

# holiday arts and entertainment right here at home

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## 2026 Christmas show

The Queen of the Piano returns to the stage once again this holiday season, bringing good news and joy with her concert grand piano. Touring for 37 years, Ms. Line will share all the favorite hits of her Christmas career and tell sentimental stories that delight in the season. Most known for her "mashup medley", be ready to shout out your favorite song request as she entertains and plays off-the-cuff audience requests spontaneously. Line just released her 67th album and she plans to play a few of her favorites this year to showcase the project.

Tickets are on sale now, and are $65. Tickets can be purchased by visiting the PPAC website at www.pipestoneperformingartscenter.com, or by calling the Box Office at 507-825-2020 or 877-722-2787 (Tuesday through Friday, 12p-4p).

**WEDNESDAY,**
**DEC.9th**
**7:00 PM SHOWTIME**



## Lorie Line



### About Lorie Line

Lorie Line was inducted into the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame in 2015. She joins the ranks with Bob Dylan, Prince and Judy Garland.

Lorie grew up in Reno, Nevada and has been playing the piano since age 5. As a child prodigy, she won many annual Statewide piano competitions. Classically trained, she graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a BA in Music, Piano Performance. In 1986, she married Tim Line, moved to Minneapolis and landed the perfect job, serenading shoppers at the piano for Dayton's department stores.

Since then, Lorie has recorded 65 CDs and has published over 60 books of music She has sold 6 million albums (1 million at Dayton's, 3 million in a Chex cereal box and 2 million on her own) and may very well be the most published arranger in modern day times. She has almost 800 songs available to download on Sheet Music Plus/ArrangeMe and her own YouTube channel.

Lorie has just under one million active Lorie Line Pandora Radio listeners. Her music has streamed 796 million times (two songs have over 100 million spins). She has toured the United States for 37 consecutive years, performing on over 2000 stages.

Over the years, Lorie has produced three television specials for PBS. She's performed with the Minnesota Orchestra and has played the National Anthem for numerous gatherings including the playoffs for the Minnesota Twins. The first "famous" person she entertained in her home was Governor Jesse Ventura. Since then she has played (and cooked) for Presidential candidates, Congressmen, Senators and more Governors. She has performed for three Presidents in her career - Bill Clinton and George W. Bush on Friends and Family Day at the White House (2000), and Donald J. Trump at Mar-a-Lago in the Grand Ballroom (2024). She has played at several notable memorial services including Prince (family and friends private service), Kirby Puckett, and her beloved Congressman Jim Ramstad. She has also performed at The Crystal Cathedral (in California) for Hour of Power. In 2002, she was Entrepreneur of the Year for Ernst & Young. She received the Professional Achievement Award from the University of Nevada, Reno (2005).

Lorie has been married to her business partner, Tim (alias Santa) for 38 years. In 2023 they launched The Tim and Lorie Line Foundation (a dream come true!). Tim and Lorie have two adult children and are now empty nesters. They have resided on Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota for 31 years.

THE Songbook Series

# THE Holiday SONGBOOK

**"The Songbook Series is a masterwork of an anthology of the most beloved music of the 20th & 21st century. Audiences are transported."**

*— Lucas Chase, Executive Director*
*Mabel Tainter Theatre*

**"A magical, intimate celebration of great American music. Packed with humor, history, and heart."**

*— Katie Fraser, WCCO/CBS*

## Saturday, December 12th at 7:30 p.m. at the PAC

*Tickets for the show on sale now.*









## EXPERIENCE THE MUSIC, STORIES & MAGIC BEHIND THE SONGS

Broadway veteran James A. Rocco, Jennifer Eckes and Emily Villano star in the BroadwayWorld Best Streamed Concert of 2021

PIPESTONE, MN — Pipestone Performing Arts Center presents The Holiday Songbook on Saturday, December 12, 2026 at 7:30 PM, as part of its Presenter Series. Created by Broadway and recording veterans James A. Rocco and Albert Evans, the concert was named BroadwayWorld's Best Streamed Concert of 2021.

The Holiday Songbook is more than a concert — it's a musical party wrapped in holiday cheer. Part concert, part storytelling spectacular, the interactive show takes audiences from carols and classic holiday standards to seasonal pop favorites and comic surprises. Audiences will discover how the tradition of caroling began, uncover the surprising origins of their favorite songs, and hear fresh arrangements of more than two dozen seasonal favorites, including "Silent Night," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Jingle Bells," "Jingle Bell Rock" and "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer."

The performance stars James A. Rocco, Jennifer Eckes and Emily Villano, with a live band. The Holiday Songbook is part of The Songbook Series, which began as The Broadway Songbook and played seven sold-out seasons at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts before taking to stages across Minnesota and beyond.

