



Arizona Musicfest

NEWS RELEASE

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ARIZONA MUSICFEST 28TH SEASON BRINGS SHOW-STOPPING LINEUP TO THE NORTH VALLEY

The 28th annual Arizona Musicfest festival season brings a diverse lineup of exceptional artists to Valley audiences from country superstar **Wynonna Judd** to legendary music icon **Neil Sedaka**. Arizona Musicfest's 2018-19 Festival Season includes 27 performances from November 2 through March 15.

Festival highlights also include Broadway's leading man, **Brian Stokes Mitchell**; stars of The Venetian Las Vegas, **Human Nature**; jazz trumpet legend **Herb Alpert** and Grammy Award-winning singer **Lani Hall**; and **Lonesome Traveler** with special guest **Peter Yarrow**, of Peter, Paul and Mary, performing a journey through American folk music from the hills of Appalachia to the nightclubs of New York. Stellar ensembles coming to the Musicfest stage include the legendary **Count Basie Orchestra**, as well as swing greats **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy**.

Highlighting this year's **Festival Orchestra Week** are two momentous concerts featuring violin virtuoso **Gil Shaham** and the **Violins of Hope**, a rare collection of restored violins from the Holocaust. **The Festival Orchestra**, under the direction of Maestro Robert Moody, is comprised of musicians from the nation's finest orchestras. This ensemble will perform six concerts in February, including works by Tchaikovsky, Dvorak, Bach, and Mahler. Award-winning American pianist **Andrew von Oeyen** joins the Orchestra for Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 3*.

"Arizona Musicfest has experienced tremendous growth over the last few years," said Arizona Musicfest Executive and Producing Director Allan Naplan. "With a continued expansion of our Festival concert programming, including more performances than ever before with top level artists, we look forward to providing another exciting season!"

Tickets for all Arizona Musicfest performances go on sale July 16 at azmusicfest.org or by calling (480) 422-8449.

Arizona Musicfest Fall Fest (Nov. 2-18, 2018)

Billy Joel 2 Elton John: A Tribute Concert

Nov. 2 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$67/\$53/\$37/\$24

This powerhouse line-up featuring Kenny Metcalf (Elton John) and Patrick Farrell (Billy Joel) will perform the great hits of the musical icons, including *Rocket Man*, *Piano Man*, *Bennie & The Jets*, *She's Got a Way*, *Crocodile Rock*, and more!

The Bronx Wanderers

Nov. 8 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$67/\$53/\$37/\$24

Back By Popular Demand! The band has become an entertainment fixture in Las Vegas, performing for capacity crowds. Filled with infectious energy and exuberant talent, The Bronx Wanderers will take you on a nostalgic musical journey back in time.

Anderson & Roe Piano Duo

Nov. 13 7:30 p.m.

Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, 25150 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale

\$59/\$37

Hailed as “the most dynamic duo of this generation” the Anderson & Roe Piano Duo has performed as recitalists and orchestral soloists, as well as appeared on PBS, BBC and MTV, recorded Billboard chart-topping albums, toured worldwide, and released Emmy-nominated music videos viewed by millions. These vibrant artists are revolutionizing the piano duo experience for the 21st century.

Wynonna & The Big Noise

Nov. 17 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$79/\$59/\$49/\$37

Five-time Grammy Award winner Wynonna first rose to fame as one half of the beloved country duo, The Judds. Wynonna has since evolved into a major solo artist with eight studio albums, a live album, a holiday album, and over 20 chart-topping singles, Wynonna has sold over 30-million records worldwide. Dubbed by *Rolling Stone* as “the greatest female country singer since Patsy Cline,” this iconic performer will be joined by her critically acclaimed band, The Big Noise.

Young Musicians Fall Concert

Nov. 18 2 p.m.

Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix

\$20

Arizona’s brightest young classical musicians showcase their astounding virtuosity, technique and prodigious musicianship. Committed to promoting these rising stars, Arizona Musicfest is proud to showcase these extraordinary young artists in a concert that is sure to delight and entertain you.

