

THE ARTS

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Art and Design ♦ Theatre and Dance ♦ Music



26-27 SEASON

arts.messiah.edu

AUGUST

28

2026 Annual Juried Student Exhibition
Awards ceremony and closing reception
Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery, 2 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

9/11–
10/11

Dirty Laundry: The Hidden History
Gallery Exhibition
Climenhaga Building, Aughinbaugh Gallery
Sept. 11 – Oct. 11
Dirty Laundry: Li Chiao-Ping, Byron Au
Yong, Hong Huo
Multimedia Dance Performance
Climenhaga Building, Miller Theater
Sept. 18 and 19, 7:30 p.m.
Reception
Climenhaga Building, Aughinbaugh Gallery
Sept. 18, 8:30 p.m.

18

Messiah University Wind Ensemble
James Colonna, conductor
Messiah University Symphonic Winds
Travis Weller, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

1–4

"33 Variations"
Written by Moisés Kaufman
Featuring Beethoven's "Diabelli Variations"
Directed by Daniel Inouye
Richard Roberson, pianist
In "33 Variations" by Moisés Kaufman, the pursuit of understanding becomes both an intellectual and spiritual journey. As Ludwig van Beethoven labors over his *Diabelli Variations*, a modern-day scholar follows in his footsteps, determined to uncover the mystery behind his relentless work. Across time, their stories unfold in parallel, each marked by urgency, limitation, and a deep longing to make sense of the world. With live music woven throughout, this Tony award-winning play offers a meditation on legacy, vocation, and the ways in which even life's fragments may

be gathered into something meaningful. Both intellectually engaging and deeply human, "33 Variations" invites us to consider what it means to truly listen.
Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater
Oct. 1–3, 8 p.m.
Oct. 4, 3 p.m.

10/2–
11/15

Alumni Highlight: Justin Speers
Climenhaga Building, Glass Gallery
Oct. 2–Nov. 15
Artist's talk and reception
Climenhaga Building, Glass Gallery
Oct. 2, 4:30 p.m.

3

Messiah University Symphony
Orchestra Family Concert and
Instrument Petting Zoo
Timothy Dixon, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 11 a.m.

Messiah University Concert Choir
and Alumni Reunion Concert
Joy Meade, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 3 p.m.

Messiah University Jazz Ensembles
William Stowman and
Todd Goranson, directors
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

9, 10

Shoeless Joe Musical Theatre Cabaret
Created and directed by Susan Hurley
A new cabaret every time! Uniquely built for each new cast.
Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater
Oct. 9, 8 p.m.
Oct. 10, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

10/30–
12/13

Impacted: Wesley T. Brown
Climenhaga Building, Aughinbaugh Gallery
Artist's talk and reception
High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall
Nov. 13, 4:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

3 Jazz Combo
Todd Goranson, director
High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

**5 Piano Ensemble Concert
"Candlelight Nocturnes"**
Olivia Ellis, director
Experience an intimate evening of expressive piano music illuminated by candlelight, beginning with coffee, desserts, and warm community.
High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

6 Messiah University Wind Ensemble
James Colonna, conductor
Messiah University Symphonic Winds
Travis Weller, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

7 Messiah University Percussion Ensemble
Erik Forst, director
High Center
Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

9, 16 Messiah University Chamber Ensembles
High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

10 Messiah University Brass Choir
William Stowman, conductor
Messiah University Brass Studios
Mike Harcrow, John Cradler, Jon Moyer and William Stowman, directors
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

12-15, 19-22 "Dancing at Lughnasa"
Written by Brian Friel
Directed by Ed Cohn
Step back into the summer of 1936 County Donegal, Ireland, as Messiah University proudly presents Brian Friel's award-winning masterpiece, "Dancing at Lughnasa". This is more than a play—it is a poignant, unforgettable portrait of

five unmarried sisters, the Mundy family, clinging to tradition and each other as the modern world begins to close in. Witness their struggles, their deep-seated desires, and the fragile, unforgettable moment of feverish release when they dance wildly on the verge of change. Friel's work is a powerful, life-affirming meditation on memory, loss, and the bittersweet intensity of family love, guaranteed to stir your soul and leave you breathless.
Climenhaga Building, Miller Theater
Nov. 12-14 and 20-21, 8 p.m.
Nov. 15 and 22, 3 p.m.
Nov. 19, 10 a.m. (school performance for junior high and senior high school audiences)

13 Messiah University Symphony Orchestra
Timothy Dixon, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

19 Blue Christmas Dance Concert
Directed by Gregg Hurley
Messiah University dance students acknowledge the struggles and challenges of this broken and fallen world with this lament-driven dance experience. Reflect with us through the medium of dance with this intimate evening of words, music, and dance that will tenderly prepare us all for the joyous season of Advent.
Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater, 7 p.m.

11/20-12/13 Course Highlight: Typography
Climenhaga Building, Glass Gallery
Reception: Dec. 2, 2 p.m.



