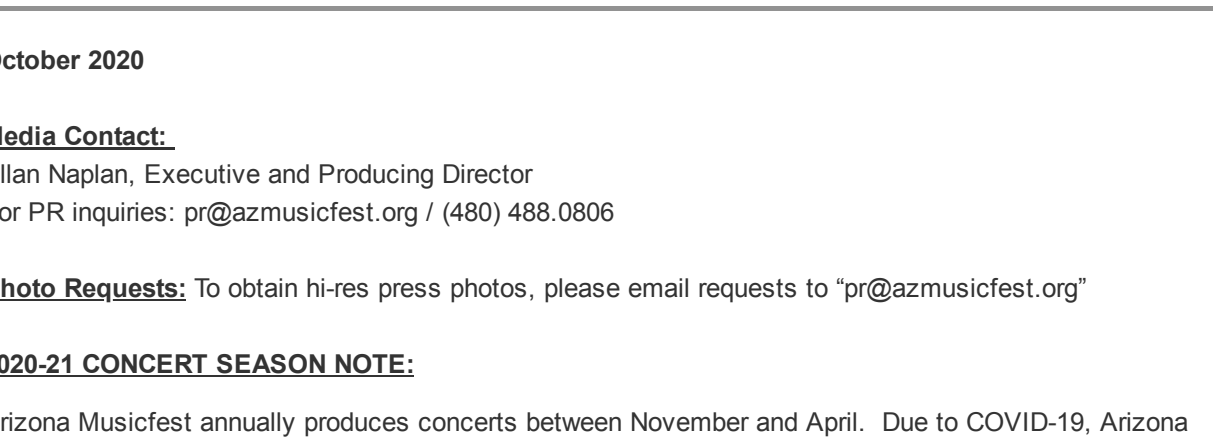




NEWS RELEASE / CALENDAR LISTINGS

ARIZONA MUSICFEST ANNOUNCES ITS 2020-21 CONCERT SEASON. CELEBRATING ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY, MUSICFEST PRODUCES AN EXCITING LINE-UP OF CONCERTS. PINK MARTINI, CLASSICAL MUSIC ICON EMANUEL AX, THE TEXAS TENORS, AND BROADWAY'S JOHN LLOYD YOUNG HEADLINE THE SPECIAL SEASON.



October 2020

Media Contact:

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Photo Requests: To obtain hi-res press photos, please email requests to "pr@azmusicfest.org"

2020-21 CONCERT SEASON NOTE:

Arizona Musicfest annually produces concerts between November and April. Due to COVID-19, Arizona Musicfest has postponed all of its fall and holiday concerts in 2020. Musicfest will instead produce a reduced season between January and April 2021. For all concerts, Arizona Musicfest intends to adhere to required and recommended COVID-19 safety and mitigation protocols. More details about Musicfest's COVID-19 safety plans can be found on the organization's website azmusicfest.org.

Tickets are now on sale for Arizona Musicfest's 30th anniversary season—a season unlike any other!

Arizona Musicfest had planned to celebrate its important milestone year with a starry line-up to headline its 30th anniversary season, but due to COVID-19, the organization has responsibly scaled back its season offerings. "While we're disappointed that we're not able to go forward with the full anniversary season we had planned, we're still very excited to safely reunite our audiences as we present a terrific line-up of great artists and engaging performances," Allan Naplan, Arizona Musicfest's Executive and Producing Director, said.

Musicfest concerts will run from January through April, a departure from its usual seven-month season. This special season's lineup includes many great artists, some making their Musicfest debuts, while others returning due to popular demand. Featured artists include Pink Martini, Steve Tyrell, Emanuel Ax, The Texas Tenors, Broadway's John Lloyd Young, and Musicfest audience favorites Ann Hampton Callaway and Tony DeSare. The season also features the Festival Orchestra, comprised of musicians from some of the nation's finest orchestras. For all concerts, Arizona Musicfest intends to adhere to all required and recommended COVID-19 safety and mitigation protocols. More details about Musicfest's COVID-19 safety plans can be found on the organization's website. **For Tickets: (480) 422-8449 / azmusicfest.org.**

ARIZONA MUSICFEST 2020-21 CONCERT LISTINGS:

(click show titles below to be redirected to concert webpages)

STEVE TYRELL

January 22, 2021 • 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- One of the leading contemporary purveyors of classic American standards.

