



# Dear Friends of the Arts,

We are excited to invite you to the Acadiana Center for the Arts' **50th anniversary season!** 

This year's incredible lineup features performances from legendary artists and rising stars. Below is a preview of some standout shows in each series we're proud to offer in 2025.

In our *AllStars Series*, we're thrilled to present **Lucinda Williams** and her band. A true icon of American songwriting, Lucinda's GRAMMY-winning work resonates deeply with audiences through her raw and powerful voice. This performance is especially poignant as she shares her journey of recovery following a major stroke, proving that her artistry remains stronger than ever. Don't miss this opportunity to witness a musical legend in the intimate setting of our James Devin Moncus Theater.

For the *Louisiana Crossroads Series*, we'll kick off the season with a two-night celebration of the most exciting young voices in Cajun and Creole music today. Featured in the acclaimed 2024 documentary Roots of Fire, musicians like **Wilson Savoy**, **Cedric Watson**, and **Jourdan Thibodeaux** will share their stories and music that have shaped Acadiana's vibrant scene.

In the *Spotlight Theatre and Dance Series*, we are excited to produce new work like "Send on the Clowns" by Louisiana-based artist Nicole Curtis. This playful and thought-provoking production blends dance, clowning, and comedy to explore the joys and frustrations of everyday life. With laughter as a healing force, Nicole's work promises a truly unique and joyful experience that will invite the audience to let their guards down and embrace shared moments of connection.

Our newest program, the *NXT Series*, continues to grow and support emerging local talent in a wide variety of genres. We invite you to attend something new and support these incredible artists as they make a significant step in their careers.

We would love to see you at these remarkable performances as we celebrate 50 years of the Acadiana Center for the Arts! See full details and ticket pricing in the pages that follow and look for new announcements throughout the 50th anniversary year.



Warm regards,

Samuel Oliver

Executive Director

Sam@AcadianaCenterfortheArts.org

# YOUR NIGHT OUT WITH ACA

# 1. Park with Ease

- **NEW!** Enjoy **free** parking in the lot across the street from Chase Tower on show nights with an AcA ticket purchase
- \$5 parking in the Parc Auto Du Centre-Ville parking garage on the corner of Polk & E. Vermilion St.



# 2. Pre-Show Bites & Drinks | Vestal & Pop's Poboys

Fuel up before the show with delicious bites and drinks at a 10% discount with an AcA ticket at Vestal or Pop's Poboys.

# 3. Catch the Show | AcA

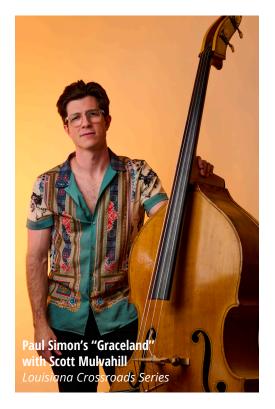
Take an easy stroll to Acadiana Center for the Arts to catch the performance in our state of the art James Devin Moncus Theater.

# 4. Nightcap | Pamplona Tapas & Bar + Ton's Downtown

Wrap up your night with specialty cocktails, mocktails or a glass of wine from a wide variety of Spanish offerings at Pamplona Tapas & Bar or a late-night plate lunch and beer at Ton's Downtown during extended hours on AcA show nights!\*

2 — LETTER FROM SAMUEL OLIVER
YOUR NIGHT OUT — 3

<sup>\*</sup>Excluding Sunday evenings







# **Get Tickets**

#### **Online**

Visit AcadianaCenterfortheArts.org

# By Phone

Call 337-233-7060

#### **In Person**

Come by 101 W. Vermilion Street in downtown Lafayette, LA

# **Accessibility questions?**

Email Community@AcadianaCenterfortheArts.org

# Can't Make It?

We do not offer refunds on ticket sales, however, you can donate your seats to our **Silent Seats** program!

**Silent Seats** provides equal access to live performances at the Acadiana Center for the Arts. We work closely with social service organizations throughout Acadiana to offer seats – all at no cost – to individuals who may otherwise have limited exposure to attending performances in dance, music, theatre, and more.





