MUSIC OF ARETHA FRANKLIN®**

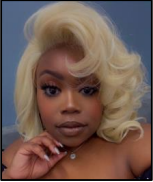


Lighting Design & Operation:	<b>RUBY LEIGH</b>
Lead Audio:	<b>RODERICK VINCENT</b>
Stage Manager/ Audio Engineer:	<b>RAECHELLE STEWARD</b>
Video Design:	<b>TAYLOR EDELLE STEWART</b>
Wardrobe Supervisor:	<b>ANTONIO CONSUEGRA</b>
Company Manager:	<b>MICKEY MULCAHY</b>
Production Manager:	<b>CODY MURRAY</b>
General Management:	<b>JOE RUFFNER</b>
Choreography:	<b>ANTHONY MURPHY</b>
Supervising Music Director:	<b>DARNELL WHITE</b>
Music Director:	<b>JOSHUA VASQUEZ</b>

Director  
**DEAN ELLIOTT**

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## CAST



### **Cristina Raè | Lead Vocalist**

Cristina Raè, an extraordinary Nashville performer and *America's Got Talent* Season 15 standout, recently debuted on Broadway in *The Wiz*. Her relentless pursuit of dreams inspires everyone around her.



### **Tiyanna Gentry | Vocalist**

Tiyanna Gentry is beyond EXCITED to be making her North American Tour Debut!! She is based in Chicago, IL, and was just previously seen in the Midwest premiere of *Frozen* at the Paramount Theatre! Her professional credits also include: *Fully Monty* and *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Paramount Theatre), *Beehive* and *Beautiful* (Marriott Theatre), *Rock of Ages* as Justice, and *Boeing Boeing* as Gloria (Hope Repertory Theatre). TV: *The Chi* as a singer. She performed in the 2018 Jimmy Awards and is happily repped by DDO Artists Chicago! She wants to thank Miss Aretha and the Franklin Estate for this amazing opportunity! Instagram: @t.iyannta - Spread Love <3



### **Demiah Latreعه | Vocalist**

Demiah Latreعه, born in Houston, Texas and currently residing in New York City, is a proud graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. With five years performing with the Broadway Dreams non-profit and taking strides to perform all across New York City, Demiah is ecstatic to join *R.E.S.P.E.C.T. A Celebration of the Music of ARETHA FRANKLIN*. "You're not meant for this career if you don't fight and work for it." Instagram: @thedemialatreعه\_



### **Jaymyria Etienne | Swing**

Born and raised in Atlanta, Jaymyria pursued a degree in Musical Theatre and Sociology at the University of North Georgia. Throughout her career, she has been blessed to play a myriad of roles including Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls* (Atlanta Lyric Theatre), Armelia in *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Peach State Theatre), and Maggie Holmes in *Working* (Alliance Theatre). Most recently she could be seen working "hard for the money" as Diva Donna in *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical* on The Norwegian Prima. When not on stage, Jaymyria enjoys cycling, doing puzzles and taking naps.

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## **TJ Griffin | Drums**

New York born and raised! Everything for me began in church and music is a big part of my family. From church I then started to perform throughout the city to other places in and outside the country, never taking the gift God has given me for granted. I've worked with amazing people so far in my career and am thankful to work with more for this tour.

## **Osei Kweku | Bass**

Osei Kweku is a Los Angeles born bassist, rapper and self diagnosed Keeper of the Funk. Having grown up in Los Angeles, oldies/throwback radio was staple in his life, so much of his major influence comes from the likes of Sly and the Family Stone, Parliament-Funkadelic, Curtis Mayfield, Sam Cooke, Aretha Franklin...you know the rest. Kweku attended The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music from 2012-15 and has since traveled the world as a freelance bass player. Playing on shows like Michael Jackson tribute shows "I Am King" and "Invincible", Rennie Harris's "Funkedified," Oya Festival in Norway, hosting a jam session in NYC and has made a couple on screen appearances in "Vinyl," "The Irishman," "The Only Living Boy in New York."

