

2026-2027 SEASON

Calvin and Janet HIGH CENTER

for Worship and Performing Arts



2026-2027 SEASON *at a glance*

Sept. 18 and 19, 2026
**LI CHIAO-PING DANCE:
“DIRTY LAUNDRY”**

Sept. 11 – Oct. 11, 2026
**“DIRTY LAUNDRY”
EXHIBIT**

Oct. 1 – 4, 2026
33 VARIATIONS

Oct. 30 – Dec. 13, 2026
**IMPACTED:
WESLEY T. BROWN**

Nov. 14, 2026
DOMINIC ARMSTRONG

Dec. 6, 2026
**MESSIAH UNIVERSITY
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Dec. 18, 2026
**SUSQUEHANNA
CHORALE**

Jan. 17, 2027
**PETER SIROTIN
AND FRIENDS**

Feb. 8, 2027
THE KING'S SINGERS

Feb. 18, 2027
MICHAEL S. ROTH

Feb. 27, 2027
SAXESSENTIAL

April 8 – 11, 13 and 14, 2027
ALICE BY HEART

April 16, 2027
MOZART'S “REQUIEM”



About the High Center Season

Engage the arts and humanities through a special yearlong series of lectures, concerts, and theatrical and dance productions featuring our talented student and faculty performers, as well as distinguished guest lecturers and visiting performing artists.

When you visit, you will see (and hear) for yourself why the Calvin and Janet High Center for Worship and Performing Arts at Messiah University has quickly become known as one of the acoustically and aesthetically finest performance venues in our region!

**To learn more, visit
messiah.edu/highcenterseason**



Li Chiao-Ping Dance

“Dirty Laundry”

**BY LI CHIAO-PING, BYRON
AU YONG, AND HONG HUO**

Sponsored by the Performing Arts Series

Rooted in choreographer Li Chiao-Ping’s childhood at her family’s Chong Wo Laundry in San Francisco, “Dirty Laundry” is a visceral, multimedia dance performance where love and care collide with fatigue and sacrifice. Confronting the surge of anti-Asian hate during the pandemic, this powerful work weaves together physical choreography, spoken text, video projections and soundscapes to illuminate the lived experiences of Asian

American women — stories of erasure, resilience, immigrant labor, and generational trauma. Intimate yet urgent, the ensemble-driven performance invites audiences into a space of shared vulnerability and honest reckoning. “Dirty Laundry” is more than a performance — it’s a conversation about identity, belonging and what it means to be seen.

Ticket prices are \$20 for adults; \$5 for Messiah University students (with ID) and youth (18 and under). To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.

RELATED EXHIBIT

*Dirty Laundry:
The Hidden History*

By Hong Huo, Joanna Guo, and Enoch Liu

Exhibit

SEPT. 11 – OCT. 11, 2026

Aughinbaugh Art Gallery

Reception

SEPT. 18, 2026 • 8:30 P.M.

(following 7:30 p.m. performance)

Aughinbaugh Art Gallery

OCT. 1-3, 2026 ♦ 8 P.M.

OCT. 4, 2026 ♦ 3 P.M.

Poorman Black Box Theater

33 Variations

Written by Moisés Kaufman

Featuring Beethoven's "Diabelli Variations"

DIRECTED BY DANIEL INOUE

RICHARD ROBERSON, PIANIST



*Sponsored by the Department of
Theatre and Dance*

This contemporary American play examines the creative process through parallel narratives: Beethoven's composition of the Diabelli Variations and musicologist Katherine Brandt's quest to understand why he wrote them.

As Katherine battles ALS, the play explores profound questions about artistic obsession, mortality and the meaning we create in the face of inevitable loss.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults; \$7 for Messiah University students and employees (with ID), youth (18 and under), and seniors (60+). Tickets are buy-one-get-one-free for opening night! To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.