# **Get Early Access**

Tickets sales are offered to our members before they are available to the public!

November 14, 2024:

Series tickets go on sale to members at a 15% discount

#### November 26, 2024:

Individual tickets go on sale to members

#### **December 3, 2024:**

15% member discount on series tickets ends & tickets go on sale to public

# Your Membership Supports AcA's Efforts to

#### BUILD

a thriving arts scene in Acadiana

#### **PROVIDE**

arts experiences to more than 40,000 students

#### SHARE

thoughtful art in an elevated space

#### **SERVE**

as Lafayette's premier venue for performing arts

#### CONNECT

Louisiana musicians to the global entertainment economy



# Become a Member

There is something for everyone at AcA. Memberships begin at only \$35 and offer a variety of benefits to fit your interests. Give us a call, visit the Front Desk, or scan the QR code to find the perfect membership for you!







4 — TICKETS MEMBERSHIP — 5

# 2025 AT A GLANCE

1/16&17	Roots of Fire LIVE! in Concert Louisiana Crossroads Series
1/26	Darko Brlek The Listening Room Chamber Music Series
2/13	Steve Conn: A Life of Words & Music ft. Sonny Landreth Louisiana Crossroads Series
2/23	Andrew Armstrong The Listening Room Chamber Music Series
3/9	Orit Wolf The Listening Room Chamber Music Series
3/12	An Evening with Lucinda Williams & Her Band AllStars Series
3/20	Portrait of Ludmilla as Nina Simone Spotlight Theatre & Dance Series
4/4	Black Joe Lewis & the Honeybears AllStars Series
5/1	Ghost-Note AllStars Series
5/15	Louis Michot: Rêve du Troubadour Louisiana Crossroads Series
6/6	Dwight James & the Royals NXT Series
6/20	Armed Rhymery NXT Series
7/11	Jill Butler's Joyride NXT Series
7/25	Zach Edwards & the Medicine's Liquid Light Show NXT Series
8/8	hemlock NXT Series
8/15&16	"Send on the Clowns" by Nicole Curtis Spotlight Theatre & Dance Series
9/5	Andrew Duhon AllStars Series
9/11&12	Orpheus & Euridice Spotlight Theatre and Dance Series
9/18	One Hundred Years of Clifton Chenier ft. C.J. Chenier Louisiana Crossroads Series
10/3	Ruthie Foster AllStars Series
10/24&25	Ten Tiny Dances® Spotlight Theatre & Dance Series
11/6	Kat Higgins AllStars Series
11/20	Paul Simon's "Graceland" with Scott Mulvahill Louisiana Crossroads Series
12/12	George Porter Jr. Louisiana Crossroads Series

- LOUISIANA CROSSROADS SERIES SIX-SHOW LINEUP FEATURING STORIES & MUSIC BY MUSICIANS WITH TIES TO LOUISIANA
- **ALLSTARS SERIES** SIX-SHOW LINEUP FEATURING WORLD-CLASS MUSICIANS OF MANY GENRES
- **SPOTLIGHT THEATRE & DANCE SERIES** FOUR-SHOW LINEUP FEATURING UNIQUE PERFORMANCES OF THEATRE & DANCE
- **NXT SERIES** FIVE-SHOW LINEUP WITH A FOCUS ON SUPPORTING LOCAL UP-AND-COMING ARTISTS
- THE LISTENING ROOM CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES THREE-SHOW LINE UP OF CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY CHAMBER MUSIC WITH A SPECIAL "IN-THE-ROUND" CONFIGURATION IN COLLABORATION WITH ACADIANA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
- SIGNATURE EVENTS SPECIAL EVENTS THAT SUPPORT ACA'S MISSION OF FOSTERING ART & CULTURE IN ACADIANA

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#### **Steve Conn: A Life of Words & Music**

ft. Sonny Landreth

No Depression wrote that "Steve Conn may be the best singer you've never heard." For the past half century, Steve has been the benchmark for honest and soulful music. He is poignant, humorous, and even heartbreaking at times — and we all get to listen as he bares his truth and invites us to join him.

