



For Immediate Release:
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2018-19 SEASON

CAPTAIN SCOTT KELLY, LILY TOMLIN, PAULA POUNDSTONE, STORM LARGE, TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY, PETER SAGAL, FLAMENCO VIVO CARLOTA SANTANA, DAMIEN SNEED, CHE MALAMBO, KAT EDMONSON HIGHLIGHT THE 2018-19 SEASON AT THE RICHARD AND KAREN CARPENTER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Wit & Wisdom Series • Cabaret Series • Dance Series • Wow! Series • Sunday Afternoon Concert Series • Family Events, Comedy, Music, and More

LONG BEACH, California. — The Executive Director of the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center, Megan Kline Crockett announced the 2018-19 Season this week, which features an eclectic mix of music, comedy, dance, spoken word and family-friendly performances that reflect the broad cultural landscape of the greater Long Beach community. The Carpenter Center, located on the campus of Cal State Long Beach, opens its 24th Season on Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018; tickets go on sale May 23, 2018.

“For over 20 years, the Carpenter Center has helped to enrich the CSULB campus and our Southern California neighbors with engaging artists that are as wonderfully diverse as our own city,” Executive Director Megan Kline Crockett said. “The 2018-19 Season presents an exceptional array of performances that reveal the imagination, creativity and dazzling talent of artists from all over the world. Patrons will discover new artists as well as some favorite performers from the past 20 years.”

Find all of the season’s upcoming events below, along with artist links and date information.

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Wit & Wisdom Series

The Carpenter Center's popular Wit & Wisdom Series brings together three celebrities of comedy and broadcast. This season, **Lily Tomlin**, a force in American comedy since the 1960s where her many credits include the movies *9 to 5* and *I Heart Huckabees* and Netflix's *Grace and Frankie*, now in its fourth season, returns to the Carpenter Center for an evening of comedy on Sept. 29. *** Comedian **Paula Poundstone** makes a highly anticipated return to the Carpenter Center on Jan. 19. The author, host, actor, and commentator has a long list of accomplishments, along with her many comedy specials like the HBO variety show *The Paula Poundstone Show*, she is a regular panelist on NPR's *Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!* *** The host of NPR's weekly news quiz *Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!* and PBS's *Constitution USA*, **Peter Sagal** provides insightful and colorful commentary on how the Constitution works and its relevance today in a thought-provoking evening on Mar. 16.

- [An Evening with Lily Tomlin](#)
Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018 at 8 p.m.
- [An Evening with Paula Poundstone](#)
Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019 at 8 p.m.
- [Peter Sagal – Host of NPR's Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!](#)
Saturday, Mar. 16, 2019 at 8 p.m.

Cabaret Series

The Carpenter Center's **Cabaret Series** is an intimate performance experience where patrons sit on the theater's stage at tables less than 40 feet from the artist. Patrons have the option to come early for dinner or a drink before enjoying the show. *** **David Burnham**, from Broadway's *Wicked* and *A Light in the Piazza*, performs Broadway hits and contemporary classics in *Mostly Broadway*. *** Known as "The Stradivarius Voice," **Maureen McGovern** performs the songs she brought to the big screen including "Can You Read My Mind" from *Superman*, "We May Never Love Like This Again" from *The Towering Inferno*, and the Oscar Award-winning "The Morning After" from *The Poseidon Adventure*. *** **Kat Edmonson** puts a jazzy twist on the Great American Songbook as she also performs original songs from her fourth album *Old Fashioned Gal*, released on April 27, 2018. *** Pink Martini vocalist **Storm Large** performs her own renditions of the American songbook, Broadway showstoppers, and classic anthems, along with her own original love songs, backed by her band **Le Bonheur**.

