2019–2020
SEASON
WHARTON
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
WHARTON CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS
EACH OF US HAS A STORY

A story that begins with walking into Wharton Center. It could be the story of your first date, or when your grandparents took you to see a play for your 12th birthday, or the first time you discovered you loved jazz. These experiences inspire and can forever change us.

Wharton Center continues to offer experiences that will add to your story. The 2019-2020 season’s offerings can be found on the pages that follow. You will find opportunities to engage with performances in the seats or in workshops, opportunities to provide kids with their first exposure to the performing arts, and events that will introduce you to new and inspiring performances.

Now is the opportunity to join Wharton Center as a season subscriber or to renew your subscription. Becoming a season subscriber simply means you purchase all five Broadway events or five or more Performing Arts events. As a subscriber, you’re guaranteed priority seating to the events you choose with your subscription at a special subscriber rate. It also allows you to gain first access to events added throughout the year, ongoing savings on tickets, and special discounts at local retailers and restaurants with Wharton Center’s Subscriber Discount Card.

For more information on packages, pricing and seating priority, see the order form.
Broadway’s *Come From Away* is a Best Musical winner all across North America! This New York Times Critics’ Pick takes you into the heart of the remarkable true story of 7,000 stranded passengers and the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed them. Cultures clashed and nerves ran high, but uneasiness turned into trust, music soared into the night, and gratitude grew into enduring friendships.

Don’t miss this breathtaking new musical written by Tony® nominees Irene Sankoff and David Hein, and helmed by 2018 Tony® winning Best Director, Christopher Ashley. Newsweek cheers, “It takes you to a place you never want to leave!”

On 9/11, the world stopped.
On 9/12, their stories moved us all.
Cameron Mackintosh presents the new production of Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg’s Tony® Award-winning musical phenomenon, Les Misérables, direct from the acclaimed two-and-a-half-year return to Broadway. Set against the backdrop of 19th-century France, Les Misérables tells an unforgettable story of heartbreak, passion, and resilience of the human spirit. Featuring the beloved songs “I Dreamed A Dream,” “On My Own,” “Stars,” “Bring Him Home,” “One Day More” and many others, this epic and uplifting story has become one of the most celebrated musicals in theatrical history. With its glorious new staging and dazzlingly reimagined scenery inspired by the paintings of Victor Hugo, this breathtaking new production has left both audiences and critics awestruck. “Les Miz is born again!” (NYT)
Discover a whole new world at Disney’s Aladdin, the hit Broadway musical. From the producer of The Lion King comes the timeless story of Aladdin, a thrilling new production filled with unforgettable beauty, magic, comedy and breathtaking spectacle. It’s an extraordinary theatrical event where one lamp and three wishes make the possibilities infinite. See why audiences and critics agree, Aladdin is “Exactly What You Wish For!” (NBC-TV).

COBB GREAT HALL
DECEMBER 4-10*, 2019

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, 7:30PM
THURSDAY, 2PM
THURSDAY, 7:30PM CC
FRIDAY, 8PM
SATURDAY, 2PM & 8PM
SUNDAY, 1PM (by request) & 6:30PM
*SUBSCRIBER PERFORMANCES
DISNEY’S ALADDIN FULL RUN: DECEMBER 4-15
From Lincoln Center Theater, that brought you The King & I and South Pacific, comes “a sumptuous new production of the most perfect musical of all time” (Entertainment Weekly), Lerner & Loewe’s My Fair Lady. Director Bartlett Sher’s glowing production is “thrilling, glorious and better than it ever was” (New York Times). “Every so often a revival comes along that reminds you how indispensable great theater can be” (NY1).

Boasting such classic songs as “I Could Have Danced All Night,” “The Rain in Spain,” “Wouldn’t It Be Loverly” and “On the Street Where You Live,” My Fair Lady tells the story of Eliza Doolittle, a young Cockney flower seller, and Henry Higgins, a linguistics professor who is determined to transform her into his idea of a “proper lady.” But who is really being transformed?
WINNER OF SIX 2017 TONY AWARDS® INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL AND THE 2018 GRAMMY AWARD® FOR BEST MUSICAL THEATER ALBUM.

