RHYTHMIC CIRCUS

Thursday, Nov. 11, 2021 | 7:30 p.m. Te Ata Memorial Auditorium





Coming Next: The Peking Acrobats Rhythmic gymnastics & thrilling stunts. February 17, 2022 | 7:30 p.m.

WELCOME BACK TO THE SCIENCE & ARTS CAMPUS!

We are excited to share this 21st season with you in a way that keeps us all happy, healthy, and able to enjoy each other's company. Thank you for choosing to sit in small groups separated from each other in our venues, for wearing your masks, and for limiting the congestion in the lobby. Together, we will have a lot of fun this year.

Our committee selected artists for 2020-21 who we hoped would help us to celebrate a milestone and reflect on the history of this artist series. Instead of reflection, the 20th Anniversary DWPAS season was a season of innovation and experimentation. We offered workshops, educational outreach performances, and all of the artist events of the season virtually. One evening, we had professional artists from New York, Connecticut, and Florida performing online, live, and together for DWPAS audiences from all over Oklahoma!

Graciously, all of the acts we booked for last season were willing to re-schedule with us for this year, so not only are we having a reunion, we will enjoy our long-anticipated celebration. Professional performing artists will come from all over the world to perform here in Chickasha in this diverse season.



OKLAHOMA ARTS COUNCIL



National Endowment for the Arts arts.gov

This project was supported in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council, which receives support from the State of Oklahoma and the National Endowment for the Arts.

We know that the arts will lift us up, teach us, and strengthen our community as we relax, laugh, and marvel together.

I'm thankful for our committee, who will soon be hard at work planning the next season. I'm grateful to our community sponsors and our season ticket holders, who are all part of the family that makes this series a success. Finally, I continue to appreciate how much the Science and Arts Foundation does for each student on campus, for our k12 students, and for every person in our region. It's my joy to be a part of bringing this season to you, and I couldn't do it without their support!

After each performance, expect an email with a performance evaluation survey. We are able to improve each year thanks to your comments and suggestions. I also welcome your feedback by email: kdavis@usao.edu. Enjoy the performance tonight and I hope to hear from you soon!

"Art enables us to lose ourselves and find ourselves at the same time."

- Thomas Merton, No Man Is An Island

Katie Davis, MFA Professor of Theatre Arts



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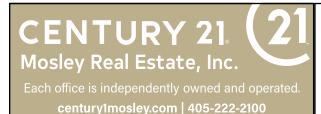


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The Theatre Arts Program at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma presents:

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Projects of the Davis-Waldorf Performing Arts Series are supported in part by grants from the Mid-America Arts Alliance. MAAA is a nonprofit, regional arts organization—representing Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas—that focuses on strengthening communities and improving lives through extraordinary cultural experiences. MAAA is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.



DAVIS-WALDORF PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Davis-Waldorf Performing Arts Series is to encourage attendance at high-quality performing arts events as an aspect of a liberal arts education for our students, to provide an affordable cultural and entertainment resource for our college family and our community, and to become a leader in local arts education by presenting relevant and culturally diverse programming that broadens the aesthetic of our audiences.



300 E. Grand Ave, Chickasha, OK 405.224.0748



1227 S. 5th Street Chickasha, OK 73018



University of SCIENCE & ARTS of Oklahoma

MISSION STATEMENT

As the state's sole public liberal arts college, the University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma provides a distinctive education in the liberal arts and sciences, supporting both its interdisciplinary core curriculum and major fields of study with superior teaching. Through its inclusive learning environment, Science & Arts fosters diversity of thought and practice to help students realize meaningful, purposeful and productive lives as global citizens in a rapidly changing world.





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FDIC



Act I

A capella
Winter Wonderland
Holiday
Christmas Time is Here
Linus and Lucy
Joy to the World
Drum Feature
Holiday Medley
Santa Claus is Here
Carol of the Bells

Act II

Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire
A capella
Féliz Navidad
Let it Snow/Blue & White Christmas
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
Guitar Feature
Percussion Feature
This Christmas
O Christmas Tree
Dance to the Music/Holiday

Dancers:

Justin Lewis Katelyn Harris Nathan Beech Phoenix Goodman

Aaron Wiener trumpet/vocals/percussion

Elyse Jones vocals/percussion

John Bertsch saxophone/percussion

Jordan Hedlund bass guitar/vocals

Karl von Gohren keys

Mike Green
guitar
Peter Vircks
saxophone/percussion

Preston Gunderson vocals/guitar/percussion

Tim Zhorne drums

Josh Jacobson sound

Mark Ruark lights

PERFORMERS

JUSTIN LEWIS

Justin Lewis (dancer) was born and raised in the Washington D.C. area and began tap dancing at the age of 5. At age 10, he joined a pre-professional tap company called Tappers with Attitude in Silver Spring, Maryland. Lewis began his professional career shortly after with multiple performances around the country, including stops at the Kennedy Center and Lincoln Theatre. Currently, Lewis teaches and choreographs for dance studios and universities nationwide and performs nationally and internationally with Rhythmic Circus. Lewis plans to continue his training, performances, and choreography around the world in hopes to shine light on the art of Tap Dance.