## **Joshua Vasquez | Guitar**

Joshua Vasquez is a guitarist from San Diego, CA. At the age of 12 he was inspired by classmates at the time to pick up the guitar and eventually decided to pursue it as a career.

His pursuit brought him first to the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts and upon graduation began attending Berklee College of Music in fall 2013. At Berklee he studied with some of the most renowned teachers in contemporary guitar education. Teachers such as Rick Peckham, Tim Miller, Mike Williams (once a teacher to John Mayer), and Mick Goodrick.

Since graduating from Berklee in 2017, Josh has been working as a freelance player and session guitarist in the southern California area. Doing everything from recording for up and coming artists and video games to being in music videos and playing for theater.

His accolades include improvisation awards from several Jazz festivals and being a semi-finalist in Guitar Center's King of the Blues competition in 2011.

## **Michael Williams | Keys**

Michael Williams hails from Staten Island, New York. His musical roots go back to Mt. Sinai United Christian Church under the leadership of Rev. Victor Brown. It is there where he discovered the Hammond Organ at the age of 12 and fell in love with it. From then on he knew he'd be married to music for life. Since then he's gone on to play for Evelyn Champagne King, Melba Moore, Mel'isa Morgan, Cece Peniston and many local acts in the Greater NYC area. He also works as an actor having made appearances in several national television shows. He gives honor to The Lord Jesus Christ in everything he does.

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## SHOW DESCRIPTION

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. is the ultimate tribute to the legendary Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin. The elevated concert experience brings a community together with timeless music that speaks to the complicated human condition, honoring the impassioned and transcendent music of one of America's most beloved singer-songwriter.

Rejoice while you are taken on an intimate musical odyssey guaranteed to get you up and out of your seat and dancing! The production journeys through Aretha Franklin's courageous life of love, tragedy and triumph starring a live band, supreme vocalists and a night full of music by one of the greatest artists of all time.

"Natural Woman," "Think," "I Knew You Were Waiting for Me," "Chain of Fools," "Respect"

## ACT ONE

AMAZING GRACE  
CHAIN OF FOOLS  
YOU'RE ALL I NEED TO GET BY  
PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND  
PIECE OF MY HEART  
DR. FEELGOOD  
DAY DREAMING  
ROCK-A-BYE YOUR BABY...  
MOCKINGBIRD  
SON OF A PREACHER MAN  
A CHANGE IS GONNA COME  
I NEVER LOVED A MAN  
I SAY A LITTLE PRAYER  
NATURAL WOMAN  
SWEET SWEET BABY  
THE WEIGHT

## ACT TWO

BABY, I LOVE YOU  
ROCK STEADY  
UNTIL YOU COME BACK TO ME  
AIN'T NO WAY  
FREEWAY OF LOVE  
BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER  
I KNEW YOU WERE WAITING  
SISTERS ARE DOING IT  
NESSUN DORMA  
THINK  
RESPECT

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## **ABOUT ARETHA FRANKLIN**

Aretha Franklin, the "Queen of Soul," was born on March 25, 1942, in Memphis, Tennessee. She began her career singing gospel at her father's church in Detroit, Michigan. Franklin's powerful, emotive voice and extraordinary musical talent quickly propelled her to fame. Her breakthrough came in 1967 with the release of "I Never Loved a Man (The Way I Love You)," followed by iconic hits like "Respect," "Chain of Fools," and "Natural Woman." These songs not only showcased her vocal prowess but also became anthems of the civil rights and feminist movements.

Throughout her career, Franklin amassed 18 Grammy Awards and, in 1987, was the first woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Her music transcended genres, blending soul, R&B, gospel, and pop, and her influence extended far beyond the music industry. She was a symbol of empowerment and resilience, using her platform to advocate for racial and gender equality.

Franklin's legacy continues to inspire artists and fans worldwide. Her music remains a staple in American culture, celebrated for its emotional depth and cultural significance.