Singer-Songwriter | Blues | Americana

Tickets: \$40, \$60, \$70

FEB

#### Louis Michot: Rêve du Troubadour

MAY 15

"Rêve du Troubadour" — "The Troubadour's Dream" — refers to the manner in which Michot pulls his music from dreams into daylight, then fills it with storytelling. Though Michot has published over 100 songs, he feels that Rêve du Troubadour is his first cohesive collection of writing as these songs tell their stories with poetic depth and utilize words peculiar to Louisiana French.

Cajun | Roots | Zydeco

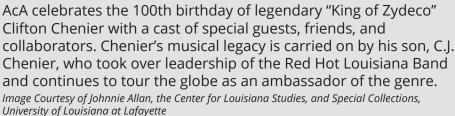
Tickets: \$40, \$60, \$70



#### One Hundred Years of Clifton Chenier SEP



ft. C.J. Chenier



Zydeco | Rock | Blues

Tickets: \$40, \$60, \$70

#### Paul Simon's "Graceland"

NOV

with Scott Mulvahill

A live performance of Paul Simon's iconic "Graceland" album by Nashville-based bassist and band leader Scott Mulvahill. Nostalgic and exhilarating, this concert explores the album's ties to the region and brings together a fusion of seasoned artists and contemporary musicians to celebrate the groundbreaking work that blends folk, rock, and African musical influences, reflecting themes of loss, redemption, and cultural connection.

Folk-Rock | Classic Rock | World

Tickets: \$45, \$65, \$75

#### George Porter Jr.



Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award recipient George Porter Jr. was a founding member of the The Meters in 1965. Known as one of the progenitors of funk, The Meters carved their own place in history with syncopated polyrhythms and grooves inherited from New Orleans' deep African musical roots. Born and raised in the Crescent City, Porter calls New Orleans home to this day.

Funk | R&B | Soul

*Tickets: \$45, \$65, \$75* 





# **Black Joe Lewis & the Honeybears**



Black Joe Lewis is an American blues, funk and soul artist influenced by Howlin' Wolf and James Brown. He formed Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybears in Austin, Texas, in 2007. In March 2009, Esquire listed Black Joe Lewis and the Honeybears as one of the "Ten Bands Set to Break Out at 2009's SXSW Festival.

Blues | Funk | Soul

Tickets: \$45, \$65, \$75

#### **Ghost-Note**



Ghost-Note is an explosion of sound. Headed by Snarky Puppy's multi-GRAMMY Award-winning percussion duo of Robert "Sput" Searight and Nate Werth, featuring an expansive roster of musicians — representing members of Prince, Snoop Dogg, Kendrick Lamar, Marcus Miller, Toto, & more—the band is pushing funk music into the future.

Funk | Hip-Hop | Jazz Fusion



Tickets: \$45, \$65, \$75





#### **Andrew Duhon**



Andrew Duhon is a songwriter who's weighted, soulful songs feel like a trustworthy dispatch from the heart of his New Orleans home to the familiar landmarks of Americana Music. No Depression call's Duhon, "a soulmate of Van Morrison lyrically and vocally." With four records out so far, his 2013 album, "The Moorings," was nominated for a GRAMMY Award.

Folk | Singer-Songwriter | Blues

Tickets: \$45, \$65, \$75

*Tickets:* \$45, \$65, \$75

#### **Ruthie Foster**



Ruthie Foster's musical journey is as eclectic and vibrant as her soulful voice. Ruthie's earliest influences were the voices of her mother, grandmother, and the gospel singers she grew up listening to. With five GRAMMY nominations to her name, Ruthie Foster stands as a testament to the power of authenticity and resilience in music.