DECEMBER

6

Messiah University Christmas Concert
*Featuring Brass Quintets, Handbells,
Men's and Women's Ensembles, Chamber
Singers and Concert Choir*
High Center, Parmer Hall,
1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

8

**Messiah University Musica Nova:
Student Compositions**
High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.

4, 6,
11-12

Senior Series
*Works created and presented by
Theatre and Dance Department Seniors*
Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater
Dec. 4, 8 p.m., Dec. 6, 3 p.m.
Dec. 11-12, 8 p.m.

13

Messiah University Guitar Ensemble
Gavin Horning, director
High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 1 p.m.

JANUARY

1/16-
2/7

Senior Art Educator Exhibition
Culminating artworks by seniors in the
B.S. art education program
Climenhaga Galleries
Reception: Climenhaga Upper Galleries
Jan. 16, 4:30 p.m.

1/22-
2/28

Art & Design Faculty Exhibition
Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery
Artists' talk and reception
Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery
Jan. 29, 4:30 p.m.



29, 30

Shoeless Joe Musical Theatre Cabaret
Created and directed by Susan Hurley
A new cabaret every time! Uniquely built
for each new cast.
Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater
Jan. 29, 8 p.m.
Jan. 30, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

FEBRUARY

12-28

**Course Highlight:
Installation Art and Public Sculpture**
Climenhaga Building, Glass Gallery

12

**Messiah University
Symphony Orchestra**
Timothy Dixon, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

19

Messiah University Wind Ensemble
James Colonna, conductor
Messiah University Symphonic Winds
Travis Weller, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

19, 20

**Humanities Symposium
Dance Concert**
Directed by Gregg Hurley
Dancing is a scholarly pursuit. Watch and
consider how the dance program tackles
the annual Humanities symposium topic
in its own unique way.
Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater
Feb. 19, 4 p.m. and Feb. 20, 8 p.m.

25-28

**"The Stinky Cheese Man and Other
Fairly Stupid Tales"**
Written by John Glore
Based on the Book by Jon Scieszka
and Lane Smith
Directed by Ed Cohn
Theater for Young Audiences
Touring Production
Based on the book by Jon Scieszka
and Lane Smith, this hilarious play
deconstructs the tradition of the fairy
tale. Characters slide in and out of their
tales, and nothing is quite as you

remember it! Poor Jack. He's got to use his wits to save himself from the terrible Giant, so he begins telling his own versions of some very familiar stories: a tortoise racing a hair-growing hare; Cinderumplestiltskin; Little Red Running Shorts; and a couple of princesses who kiss frogs and sleep on peas. Jack must not only tell tales as fast as he can for as long as he can to avoid being eaten, but he must also overcome the disturbances caused by that pesky, bread-obsessed Red Hen and that annoying Stinky Cheese Man! "The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales" shares the joys of making stories your own and creating new possibilities from the familiar. *Climenhaga Building, Miller Theater Feb. 25-27, 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 28, 3 p.m. Tour-March 1-5*

28 Kuhlman Competition

*High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.*

MARCH

19 Piano Ensemble Concert "A Disney Piano Celebration"

Olivia Ellis, director

A fun evening of Disney favorites brought to life through piano duets and creative collaborations. Featuring piano arrangements alongside special guest performers, this concert celebrates music, teamwork, and a little Disney magic on stage.

High Center, Parmer Hall 7:30 p.m.

19,20 Senior Series

*Works created and presented by
Theatre and Dance Department Seniors
Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater
March 19-20, 8 p.m.*

20

Messiah University Choral Showcase
*Featuring Concert Choir, Chamber Singers,
Men's Ensemble and Women's Ensemble
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.*

3/20-
4/11

Senior Exhibition I

B.A. studio art
*Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery
Reception
Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery
March 20, 4:30 p.m.*

23

Jazz Combo

Todd Goranson, director
*High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.*

APRIL

I

"Opera Workshop"

Damian Savarino, director
*Climenhaga Building
Poorman Black Box Theater, 7:30 p.m.*

8-11,
13-14

"Alice by Heart"

**Written by Steven Sater, Jessie Nelson,
and Duncan Sheik
Directed by Daniel Inouye**

In the rubble of the London Blitz of World War II, Alice Spencer's budding teen life is turned upside down, and she and her dear friend Alfred are forced to take shelter in an underground tube station. When the ailing Alfred is quarantined, Alice encourages him to escape with her into their cherished book and journey down the rabbit hole to Wonderland. As they travel through the tale, "Alice by Heart" explores the poignancy of first love, coming to terms with loss, and finding the courage to move forward. This musical encourages us all to celebrate the transformational power of the imagination, even in the harshest of times.

Climenhaga Building, Miller Theater
April 8-10 and 14, 8 p.m.
April 10-11, 3 p.m.
April 13, 10 a.m. (school performance
for junior high and senior high school
audiences)

12,19

**Messiah University
Chamber Ensembles**

High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

13

Messiah University Brass Choir
William Stowman, conductor
Messiah University Symphonic Winds
Travis Weller, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

16

Mozart's Requiem
Messiah University Symphony Orchestra
Concert Choir, Choral Arts Society,
Men's and Women's Ensembles
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

4/17-
5/2

Senior Exhibition II
BFA Graphic Design & BFA Studio Art
April 17 - May 2
Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery
Reception
Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery
April 17, 4:30 p.m.