Wesley T. Brown

“Impacted”



Sponsored by the Department of Art and Design

Wesley T. Brown is a ceramic artist whose work explores struggle, resilience and renewal. Combining smooth wheel-thrown forms with heavily textured hand-built slabs, he creates vessels

that occupy the space between the familiar and the unknown. Each piece carries the marks of experience — yet remains functional, affirming that what feels broken can be transformed into something purposeful. Brown holds an MFA from Indiana University, Bloomington, and is currently assistant professor of ceramics at Penn State University, University Park. His work invites close attention; cloaked in black, each vessel reveals its richly storied surfaces only to the observant eye.



Exhibit

OCT. 30 – DEC. 13, 2026

Aughinbaugh Art Gallery

Artist Talk and Reception

NOV. 13, 2026 • 4:30 P.M.

High Foundation Recital Hall

Dominic Armstrong

Tenor

Sponsored by the Performing Arts Series

Can love survive all? Internationally acclaimed tenor Dominic Armstrong joins pianist Joel Harder and award-winning actress Dietlinde Turban-Maazel for Johannes Brahms’ rarely heard “pocket opera” song cycle, “Die Schöne Magelone.” Based on an epic German ballad, the story follows the chivalrous knight Peter of Provence as he finds, loses, and is ultimately reunited with his beloved Magelone. Praised for his “impeccable control” (Opera News) and performances “nothing short of thrilling” (Parterre Box), Armstrong is a Metropolitan Opera National Council Finalist and George London Competition winner whose career spans opera, orchestral and recital stages worldwide.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults; \$5 for Messiah University students (with ID) and youth (18 and under). To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.

NOV. 14, 2026 • 7:30 P.M.

High Foundation Recital Hall





DEC. 6, 2026 • 1 P.M., 4 P.M. AND 7:30 P.M.
Parmer Hall

Messiah University Christmas Concert

Sponsored by the Department of Music

Begin your Christmas season with this beautiful concert featuring a variety of Department of Music ensembles. Messiah University Brass Quintets, Handbells, Men and Women's Ensembles and Concert Choir are among the groups featured in this traditional favorite!

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults; \$10 for seniors (age 60 and over); and \$5 for Messiah University students (with ID) and youth (18 and under). To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.



DEC. 18, 2026 • 7:30 P.M.
Parmer Hall

Susquehanna Chorale

"Candlelight Christmas"

Paul Rardin, interim conductor

Celebrate the season with the Susquehanna Chorale in an enchanting Candlelight Christmas concert. The program features Respighi's luminous *Laud to the Nativity* with chamber ensemble accompaniment, alongside beloved traditional carol arrangements and music of the season. Experience the artistry and warmth of one of the region's most celebrated choral ensembles in this treasured holiday tradition.

Ticket prices are \$35 in advance, \$38 at the door; \$10 for students (with ID) and youth (23 and under). Group discounts available for 10 or more and Messiah University faculty and staff. To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets



Peter Sirotin and Friends

“Poetry and Passion”

Sponsored by the Performing Arts Series

Brahms and Tchaikovsky convey the power and nuance of human emotions using lush sonorities of string sextet. Violinists Peter Sirotin and Netanel Draiblate, violists Michael Isaac Strauss and Elias Goldstein, as well as cellists Julian Schwarz and Daniel Lelchuk, will perform “String Sextet In G Major” by Brahms and “Souvenir de Florence” by Tchaikovsky, two Romantic era masterpieces with an emotional range from wistful nostalgia to unbridled exuberance.

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults; \$5 for Messiah University students (with ID) and youth (18 and under). To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.

JAN. 17, 2027 • 4 P.M.
Parmer Hall





FEB. 8, 2027 • 7:30 P.M.
Parmer Hall

The King's Singers

“Let’s Misbehave!”

Sponsored by the Performing Arts Series

Grammy and Emmy Award-winning British vocal ensemble The King’s Singers invite you into an imaginary jazz club for “Let’s Misbehave!,” a cabaret-style world tour celebrating the rule-breakers, risk-takers and boundary-pushers who gave us some of the greatest songs in history. Founded in 1968 by singers from King’s College Cambridge, the ensemble is renowned for their flawless harmonies and versatile repertoire spanning Renaissance to contemporary music. This performance honors the great singers, players, songwriters and arrangers of jazz with all the wit, precision and magic audiences worldwide have come to expect.