A letter that was never meant to be seen, a lie that was never meant to be told, a life he never dreamed he could have. Evan Hansen is about to get the one thing he’s always wanted: a chance to finally fit in. Dear Evan Hansen is the deeply personal and profoundly contemporary musical about life and the way we live it.

Dear Evan Hansen has struck a remarkable chord with audiences and critics everywhere, including The Washington Post, who says Dear Evan Hansen is “one of the most remarkable shows in musical theatre history.” The New York Times calls it “a gut-punching, breathtaking knockout of a musical.” And NBC Nightly News declares the musical “an anthem resonating on Broadway and beyond.”

Dear Evan Hansen features a book by Tony Award® winner Steven Levenson, a score by Grammy®, Tony® and Academy Award® winners Benj Pasek and Justin Paul (La La Land, The Greatest Showman), and direction by four-time Tony Award® nominee Michael Greif (Rent, Next to Normal).
So much happened before Dorothy dropped in.

Wicked, the Broadway sensation, looks at what happened in the Land of Oz…but from a different angle. Long before Dorothy arrives, there is another young woman, born with emerald-green skin—smart, fiery, misunderstood, and possessing an extraordinary talent. When she meets a bubbly blonde who is exceptionally popular, their initial rivalry turns into the unlikeliest of friendships...until the world decides to call one “good,” and the other one “wicked.”

From the first electrifying note to the final breathtaking moment, Wicked—the untold true story of the Witches of Oz—transfixes audiences with its wildly inventive story that USA Today cheers is “a complete triumph! An original musical that will make you laugh, cry, and think.”
COBB GREAT HALL
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019, 8PM

“...with musicians like this there must be some hope for humanity.” —The Times (London)

The Emerson String Quartet stands on its own in the history of string quartets, having amassed an unparalleled list of achievements over four decades: more than thirty acclaimed recordings, nine Grammys®, three Gramophone Awards, the Avery Fisher Prize, Musical America’s Ensemble of the Year and collaborations with many of the greatest artists of our time. This groundbreaking ensemble has a well-earned place in the music world. Returning to Wharton Center after 10 years, this special performance features Haydn’s charming String Quartet in D Major, “The Frog” (named for the clever arrangement in the finale); Dvořák’s popular folk music inspired String Quartet No. 10 in E-flat Major, Op. 51; and Beethoven’s emotion-filled and technically acrobatic “Razumovsky” Quartet, Op. 59, No. 2.

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union.
Media Sponsor: WKAR.

COBB GREAT HALL
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019, 8PM

“Beautiful...stark, aggressive, ethereal, playful, thoughtful” —Houston Culture Map

Over the course of their 20+ year career, Imani Winds has discovered what audiences value most from their concerts: a sense of connection—with the music, the performers, the composers, the artistry and beyond. Seamlessly navigating between classical, jazz and world music, no other quintet has forged such a unique, dynamic path through the chamber music landscape. Their clear commitment to promoting diversity in the arts, while still embracing the tradition of the wind quintet repertoire, yields a powerful marriage of the past and the present.

The performance features Ligeti’s spirited Six Bagatelles, Reena Esmail’s India-inspired The Light is the Same, John Harbison’s graceful, melodic Quintet for Winds, Lalo Shifrin’s jazz-inspired La Nouvelle Orleans and more.

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union.
Media sponsor: WKAR.
COBB GREAT HALL
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020, 7:30PM
FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2020, 8PM

Two breathtaking, all-Beethoven programs of solo piano treasures with American piano phenomenon Jonathan Biss. A true virtuoso, Biss is widely hailed for his deeply felt musical interpretations and award-winning recordings, approaching music with a scholar’s curiosity and a master storyteller’s knack for captivating the ears and minds of his audience.

These very special performances are part of the pianist’s years-long celebration of Beethoven’s piano sonatas, recording all 32 sonatas and performing them around the world. From the brilliant lightness of Beethoven’s “Pastoral” Piano Sonata, the playful yet deeply emotional “Hunt” Sonata, to the “Hammerklavier,” considered one of Beethoven’s most important works and one of the greatest piano sonatas of all time.

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union with additional support from Comprehensive Psychological Services, PC. Media Sponsor: WKAR.