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- [Mostly Broadway starring David Burnham](#)
Wednesday-Thursday, Oct. 3-4, 2018
- [Maureen McGovern](#)
Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 12-13, 2018
- [Kat Edmonson](#)
Wednesday-Thursday, Jan. 16-17, 2019
- [Storm Large with Le Bonheur](#)
Wednesday-Thursday, Apr. 24-25, 2019

All Cabaret performances start at 7 p.m. Optional dinner service 6-6:50 p.m.

WOW! Series

The Wow series presents dazzling feats and daring stunts with performances that have a “wow” factor— all while being fun for the whole family. This year’s Wow acts are from China, Argentina, and the United States as they bring spectacles to the stage that have roots in their own cultural traditions. *** **Cirque Mechanics** return to the Carpenter Center with *42ft – A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels* exploring the lore and history of the one-ring circus in a modern and mechanical big top experience with strongmen, acrobats, and aerialists. *** Hailing from Cangzhou, Hebei province in the People’s Republic of China, **Golden Dragon Acrobats** perform aerial stunts, ancient dances, and gravity-defying balancing acts that represent the time-honored traditions that began twenty-five centuries ago. *** The Argentinian ensemble **Che Malambo** celebrates the traditions of the South American gaucho with a performance of percussive dance and music incorporating the fast-paced footwork of zapateo, drumming of traditional bombos, and whirling the cord and stone weapons, boleadoras.

- [Cirque Mechanics 42FT—A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels](#)
Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018 at 8 p.m.
- [Golden Dragon Acrobats](#)
Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019 at 2 p.m.
Saturday, Jan 26, 2019 at 8 p.m.
- [Che Malambo](#)
Saturday, Apr. 27, 2019 at 8 p.m.

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Dance Series

Specifically designed for staging dance performances, the **Carpenter Center** is a remarkable venue for witnessing dance. The **Dance Series** this season brings three vastly different dance traditions by companies that are pushing the boundaries of their form to the Carpenter Center. Los Angeles-based company **CONTRA TIEMPO** fuses Salsa, Afro-Cuban, Hip-hop, and contemporary dance to create culturally engaging work; on Nov. 10, they perform with the rousing East-LA band **Las Cafeteras** in an immersive new work, *joyUS justUS*, exploring joy as the ultimate expression of resistance. *** “The Keeper of Flamenco,” New York-based company **Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana** performs traditional flamenco while taking the art form in new directions. *** The company that inspired “Riverdance,” **Trinity Irish Dance Company** performs their American-Irish Dance repertoire with percussive power, aerial grace, progressive choreography that is still true to the essence of Irish Dance.

- [CONTRA TIEMPO with Las Cafeteras – joyUS justUS](#)
Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018 at 8 p.m.
- [Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana](#)
Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019 at 8 p.m.
- [Trinity Irish Dance Company](#)
Saturday, Mar. 2, 2019 at 8 p.m.

Sunday Afternoon Concert Series

This season’s **Sunday Afternoon Concert Series** kicks off with James Garner and his band recreating Johnny Cash’s biggest hits, weaving in historical accounts and personal tales, by marking the 50th anniversary of his famous concert in **Folsom at 50**. *** Next, award-winning recording artists Lee Lessack and Johnny Rogers perform Simon and Garfunkel hits like “Mrs. Robinson,” “Bridge Over Troubled Waters,” and “The Sound of Silence” in **Simon and Garfunkel [Revisited]**, a recreation of the legendary duo’s 1981 reunion in Central Park. *** On Jan. 27, producer Damian Sneed pays tribute to the memory of Martin Luther King Jr. in musical celebration inspired by the words and actions of Dr. King. **We Shall Overcome – A Celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr** is a living lineage of music and culture with an ensemble of singers and musicians performing songs by Aretha Franklin, Duke Ellington, Stevie Wonder, Nina Simon, and more. *** Closing the series is the French production **Piaf! The Show**, a

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musical fête to the French chanteuse Edith Piaf narrating the rags-to-riches story of the Parisian singer's career through her songs and previously unreleased photographs and images of Edith Piaf's Paris.