Arizona Musicfest Holiday Fest (Dec. 3)

The Ten Tenors: Home for the Holidays

Dec. 3 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$72/\$56/\$37/\$24

Join Australia’s rockstars of opera The TEN Tenors as they amaze and enthrall with their unique selection of traditional and contemporary seasonal favorites. With soaring versions of *Joy to the World*, *White Christmas*, *Amazing Grace*, *Winter Wonderland*, *Feliz Navidad* and more, Home for the Holidays is the perfect way to celebrate the spirit of the season.

Arizona Musicfest Winter Festival (Jan. 25 – Mar. 15, 2019)

Human Nature: Direct from Las Vegas

Jan. 25 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$76/\$57/\$47/\$34

Known around the globe for their distinctive harmonies and spectacular live shows, Human Nature have earned their place as one of the finest pop vocal groups of the modern era. Headliners at The Venetian Las Vegas, their smash hit JUKEBOX pays tribute to the music legends of Doo Wop, Motown and Soul to today’s

popular standards. The group appeared on *Oprah*, *Dancing with the Stars*, and in two of their own PBS specials.

Herb Alpert & Lani Hall

Jan. 28 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$76/\$57/\$47/\$34

Jazz trumpet legend Herb Alpert and Grammy Award-winning singer Lani Hall come to Musicfest for a special evening of stories and musical collaboration. In his illustrious career, Alpert won nine Grammy Awards, sold more than 72 million records, and received Lifetime Achievement Awards from both the Grammys and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The *NY Times* raved "...as Alpert and Hall performed medleys of their '60s hits, along with standards by composers from Irving Berlin to the Beatles, their joie de vivre permeated the room."

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

Feb. 1 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$76/\$57/\$47/\$34

With sold-out concerts from the Hollywood Bowl to Lincoln Center, the group has delighted audiences with performances on *Dancing with the Stars* and *The Tonight Show*, as well as through appearances on the Super Bowl half-time show and with many of the country's finest orchestras. The preeminent swing ensemble of this generation continues its decades-long mission to celebrate and revitalize jazz and swing music.

Lonesome Traveler: The Concert with special guest Peter Yarrow

Feb. 4 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$72/\$56/\$37/\$24

Originally an award-winning off-Broadway theatrical hit, *Lonesome Traveler* will take you on a heartfelt journey through American Folk music from the hills of Appalachia to the nightclubs of New York and San Francisco. The show is a homage to iconic folk legends including Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Crosby Stills & Nash, Joni Mitchell, and more. For the Musicfest performance, the cast is joined by special guest Peter Yarrow of the luminary folk trio Peter Paul & Mary.

Brian Stokes Mitchell

Feb. 7 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$79/\$59/\$49/\$37

Brian Stokes Mitchell is Broadway's leading man! As a veteran of 10 Broadway shows including *Ragtime*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and *Shuffle Along*, his performances have garnered two Tony Awards and induction into the Theatre Hall of Fame. Stokes has been dubbed Broadway's "Last Leading Man" by the *New York Times*, adding that he "brings an unprecedented fusion of theatrical heroism, pop-jazz sizzle and emotional vulnerability."

The Hit Men

Feb. 9 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$67/\$53/\$37/\$24

Relive rock & roll history with The Hit Men, five legendary performers who sang, played or recorded with some of the biggest names in music: Elton John, Carole King, Cat Stevens, Jim Croce, Carly Simon, and Frankie Valli, just to name a few. Not a tribute band, these are the actual musicians you heard on the original records, listened to on the radio, watched on TV or saw in concert! Go behind the scenes as they share "insider" stories about rock royalty.

Trio Solisti

Feb. 10 3 p.m.

Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix

\$59/\$49

Called "the most exciting piano trio in America" by *The New Yorker* magazine, Trio Solisti – violinist Maria Bachmann, cellist Alexis Pia Gerlach, and pianist Fabio Bidini – perform regularly at the country's most distinguished concert venues, including Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, and Carnegie Hall. Their performances have drawn high praise from *The New York Times* ("consistently brilliant") and *The Washington Post* ("unrelenting passion and zealous abandon in a transcendent performance.")
Co-presented with the Musical Instrument Museum.

Ruth Moody Band

Feb. 12 7:30 p.m.