WCCO/CBS's Katie Fraser called the series "a magical, intimate celebration of great American music. Packed with humor, history, and heart." BroadwayWorld.com praised it as "a must-see," and Lucas Chase, Executive Director of the Mabel Tainter Theatre, said, "Audiences are transported."

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



# The Al Opland Singers

## LET IT BE Christmas




The Al Opland Singers invite you to celebrate the magic of the holiday season with "Let It Be Christmas," coming to the Pipestone Performing Arts Center this December!

For more than 40 years, the Al Opland Singers have brought audiences of all ages beautiful music and memorable performances. Featuring members from Pipestone and surrounding communities, the group is united by a shared love of music, singing, and performing. This year's Christmas production offers something for everyone, blending traditional holiday favorites, lively seasonal tunes, heartfelt ballads, and a few unexpected twists along the way.

From the familiar sounds of "We Need a Little Christmas" and "Mary's Little Boy Child" to the toe-tapping fun of "The Twelve Groovy Days of Christmas," "Christmas Samba," and "Nuttin' for Christmas," the program is filled with festive variety. Audiences will also enjoy beautiful performances of "Mary, Did You Know?" "Blue Christmas," "Sleigh Ride," and "Hallelujah! Joy to the World." With a combination of full-group performances, solos, duets, and small-group numbers, there's plenty of holiday spirit to share.

Make the Al Opland Singers part of your holiday tradition and enjoy an afternoon or evening of music, laughter, and Christmas cheer!

"Let It Be Christmas" takes the stage at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center December 3rd through December 6th. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., with the Sunday matinee at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are $20 for adults and $5 for students. Tickets are available at www.pipestoneperformingartscenter.com or by calling the Box Office at 507-825-2020 or 877-722-2787 (Tuesday through Saturday, 12 p.m.–4 p.m.).







## DECEMBER 3rd TO THE 6th

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

# A SHARED CONNECTION



**FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR**

## MARK THODE

As we enter our 33rd season at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center, I find myself reflecting on how far we've come, the people who have brought us here, and the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.

Having served as Managing Director for the past eight years, and being involved in many other different capacties starting at a young age, I've had the privilege of watching this organization grow and evolve. Following the celebration of our 30th anniversary in 2023, I began to feel a renewed sense of momentum. It felt as though we were turning a page in our story, preparing to usher in the next thirty years. But moving forward requires more than simply looking ahead. It requires a willingness to evolve, to reevaluate, and to embrace new ideas.

And that is exactly what I've seen happening.

The faces around our boardroom table have changed, bringing new perspectives, renewed energy, and a fresh sense of responsibility for the future of this organization. Our committees are exploring new approaches to advertising, developing fundraising initiatives, and working diligently to bring programming to our stage that fulfills our mission of providing a wide variety of quality entertainment to our community.

Our physical space is evolving, too. If you've visited recently, you've likely noticed a refreshed look in our lobby. Beyond a new coat of paint, our board members and resident arts organizations have invested countless hours into cleaning, organizing, decluttering, and caring for the spaces we share. We are also in the process of renovating our basement to create a multi-purpose classroom, rehearsal space, and dance studio that will serve our growing artistic community for years to come.




Perhaps one of the most exciting developments has been welcoming a fourth resident arts organization into our PAC family: the Arts & Mentoring Project (AMP). Their addition brings an important arts education and mentorship component to our organization, strengthening something I felt was missing from the larger picture of what we offer our community.

Individually, these changes may seem like small steps. Together, they represent something much bigger: an organization that is willing to grow, adapt, and invest in its future while remaining true to the spirit that brought it here in the first place.



*Jess Potts*

I am incredibly proud of our board, committees, resident organizations, volunteers, and everyone who has stepped forward to help steward the PAC into its next chapter. It takes a tremendous amount of time, creativity, generosity, and sometimes just plain elbow grease to keep an organization like ours moving forward. I am grateful for every bit of it.

And to our donors, business underwriters, grantors, and community supporters: thank you. Your generosity makes so much of this possible. The performances on our stage, the opportunities we provide, and the improvements we make behind the scenes are all made possible through the support of people who believe in the value of the arts and the importance of having a place like this in our community.

But as much as I celebrate the growth of this organization, I am reminded that the true measure of an arts orgnization has never been just its physical space, its programming, or the number of performances it presents. It is the people.

Recently, we lost an artist who left a meaningful mark on this theatre community. Her name was Jessica "Jess" Potts.

Jessica gave and shared so much of herself on our PAC stage. There is something uniquely vulnerable about being an artist. We give away pieces of ourselves each time we create. With every performance, every song, every character, and every story, a few more cracks appear in the facade we build around ourselves, allowing a little more of our light to shine outward.

Jess Potts' facade was glowing.

