

ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY



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PLAYBILL



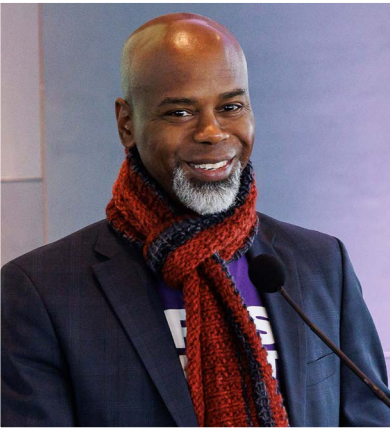


Photo By John Kish IV

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

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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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2024.2025
SEASON

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ABOUT

Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn

Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn, “the king and queen of the banjo” (*Paste* magazine), have a musical partnership like no other. Béla Fleck is a 15-time Grammy Award winner who has taken the instrument across multiple genres, and Abigail Washburn a singer-songwriter and clawhammer banjo player who re-radicalized it by combining it with Far East culture and sounds. The two met at a square dance, began collaborating musically and eventually fell in love. Over the years, they played together most visibly in the Sparrow Quartet alongside Ben Sollee and Casey Driessen and informally at a pickin’ party here, a benefit there, or occasionally popping up in each other’s solo shows. Fans of tradition-tweaking acoustic fare eagerly anticipated that Béla & Abigail would begin making music together as a duo.

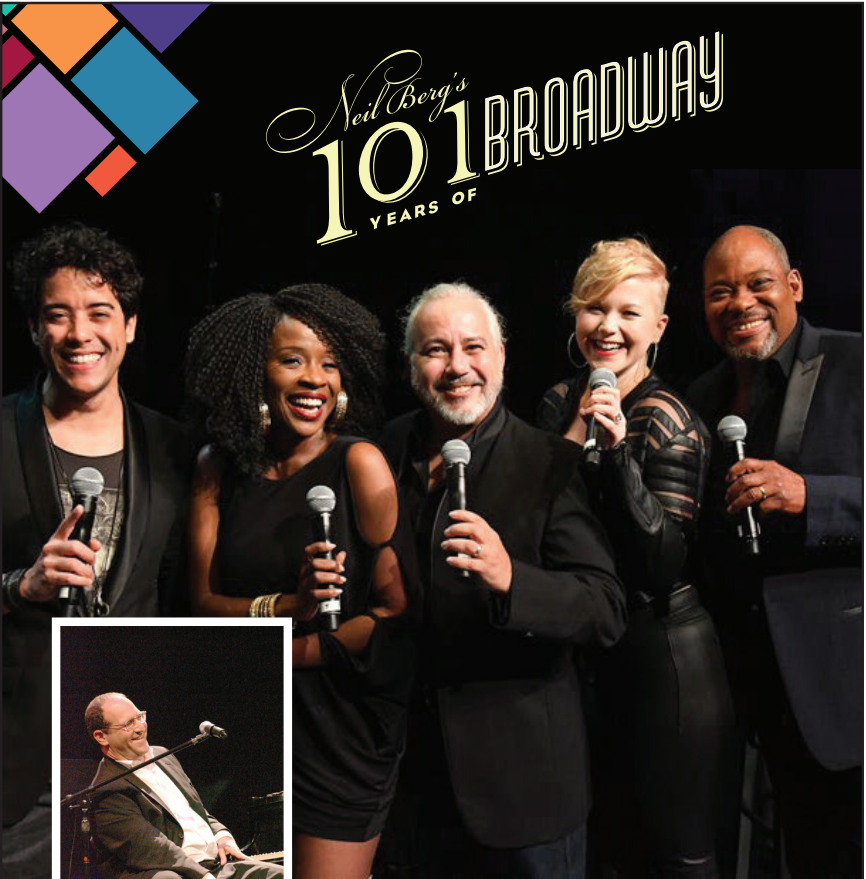
Fleck has the virtuosic, jazz-to-classical ingenuity of an iconic instrumentalist and composer with bluegrass roots. His collaborations range from his ground-breaking standard-setting ensemble Béla Fleck and the Flecktones to a staggeringly broad array of musical experiments. From writing concertos for full symphony orchestra, exploring the banjo’s African roots, to jazz duos with Chick Corea, many tout that Béla Fleck is the world’s premier banjo player. Washburn has the earthy sophistication of a postmodern, old-time singer-songwriter who has drawn critical acclaim for her solo albums. She has done fascinating work in folk musical diplomacy in China, presented an original theatrical production, and has contributed to singular side groups Uncle Earl and The Wu-Force. In addition to being named a TED Fellow in 2012, Abigail was recently named the first US-China Fellow at Vanderbilt University, in addition to Carolina Performing Arts/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation’s DisTil Fellow for 2018-2020.