Gathering Place at La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church, 6300 E. Bell Road, Phoenix

\$47/\$39

Ruth Moody is a founding and current member of the internationally renowned, Billboard-charting trio The Wailin' Jennys (frequent guests on *A Prairie Home Companion*). Moody is lauded as an artist of exceptional depth with ethereal vocals, impressive multi-instrumentalism, and insightful songwriting. Her music is timeless, universal, and exquisitely crafted, all sung with an intimacy and honesty that is unmistakably hers.

Neil Sedaka

Feb. 15 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$89/\$71/\$52/\$43

From an original teen pop sensation to a superstar, Neil Sedaka created some of America's most beloved popular tunes. With an astounding catalogue of over 500 songs, his hits — *Where the Boys Are*, *Calendar Girl*, *Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen*, *Laughter in the Rain*, *Love Will Keep Us Together*, and *Breaking Up Is Hard to Do* — remain as some of the seminal songs that have distinguished Sedaka's remarkable career.

Festival Sinfonia: Vivaldi & Mozart

Feb. 17 3:00 p.m.

Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, 25150 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale

\$76/\$49

Following its successful debut in 2016, the Festival Sinfonia, comprised of Festival Orchestra musicians performs an intimate concert of beloved orchestral works for a smaller ensemble. J.S. Bach's cantata *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen!*—one of the most famous cantatas ever composed—begins the program. The first half also features one of Tchaikovsky's best known works, his lyrical *Serenade for Strings*. Finally, the Sinfonia pairs with the Festival Chorus to perform two harmonically stunning works by famed choral composer Ola Gjeilo, as well as the exultant *Benedicite* by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Festival Orchestra: Beethoven & Dvorak featuring pianist Andrew von Oeyen

Feb. 19 7:30 p.m.

La Casa de Cristo Church, 6300 E. Bell Road, Phoenix

\$82/\$64/\$47/\$34/\$25

Maestro Robert Moody leads The Festival Orchestra— comprised of players from the nation's finest orchestras— in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 featuring award-winning pianist Andrew von Oeyen ("he can do absolutely anything he likes with a keyboard." *Chicago Tribune*). Rossini's ebullient Overture to *The Barber of Seville* begins the concert and Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 "From the New World" concludes the program.

Festival Orchestra: Concert of Triumph

Feb. 21 7:30 p.m.

La Casa de Cristo Church, 6300 E. Bell Road, Phoenix

\$82/\$64/\$47/\$34/\$25

"The trumpets shall sound" when Verdi's Triumphant March From *Aida* begins this concert. Festival Orchestra member and Principal Trumpet of the Dallas Symphony, Ryan Anthony performs Stephenson's Concerto No. 3, a powerful work that evokes heartache, hope and rejoicing. Tchaikovsky's *Capriccio Italien*, a descriptive

portrait of Italy, and Respighi's magnificent *Pines of Rome* transport audiences to the landscape and rhythms of the Eternal City.

Festival Orchestra: POPS! Featuring Simply Three

Feb. 22 7:30 p.m.

La Casa de Cristo Church, 6300 E. Bell Road, Phoenix

\$82/\$64/\$47/\$34/\$25

Maestro Robert Moody welcomes the genre-hopping crossover string trio Simply Three to headline a concert filled with symphonic favorites and beloved classics. Hailing from the Valley, Simply Three has captivated audiences worldwide through their high-octane performances, both on stage and on-line. Pop vocalist Susie Pepper joins the evening's musical cornucopia, which also includes the Festival Orchestra performing the bubbly *Die Fledermaus* overture, as well as Tchaikovsky's orchestral blockbuster, the *1812 Overture*.

Violins of Hope: Gil Shaham with The Festival Orchestra

Feb. 23 8 p.m. Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Scottsdale \$86/\$71/\$57

Feb. 24 3 p.m. La Casa de Cristo Church, 6300 E. Bell Road, Phoenix \$86/\$71/\$57/\$44/\$25

Festival Orchestra Week concludes with the Violins of Hope, featuring a rare collection of restored violins from the Holocaust. Performing on the recovered instruments, the Orchestra will offer a program that honors the history, musicians and music of that time. As guest soloist, world-renowned violinist Gil Shaham performs Brahms' virtuosic *Violin Concerto* and the *Theme from Schindler's List* (John Williams). The concert also includes Beethoven's *Leonore Overture*, Gustav Mahler's *Totenfeier*, and *Schlof Main Kind, A Yiddish Lullaby* by Allan Naplan.