Grammy Award-winning vocalist Steve Tyrell has reinvented and re-popularized classic pop standards for a modern audience. His breakthrough performances in *Father of the Bride* and *Father of the Bride II*, coupled with his popular interpretations of *The Way You Look Tonight*, *The Simple Life*, *I've Got a Crush on You*, and *On the Sunny Side of the Street*, have made Tyrell well-known for his signature flair, rich voice and unique musical phrasings.

"Tyrell is one of the main contemporary purveyors of standards on the pop landscape."
— *Los Angeles Times*

PINK MARTINI

February 1, 2021 • 4:30 pm & 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$109 - \$54

- The Biggest Little Orchestra Around!

Musicfest is thrilled to welcome back Pink Martini, the "Biggest Little Orchestra Around"! Drawing inspiration from music from all over the world, Pink Martini mesmerizes audiences with their elegant arrangements combining Latin, jazz, and cabaret styles into stimulating retro-pop ensembles. The band draws inspiration from the romantic Hollywood musicals of the 1940s and '50s, as well as from Argentine tango, Brazilian samba, and Italian folk, all combining together to create an eclectic, modern sound. According to bandleader/pianist Thomas Lauderdale, "If the United Nations had a house band in 1962, Pink Martini would be that band."

CALLAWAY SISTERS IN "SIBLING REVELRY"

February 9, 2021 • 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- The Tony-nominated Callaway sisters are one singular sensation!

When Tony-nominated sisters Ann Hampton Callaway and Liz Callaway combine musical forces, they put the revelry into rivalry in this award winning show of great songs and witty banter. *Sibling Revelry* was first presented at New York's *Rainbow and Stars*, garnered raves at *The Donmar Warehouse* in London, and is now regularly heard in concert around the country, as well as on their best-selling CD. From performing Broadway showstoppers to jazz and pop standards, the Callaway sisters are one singular sensation!

"When their strikingly different but equally splendid voices harmonize, *Sibling Revelry* becomes a thrilling display of vocal prowess." — *The New York Times*

A STAR IS BORN: The Concert

February 16, 2021 • 4:30pm & 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- Three legendary icons. Three beloved movies. One epic concert celebration.

Three legendary icons. Three beloved movies. Three best-selling soundtrack albums. One epic concert celebration. Judy Garland, Barbra Streisand and Lady Gaga each stole our hearts with "A Star is Born." Now a trio of Broadway/cabaret's best voices join forces to celebrate the music from all three iconic film versions. In addition to signature tunes from *A Star is Born*, the concert also pays tribute to other classic films about stars being born, with songs from *The Rose*, *Funny Girl*, *New York, New York* and more.

IGUESMAN & JOO – "Play It Again"

February 22, 2021 • 4:30pm & 8pm
La Casa de Cristo Church (6300 E Bell Rd, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- World-renowned Classical music comedians.

World-renowned Classical music comedians Iguesman & Joo perform a topsy-turvy, upside-down, inside-out show. Equally acclaimed for performing in concert halls as well as in stadiums, their infectious zaniness and virtuosity has made them audience favorites the world over. Following in the footsteps of luminaries such as Victor Borge and Dudley Moore, in "Play It Again", Iguesman & Joo bring their special brand of inspired lunacy to the stage in this hilarious comedy program that somehow begins and ends with audience-chosen encores.

TONY DeSARE

February 26, 2021 • 4:30pm & 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- Swingin' on the Vegas Strip.

Tony DeSare returns to Musicfest for a night on the Vegas Strip. Inspired by the spirit and energy of the peak era of live musical entertainment in Las Vegas, Tony will perform swinging classic jazz and pop standards ranging from Frank Sinatra and Count Basie to Prince, Elton John, The Beatles and more. A favorite guest artist with Pops orchestras around the country, Tony has recorded four top ten Billboard jazz albums and has performed in Vegas many times with the late, great legendary comedian, Don Rickles.

EMANUEL AX

March 11 & 12, 2021 • 8pm
La Casa de Cristo Church (6300 E Bell Rd, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$109 - \$54

- One of the world's finest pianists!

