RENTER the feeling of that special moment when you take your seat, the lights go down and the curtain slowly rises? Get ready to experience it once again on your hometown stage of Rockefeller Arts Center.

The 2021-22 Lake Shore Savings Season will be a full extravaganza featuring a variety of performing arts events. The following pages are your guide to some of what is coming this year. Mark your calendars now for your favorite shows!

FALL 2021

Here Come The Sun: The Music of The Beatles

Thurs., Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m., King Concert Hall
A DFT Communications Pops Series Event Presented by Rockefeller Arts Center

Here Comes The Sun is comprised of five extraordinary vocalists and multi-instrumentalists who recreate the fun and excitement of the greatest rock n’ roll experience ever – The Beatles. From “Twist and Shout” to “Yesterday” and from “Day Tripper” to “Come Together,” the Here Comes The Sun Band doesn’t imitate, they celebrate. This group of college friends forgoes the wigs and costumes to focus on what’s important: the music. The songs, enthusiasm and musicianship add up to a high-energy concert!

The Wild Party

Book, Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

Oct. 22 & 23 at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 24 at 2:00 p.m.
Oct. 28 - 30 at 7:30 p.m., Marvel Theatre

Walter Gloor Mainstage Series Event
Presented by the Department of Theatre and Dance

Directed by Dr. Jessica Hillman-McCord, “The Wild Party” is a mystery tale set in the prohibition era. Written by Andrew Lippa, it was an Off-Broadway gem that earned a number of accolades, including Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Obie awards. Based on Joseph Moncure March’s 1928 narrative poem of the same name, “The Wild Party” is described as a “darkly brilliant show featuring one of the most exciting, pulse-racing scores ever written.”
Halloween Spooktacular Pops with WNYCO

Fri., Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m., King Concert Hall

*A DFT Communications Pops Series Event
*Presented by Rockefeller Arts Center

Rockefeller Arts joins with the Western New York Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Glen Cortese for an evening of hauntingly beautiful classical melodies and spooky pops hits. Don your favorite costume, grab your trick-or-treat bucket and join us for a seasonal-themed concert. The repertoire ranges from classics like Mussorgsky’s “Night on Bald Mountain” to pop favorites like John Williams’ “Harry Potter Suite” and Michael Jackson’s “Thriller.”

Il matrimonio segreto

Nov. 12 & 13, 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 14, 2 p.m.
Marvel Theatre

*The Hillman Opera sponsored by Gugino & Ryel

“Il matrimonio segreto” ("The secret marriage") is an 18th century dramatic comedy by composer Domenico Cimarosa and librettist Giovanni Bertati. Based on the 1766 play “The Clandestine Marriage” by George Colman the Elder and David Garrick, it debuted in 1792 in Vienna. Presented in Italian with English supertitles.

Mark Nizer: Expect the Impossible

Fri., Nov. 19, 7 p.m.
Marvel Theatre

*A Kaleidoscope Family Series Event
*Presented by Rockefeller Arts Center

Mark Nizer is one of the greatest entertainment comedians and jugglers performing today. Making the impossible possible and the improbable probable, Mark Nizer has taken his one-man show to a variety of venues around the world. Don’t miss the combination of original comedy, world class juggling, movement, music and technology!

The Normal Heart

Book, Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

Dec. 2 & 3 at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 4 & 5 at 2:00 p.m.
Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m., Bartlett Theatre

*Walter Gloor Mainstage Series Event
*Presented by the Department of Theatre and Dance

Set in New York in the early 1980s, “The Normal Heart” is Larry Kramer’s “powerful, passionate and controversial play” that was the first work to tackle the subject of AIDS in a serious and poignant manner. This drama centers on Ned Weeks, a gay activist enraged at the indifference of public officials and the gay community. While trying to save the world from itself, Ned must confront the personal toll of AIDS. Directed by Paul W. Mockovak,
Christmas with The 5 Browns
Sat., Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., King Concert Hall
A DFT Communications Pops Series Event
Presented by Rockefeller Arts Center

Five polished musicians playing five highly polished grand pianos all on the same stage: that’s the visual and acoustic wonder of Christmas with The 5 Browns. Ryan, Melody, Gregory, Deondra, and Desirae all attended New York’s Juilliard School, the first family of five siblings ever accepted simultaneously. Their dynamic program will be a mix of popular and classical holiday favorites including “Carol of the Bells,” music from “The Nutcracker,” and a truly fresh “Sleigh Ride.”