KATELYN HARRIS

Katelyn Harris (dancer) has been performing, choreographing, and instructing around the world for the past 15 years. She grew up in Dallas, TX, training in many styles of movement including rhythm tap, classical ballet, jazz, contemporary, hip hop, and hatha yoga. After receiving a well-rounded dance education from schools around the country, and teaching and choreographing in every genre, Katelyn found her niche in tap dance when she joined the Austin-based Tapestry Dance Company in 2006. Katelyn was nominated for best dancer by the Austin Critics Table awards for her roles in "The Souls of Our Feet" (2008) and "Ears Wide Open" (2010). Katelyn is currently Artistic Director of Rhythmic Souls Tap Company and is spearheading a movement to promote and preserve tap dance through new creative projects and collaborations with studios and fellow artists.

PHOENIX GOODMAN

Phoenix Goodman (dancer) is a young up-and comer from New York City! Born in Australia and raised in Connecticut they spent much of their youth commuting to the city to train and perform. At just 18, they've made quite a name for themselves in New York. Their notable performances include Broadway Backwards 2018 at the Al Hirschfeld theater, and more recently their work in Demi Remick and Dancers: "Radio Days" performed at multiple events throughout New York. When they're not dancing, they like to spend their time hanging out with their pet snake or working hard as a wine sales associate at their job in the city!

AARON WIENER

Aaron Wiener (trumpet/vocals/percussion) was born in Eugene, OR, raised in Milwaukee, and has become a mainstay in the Twin Cities since the early 2000's. Aaron received a degree in classical trumpet performance from the University of Minnesota. Over the past dozen years, he's toured extensively as a member of Buckets and Tap Shoes, Rhythmic Circus, and other projects. He's had the fortune of sharing the stage with an eclectic variety of performers, including Sarah Reich (Postmodern Jukebox,) Robert Randolph and the Family Band, Cory Wong (Wulfpeck,) Mint Condition, members of Tower of Power, members of Chicago, DJ Logic, Eric Gales (Lauryn Hill band,) Crow, Sonny Thompson (Prince,) Jellybean Johnson (Morris Day and the Time,) hometown heroes Jesse Larson, Kat Perkins, Nicholas David, Home Free, and countless others. He currently resides in Saint Paul, MN.

ELYSE JONES

Elyse Jones (vocals/percussion) is thrilled to be a part of the second season of Holiday Shuffle. With over a decade of performing experience, Elyse continues to wear multiple musical hats as a songwriter, vocalist, and bandleader. After having spent most of her adult life in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, Elyse now draws inspiration in the enchanting city of New Orleans. One of her main focuses for 2019 had been that of creating. With a musical emphasis on soul & funk, the lyrical content of Elyse's original music focuses on mental health and political justice. When Elyse is not behind the scenes, you can find her on a stage with a microphone in her hand. She is ever-involved with multiple bands and musical groups, and continues to spread love throughout the community with music. To stay up-to-date with Elyse's adventures, check out her Instagram @elysejonesmusic or visit www.elysejones.com

JOHN BERTSCH

John Bertsch (saxophone/percussion) graduated from South Dakota State University in 1996. He has performed with Sam Moore, the Temptations, Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons, Peter Noone of Herman's Hermits, Davy Jones, Lou Christie, the Drifters, the Coasters, the Marvelettes, the Platters, Tommy Roe, Leslie Gore, Sonny Geraci, the Shirelles, Freddy "Boom Boom" Cannon, Hot Rod Chevy Kevy, PowerPlay, Bus 9, On the Air, and the R Factor. In addition to Rhythmic Circus, John performs with Kirk Johnson (drummer for Prince & the New Power Generation) with his Greats Gone 2 Soon Series, the Bluewater Kings Band, Belladiva, and Spooncat! John currently resides in the Minneapolis/ St. Paul metro area. In addition to performing as a saxophonist, John teaches private saxophone and clarinet lessons at Schuster's Music in Hudson, WI.