18

Messiah University Wind Ensemble
James Colonna, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall, 2 p.m.

23,24

**Culmination '27:
Spring Dance Concert**
Directed by Gregg Hurley
Dancing is an artistic endeavor.
Celebrate spring and the dance
accomplishments of Messiah
University's theatre and dance
department in an offering of favorite
dance pieces from the year, new faculty

work, student adjudicated creations,
and senior capstone projects all in one
fun and glorious dance concert!
Climenhaga Building, Miller Theater
April 23, 8 p.m. and April 24, 2 p.m.

24

Messiah University Handbell Choir
Daniel Brownell, conductor
High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Messiah University Jazz Ensembles
William Stowman and
Todd Goranson, directors
High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

29

**Messiah University
Musica Nova: Student Compositions**
High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

MAY

1

Messiah University Guitar Ensemble
Gavin Horning, director
High Center
High Foundation Recital Hall, 1 p.m.

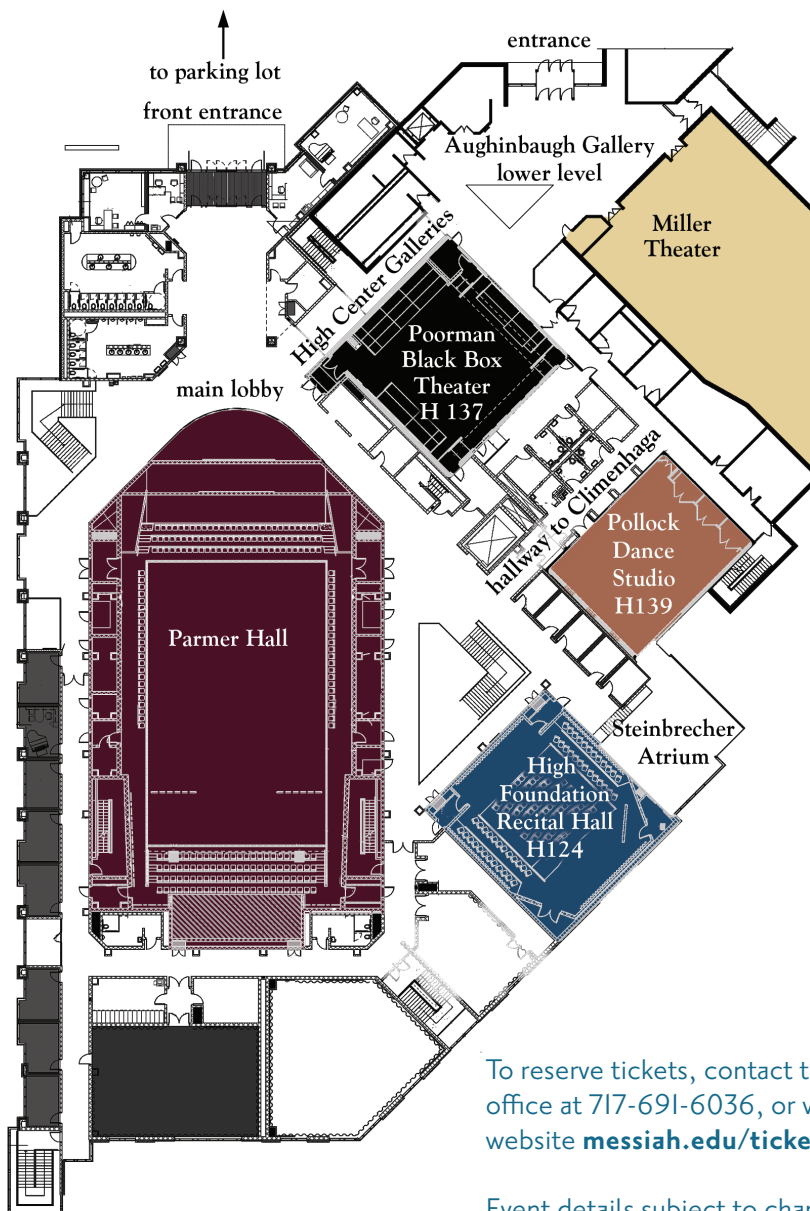
**Messiah University
Percussion Ensemble**
Erik Forst, conductor
High Center, Parmer Hall 5 p.m.

5/21-
8/27

Annual Juried Student Show
Student work chosen from
the 2026-2027 academic year
Closing Reception
Climenhaga Building
Aughinbaugh Art Gallery
Aug. 27, 4:30 p.m.



Calvin and Janet High Center for Worship and Performing Arts



To reserve tickets, contact the box office at 717-691-6036, or visit our website messiah.edu/tickets.

Event details subject to change. Please see arts.messiah.edu for complete information or call 717-796-5045.