Thank you, Jess, for sharing your light with us. You will always be part of the story of this place and the people whose lives you touched. Your presence and contributions to this theatre community deserve to be remembered and celebrated.

On a personal note, I recently lost my aunt, Jana Willey. She was one of the people who first opened the door to this performing arts world for me. I don't know if I will ever be able to fully put into words the impact she had on my life.

I remember sitting in the audience at an Al Opland Singers concert at the PAC, watching my grandmother, Jylan, perform while my aunt Jana worked backstage. To a young kid, the mystery of the moving shadows in blue light, wearing headsets and seemingly making everything happen behind the scenes, was captivating. I remember thinking, I want to do that. Jana was the familiar face and encouragement I needed to find the courage to ask if I could get involved.

I had no idea that first experience would eventually lead to a lifelong love of theatre and, ultimately, to becoming the Managing Director of the very place where it all began. She also introduced me to Broadway, to new music, and to an appreciation for things I might never have discovered on my own. She made me listen to the Phantom of the Opera score for the first time, and I begrudgingly obliged. Before long, I became the weird kid, and later the weird adult, who would rather listen to a Schönberg and Boublil score than AC/DC.

So much of what I love today traces back, in some way, to Jana. I will carry a part of her with me every time I walk into a theatre, sit in an audience, or stand backstage waiting for the lights to go down. She influenced the course of my life in ways I don't think I ever effectively told her. I hope she knew.

These losses have reminded me that the arts are about so much more than what happens under the lights. They are about the relationships we build, the encouragement we offer, the doors we open for others, and the memories we create together. That is the beauty of what we do.

*It's about shared connection. Sometimes we never fully realize the impact we have on someone else's life.*

As we look toward the next thirty years of the Pipestone Performing Arts Center, I hope we never lose sight of that. Buildings can be renovated, programs can evolve, leadership can change, and new traditions can take shape. But the heart of this organization will always be the people who give it life.

To everyone who has been part of our story, whether for thirty years or thirty minutes, thank you. Thank you for showing up, for sharing your talents, for giving your time, for supporting our work, and for believing that the arts matter.

We are here because of you, and we will continue to thrive because of the connections we make and the passion we share.






## *UPDATES FROM THE ARTS & MENTORING PROJECT*

Arts & Mentoring Project (AMP) is continuing to transition its arts education programs into their new home at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center. Fall dance classes are already underway, and plans for the summer 2027 Kids Theatre Camp are beginning to take shape. Keep an eye out for an announcement of the 2027 summer kids musical title coming soon!

We are especially excited about the new rehearsal space currently under construction in the basement of the arts center. This addition will provide AMP families with even more opportunities and flexibility while enhancing the arts center as a hub for arts education and community activities. The space will allow for more flexible scheduling, greater consistency in programming, and provide a wonderful new rehearsal space that will also be available for community rentals.

There is plenty of excitement building for AMP's upcoming dance showcase, "Tinsel & Twirls!" - which is scheduled for Saturday, December 19th at 7:00 p.m. This recital-style performance, open to the public, will feature dancers from age 3 through 8th grade as they take the stage to share what they've been learning in their dance classes. Families and friends will have a chance to celebrate all of their hard work!

And to all the dads and father figures out there, we have something special coming your way! Join us for "Bow Ties & Little Dancers," a fun three-week dance class designed for fathers and their little ones to enjoy together in early December. Participants will even have the opportunity to take part in a short performance during the winter showcase. It's a wonderful way to make memories, have some fun, and share a little time on the dance floor!

Registration for "Bow Ties & Little Dancers," along with tickets for the "Tinsel & Twirls" showcase is available through the Pipestone Performing Arts Center website.

Looking ahead, AMP is already preparing for a busy spring and summer, with a new semester of dance classes, private music lessons, and another exciting summer of Kids Theatre Camp on the horizon. Watch the arts center website and AMP's Facebook page for upcoming announcements, program details, and registration information!



# 33rd SEASON EVENTS CALENDAR



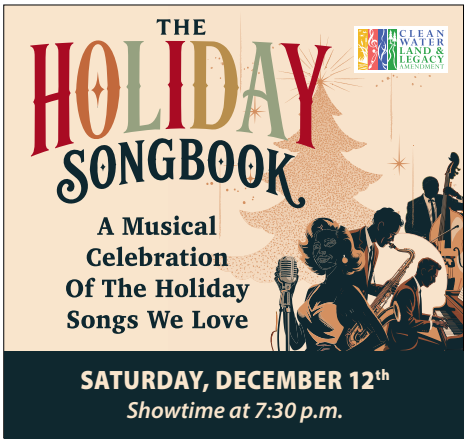






























## PPAC GENERAL FUND & UNDERWRITERS

The Pipestone Performing Arts Center, Inc. recognizes and is grateful to the individuals, families, businesses, resident arts groups and government agencies that help maintain our facilities by generously supporting our Center's work through contributions to the 2027 Annual Fund Drive that started September 1, 2026 and runs through August 31, 2027. The list includes current donors and those who have faithfully pledged and contributed for the current financial year but not yet paid.