Ticket prices are \$20 for adults; \$5 for Messiah University students (with ID) and youth (18 and under). To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.



Michael S. Roth

PRESIDENT OF WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

“Higher Education and American Culture: Hope for the Future?”

Keynote speaker for the 2027 Messiah University Humanities Symposium

Michael S. Roth is president of Wesleyan University and one of the nation’s leading voices on the value of higher education in American life. A historian, author and public intellectual, Roth has written extensively on liberal education, civic engagement and the role of universities in strengthening democracy and culture. He is the author of several books, including “The Student,” “Beyond the University: Why Liberal Education Matters,” and “Safe Enough Spaces.” Known for his thoughtful commentary on education and society, Roth brings insight, optimism and intellectual rigor to conversations about the future of higher education and its enduring importance in American culture.

FEB. 18, 2027 • 7 P.M.

Parmer Hall

Free tickets are required for this event. To reserve, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.

Saxessential

Sponsored by the Performing Arts Series

Swedish saxophonist Nils Erik Hagström and Messiah University’s own Todd Goranson perform as the duo Saxessential, offering a vibrant program that bridges jazz, contemporary and classical styles across instruments ranging from soprano to baritone saxophone. Hagström is an internationally active baritone saxophonist who has premiered and commissioned numerous works for his instrument. Goranson maintains an active international career on both saxophone and bassoon, appearing with artists from Ray Charles to major orchestras. Together, they bring dynamic artistry and infectious musical energy to the stage.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults; \$5 for Messiah University students (with ID) and youth (18 and under). To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.

FEB. 27, 2027 • 7:30 P.M.

High Foundation Recital Hall





Alice by Heart

By Steven Sater, Jessie Nelson and Duncan Sheik

DIRECTED BY DANIEL INOUE

**APRIL 8-10, AND 14, 2027 • 8 P.M.
APRIL 10 AND 11, 2027 • 3 P.M.**

Miller Theater

Performance for junior high and high school students

APRIL 13, 2027 • 10 A.M.

Miller Theater

*Sponsored by the Department of
Theatre and Dance*

Set in a London Underground station during the WWII Blitz, this contemporary musical follows Alice Spencer as she and her dying friend Alfred escape into the world of “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.” A moving exploration of grief, first love and the transformative power of imagination in the harshest circumstances, the production features a contemporary, emotionally resonant score by Duncan Sheik, composer of “Spring Awakening.”



Tickets prices are \$15 for adults; \$12 for Messiah University students and employees (with ID), youth (18 and under), and seniors (60+). Tickets are buy-one-get-one-free for opening night! To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.



Mozart's "Requiem"

Sponsored by the Department of Music

Mozart's "Requiem" stands as one of music's most profound and dramatic masterpieces—haunting melodies intertwined with powerful choral and orchestral writing of extraordinary beauty. The Messiah University Choirs and Orchestra, joined by guest vocal soloists, bring this timeless work to life in a performance that captures its full emotional sweep, from solemn reflection to stirring grandeur, offering a deeply moving exploration of mortality, redemption and hope.

APRIL 16, 2027 • 7:30 P.M.

Parmer Hall

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults; \$5 for Messiah University students (with ID) and youth (18 and under). To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at messiah.edu/tickets.

Visit our Galleries

While you visit the High Center at Messiah University, we invite you to enjoy the exhibits of our campus art galleries—featuring the rising and acclaimed work of student, faculty and visiting artists.

*To view details on the latest exhibits,
[visit arts.messiah.edu](https://arts.messiah.edu)*



AUGHINBAUGH
Art Gallery



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Galleries



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One University Ave
Mechanicsburg PA 17055

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Calvin and Janet HIGH CENTER

for Worship and Performing Arts

26-27
SEASON