A Silenced Legacy: Honoring the Music and the Musicians

Feb. 26 7:30 p.m.

Temple Chai, 4645 East Marilyn Road, Phoenix

As part of its **Violins of Hope** programming, Arizona Musicfest produces a special chamber concert featuring musicians of **The Festival Orchestra** with personal connections to the music and musicians of the Holocaust. Through performance and personal reflection, this concert will commemorate the legacies of those who perished and those who survived.

Young Musicians Winter Concert

Mar. 3 2 p.m.

Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix

\$20

Don't miss your chance to hear the stars of tomorrow...today! Featuring some of the best young classical talent in Arizona, this concert will delight you as these superb musicians showcase their astounding musical talent, maturity and artistry.

Presented in collaboration with the Musical Instrument Museum.

The Hot Club of San Francisco

Mar. 5 7:30 p.m.

Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, 25150 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale

\$59/ \$37

The Hot Club of San Francisco takes you back to the small, smoky jazz clubs of 1930 Paris. Often called "gypsy jazz", the music of The Hot Club of San Francisco has entranced audiences around the globe for over 20 years. With frequent national and international tours, The Hot Club of San Francisco keeps this historic jazz style fresh and alive.

The Streisand Songbook Featuring Ann Hampton Callaway

Mar. 7 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$76/\$57/\$47/\$34

Celebrate the music of Barbra Streisand, when Tony Award nominee and acclaimed cabaret singer-songwriter Ann Hampton Callaway performs classics from Streisand's multi-faceted career. From Broadway and film work, to pop hits and more, Hampton Callaway imparts her unique spin on Streisand's beloved songs, and crafts a loving and familiar musical portrait of the iconic performer.

Count Basie Orchestra

Mar. 11 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$72/\$56/\$37/\$24

In the history of Jazz, Count Basie was—and still is—an American institution that personified the exuberance and excellence of that uniquely American music. With 18 Grammy Awards, The Count Basie Orchestra (“The Most Explosive Force in Jazz”), is comprised of outstanding musicians, including some original members personally chosen by Count Basie himself.

Changes in Latitude: A Jimmy Buffet Tribute

Mar. 15 7:30 p.m.

Highlands Church, 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale

\$67/\$53/\$37/\$24

America's premier tribute to the irrepressible Mayor of Margaritaville, Jimmy Buffett, comes to Musicfest for a rousing season finale. Celebrate the “Trop Rock” legend with his *Margaritaville*, *Come Monday*, *Brown Eyed Girl*, *Cheeseburger in Paradise*, and of course *Changes in Latitudes*, *Changes in Attitudes*. Join the beach party!

For more information, visit www.azmusicfest.org.

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Contacts:

- Allan Naplan, Executive and Producing Director, Arizona Musicfest, (480) 488-0806.
- Kate Crowley, Crowley Communications, (480) 277- 4178

High resolution photos: <https://bit.ly/2JfnewH>

About Arizona Musicfest: Founded in 1991, **Arizona Musicfest**, a secular non-profit arts organization based in North Scottsdale, produces an annual concert festival as well as important music education programs, youth performance opportunities and a community lifelong learning series for the Greater Phoenix area. With a commitment to presenting world-class artists in accessible and convenient locations, each season the Festival showcases a diverse line-up of celebrity and distinguished guest musicians, as well as the acclaimed Arizona Musicfest Festival Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Robert Moody. This superlative ensemble features players from the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Boston Symphony, the National Symphony, the Metropolitan Opera, and other top US orchestras. The Festival Orchestra is in residency for one week during the annual Festival.

Arizona Musicfest's extensive music education and youth performance programs touch approximately 6,000 children each year. Along with the organization's many in-school programs presented free of charge to five local school districts, over the last three years, Arizona Musicfest has also provided over \$30,000 in free instruments to area schools and has contributed over \$70,000 in college scholarships to local Valley teens pursuing collegiate degrees in music performance.

Arizona Musicfest's six Young Musician Competitions (piano, voice, strings, chamber ensembles, brass and woodwinds) and the related Young Musician Performance Series annually attract some of the brightest young stars from throughout the Valley. For more information, visit azmusicfest.org.