JANUARY 8 PERFORMANCE:

Piano Sonata No. 15 in D Major, “Pastoral”
Piano Sonata No. 20 in G Major, Op. 49, No. 2
Piano Sonata No. 3 in C Major, Op. 2, No. 3
Piano Sonata No. 27 in E minor, Op. 90
Piano Sonata No. 28 in A Major, Op. 101

JANUARY 10 PERFORMANCE:

Piano Sonata No. 6 in F Major, Op. 10, No. 2
Piano Sonata No. 10 in G Major, Op. 14, No. 2
Piano Sonata No. 29 in B-flat Major, Op. 106, “Hammerklavier”
One of the world’s leading chamber orchestras, the Academy of St Martin in the Fields is known for its extraordinary performances and award-winning recordings. The ensemble is led by violin superstar Joshua Bell, hailed by The Boston Globe as “the greatest American violinist active today,” in a performance featuring Brahms’ last symphony and possibly his greatest, the majestic Fourth Symphony. The evening also includes Paganini’s Violin Concerto No. 1, a musical firework of a piece that must be heard live, especially performed by Joshua Bell.

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union with additional support from Brogan, Reed, Van Gorder & Associates/Ohio National Financial Services; and ProAssurance Casualty Company.

Media Sponsor: WKAR.

Five-time Grammy® nominated artist Michael Feinstein is well known as the Ambassador of the Great American Songbook. Lauded for his Emmy© nominated PBS specials, NPR series and concerts spanning the globe, Feinstein delighted audiences in his last appearance at Wharton Center nearly 10 years ago. He joins forces with vocal powerhouse and force to be reckoned with, Storm Large, for an unforgettable evening of music. Storm Large, the longtime lead singer of popular music group Pink Martini, and Feinstein will pay tribute to a wide range of artists such as Al Green, Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, James Taylor, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson and many others, joined by a stellar five-piece band.

Sponsored by The Doctors Company with additional support from Foresight Group; Plante Moran, PLLC; and Wolverine Development Corporation.

Media Sponsor: Michigan Radio.
BE PART OF THE STORY

Waiting in the audience for the opening of a Broadway blockbuster, feeling the buzz of anticipation. Standing in the lobby, waiting to cheer for a child who just stepped onstage for the first time. Leaping to your feet to offer a standing ovation to a brilliant musician.

The inspiring performances and innovative education programs leave each of us with a story to tell. Sharing our stories and experiencing art together is part of a richer and more purposeful life. Your support makes that possible. Give today and become a part of the story.

BECOME A CIRCLE MEMBER

Your ongoing commitment sustains programming and keeps ticket prices affordable. In recognition, you receive benefits* such as:

- Priority seating before the general public.
- Access to our private Donor Lounge.
- The opportunity to meet the cast at post-performance receptions.

Add your gift to the order form or donate online at whartoncenter.com/support.

*Benefits do not apply to all membership levels. Please refer to Circle Membership Level overview at: whartoncenter.com/support/individual/circle-membership.

CHANGE A LIFE

Remember sitting on the edge of your seat in a big theater, watching the magic of a musical unfold in front of you? Or watching your child see a live show for the first time, eyes wide, feet not yet touching the floor?

Your gift to the Seats 4 Kids Scholarship Fund will help ensure more children have their own story to tell by providing free tickets to economically-challenged youth and families. Individuals with autism spectrum disorder and their families also receive free tickets through this fund to attend Sensory-Friendly Performances.

Please support Seats 4 Kids today with a gift on your order form.

CREATE A LASTING IMPRESSION

Wharton Center is constantly performing needed maintenance and upgrades to our facility. These projects are costly, but essential to our artists and your experience as a patron. Your gift to Wharton Center’s Facility Fund supports facility projects and sustains Wharton Center as a high-quality performing arts center we all can enjoy.

Wharton Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. To learn more about these programs and other ways to inspire and connect with our community through Wharton Center, please visit whartoncenter.com/support
Inspired by the words and actions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., “We Shall Overcome” showcases repertoire from across the African-American music traditions that electrified generations of civil rights activists and defenders with interwoven spoken word from Dr. King’s recorded speeches. Producer and Musical Director Damien Sneed’s production ties together a living lineage of music and culture that includes traditional gospel, modern gospel, classical, jazz, Broadway and spirituals with sensational vocalists and a stellar band.