Arizona Musicfest is honored to present one of the world's finest pianists. Since he first came to public attention in 1974, Emanuel Ax has been a prominent figure on the classical music scene—as a performer and as a recording artist. Ax has garnered seven Grammy Awards and has been featured in concert with all of the world's leading orchestras. Recent engagements have included his performances with the Vienna Philharmonic, London Symphony, New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra and more.

"His greatness, his overwhelming authority as musician, technician and probing intellect emerges quickly as he plays." — *Los Angeles Times*

NEIL BERG'S 50 YEARS OF ROCK & ROLL – PART 2

March 15, 2021 • 4:30pm & 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- A celebration of the music that changed the world forever!

Back by popular demand, Neil Berg returns to Musicfest for Part 2 of his outstanding rock and roll retrospective. In a performance that "makes you feel 18 again", this rock and roll party traces the progenitors of the 1940s, through the glory years of the '50s, '60s, '70s and early '80s. Along with an all-star band and some of Broadway's greatest rock and roll singers, Neil Berg shares the often unknown stories from the fifty-year history of the music that changed the world forever!

THE TEXAS TENORS

March 22, 2021 • 4:30pm & 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- America's favorite tenors!

The Texas Tenors are the most successful music group and the third highest selling artist in the history of *America's Got Talent!* With repertoire ranging from country to pop and Broadway to classical, The Texas Tenors have garnered awards, acclaim, and an international network of fans with their chart-topping albums and their Emmy-winning PBS specials. Their most recent album *A Collection of Broadway and American Classics* debuted at #1, making this all-American trio 2019 *Billboard Magazine's* #10 Classical Artist in the World.

JOHN LLOYD YOUNG

April 6, 2021 • 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- Broadway's original Jersey Boy.

John Lloyd Young is the Tony and Grammy award-winning Frankie Valli from Broadway's *Jersey Boys*, as well as the star of the Clint Eastwood directed Warner Bros film. Young's concert is a celebration of classic hits from the '50s and '60s presented in the authentic style of original rock 'n' roll, Doo-Wop and R&B standards. Along with tracks from Young's debut album *My Turn*, the show features Sherry, Can't Take My Eyes Off of You, and *In the Still of the Night*, along with treasures from Roy Orbison, the Righteous Brothers, Elvis, Tom Jones and more.

THE OFFICIAL BLUES BROTHERS REVUE

April 12, 2021 • 4:30pm & 8pm
Highlands Church (9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$86 - \$44

- A night of laughter, dancing, and foot-stompin' fun!

There have been many imitators, but only one duo is sanctioned by Dan Aykroyd and Judith Belushi to don the official hat and sunglasses and walk in the legendary footsteps of Jake and Elwood Blues. Wayne Catania and Kieron Lafferty, backed by a powerhouse band, capture the infectious humor and unbridled spirit of the Blues Brothers. Enjoy a night of laughter, dancing, and foot-stompin' fun! This concert replaces the ensemble's March 2019 Musicfest concert, which was cancelled due to COVID-19.

FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA WEEK

April 20-24 • [Individual Concert Programs Listed Below]

- *Where music's finest come to play!*

Each year, Arizona Musicfest assembles some of the nation's finest orchestral musicians to perform as the Festival Orchestra—the jewel in Musicfest's crown. Under the direction of Music Director Robert Moody, this exceptional ensemble typically performs five concerts in one week. Because of these unprecedented times, the orchestra will perform a reduced number of concerts this season.

THE THREE B'S

April 20, 2021 • 7:30pm
April 21, 2021 • 11am
La Casa de Cristo Church (6300 E Bell Rd, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$89 - \$49

- Highlighting the great orchestral masters.

In the world of classical music, Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms are celebrated as the "Three B's". This trio of compositional masters spanned two full centuries, and produced some of the most important and influential musical of all time. The Festival Orchestra opens its special 2021 concert week performing Brahms' *Variations on a Theme of Haydn*. Starting with this Romantic nod to the Classical era, the concert then further rewinds to the Baroque era, showcasing an iconic work of J. S. Bach's immense catalog. In his *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5*, a bright, virtuosic trio of violin, flute, and harpsichord are highlighted as soloists, accompanied by a small ensemble. Maestro Moody closes the concert by leading the orchestra in Beethoven's sparkling *Symphony No. 8*.

APPALACHIAN SPRING & AN AMERICAN IN PARIS

April 22, 2021 • 7:30pm
La Casa de Cristo Church (6300 E Bell Rd, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$89 - \$49

- The Festival Orchestra performs three popular works of the orchestral canon.