- [**Folsom at 50: James Garner - A Musical Tribute to Johnny Cash**](#)
Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018 at 2 p.m.
- **Simon and Garfunkel [Revisited]**
Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018 at 2 p.m.
- **We Shall Overcome – A Celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.**
Sunday, Jan. 27, 2019 at 2 p.m.
- [**Piaf! The Show**](#)
Sunday, Mar. 17, 2019 at 2 p.m.

All Sunday Afternoon Concert Series performances are at 2:00 pm

Single Events

The Carpenter Center offers something for everyone with this eclectic mix of performances. In time for the holidays, jazz pianist **David Benoit's Charlie Brown Christmas** returns to the Carpenter Center on Dec. 15 for an evening of Vince Guaraldi tunes with a special appearance by the All-American Boys Chorus. *** After 10 sold-out performance at the Carpenter Center, **The Capitol Steps** return to kick off 2019 with brand new, up-to-the minute political satire songs aimed at the political happenings from the campaign trail to the Senate floor. *** On Mar. 9, American astronaut **Captain Scott Kelly** will share stories from his 143 million-mile mission where he spent a year at the International Space Station. Part of the Carpenter Center's fourth annual President's Party, a limited number of tickets will be available for a dinner and reception with Captain Kelly, with individual tickets separately available for the show only. *** Jazz drummer **Antonio Sánchez** recreates his Grammy Award-winning score from *BiRDMAN: Or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)*, in a live event, **BiRDMAN: FILM + LIVE DRUM SCORE**, where Sánchez performs the score as the film is projected onto the big screen, on Mar. 15. *** **Pink Floyd LaserSpectacular** returns to the Carpenter Center on Mar. 22 following five sold-out appearances with two hours of innovative laser light projections choreographed to the greatest hits of Pink Floyd. *** **The Phantom Tollbooth**, comes to life on stage using puppets, masks, magic, and original music. In this classic tale by Norton Juster, Milo enters an enchanting and magical world that takes him on the adventure of his life. This family-friendly performance is recommended for ages three and up.

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- [David Benoit's Charlie Brown Christmas](#)
Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018 at 8 p.m.
- [The Capitol Steps - Make America Grin Again](#)
Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019 at 2 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019 at 8 p.m.
- [Captain Scott Kelly - The Sky Is Not The Limit: Lessons From A Year In Space](#)
Saturday, Mar. 9, 2019 at 8 p.m.
- [BiRDMAN: FiLM + LiVE DRUM SCORE, Performance by Antonio Sánchez](#)
Friday, Mar. 15, 2019 at 8 p.m.
- [Pink Floyd LaserSpectacular](#)
Friday, Mar. 22, 2019 at 8 p.m.
- [The Phantom Tollbooth](#)
Saturday, Mar. 23, 2019 at 4 p.m.
Perfect for ages 3 and up and the grown-ups who love them.

Patrons enjoy the best seats in the house when they subscribe to a series. Series subscribers also receive other benefits, including significant discounts on single tickets. A 2018-19 subscription order form is available online at CarpenterArts.org.

The WOW! Series three-event subscription is \$89, the Wit and Wisdom Series three-event subscription is \$149, the Dance Series three-event subscription is \$99, the Sunday Afternoon Concert Series four-event subscription is \$99, and the Cabaret Series four-event subscription with dinner starts at \$228. A Cabaret series subscription for the show only starts at \$140. Tickets will be available for purchase online at CarpenterArts.org on May 23, 2018, with select discount seats offered online until July 21 (subject to availability). All programs, performers, prices, dates and times are subject to change. Presentations are made possible in part by Season Media Partner KPCC 89.3-FM and Season Hospitality Sponsor Gelson's Market.

For additional information, contact the Arts Ticket Office at (562) 985-7000 or visit the box office on the Cal State Long Beach campus at 6200 E. Atherton St. Box office hours are Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and one hour before each performance.

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