

2021–22 PERFORMING ARTS SEASON PREVIEW

“We Play On” (Phoenix Symphony Orchestra); “Look for the Good” (Don Bluth Front Row Theatre); “Fresh Perspective” (Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts); “Intermission’s Over!” (Theatre Artists Studio) — these are just a few of the ways that Valley performing arts organizations are describing their take on the upcoming season.

After canceled live performances, and in some cases, entire seasons, last year, there is a lot of anticipation, and perhaps a little anxiety, as the 2021–22 season approaches. But Art is resilient.

The performing arts have the ability to entertain, inspire and unite, and Valley organizations are optimistic, inventive and determined — the show *will* go on. | CST

Arizona Broadway Theatre

www.azbroadway.org; 623.776.8400

Sept. 19 – Oct. 30: *Chicago The Musical*
 Nov. 4–14: *Urinetown*
 Nov. 26 – Dec. 30: *Elf*
 Jan. 21 – Feb. 20: *Gypsy*
 Feb. 22 – March 13: *Great Balls of Fire*
 March 18 – April 24: *Flashdance*
 May 6–29: *Ghost The Musical*
 June 10 – July 17: *Nickelodeon’s The SpongeBob Musical*
 July 21–31: *Next to Normal*
 Aug. 2–21: *Game Show*

Arizona Musicfest

www.azmusicfest.org; 480.422.8449

“With our community’s ongoing support, we look forward to continuing our efforts to bring the joy of music to all.”

— Allan E. Naplan, executive and producing director

Arizona Musicfest announces a starry lineup of exceptional artists to celebrate the return of live indoor concerts in North Scottsdale. In its largest season ever, Musicfest will produce 30 concerts with many great artists, some making their Musicfest debuts, while others returning due to popular demand. Featured artists include Paul Anka, Bernadette Peters, Kenny G, LeAnn Rimes, Sergio Mendes, Sarah Chang, and Emanuel Ax, as well as Pink Martini, Broadway’s John Lloyd Young, and The Texas Tenors.



El Milagro del Recuerdo PHOTO: LYNN LANE

Arizona Opera

www.azopera.org; 602.266.7464

“Arizona Opera is not just another high-brow art organization. We care deeply about the art we present, the people we affect, and the message we send. Throughout the pandemic, we became determined to continue performing and engaging with our patrons in ways that we may have never thought of before.”

October 2021: *The Copper Queen Film*
 Dec. 3–5: *El Milagro del Recuerdo*
 Jan. 28–30: *Carmen*
 March 4–6: *A Little Night Music*
 April 8–10: *Così fan tutte*

Arizona Theatre Company

www.arizonatheatre.org; 602.256.6995

“The theatrical art will inspire your curiosity, spark empathy from within, and at times create unadulterated joy...”

—Char Augenstein, board chair

Oct. 21 – Nov. 7: *My 80-Year-Old Boyfriend*
 Dec. 9 – Jan. 2: *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*
 Feb. 10–27: *Women in Jeopardy!*
 March 24 – April 10: *Nina Simone: Four Women*
 May 5–22: *Justice*
 June 30 – July 17: *how to make an American Son*

ASU Gammage

www.asugammage.com; 480.965.3434

Sept. 8 – Oct. 10: *Hamilton*
 Nov. 2–7: *Mean Girls*
 Dec. 7–12: *My Fair Lady*
 Feb. 8–13: *The Band’s Visit*
 March 15–20: *Tootsie*
 April 19–24: *Hadestown*
 June 14–19: *Come From Away*
 July 7–31: *The Lion King*
 Oct. 18–23: *Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Oklahoma!*

Ballet Arizona

www.balletaz.org; 602.381.1096

Oct. 29–31: *Contemporary Moves*
 Nov. 5–7: *Contemporary Moves*
 Dec. 10–24: *The Nutcracker*
 Feb. 10–13: *Romeo and Juliet*
 March 24–27: *All Balanchine*
 May 5–8: *Juan Gabriel*, World Premiere
 May 17 – June 2: *An Evening at Desert Botanical Garden*



From a production of *Black Nativity* PHOTO: LAURA DURANT

Black Theatre Troupe

www.blacktheatretroupe.org; 602.258.8129

Sept. 10–26: *Sistas: The Musical*
 Oct. 22 – Nov. 7: *Sunset Baby*
 Dec. 3–19: *Black Nativity*
 Feb. 4–20: *A Soldier’s Play*
 March 25 – April 10: *Ain’t Misbehavin’*

Childsplay

www.childsplayaz.org; 480.921.5700

Oct. 3–31: *Selena Maria Sings*
 Nov. 7 – Dec. 24: *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*
 Feb. 5 – March 13: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show*
 April 23 – May 22: *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*

Desert Foothills Theater

www.dftheater.org; 480.488.1981

Sept. 17–26: *High School Musical*
 Oct. 28–31: *War of the Worlds*
 Nov. 12–21: *The Music Man*
 Dec. 10–19: *Elf Jr.*
 Feb. 11–13: *Fair Game*
 March 18–27: *Les Misérables*
 April 22–May 1: *Dear Edwina*



A Bench in the Sun

Don Bluth Front Row Theater

www.donbluthfrontrowtheatre.com; 480.314.0841

“We are small, resilient, inventive and can’t wait to share our optimism and positivity with our patrons again! Our motto is: look for the good!”

—Don Bluth, president & executive creative director

Thru Sept. 18: *A Bench in the Sun*
 Sept. 30 – Nov. 6: *Bell, Book and Candle*
 Nov. 18 – Dec. 30: *It’s A Wonderful Life*
 Jan. 20 – Feb. 26: *Drinking Habits*
 March 24 – April 30: *Camelot*
 May 19 – June 25: *The Curious Savage*

Fountain Hills Theater — Mainstage/Mainstage Too

www.fhtaz.org; 480.837.9661

Thru Sept. 5: *Say Goodnight, Gracie*
 Sept. 10–26: *Rumors*
 Oct. 15–31: *Million Dollar Quartet*
 Nov. 5–21: *Disenchanted*
 Dec. 3–19: *13 Days of Christmas*
 Jan. 7–23: TBA
 Jan. 28 – Feb. 13: *Grease*
 March 18 – April 3: *Ripcord*
 April 15 – May 1: *Suds*
 May 6–22: *Nunsense*