**LEGACY ($5000 & ABOVE)**
City of Pipestone
Galen & Darline Dalin
Erik Hadden & Brenna Jones
Delores Runge
Schuster Family

**PATRONS ($1000-$4999)**
Mary Crockenberg
Leslie Everett
Kozlowski Insurance (Pipestone)
Pipestone County

**FOUNDERS ($500-$999)**
Alan & Karla Conrad
Randy & Cindy Hartquist
David & Karen Meulebroeck

**SUSTAINERS ($250-$499)**
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Brian & Stacy Boomgaarden
Jeff & Bronwyn Jones
John & Jean McCallum
Meulebroeck & Taubert

**CENTENARIANS ($100-$249)**
Don Buhl
*In Memory of Jess Potts*
Lyle & Diane Fjellanger
Eileen Johnson
Patt Johnson
Friends & Co-Workers of Fey Ind.
*In Memory of Jana Willey*
Mark & Leslie Morgan
Joni Petersen
Dr. Douglas Vermeer

**FRIENDS OF THE CENTER ($1-$99)**
Marge Christensen
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Diane Christopherson
Ian & Cindy Cunningham
*In Memory of Jess Potts*
Joel Herrig
Kristi Petersen
Murray & Bev Peterson
Nancy Oye
*In Memory of David Trygstad*
Spencer Stearns
JoAnn Wolff

**DENNIS HANSEN LEGACY FUND**
Pete Hansen
Steve & Peg Lange

**UNDERWRITERS**
***Corporate $500 and above for sponsoring Presenter Series***

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Hartquist Funeral Home
O'Neill, O'Neill & Barduson
Pipestone County Medical Center
Stonehouse Quarry & Lounge
Windy Ridge Veterinary Clinic

**IMPROVEMENT CONTRIBUTIONS & GRANTS FOR PROJECTS**
Erik Hadden & Brenna Jones
Benjamin Moffitt
Jane Yseth Wischer
Matt & Cathy Yseth
PEPSI of Pipestone
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Pipestone County United Way
Southwest Minnesota Arts Council

**GOLD UNDERWRITER**

**SILVER UNDERWRITER**

**BRONZE UNDERWRITER**

## *CONSIDER US FOR YEAR-END GIVING*

Ticket sales cover only part of the cost of bringing professional performers to Pipestone. Donations help the PPAC keep ticket prices accessible and continue offering live music, comedy, theatre and other entertainment right here at home. Your support helps make sure these opportunities remain available to our community from season to season.

There are several ways to support our mission: make a one-time donation this season, make a monthly installment gift, become a Presenter Series Underwriter if you're a businness or organization, or support PPAC through a gift of shares in the stock market. Gifts of every size matter. Whether you give $10, $25, $100 or more, your contribution adds to the community support that makes this season and arts space possible.

To make a gift, visit www.pipestoneperformingartscenter.com/support, stop by the PPAC Box Office, or send your gifts to PO Box 100 in Pipestone, MN. Thank you for helping keep live entertainment and the arts in Pipestone.










# *MAKE THE PPAC PART OF YOUR HOLIDAY TRADITIONS!*

***The Al Opland Singers – Let It Be Christmas*** *(December 3–6)*

Kick off the season with the voices of the Al Opland Singers as they present "Let It Be Christmas". Their annual Christmas production is a tradition here at the PPAC. This choir of regional community voices will warm your heart and soul, and be the perfect kick-off for your family's holiday season. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., with a Sunday matinee at 2:00 p.m.

***Christmas With Lorie Line*** *(Wednesday, December 9)*

Returning to Pipestone for the fifth time, acclaimed pianist Lorie Line brings her signature style and holiday elegance back to the PPAC stage. Christmas With Lorie Line 2026 promises an evening of beautiful piano arrangements, seasonal favorites, and the musical artistry that has made her a favorite with audiences throughout the region. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy an elegant evening of Christmas music.

***The Holiday Songbook*** *(Saturday, December 12)*

Close out the holiday lineup with The Holiday Songbook, a festive musical journey through the songs and sounds that have become part of our Christmas traditions. Featuring a talented cast of performers, this production takes audiences through the decades, revisiting everything from the carols and traditions of the 1890s to the big bands of the 1940s, the vinyl era, television Christmas specials, and the holiday hits we still enjoy today. With familiar favorites, lively performances, and a little nostalgia along the way, it's a celebration of the holiday songs we all know and love...and the stories that surround them.

HOLIDAY 2026 NEWSLETTER

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