SPRING 2022

Comedy & Ventriloquism, a Family Friendly Show with Lynn Trefzger
Fri., Feb. 4, 7 p.m. Marvel Theatre
A Kaleidoscope Family Series Event Presented by Rockefeller Arts Center

For over 30 years, Lynn Trefzger has given life to a trunk full of comical characters and created a show of non-stop laughter. Audiences are treated to Lynn’s vocal illusion talents, when they meet a drunken but lovable camel, a cantankerous old man, a feisty little girl, and you may even see some other audience members who are brought up to the stage for the action! Lynn’s show is spontaneously funny, no two shows are alike!

Mr. Burns a post-electric play
By Anne Washburn
Presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals
Feb. 25 & 26 at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 27 at 2:00 p.m.
March 3 - 5 at 7:30 p.m., Bartlett Theatre
Walter Gloor Mainstage Series Event
Presented by the Department of Theatre and Dance

This imaginative dark musical comedy propels audiences forward nearly a century, following a new civilization stumbling into its future. After the collapse of civilization, a group of survivors share a campfire and begin to piece together the plot of “The Simpsons” episode “Cape Feare” entirely from memory. “Mr. Burns a post-electric play” premiered at the Woolly Mammoth Theater Company in Washington DC in May, 2012, and had its New York City debut at Playwrights Horizons in August, 2013. It earned Anne Washburn the 2015 Whiting Award for Drama.
Pipeline
By Dominique Morisseau
Presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals

April 8 & 9 at 7:30 p.m., April 10 at 2:00 p.m.
Marvel Theatre

Walter Gloor Mainstage Series Event
Presented by the Department of Theatre and Dance

Nya, an inner-city public high school teacher, is committed to her students but desperate to give her only son Omari opportunities they’ll never have. When a controversial incident at his upstate private school threatens to get him expelled, Nya must confront his rage and her own choices as a parent. But will she be able to reach him before a world beyond her control pulls him away? With profound compassion and lyricism, “Pipeline” brings an urgent conversation powerfully to the fore. Dominique Morisseau pens a deeply moving story of a mother’s fight to give her son a future — without turning her back on the community that made him who he is.

Fredonia Dance Ensemble
Directed by Paula J. Peters

May 6 & 7 at 7:30 p.m., May 7 at 2:00 p.m.
Marvel Theatre

Walter Gloor Mainstage Series Event
Presented by the Department of Theatre and Dance

Fredonia’s talented Dance majors will take center stage in the 16th annual version of the concert featuring a variety of dance styles with pieces choreographer by the Dance faculty and special guest artists.

Commencement-Eve Pops 2022:
Salute to the Big Apple

Fri., May 20, 7:30 p.m., King Concert Hall

A DFT Communications Pops Series Event
Presented by Rockefeller Arts Center

From Duke Ellington’s classic “Take the A Train” and Frank Sinatra’s iconic “New York, New York” to Billy Joel’s “New York State of Mind” and Weather Report’s “Birdland,” more than 3,000 songs have been written about New York City or one of its famous landmarks. Twenty of the most-loved such tunes will be chosen for Rockefeller Arts Center’s 2022 Commencement-Eve concert. The show, which is a Fredonia tradition spanning three decades, will feature an ensemble of Fredonia’s most talented student singers and dancers, backed up by the 19-piece Fredonia Jazz Orchestra directed by Dr. Nick Weiser.

Fredonia Campus Ticket Office, Williams Center: 673-3501