SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM GUIDE



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These programs are made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council of the Arts.

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Welcome from the President & CEO



My Fellow Supporters of the Arts,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Bergen Performing Arts Center ("bergenPAC") to enjoy one of our many shows this season. Whether this is your first time at the theatre, or you have been with us from the beginning, I thank you for making the choice to experience the arts with us.

The mission of our not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization is to make the live performing arts and arts education accessible to a diverse community by building a creative home for artists and teachers of excellence and relevance who entertain, enlighten, inspire, and inform their audiences and students. This past year, with the help of patrons like you, we have made great strides in fulfilling that mission.

It is important to us to constantly look forward and to better our organization with the help of our patrons. We recently installed a new state-of-the-art L-Acoustics sound system that allows for uniform coverage throughout the theater, meaning no matter where you are seated the sound will be terrific! We are committed to upgrades such as these to enhance the quality of your experience and look forward to continuing to better the theater for you.

Education has always been a main priority of bergenPAC. In a time when the arts are being cut by government and schools due to a lack of funding, making the arts accessible to children is vital to our mission. bergenPAC works hard to be an educational resource for our community and has provided arts education to over 35,000 children last year alone through offerings at our Performing Arts School such as summer camps and yearly classes in theatre, music, and dance. Through our beyond bergenPAC outreach program, we bring arts education to classrooms in schools throughout nine counties, and then we bring those students to our theater to experience live shows. We are also very committed to helping deserving youth, who otherwise would not be able to attend our school, to do so through our scholarship program. To date over \$270,000 has been awarded in scholarships thanks to patrons like you.

Another goal of ours is to continue to develop unique and differentiating programs. Our Arts Access program, lauded by many as the best of its kind in the country, is an initiative developed by bergenPAC to further its mission of making the live performing arts accessible to all. By giving up to 200 free tickets away to every show, we bring joy and happiness to a very deserving segment of our community that never would have been able to come to the theater otherwise. Arts Access saw spectacular growth in the past year, as we gave out over 10,000 tickets to organizations that serve individuals throughout the state. It is with great pride that I thank our supporters for assisting us in this extraordinary program.

Legendary performance.

It's our goal, too.

We're excited to support The Bergen Performing Arts Center in providing outstanding musical performances and a home for arts and educational programs.

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Welcome from the President & CEO



A year ago we lost a part of the bergenPAC family with Sandy Bennett's passing. Sandy was instrumental in the beginning of bergenPAC in 2003, and the driving force behind the art gallery located on the mezzanine level. To memorialize her passion for emerging and local artists, the art gallery was dedicated to her on September 28, 2016. If you have not had a chance to visit the Sandy Bennett Art Gallery, take a moment during intermission or before you leave to experience the power of one person to touch so many lives.

All of this, and much more, could not be accomplished if it was not for our Volunteers and Donors. We are extremely grateful to our board, staff, sponsors, individual donors, and the nearly 1,300,000 patrons who have embraced the Arts Center as their own. bergenPAC is a staple of the community and as a true public-private partnership, relies on support from all sectors of our community; individuals, corporations, foundations, and government entities. Truly, the success, strength, and sustainability of our theater proves the axiom that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

We appreciate your help and support in keeping bergenPAC as Northern New Jersey's leading not-for-profit Performing Arts and Education Institution and hope you will continue to support us. Being located in an area with exceptional entertainment options, we thank you for choosing to come to bergenPAC and ask that you work with us to strengthen the relationship between patron and theatre. It is a blessing to have the ability to give back – please join us.

And now, sit back, and as the Beatles once said, "We hope you will enjoy the show!"

Sincerely,

Rangace

Dominic Roncace President & Chief Executive Officer

The Russell Berrie Soundation celebrates the Cultural Renaissance of New Jersey and is proud to support the bergenPAC's efforts to contribute to this renaissance.