The sounds of spring will bloom when the Festival Orchestra performs three popular works of the orchestral canon. When Aaron Copland first composed his beloved *Appalachian Spring*, he set the work for just 13 musicians. Maestro Moody honors this original setting when joined by a baker's dozen of leading players from the nation's top orchestras. The concert continues with Haydn's *Cello Concerto in D Major*. In the concert's finale, *joie de vivre* blossoms as Gershwin's 1920 visit to France comes alive in his jazzy *An American in Paris*.

THE GENIUS OF MOZART

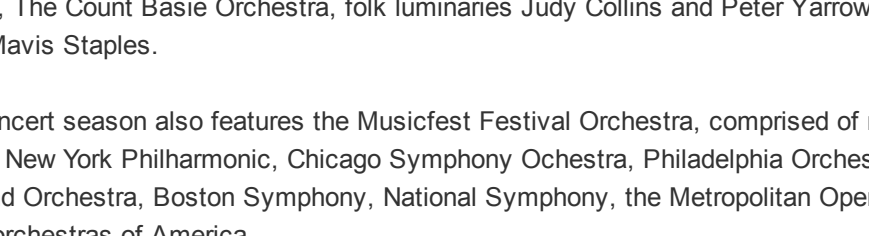
April 23, 2021 • 7:30pm
April 24, 2021 • 11am
La Casa de Cristo Church (6300 E Bell Rd, Scottsdale)
Tickets: \$89 - \$49

- An all-Mozart program celebrating the genius of Wolfgang Amadeus.

To conclude this season's special Festival Orchestra Week, Maestro Robert Moody leads the ensemble in an all-Mozart program celebrating the genius of Wolfgang Amadeus. The composer's spirit in his popular opera *Don Giovanni* begins the program with a deft blend of foreboding and high spirits. In the center of the Mozart program, Musicfest welcomes back Festival Orchestra Concertmaster Frank Huang (New York Philharmonic) to perform the master's violin *Concerto No. 5 "Turkish"*. The concert concludes with Mozart's elegant and exuberant *Symphony No. 41 "Jupiter"*, the composer's final symphony.

PRESS/PATRON ALERT:

Due to uncertainties related to COVID-19, all artists, performance dates and other issues related to Arizona Musicfest's concert season are subject to change. Please consult www.azmusicfest.org for the most current concert season information.



Bringing the Joy of Music to All!

ABOUT ARIZONA MUSICFEST:

Arizona Musicfest celebrates its 30th anniversary with the 2020-21 season. Based in North Scottsdale, Arizona Musicfest produces an annual concert season, as well as education, youth performance and lifelong learning programs.

Total season attendance for the recently completed 2019/20 season was 31,285. Recent guest artists have included Michael Bolton, Neil Sedaka, Vanessa Williams, Chris Botti, Michael Feinstein, Herb Alpert, Tony Danza, Pink Martini, violinists Joshua Bell, Gil Shaham, and Midori, Broadway legends Chita Rivera, Brian Stokes Mitchell and Tommy Tune, Country stars Wynonna Judd, Sara Evans, and Rosanne Cash, jazz greats Al Jarreau, The Manhattan Transfer, The Count Basie Orchestra, folk luminaries Judy Collins and Peter Yarrow, and blues legend Mavis Staples.

Each concert season also features the Musicfest Festival Orchestra, comprised of musicians from the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Boston Symphony, National Symphony, the Metropolitan Opera, and other leading orchestras of America.

Musicfest's education programs provided—at no charge—to area schools include Musicfest Strings, Musicfest Mariachi, Musicfest Wind—Musicfest Strummers, Music & Sound/Found & Around, Musicfest Jazz, and The Music of Arizona—the organization's signature multicultural program. Musicfest's Young Musicians Competitions, Young Musicians Performance Series, and the Musicfest College Scholarship Program serve the finest young musicians of the Valley, while *Music Alive!*, a unique lifelong learning and creative aging series, features dynamic programs for our community's older adults.

In the summer of 2020, Arizona Musicfest received national recognition when it was named a "High Performing Arts Organization" by DataArts/National Center for Arts Research.

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Arizona Musicfest • azmusicfest.org • Admin: (480) 488-0806 / Box Office: (480) 422-8449

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