Soul | Gospel | Blues



**Kat Higgins** 

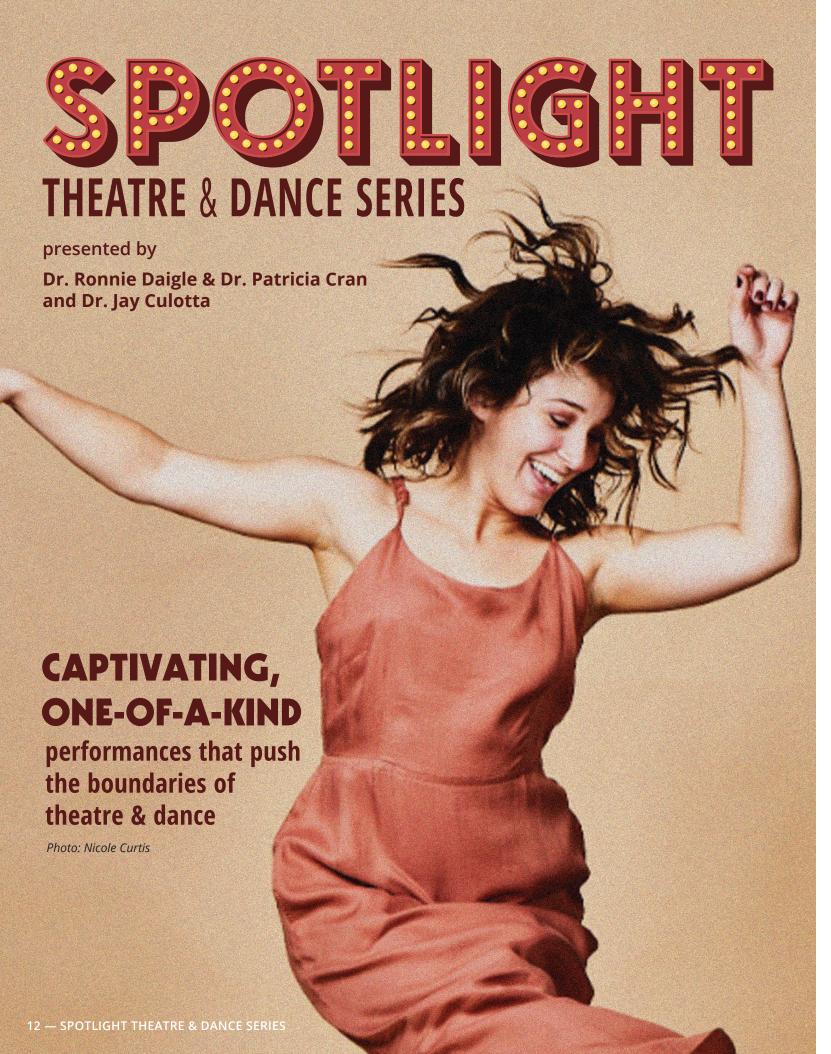




Kat Higgins' earliest memories include recording cassette tapes to send to her Granny Higgins in Ireland when she was four years old. Now a BMG published songwriter, Kat's songs include Country hits like "The Painter" (Cody Johnson), "Knowing You" (Kenny Chesney), "Mexico" (Carrie Underwood), and many others. Kat is finally hitting the road with her own music & own voice.

**Country | Singer-Songwriter | Folk** 

*Tickets:* \$45, \$65, \$75





#### **Portrait of Ludmilla as Nina Simone**

French-language play "Portrait of Ludmilla as Nina Simone" is a captivating performance halfway between tribute concert and theatrical performance where Senegalese-Cameroonian singer Ludmilla Dabo explores the life and music of legendary jazz icon Nina Simone. Blending powerful vocals, storytelling, and emotion, Ludmilla honors Simone's legacy in an unforgettable tribute to one of music's most influential figures.