Angelica Berrie, President The Russell Berrie Foundation



Russell Berrie 1933 - 2002



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*Emeritus



Founded on April 30, 2003, bergenPAC was formed by a small group of residents who developed a plan to revitalize the Center. Working together, our founding members built the framework to enhance the quality of life by creating a home for arts and education for families throughout Northern New Jersey.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

Frank Huttle III, *Chairman* Donald Aronson Robert Cook Sam Mann Edmondo Schwartz Chris Yegen

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The Board of Trustees of the Bergen Performing Arts Center gratefully acknowledges the Honorary Lifetime Benefactors for their significant and generous contributions.

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Our Mission

Bergen Performing Arts Center (bergenPAC) is a theater of and for the community that it serves throughout northern New Jersey, by being a creative focus, educational resource, and engine of economic vitality. A not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, bergenPAC's mission is to make live performing arts and arts education accessible to its diverse community by building a creative home for artists and teachers of excellence and relevance who entertain, enlighten, inspire, and inform their audiences and students. bergenPAC, as the leading cultural and arts educational institution in Northern New Jersey, shall guide and liberate the imagination of our youth and expand the lives of our adults.

Infrared Hearing Assist Systems

In order to make your experience at the Bergen Performing Arts Center more enjoyable, infared hearing assist systems are available free of charge in the lobby. Generously donated by Northern Valley ENT Hearing Aid Specialists.



Public Relations & Social Media Manager

Director of Marketing



Our Arts Access Initiative has provided 15,000 tickets – 50 to 200 per show – to organizations who serve individuals of all ages who would otherwise be unable to experience the live performing arts.

Arts Access Initiative

The Arts Access Initiative is a program developed by bergenPAC, in an effort to enhance the quality of life of the residents in our diverse community, to further its mission of making the live performing arts accessible to all.





For more information contact artsaccess@bergenpac.org or call 201-482-8194 x18

WHAT'S INSIDE



BEYOND BERGENPAC

Learn about "beyond bergenPAC," our arts education outreach program that has brought the arts to 97 schools in 65 school districts across 9 counties.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Get a sneek peak into all of the upcoming shows, including Grammy nominated artist, Regina Spektor.





SPECIAL OFFERS

Take advantage of special offers only available to bergenPAC patrons.

SCHOOL TIME SERIES

View the upcoming year's School Time Series line up - a program that buses in over 4,500 students to experience the liver performing arts.



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Benzel-Busch is a supporter of the arts in our community and values our long-term partnership with the BergenPAC. We understand the importance of the BergenPAC to Englewood and Northern New Jersey and are committed to its success.

We thank the BergenPAC for providing a home for innovative arts and educational programs via their Performing Arts School.

We hope you enjoy this concert as well as many other world-class performances throughout the year.



History of Bergen Performing Arts Center



The theatre you are seated in originally opened as the Englewood Plaza movie theatre on November 22, 1926. United Artists purchased the building in 1967 and kept the doors open through 1973, when it closed. Through the efforts of a group of local citizens under the leadership of John Harms, the John Harms Center came to life on October 10, 1976 with the performance of the Russian pianist, Lazar Berman.

John Harms (1906-1981) an organist and teacher, began his career as an impresario in 1941, arranging concert appearances in North Jersey of many famous and lesser-known artists. A one-man operation, he selected and booked performers, rented the performance space, wrote press releases, and personally telephoned or corralled over 1,200 contacts. His dream of a concert hall of his own became a reality when the Plaza came on the market. In the 1990's, two major renovation projects turned the Plaza into a modern concert hall and media facility, while preserving the vintage acoustics that made it a unique sought-after performance and recording site. The John Harms Center was one of the largest performing arts centers in New Jersey and the largest arts center in Northern New Jersey. Its closing on April 14, 2003 left a gaping hole in the area's cultural life.