On stage, Fleck and Washburn will perform pieces from their Grammy-winning self-titled debut as well as their new record, *Echo in the Valley* (Rounder 2017). With one eye on using the banjo to showcase America’s rich heritage and the other pulling the noble instrument from its most familiar arena into new and unique realms, Bela and Abigail meet in the mean, head-on, to present music that feels wildly innovative and familiar at the same time. Whether at home, on stage or on record, their deep bond, combined with the way their distinct musical personalities and banjo styles interact, makes theirs a picking partnership unlike any other on the planet.

BELAFLECK.COM

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16

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ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY
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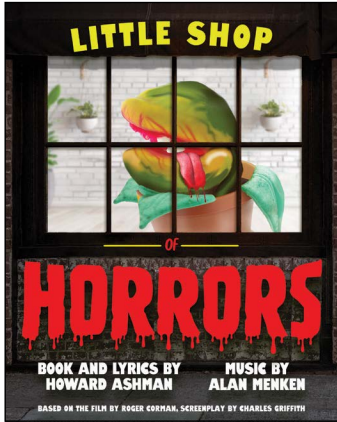
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PARKING IS FREE in the garage attached to the center for all Presenting Series, Lehigh University Music Dept. and Dept. of Theatre events (excluding some weekday morning events, Christmas Vespers in Packer Chapel and Dolce in Lamberton Hall). Please 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.

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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.


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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.

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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.

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

Questions about your tickets?

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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

2024 FALL SEASON AT A GLANCE



THE TRIO SALLESE	FRI AUG 30
LUVME	SAT SEP 7
CIRQUE KIKASSE FREE	WED SEP 18
NOTATIONS: LUIS MIRANDA, JR. FREE	THU SEP 19
HELL'S KITCHEN FUNK ORCHESTRA	SAT SEP 21
FACULTY STRING QUARTET	SUN SEP 22
LEHIGH'S MARCHING BAND '97	FRI SEP 27
FAMILY DAY  FAMILY SERIES	SAT SEP 28
<i>TROUBLE IN MIND</i>	OCT 4 - 12
KINETIC LIGHT	SAT OCT 5
TEMPLE GRANDIN	SUN OCT 13
123 ANDRÉS  FAMILY SERIES	THU OCT 17
BÉLA FLECK & ABIGAIL WASHBURN	FRI OCT 18
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA	SUN OCT 20
CHORAL ARTS	FRI OCT 25, SAT OCT 26
NOTATIONS: CLINT SMITH FREE	THU OCT 29
PLENA LIBRE	SAT NOV 2
THE PRINCETON SINGERS	SUN NOV 3
RUMPELSTILTSKIN  FAMILY SERIES	SAT NOV 9
JAZZ REPERTORY ORCHESTRA	SAT NOV 9
<i>WOLF PLAY</i>	NOV 15 - 22
NEIL BERG'S 101 YEARS OF BROADWAY	SAT NOV 16
STUDENT JAZZ CONCERT	SUN NOV 17
WIND ENSEMBLE	SUN NOV 24
THE IRISH TENORS	SUN DEC 1
PHILHARMONIC	FRI DEC 6, SAT DEC 7
CHORAL ARTS FREE	SUN DEC 8
THE NUTCRACKER	SAT DEC 14, SUN DEC 15
THE KING'S SINGERS	FRI DEC 20
CHERISH THE LADIES	SUN DEC 22

KEY: PRESENTING SERIES | MUSIC DEPARTMENT | DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