To honor Aretha Franklin's enduring legacy, we present "R.E.S.P.E.C.T.: A Celebration of the Music of Aretha Franklin." This concert experience takes audiences on a journey of love, tragedy, courage, and triumph. This concert will feature performances of her greatest hits by supreme vocalists and an electrifying live band, set against the backdrop of video screen graphics highlighting the imagery and photos of the time. This celebration of Aretha Franklin's life and legacy will feature all your favorite hits in one evening, including "Natural Woman," "Think," "I Knew You Were Waiting for Me," "Chain of Fools," "Respect," and many more.

Enjoy this night of powerful performances, heartfelt memories, and communal appreciation of the Queen of Soul's timeless contributions to music and culture.

FRIENDS OF  
**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:

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Craig Wurst  
Edwin E. Yeakel '79G

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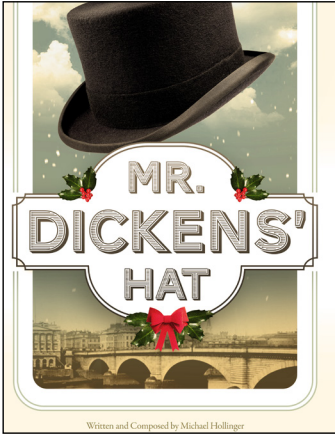
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# INFORMATION

## 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.

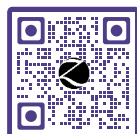
## CONNECT WITH US!

 ZoellnerArts

 zoellnerartscenter

 zoellnerarts

 inzactix@lehigh.edu



GO TO WEBSITE

[zoellnerartscenter.org](http://zoellnerartscenter.org)

[#artshaveimpact](https://www.instagram.com/zoellnerartscenter)

# HOUSE NOTES

**Concessions:** At this time, food and beverage service will likely be limited or not available. 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](mailto:inzactix@lehigh.edu)

**Box Office Hours:**  
TUE 12-6; WED-FRI 12-5  
For ticketed events: SAT 2 hours prior to curtain, 90 mins. all other days.






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

## 2025 SPRING SEASON AT A GLANCE



LUVME .....	JAN 31
YAMATO: THE DRUMMERS OF JAPAN .....	FEB 1
JAZZ FACULTY .....	FEB 2
KING'S RETURN .....	FEB 7
ONE VISION OF QUEEN FEATURING MARC MARTEL .....	FEB 8
FIRST BIENNIAL SALERNI ART SONG RECITAL .....	FEB 9
PHILHARMONIC .....	FEB 14, 15
THE PRINCETON SINGERS .....	FEB 16
PROOF .....	FEB 21-MAR 1
THE ALUMINUM SHOW  FAMILY SERIES .....	FEB 22
BELLA GAIA .....	FEB 28
JAZZ REPERTORY ORCHESTRA .....	MAR 1
EUGENE ALBULESCU .....	MAR 2
ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS .....	MAR 7
NEW YORK JAZZ REPERTORY ORCHESTRA .....	MAR 8
CHOIR, DOLCE AND GLEE CLUB .....	MAR 21, 22
GOODNIGHT MOON & THE RUNAWAY BUNNY  FAMILY SERIES .....	MAR 23
EARL.  .....	MAR 27
PASCUALA ILABACA Y FAUNA .....	MAR 28
THE SOUND OF (BLACK) MUSIC .....	MAR 29
CALPULLI MEXICAN DANCE COMPANY .....	APR 4
MICHAEL JORGENSEN, VIOLIN AND STEVE BECK, PIANO .....	APR 5
R.E.S.P.E.C.T. .....	APR 6
PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER .....	APR 10
AMERICAN BRASS QUINTET .....	APR 11
THE BOOKSTORE .....	APR 11-19
SYMPHONIC BAND  .....	APR 13
PHILHARMONIC .....	APR 25, 26
WIND ENSEMBLE .....	APR 27
CHORAL ARTS .....	MAY 2, 3
STUDENT JAZZ CONCERT .....	MAY 4
THE PAPER ESCAPER  FAMILY SERIES .....	MAY 11
THE DOO WOP PROJECT .....	MAY 17

KEY: PRESENTING SERIES | MUSIC DEPARTMENT | DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

