



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
351 West University Boulevard | Cedar City, UT 84720

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 09/08/2015

Michael French
Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator
College of Performing and Visual Arts
Southern Utah University
Office: (435) 865-8667
michaelfrench@suu.edu

Music, Musicals, Movement & More! **SUU's Departments of Music and Theatre Arts and Dance** **Announce 2015-2016 Season**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT: From three Pulitzer Prize-winning works for the stage to a 150th anniversary concert marking the Civil War's end to two remarkable dance performances, **SUU's Departments of Music and Theatre Arts and Dance's 2015-2016 Season** offers a wealth of artistic diversity in its programming. And there is something for everyone – and they are all available as part of SUU's CPVA money-saving **Flex Pass**.

A Shakespearean classic begins the Theatre Arts and Dance series and marks the end of the **Adams Memorial Theatre** as a performance space. An innovative production of *Hamlet* directed by Peter Sham, Utah Shakespeare Festival actor and Tevye in SUU's 50th anniversary production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, opens on Friday **October 2 and runs October 5, 8, 9 and 10** with performances beginning at **7:30pm**. October will also see the southern Utah premiere of the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical *Next to Normal*. Directed by Joshua Durfey, Theatre Arts student and an actor with the Utah Shakespeare Festival's 2015 summer season, this provocative work centers on a woman's dependency on antidepressants which puts her family in crisis. The searing dramatic musical runs **October 28, 29, 30, 31 and November 2 at 7:30pm** with a **2pm matinee on October 31**. All performances are in SUU's **Auditorium Theatre**. Warning: adult content and language.

A joyful holiday musical adventure for the entire family comes to SUU in December. *Toyland, The Holiday Family Musical Treat*, created and directed by Peter Sham, co-creator of Cedar City's popular *A Christmas Carol on the Air*, comes alive onstage at the Randall L. Jones Theatre December 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11 and 12 at 7:30pm with 2pm matinees on December 5 and 12. The New Year brings laughter with George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart's beloved Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy *You Can't Take It with You*. Directed by Richard Bugg, Professor of Theatre Arts and Artistic Director of Cedar City's Neil Simon Festival, the fun-filled classic about an eccentric family will be performed at the Randall L. Jones Theatre

February 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 at 7:30pm and February 6 at 2pm. The Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning rock musical **RENT** comes to SUU in April 2016. The late Jonathan Larson's contemporary spin on *La Bohème* focuses on a group of fledgling artists struggling to survive on New York's lower East Side in the 1980s. Directed by Melinda Pfundstein Vaughn, Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts and Utah Shakespeare Festival favorite, this acclaimed work will be performed in the **Randall L. Jones Theatre on April 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18 at 7:30pm with a 2pm matinee on April 16**. Warning: Adult content and language.

Energy and creativity fuse together in two dynamic dance programs on SUU stages. First, ***We've Got Rhythm: An Original Student-Choreographed Dance Concert*** featuring student dancers takes center stage at the **Auditorium Theatre on November 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 at 7:30pm and 2pm on November 14**. In 2016 there is ***Elevated Movements: An Original Faculty-Choreographed Dance Concert***, choreographed by SUU Dance faculty and performed by students, on **February 24, 25, 26, 27 and 29 at 7:30pm with a 2pm matinee on February 27**. ***Elevated Movements*** includes a restaging of a signature work of Burch Mann from the American Folk Ballet repertoire. This concert is performed at the **Randall L. Jones Theatre**.

Autumn brings SUU's Music Masterworks series and opens with the **Symphony Orchestra** under the direction of Dr. Xun Sun performing in concert on **Wednesday, October 28** at the **Heritage Center Theater** beginning at **7:30pm**. A performance ideal for music enthusiasts, history buffs, community members, and students, ***The Battle Cry of Freedom*** brings together **SUU's Choirs and Wind Symphony** under the direction of Dr. Steve Meredith in his inaugural concert appearance that commemorates the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War. With special narration by **SUU President Scott Wyatt** and featuring guest artists the **Red Rock Singers** and the **Canyon View High School A Cappella Choir**, this stirring evening is schedule for **Friday, October 30** in the **Heritage Center Theater** beginning at **7:30pm**.