In the fall of 2004, the Bergen Performing Arts Center ("bergenPAC") reopened the doors of the former John Harms Center. Founded on April 30, 2003, a small group of dedicated individuals led by Frank Huttle III, were determined to preserve this special theatre that had brought some of the world's finest performing artists "right next door" for so many years. Through the creativity and commitment of bergenPAC's new founders, the doors of this historic institution were reopened, enhancing the spirit and tradition of its original founders. A public/private partnership was formed between the City of Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey State agencies and private performing arts patrons and donors. This mission driven team worked together with its supporters to build the framework of the bergenPAC you know today.

Today the bergenPAC presents over 200 performances reaching over 150,000 patrons each year. The Performing Arts School at bergenPAC teaches over 1,200 students dance, theater, and music throughout the year. With students being in close proximity to the rest of the performing arts center, they have an exceptional opportunity to receive unique "hands-on" arts training by industry professionals. This allows them to gain real world experience and enhance academic achievement through the arts as well as opportunities to perform on the theatre's main stage and throughout the county. bergenPAC's programming extends to approximately 100 schools throughout the region, including under resourced school districts, with emphasis on bringing arts to special needs and uniquely challenged children and adults.

Through its board, staff, volunteers and partners, bergenPAC strives to continually enhance the performing arts center and make it accessible and affordable to all. Thank you for supporting YOUR bergenPAC.

Where would we all be without an arts education?



Jennifer Peterson, future designer/web developer



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Through the Summer Musical program, students have the opportunity to work with industry professionals who have outstanding accolades.

Summer Musical

Each year the Performing Arts School at bergenPAC presents the annual pre-professional summer musical featuring an all student cast, technical crew, and orchestra. Students learn dance, theater, music, costuming, lighting and sound, show operations and promotions. This year's musical production is *West Side Story*. Past musicals inslude: *FAME*, *Children of Eden*, *42nd Street*, *CATS*, *AIDA* and *Les Misèrables* School Edition.



THE PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL For more information contact education@bergenpac.org or call 201-482-8194 x78.

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UPCOMING SHOWS New shows added weekly! Buy at the Box Office tonight! Check back at bergenPAC.org for all new events. Please note that programs. dates. and artists are subject to change.

AUGUST

4	Fri	8PM	West Side Story presented by The Performing Arts School at bergenPAC
5	Sat	8PM	West Side Story presented by The Performing Arts School at bergenPAC
6	Sun	3PM	West Side Story presented by The Performing Arts School at bergenPAC
8	Tues	8PM	Gordon Lightfoot In Concert
10	Thur	8PM	The New York Bee Gees
12	Sat	8PM	JJCC US Live Tour
16	Wed	8PM	Donny & Marie
17	Thur	8PM	Queensrÿche with special guest Killcode
19	Sat	8PM	Charlie Zaa
24	Thur	8PM	Classic Albums Live: Creedence Clearwater Revival



Gordon Lightfoot



Queen Latifah



Peppa Pig Live!



Stephen Stills & Judy Collins

SEPTEMBER

5	Tues	7:30PM	Scott Brothers House Party
8	Fri	8PM	Tom Jones 2017 Fall Gala • Benzel-Busch Concert Series
15	Fri	8PM	Girls Night: The Musical
16	Sat	8PM	Queen Latifah Season Opener Celebration • Benzel-Busch Concert Series
17	Sun	8PM	The Simon & Garfunkel Story
23	Sat	8PM	Robby Krieger of The Doors
27	Wed	8PM	Paul Anka Benzel-Busch Concert Series
28	Thur	6:30PM	Shopkins Live! Tour presented by Koba Entertainment & Moose Toys
30	Sat	8PM	Classic Albums Live: RUSH - 2112

OCTOBER

1	Sun	3PM	James Van Praagh
5	Thur	8PM	Steven Wright
6	Fri	8PM	The Midtown Men
7	Sat	8PM	Gilberto Santa Rosa
9	Mon	3&6PM	Peppa Pig Live!
13	Fri	8PM	Stephen Stills & Judy Collins
14	Sat	8PM	Blondie presented by WFUV
15	Sun	3PM	Verismo Opera presents Puccini's Tosca



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UPCOMING SHOWS New shows added weekly! Buy at the Box Office tonight! Check back at bergenPAC.org for all new events. Please note that programs, dates, and artists are subject to change.