A production of Cie du Kaïros – Comédie de Caen

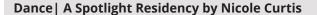
Theatre | Text & Direction by David Lescot

Tickets: \$35

# "Send on the Clowns" by Nicole Curtis AUG 15&16



"Send on the Clowns" is a playful, thought-provoking dance production by Louisiana artist Nicole Curtis, blending clowning, dance, and comedy to explore the frustrations and triumphs of human life. With laughter as a tool for connection and healing, the performance invites audiences to let their guards down, share joy, and experience the universal moments that unite us all.







#### **Orpheus & Euridice**



In Ricky Ian Gordon's "Orpheus and Euridice," the timeless myth is re-imagined through lush melodies and poignant lyrics. Euridice is a soprano, Orpheus a clarinetist, and together they weave together an intimate reflection on love, loss, and the power of music. Featuring soprano Kelly Ann Bixby as Euridice, this innovative performance blurs the traditional lines of theater, opera, and song.

Musical Theatre | Opera | Music & Text by Ricky Ian Gordon Tickets: \$35



# Ten Tiny Dances®



Ten Tiny Dances® curated by Whitney Willis Hebert at AcA features a series of ten innovative, site-specific performances, each confined to a 4x4-foot stage. The production challenges local choreographers and dancers to creatively explore movement within tight spaces, resulting in dynamic, experimental works that push the boundaries of traditional dance.

Ten Tiny Dances® was created in Portland, Oregon in 2002 and continues to be produced by founder Mike Barber and others, with permission. Please see www.tentinydances.org for more

**Dance | Performance Art** 

Tickets: \$35







#### **Armed Rhymery**

JUN 20

Armed Rhymery is a South Louisiana based duo consisting of Lafayette native Kween Mo and New Orleans native, Edward X. Armed Rhymery's beliefs are rooted in individuality and authenticity. Their latest single "The Deal" was featured on Showtime's hit series "The Chi". This performance will tell a story of the growth and perseverance that exists when you are following your purpose, taking you through the joys and pains on the journey of becoming your true self.

Hip-Hop | R&B

Tickets: \$25

#### Jill Butler's Joyride



Jill Butler has emerged on the music scene as a world class innovative jazz composer, pianist and vocalist. Her Southern Louisiana and Mississippi roots combined with her sophisticated, sultry, and soulful style is genre busting blending jazz with a touch of gospel, bayou soul, and world music. Jill's musical passion is undeniable as she elected to pivot from a successful banking career to full time traveling musician and has hit the ground running!

Jazz | Piano | Bayou Soul

Tickets: \$25



# **Zach Edwards and the Medicine's Liquid Light Show**



Zach Edwards and The Medicine bring their high energy, psychedelic southern rock sound to the AcA stage with the stunning and immersive visuals of a Live Liquid Light Show! Made famous in the 60's and 70's using just liquids and dyes, Liquid Light Shows project dynamic images that create an experience that can't be replicated.

Psychedelic | Blues | Rock

Tickets: \$25

#### hemlock



hemlock is the "phone-fi" alt-folk project of the swamp-raised, multi-disciplinary creative force Carolina Chauffe anchored between Louisiana, Austin, and Chicago, but more often on the highway. Doggedly DIY, they have built a discography spanning hundreds of self-released songs in half a decade. Their most recent release, 'amen!', is an exaltation, an ode to transformation, and marks a return to the south, both in sound and on the map.

Alt-Folk | Indie | Singer-Songwriter





NXT SERIES — 15

# CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES AN ASO & ACA Collaboration

In The Listening Room Chamber Music Series, AcA presents classical and contemporary chamber music with special guest performers. This series is presented in partnership with the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra.

*Tickets:* \$55 + taxes & fees



# Darko Brlek

**JANUARY 26, 2025** 

Join us for The Listening Room's first-ever concert featuring a woodwind instrument! Slovenian Clarinet virtuoso, Darko Brlek will perform alongside the ASO Chamber Ensemble to present a captivating repertoire of classical music arranged for the clarinet and strings.

# Andrew Armstrong

**FEBRUARY 23, 2025** 

Piano virtuoso, Andrew Armstrong and the ASO Chamber Ensemble will perform an exquisite repertoire of works by classical music masters Richard Strauss, Johann Sebastian Bach, Astor Piazzolla, and Joaquín Turina.