Celebrate with holiday season with SUU's entire Department of Music on **Friday, December 4** at the **Heritage Center Theater**. This remarkable ***Annual Holiday Concert*** features all the instrumental and vocal ensembles in one great evening of festive song and music. The performance begins at **7:30pm**. In 2016, **SUU's Concert and Women's Choirs**, under the direction of Dr. Steve Meredith and Jackie Jackson, raise their voices in glorious song for a joint concert on **Friday, February 26 at 7:30pm** onstage at the **Heritage Center Theater**. **SUU Opera** presents a fully staged production of composer Mark Adamo's lyrical adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's beloved classic ***Little Women***, directed by Professor Carol Ann Modesitt (SUU Opera productions of *Don Giovanni* and *Dido and Aeneas*). Running **March 23, 24, 25 and 26** at the **Heritage Center Theater**, this contemporary opera tells the story of the tight-knit March sisters and their mother during the Civil War. All performances begin at **7:30pm**.

SUU's Music Masterworks series continues on **Friday, April 1** with a concert featuring the **Symphony Orchestra and Opus Chamber Choir** under the direction of Dr. Xun Sun and Dr. Steve Meredith. Swinging along on **Wednesday, April 13**, comes the **SUU Jazz Band** under the direction of Dr. Thomas Herb and with guest artist trumpet player **Roger Ingram** from the renowned Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. The final Masterworks concert of the season takes place on **Friday, April 15** and features the **SUU Wind Symphony** directed by Dr. Adam Lambert. These performances take place in the **Heritage Center Theater** and begin at **7:30pm**.

Single ticket prices to the select Theatre Arts and Dance performances (except *Next to Normal*, *Toyland*, *RENT*) and all Music Masterworks concerts are Adult: \$10.00 and Student/Child: \$5.00. Tickets to *Next to Normal*, *Toyland*, *RENT* are Adults: \$15 and Student/Child: \$7. There is an alumni discount with card and tickets are \$8 and \$12 (*Next to Normal*, *Toyland*, *RENT*) but are available only through SUU's Centrum Ticket Office or at the door prior to the performance. SUU faculty, staff and students are admitted free to all theatre, dance and music performances by presenting a valid photo I.D. at entry. Faculty/staff are entitled to bring one guest with them. All seats are general admission. There is no reserve seating.

The 2015-2016 CPVA Flex Pass provides **six admissions** to Theatre Arts & Dance and/or Music Masterworks events. The money-saving Flex Pass can be used in any variation from a single entrance to one event to using all six entrances for one event. The Flex Pass is a great value for only **\$40. Be advised:** Flex Passes are not valid for Utah Shakespeare Festival, SUU Ballroom Dance Company, Orchestis or Second Studio performances.

- Single tickets/Flex Passes purchased in person: SUU Ticket Office, Centrum Arena on 800 West
- Single tickets by phone: (435) 586-7872, Mon-Fri, 8:00am-4:30pm
- Single tickets online: www.suu.edu/pva/arts
- Flex Passes can be purchased at Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Braithwaite Building, lower level, Tue-Sat, noon-7pm.

To order Flex Passes by mail, please send a check totaling the number of passes plus \$2.00 for handling and postage to:

Clarisse Lunt
Southern Utah University
South Hall 101B
351 West University Blvd.
Cedar City, UT 84720

Discounted group sale tickets are available for music, theatre and dance events. If you have 15 people or more, you can save – especially on adult priced tickets. For group sales, contact the SUU Ticket Office by calling, (435) 586-7872, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The **Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts** is comprised of nationally

accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration and a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva/arts