Sponsored by The Doctors Company.
Media Sponsor: Michigan Radio.

“Their music will keep classical music alive for the next generation.” —NPR

To most people, jazz, hip-hop, funk, and classical are musical genres. But to revolutionary music group Black Violin, they’re nothing but ingredients.

Combining a daunting array of musical styles and influences to produce a signature sound that is not quite maestro, not quite emcee, this group of two classically trained musicians and their DJ is redefining the music world one string at a time.

Back by demand, Black Violin is composed of classically trained violist Wil B. and violinist Kev Marcus, who combine their classical training and hip-hop influences to create a distinctive multi-genre sound that is often described as “classical boom.”

Sponsored by The Doctors Company with additional support from Lansing Board of Water and Light.
Media sponsor: Michigan Radio.
TAO: DRUM HEART

COBB GREAT HALL
FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020, 8PM

“Extraordinarily talented...incomparable muscular zeal”
—Chicago Tribune

“Undoubtedly one of the finest shows on offer”
—Edinburgh Evening News

An athletic ensemble and dazzling costumes meet explosive Taiko drumming and innovative choreography. With hundreds of sold-out events and more than a million spectators, TAO’s traditional art of Japanese drumming combined with spectacular modern effects has audiences clamoring for more. The performers live and train at a compound in the mountains of Japan, reaching the highest level of virtuosity after years of intensive study. They offer a young and vibrantly modern take on a traditional art form.

Sponsored by The Doctors Company.
Media Sponsor: Michigan Radio.
PASANT THEATRE
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020, 7:30PM

“a complete joy” —All Music Guide

The Klezmatics are globally-renowned world music superstars — and the only klezmer band to win a Grammy Award®. The Klezmatics emerged out of the vibrant cultural scene of New York City’s East Village in 1986, with klezmer steeped in Eastern European Jewish tradition and spirituality, while incorporating contemporary themes such as human rights and eclectic musical influences including Arab, African, Latin and Balkan rhythms, jazz and punk. In the course of over twenty years and nine albums, they have continued making music that is wild, mystical, provocative, reflective and ecstatically danceable.

Sponsored by The Doctors Company.
Media Sponsor: Michigan Radio.

COBB GREAT HALL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020, 7:30PM

“Davina is a modern day, female version of Louis Armstrong.” —Elmore Magazine

“The timing, swing, and chemistry of [Hot Club of Cowtown] is a joy to behold.” —Guitarist

The music of World War II, anchored by swing, Big Band and jazz, helped define an era when nations clashed around the world. With music focusing on romance and strength, along with the proliferation of the radio, music built morale and provided comfort to soldiers and civilians alike. And for those without access to a radio, the U.S. War Department sent recordings overseas for soldiers. “We’re making these V-Discs just for you,” the Andrews Sisters say on a disc addressing U.S. troops. “And along with them, we wanna send all our love and kisses” in a recording of “The Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.”

This very special performance joins two spectacular groups: Davina and the Vagabonds, who brought the house down in their debut at Wharton Center in 2018, and the swinging music of the Hot Club of Cowtown. They come together and step into a wondrous musical time machine to cut a rug, celebrate the Greatest Generation, and hear the music that got us through.

Sponsored by The Doctors Company with additional support from Governmental Consultant Services; and L.O. Eye Care.
Media sponsor: Michigan Radio.
PASANT THEATRE  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019, 8PM

“Keiko Matsui is appreciated not just as an artist but as a humanitarian. She dedicates every song she writes to causes that move her...” —NPR

“My melodies are my living testimony,” declares internationally acclaimed pianist, composer and humanitarian Keiko Matsui. A world citizen, Matsui’s music speaks to the hearts and souls of fans around the world, transcending borders and building bridges among people who share a common appreciation of honest artistry and cultural exchange. A master storyteller, Keiko Matsui crafts passionate and emotive songs with lush harmonies and global rhythms to create timeless musical anthems.

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union.