OCTOBER (cont'd)

18	Wed	8PM	Sergio Mendes
20	Fri	7:30&10PM	Brian Regan A Co-Presentation with Live Nation
21	Sat	8PM	Itzhak Perlman Benzel-Busch Concert Series
22	Sun	8PM	Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis sponsored by NVE Bank
24	Tues	8PM	Pink Martini with singer China Forbes presented by WFUV
27	Fri	8PM	Tracy Morgan: Live On Stage 2017

NOVEMBER

3	Fri	8PM	Martin Sexton Trio
5	Sun	8PM	Dennis DeYoung of Styx
11	Sat	3&7PM	Popovich Comedy Pet Theater
14	Tues	8PM	Chicago
17	Fri	8PM	Regina Spektor presented by WFUV
26	Sun	8PM	Celtic Thunder Symphony Tour
30	Thur	7:30PM	NJSO: Hough plays Rachmaninoff

DECEMBER

2	Sat	1&4:30PM	New Jersey Ballet's Nutcracker
3	Sun	1&4:30PM	New Jersey Ballet's Nutcracker
6	Wed	7:30PM	Maccabeats
8	Fri	8PM	Jim Breuer
9	Sat	8PM	Ramsey Lewis & John Pizzarelli
16	Sat	8PM	The Wizards of Winter
17	Sun	1&4PM	A Christmas Carol
19	Tues	8PM	Jewel's Holiday Homecoming Tour on SALE SOON!





Tracy Morgan



Popovich Comedy Pet Theater



Jim Breuer

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The Sandy Bennett Art Gallery at Bergen Performing Arts Center is dedicated to exhibiting the work of local artists of all ages and backgrounds and enriching the community through the Fine Arts. It is funded completely through the support of patrons. Many exhibited pieces are for sale and 30% of the proceeds go to further the mission of the bergenPAC and the Gallery. LOCATED ON THE MEZZANINE LEVEL

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Each season we continue to grow our programs through our concert presentations, the Performing Arts School, the Arts Access program, and the Sandy Bennett Art Gallery. We could not do any of this work without the generosity of the many volunteers who donate their time and talents to bergenPAC.

> Thank you, bergenPAC Board of Trustees & Staff

*Volunteer Coordinators

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47% of schools served through the School Time Series program receive Title-I funding for low-income students.

School Time Series

Students grades K-12 have the opportunity to experience live performing arts on the main stage at bergenPAC through the School Time Series Program. A series of age-appropriate productions are presented that supplement the lessons being learned in students' core classes and for many, this the first time they have been to a theater.



These programs are made possible in part by the generous support of



bergen Paces Bergen Performing Arts Center A Nonprofit Organization

THE PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL For more information contact outreach@bergenpac.org or call 201-482-8194 x71.

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PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

The Bergen Performing Arts Center (bergenPAC) is northern New Jersey's home for arts and education. At bergenPAC, we have something for everyone...



WHAT YOUR SPONSORSHIP SUPPORTS

Becoming a sponsor with bergenPAC not only helps promote your business, but also helps bergenPAC to provide access to the performing arts and arts education to children and families in our community who would otherwise be unable to participate because of financial, cognitive or physical barriers.



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Call Membership at (201) 816-8160, ext. 16 or email development@bergenpac.org for more information.



bergenPAC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which means that we rely on your support to bridge the gap between ticket sales and operating costs. A membership at bergenPAC helps us to provide access to the performing arts and arts education to children and families in our community who would otherwise be unable to participate because of financial, cognitive, social or physical barriers.

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