# Orit Wolf

**MARCH 9, 2025** 

Israeli pianist Orit Wolf will transport you through time and culture, showcasing the captivating blend of Jewish Klezmer and Hungarian Gypsy music. A mesmerizing musical journey awaits.

# SignatureEVENTS



# The Sunny Side Jazz Brunch

April 13, 2025

The Sunny Side Jazz Brunch is a benefit for the arts in the Acadiana region at the home of Kip and Carolyn Schumacher. The Sunny Side Jazz Brunch calls to the experiences of legendary Creole Jazz brunches at Commander's Palace and Brennan's.

All funds raised from the Sunny Side Jazz Brunch support the AcA's performing arts programs, offering national acts of music, dance, and theater in Lafayette, as well as the expansion of AcA's Arts in Education work into new schools and parishes around the rural regions of Acadiana.



#### **Gulf Brew**

October 18, 2025

Gulf Brew is Acadiana Center for the Arts' longest running festival! Each October, AcA transforms Downtown Lafayette into a beer-centric street festival with more than 200 different types of craft beer, live music, arts & crafts vendors, yard games, a Family Fun zone, & more!



#### **Pelican Ball**

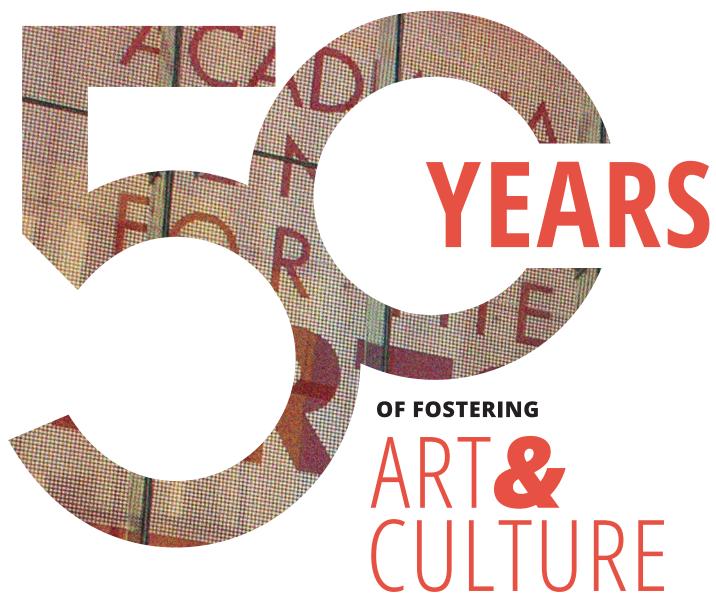
December 6, 2025

Pelican Ball recognizes the people who have shaped the arts in Acadiana through their commitment and service. We honor both individuals who have contributed directly to the arts council's work and individuals who have shaped the broader cultural life in Acadiana through their work.

We honor these individuals, and we celebrate our thriving culture in the best way we know how: with a night full of food, music, and artful surprises amidst the core 'flock' of Acadiana's cultural community.

16 — THE LISTENING ROOM CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES
SIGNATURE EVENTS — 17





**This year**, the AcA proudly celebrates its 50th anniversary, marking five decades of creativity, inspiration, and community. The AcA has grown from a small arts council into a central pillar for the arts in Louisiana, with a far-reaching impact on our community and our state. As we honor this significant milestone, we look back on countless memories and groundbreaking achievements, including the establishment of key educational programs that have inspired hundreds of thousands of students since our founding.

#### IN ACADIANA

In celebration of this 50th anniversary, AcA also announces plans for a \$5 million endowment **campaign** in order create a significant investment in the future of arts and culture in Acadiana.

Through this initiative and many commemorative events, the AcA will continue to nurture artistic expression, support creative endeavors, and build connections that will resonate for generations.

Here's to the next 50 years of art, culture, and community!



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AcA Board Secretary

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Standard Title

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