COBB GREAT HALL  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020, 7:30PM

A National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master, Kenny Barron has an unmatched ability to mesmerize audiences with his elegant playing, sensitive melodies and infectious rhythms. Hailed as “One of the top jazz pianists in the world” by the LA Times and “The most lyrical piano player of our time” by Jazz Weekly, the chance to experience this jazz legend live is one not to miss. Barron is joined by his stellar trio partners Kiyoshi Kitagawa on bass and Johnathan Blake on drums. The performance starts off with trumpet wiz Sean Jones and the Sean Jones Quartet. No stranger to Wharton Center audiences, Jones was lead trumpet with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra for many years and toured extensively with Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter. As a bandleader, he records with Detroit’s own Mack Avenue Records. Experience the best in jazz with this very special performance!

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union.
An irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard’s plays, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised]* was London’s longest-running comedy, clocking a very palpable nine years in London’s West End! Join these madcap men in tights as they weave their wicked way through all of Shakespeare’s Comedies, Histories and Tragedies in one wild ride that will leave you breathless and helpless with laughter. In the spirit of Shakespeare himself, RSC shows contain some occasional bawdy language and mild innuendo.

RSC has chosen to rate its shows PG-13: Pretty Good If You’re Thirteen.

A New York Times Critics’ Pick and the Scotsman Fringe First Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (and recurrent sold-out seasons at the Fringe Festival), *Basic Training* is a theatrical mix of storytelling, breakdancing, redemption and comedy. This outstanding one-man show by Kahlil Ashanti tells the true story of his hilarious experience as a member of a military entertainment troupe, Tops in Blue. As Ashanti begins a new life in the U.S. Air Force, a shocking revelation forces his attention home to face a childhood he’s trying to leave behind. Twenty-three unforgettable characters guide you through this incredible true tale of survival and redemption, all experienced through Ashanti’s rapid-fire physical talent and comedy. Best suited for ages 14 and up.

---

**PASANT THEATRE**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2019, 7:30PM**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019, 7:30PM**

“If you like Shakespeare, you’ll like this show. If you hate Shakespeare, you’ll love this show!”

—The Today Show

**PASANT THEATRE**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020, 7:30PM**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020, 8PM**

Media Sponsor: Michigan Radio.
ILLUMINATE

The performing arts entertain, tell stories, and create connections. These Illuminate performances explore the complexities and frailties of human interaction.

THRILL ME:
THE LEOPOLD & LOEB STORY

Book, Music and Lyrics by Stephen Dolginoff
Directed by Bert Goldstein
A Wharton Center Theatre Production

PASANT THEATRE
FEBRUARY 12-16, 2020
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, 7:30PM
FRIDAY, 8PM AND SUNDAY, 1:30PM

“A brilliant, unforgettable musical...Sends chills down the spine. Intoxicating.” —Talkin’ Broadway

A potent tale from history with a twist of artistic focus as it traces the hopes, fears, dreams and desires of Nathan Leopold. In flashback, Leopold tells the parole board how he and Richard Loeb planned what they considered to be the perfect crime—with horrifying results. Exploring the power dynamics and manipulation between the two, Thrill Me features haunting music and taut dialogue as the complicated web created by Chicago’s notorious “thrill killers” unfolds. This Wharton Center Theatre Production features unique minimalist staging with some of the audience sharing the Pasant stage with the performers. Contains adult themes and situations. Best suited for ages 15 and up.

Sponsored by University Outreach & Engagement with additional support from April Clabes & Glen Brough; and Jack & Susan Davis.

OF EQUAL PLACE:
ISOTOPES IN MOTION

PASANT THEATRE
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020, 1:00PM

Of Equal Place: Isotopes in Motion will present an exhilarating performance that combines dance, video, and physics while featuring professional dancers and guest performances by local youth. The show highlights the wonders of science and illuminates the research at the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) and was inspired by Dance Exchange’s critically acclaimed work The Matter of Origins. Following the performance, audience members are invited to participate in a series of activities which explore dance, physics, and FRIB.

Performed by Dance Exchange and Happendance and co-directed by Elizabeth Johnson and Keith Thompson, in collaboration with Wharton Center Institute for Arts & Creativity and Women & Minorities in the Physical Sciences. Underwritten by the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams at Michigan State University with additional support by MSU University Outreach and Engagement, Science and Society at MSU and Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation.