JORDAN HEDLUND

Jordan Hedlund (bass guitar/vocals) is no stranger to the Twin Cities music scene. As a performer on piano, bass and drums, Jordan has performed with VocalEssence under Philip Brunelle, Moore by Four, T. Mychael Rambo, and on countless studio sessions. As a musical director, Jordan has created bands, charts and show orders for sold-out shows at The Dakota, multiple large fundraisers, and special events. As a composer, Jordan's original compositions can be heard on commercials, museum exhibits currently running across the United States and locally at McNamara Alumni Center, Landmark Center, and on KBEM-FM Jazz 88. As an educator, Jordan has guest-lectured on motion-picture sound at the University of Minnesota, and lectured at various high schools on living and working as a professional musician. A recipient of the Louis Armstrong Award for outstanding musical performance, Jordan is devoted to playing and performing music of the highest quality.

KARL VON GOHREN

Karl von Gohren (keys) started off so innocently at 7 years old, copying his sister's moves playing Carol of the Bells on the family piano. Well, that escalated quickly, with a basement full of keyboards, too many music gadgets, and taking shoes off at airport to go play the same song with an amazing cast and a dope updated arrangement. Some bright spots along the way include club gig after parties in Rabat, Morocco during "Lalapalooza", Christmas Eve services in a tiny old church in the north of Paris with nativity art so immense and intricate it'd make the best NYC holiday window decorator blush, touring France and Belgium with huge Paris-based gospel choir Family One and Ensemble Bonsai - especially Fete de la Musique in Paris and Marseille, and seaside parties in Maui. It's been a recurring question: where will the piano take you next?

MIKE GREEN

Mike Green (guitar) hails from Minneapolis, MN. His initial dive into the scene was his first metal record "Silence is Our Canvas" in 2009. He attended college at McNally Smith College of Music while playing with several original and corporate bands. Since then, Mike has toured and released music with a wide variety of artists like iLLism (HipHop/RnB) and Ions and Atrophy (Prog/Instrumental). His musical path also lead to involvement in the making of jamstik+ and PUC+ wireless MIDI devices from Zivix, a music and technology company. He is currently working on a solo guitar album and performing with the Rhythmic Circus.

PETER VIRCKS

Peter Vircks (saxophone/percussion) has established himself as an artist with a uniquely rich instrumental voice. He co-founded the celebrated electric jazz unit Moveable Feast and now leads the Peter Vircks Quartet and the group Midnight Love. For a decade, he's co-written and toured internationally with the award-winning Rhythmic Circus Productions in their Off-Broadway hit Feet Don't Fail Me Now, then later The Red & Green Party, and now Holiday Shuffle.

Peter has been recorded on 47 albums including his own 2014 release, "What You Believe Is True," which was released with the help of a grant from the American Composers Forum and listed in Minnesota Public Radio's top ten Jazz Favorites of 2014. He also has several television, independent film, and theater soundtrack credits.

PRESTON GUNDERSON

Preston Gunderson (vocals/guitar/percussion) is a singer-songwriter based out of Minneapolis, MN. With his powerful voice, and catchy melodies, Gunderson has been bringing in listeners of all ages and capturing major attention. Preston's full length album "While I was Gone" cracked the top 200 on the iTunes pop charts. Roughly a year later, his sophomore record "The Recluse - EP" peaked at #25 in the world on the iTunes Singer Songwriter charts. His record "Face Yourself, Then The World" released summer of 2016 at the Icehouse MPLS. His new record, "Wake Up" released September 12th, 2018 and is available online on all major streaming services. Preston has since toured nationally, and overseas (2011) making a name for himself sharing the stage with artists such as Brandie Carlile, The Guess Who, Jeremy Messersmith, Trampled by Turtles, Nicholas David, Live, Sister Hazel, Everclear and more! www.prestongunderson.com

TIM ZHORNE

Tim Zhorne (drums) is a professional drummer, percussionist, producer and educator who offers 43 years of experience as a performing artist. Tim provides the full spectrum of skills required for studio and live performance. From drum kit and percussion tracks to the design of distinctive loops, samples and sound color, his inspired contributions to all manner of projects are highly sought after.

As producer/arranger, Tim has worked with a wide range of artists and has proven results across a full spectrum of musical environments that keep him in-demand.

JOSH JACOBSON

Josh Jacobson (audio engineer) does sound.

MARK RUARK

Mark Ruark (company manager/lighting designer) learned his craft at the University of Northern lowa and the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. He has worked professionally in many capacities, including: stage, costume, lighting, and sound design; stage management; technician; musician, singer, dancer, and actor. When he is not touring the globe with Rhythmic Circus, you can find him acting as the Technical Director at the Southern Theater in Minneapolis, MN, as the resident lighting designer for Kaleena Miller Dance, and creating sound and music at home in Minneapolis. You can find some of his work online at www.liarsconspiracy.com