Tickets available later in the season.
ACT ONE

THE JUNGLE BOOK

PASANT THEATRE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019
1:30PM AND 4PM
Recommended for ages 6-10

From the creators of Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea comes a new theatrical adaptation of Rudyard Kipling’s Jungle Book, re-imagining the classic stories through modern eyes to transport audiences to the world’s jungles. Using a rich soundscape and immersive multimedia, Jungle Book features your favorite characters like you’ve never seen them before as it delves deep into the original themes of the story, like our relationships to the animal kingdom.

DINO-LIGHT

COBB GREAT HALL
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020
1:30PM AND 4PM
Recommended for ages 6-11

In this original storyline, a famous scientist with magic powers brings a friendly dinosaur to life. When the dinosaur wanders away from home, he discovers a wonderful world full of creatures that light up the darkness and help him find the true meaning of love. This glow-in-the-dark adventure is visually amazing and has been praised for its cutting-edge blend of puppetry, technology and dance by audiences all over the world.

DOGMAN: THE MUSICAL

COBB GREAT HALL
SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020
1:30PM AND 4PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020, 1:30PM SF
Recommended for ages 6-11

A hilarious new musical based on The New York Times #1 bestselling series from Dav Pilkey featuring the crime-biting canine who is part dog, part man and ALL HERO! He’s ready to take on Petey the Cat, the felonious feline who’s always hacking up harebrained schemes. Songs for the show by Kevin Del Aguila, a New York Outer Critics Circle Award nominee for Altar Boyz, and Brad Alexander, an Emmy® winner for Peg + Cat.

MISS NELSON HAS A FIELD DAY

PASANT THEATRE
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020
1:30PM AND 4PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020, 1:30PM SF
Recommended for ages 5-11

This fun-filled musical, featuring the Dallas Children’s Theatre, takes us to Horace B. Smedley School where the Smedley Tornadoes have never won a football game. In fact, they have never even scored a single point! With such a poor record and a team that is out of control, kind-hearted Miss Nelson comes to the rescue when she enlists the help of her alter ego, the ill-tempered Miss Viola Swamp, to coach the team and whip them into shape.
**DANCE**

**COBB GREAT HALL**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019, 7:30PM**

Part dance, part acrobatics, part Cirque du Soleil, the internationally-renowned dance company Pilobolus clearly stands out from other dance companies. The dancers’ mind-blowing athleticism, combined with their unique contortions of human form and the way they leap, fly and intertwine with each other seem to break all rules of physical ability. It’s that sort of un-traditionalism that defines the Pilobolus experience. “If the dance world has a summer movie blockbuster equivalent, it must be Pilobolus,” writes the Associated Press. Pilobolus has been seen virtually everywhere, from the Academy Awards® to advertisements, TV programs and a featured story on 60 Minutes. Now in its 48th season, Pilobolus makes its long-awaited return to Wharton Center for one night only.

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union.

**COBB GREAT HALL**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020, 2PM SF**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020, 8PM**

The exuberant personality and joyous movement of Parsons Dance fuses the movement of modern dance with the discipline and precision of a classic ballet company. Known for engaging and uplifting works of incredible artistry, Parsons Dance was formed by dance legend David Parsons, whom The New York Times called “one of the great movers of modern dance.” This athletic ensemble creates a spirited evening of dance for all ages.

“Parsons and his company are one of the hottest tickets in contemporary dance... they are all terrific performers, energized...Parsons provides choreography that’s consistently intelligent, witty, well-crafted, and humane.” —The Toronto Star

Sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union.
L. Frank Baum’s tale of family, friendship and courage is vividly brought to life by choreographer Septime Webre in The Wizard of Oz. In this gorgeously imagined production, join Dorothy, the Scarecrow, Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion as they journey down the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City with stunning sets, costumes, puppetry, projections and music.

Story lines and visual elements from the classic motion picture The Wizard of Oz provided by Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures.

Sponsored by The Doctors Company with additional support from Maner Costerisan.
SPOTLIGHT DINNERS:
Enjoy a delicious buffet meal while learning about the evening’s program prior to the following performances. The price for each dinner is $55.00 – order with your subscription.

Come From Away .................................................. Wednesday, September 11, 2019
We Shall Overcome ................................................ Friday, February 14, 2020

INSIGHT PREVIEWS:
Don’t miss FREE pre-performance informative talks presented by topic experts or company members 45 minutes prior to these events:

Emerson String Quartet ........................................ Friday, October 18, 2019
Imani Winds ....................................................... Friday, November 08, 2019
Kenny Barron Trio & Sean Jones Quartet ................ Thursday, January 30, 2020
Basic Training ..................................................... Friday, January 31, 2020
Thrill Me ............................................................. Thursday, February 13, 2020
The Klezmatics .................................................... Thursday, March 26, 2020
Davina & The Vagabonds and Hot Club of Cowtown ........................................ Wednesday, May 13, 2020

AFTER CHATS:
Join conversations with artists* inside the theatre immediately following each Thursday Broadway performance, and after these events:

Broadway performances ........................................ Thursday evenings
Pilobolus ............................................................ Wednesday, October 30, 2019
Basic Training ..................................................... Thursday, January 30, 2020
Thrill Me ............................................................. Wednesday, February 12, 2020
Parsons Dance (evening performance) ...................... Saturday, February 22, 2020

*Please note that performer participants will vary. Wharton Center does not guarantee any specific artist or company member’s participation. See whartoncenter.com for schedule changes and updates throughout the season. No need to RSVP for Insight Previews or After Chats.
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DURING PERFORMANCES

Our staff is trained to assist patrons through multiple emergency situations. Please note, concealed weapons and firearms are prohibited within the facility by Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 28.425o (1)(f).

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT:
Wharton Center offers a diverse selection of arts entertainment. Not all productions may appeal to or be appropriate for every person or for all ages. Therefore, patrons are responsible for making informed decisions regarding their ticket purchases.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: Many Wharton Center programs are offered for youth and families. Ticket policies may vary based on programming; in general, a ticket is required regardless of age. Please review this brochure for age recommendations or contact the Wharton Center Ticket Office for more information regarding age appropriateness and/or ticket policies for each of our programs.

START TIME AND LATECOMERS: Wharton Center and guest artists work together to minimize distractions once a program begins. Late-arriving patrons may be seated at the rear of the theatre OR not at all once the performance begins. Please refer to our “Tips” email for relevant information sent prior to each performance.

PARKING: Detailed directions and parking information will be mailed with your tickets.

Additional information regarding Wharton Center Policies is available on Wharton Center’s website: whartoncenter.com/plan-your-visit

Call (517) 884-3119 for more information on the above services or to inquire about additional patron services at Wharton Center.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DURING PERFORMANCES

Our staff is trained to assist patrons through multiple emergency situations. Please note, concealed weapons and firearms are prohibited within the facility by Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 28.425o (1)(f).

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT:
Wharton Center offers a diverse selection of arts entertainment. Not all productions may appeal to or be appropriate for every person or for all ages. Therefore, patrons are responsible for making informed decisions regarding their ticket purchases.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: Many Wharton Center programs are offered for youth and families. Ticket policies may vary based on programming; in general, a ticket is required regardless of age. Please review this brochure for age recommendations or contact the Wharton Center Ticket Office for more information regarding age appropriateness and/or ticket policies for each of our programs.

START TIME AND LATECOMERS: Wharton Center and guest artists work together to minimize distractions once a program begins. Late-arriving patrons may be seated at the rear of the theatre OR not at all once the performance begins. Please refer to our “Tips” email for relevant information sent prior to each performance.

PARKING: Detailed directions and parking information will be mailed with your tickets.

Additional information regarding Wharton Center Policies is available on Wharton Center’s website: whartoncenter.com/plan-your-visit

Call (517) 884-3119 for more information on the above services or to inquire about additional patron services at Wharton Center.

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Please alert the Ticket Office when requesting any of the following services with your ticket order.

Services for patrons and visitors with mobility disabilities:

- Barrier-Free Parking
- Drop-off
- Curb to Seat Service
- Accessible seating
- Accessible restrooms

Services for patrons and visitors who are deaf or hard of hearing:

- Assistive Listening Devices
- Open Captioning
- Sign Language Interpretation

Services for patrons and visitors who are blind or have low vision:

- Audio Description

SF Sensory-Friendly Performances

These live performances in a supportive and welcoming environment make theatre accessible to those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other sensory sensitivities. Performances supported by Delta Dental of Michigan.
For more information, log on to WHARTONCENTER.COM or call 1.800.WHARTON
Subscribe today and save!