

THE

# LIEDER

SUMMER 2023



HAMILTON

# FRIENDS OF LIED EVENTS



**BILL STEPHAN, CVE**  
Executive Director &  
Chief Artistic Officer



History is happening in Lincoln!

After nearly two years of anticipation, it's almost time for the biggest Broadway show in Lied Center history. On August 2, *Hamilton* will begin its historic 16-performance run, bringing tens of thousands of people from all over the state to Lincoln to experience the most popular musical in the nation. Bringing the world's top Broadway shows to Lincoln was the dream and goal in establishing the Glenn Korff Broadway Series, and *Hamilton* is the biggest milestone yet. It is thanks to the amazing ongoing support of Friends like you that each season keeps getting bigger and better! I can't wait to see you at *Hamilton* as we celebrate the fact that no dream is too big for what is possible at the Lied.

We also recently announced our full 2023-2024 season of more than 30 spectacular events in music, theater, dance, and more, including *The Blues Brothers* (Dan Aykroyd and Jim Belushi live on stage!), Wynton Marsalis and his Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, the acclaimed new imagining of *To Kill a Mockingbird* created by Aaron Sorkin, Les Grande Ballets Canadiens presenting *Dancing Beethoven*, *Les Miserables*, *Disney's Aladdin*, and so many more. There is truly something for everyone, and I hope you'll take advantage of the opportunity to Create Your Own Season package to get the best seats at the best prices. Some of the most popular events are already nearing sell-out capacity, so don't wait! As our nearest and dearest Friends, we want to make sure you're part of all the magic.

We're also celebrating another record-breaking Give to Lincoln Day! More than \$67,000 was raised to support our programs and outreach, and we're so grateful to everyone who once again stepped up to demonstrate their commitment to the arts in Lincoln. I'd also like to extend my sincerest gratitude to outgoing Friends of Lied President Nancy Krumland for her wonderful year of service, and welcome new President Linda Dickeson.

As we look forward to the landmark run of *Hamilton* and the start of a spectacular new season, I want to thank you once again for all you do to support the Lied Center. I look forward to seeing you 'In the Room Where It Happens' all season long #AtTheLied!

It has been my sincere pleasure to serve as President of the Friends of Lied Board of Directors. The Board's hard work resulted in a very successful year. Eighteen new members were recruited to join the Board, which now will total 62. Our members come from all corners of the state to help create exciting events for everyone to enjoy. This year's members held a very successful fundraiser, which gave me the honor to present a check for \$610,000 to the Lied Center. The 2023-24 season has been announced, and it is time to order your tickets. My personal favorite happens to be the season opener of *The Blues Brothers*. It brings back such fond memories of my youth!

I want to thank Amy Ossian, Lied Membership Manager, for her guidance in helping the Board do its work. She is our vital liaison to the Lied and our dear friend.

I want to thank Bill Stephan, Executive Director of the Lied, who exudes energy and excitement with his wonderful selection of productions and programming for this coming 2023-24 year! His creative ideas are endless!

I now hand the gavel over to our new President, Linda Dickeson, who has been a strong supporter of the Lied Center for many years. Her wisdom and expertise will guide us to another successful year.



**NANCY KRUMLAND**  
President | Friends of Lied  
Board of Directors



## SPRING LUNCHEON

The Friends of Lied Board of Directors held their annual spring luncheon on May 12. Outgoing board members were recognized for their service, and 17 new members were welcomed to the board. President Nancy Krumland ceremoniously passed the gavel to 2023-24 President Linda Dickeson.

The meeting was held at the Country Club of Lincoln, with beautiful pink and orange centerpieces and linens brightening the ballroom. Members dined on tea sandwiches, salads and fruit, with cupcakes in orange or strawberry flavors for dessert.

Director Bill Stephan welcomed the new members and shared details on great things happening at the Lied Center in the year ahead. Many Legends members were also present to catch up with friends and help welcome the new FOL board members. It was a great way to celebrate the year and look forward exciting events to come!



## GREATER NEBRASKA MEETING

The April Friends of Lied Board meeting is historically held outside the walls of the Lied Center. Hastings was the destination this year, when the Friends traveled to The Blue Fork restaurant on April 12. Bill Stephan updated members on upcoming Lied events, and a delicious lunch was served. The Hastings Museum then presented a History of Kool-Aid, which was created in the town. After the meeting, Friends were welcomed by the small business owners in downtown Hastings. It was so fun to travel with friends and share experiences together in greater Nebraska!

## OMAHA METRO EVENT

Omaha-area arts enthusiasts and Lied subscribers were invited to a Friends of Lied event close to home on April 23. The Aladdin-themed evening at Legends Patio Grill & Bar gave attendees a chance to enjoy appetizers and a cash bar while meeting other theater lovers and Lied supporters in the area.

## PRE-PERFORMANCE DINNERS

Two final Pre-Performance Dinners were held by Friends of Lied this April. These fun, themed dinners take place right in the Lied Commons, giving attendees an easy way to catch dinner and a show for the April 1 performance of *Cirque Alfonse: Animal - A Farm Story* and the April 29 performance of *Jagged Little Pill*.



*Jagged Little Pill*  
(left)



*Cirque Alfonse*  
(above & left)

Cover: *Hamilton*  
(August 2-13, 2023)



@friendsoflied



@unfriendsoflied



@FriendsofLied



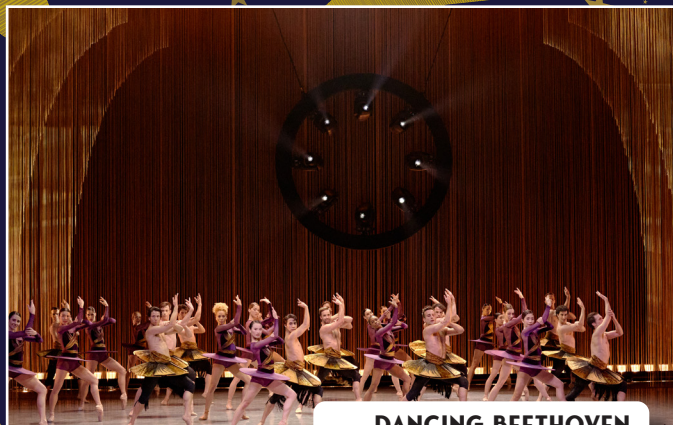
**DISNEY'S ALADDIN**  
OCTOBER 3-8, 2023



**THE BLUES BROTHERS**  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2023



**BRIAN REGAN**  
APRIL 18, 2024



**DANCING BEETHOVEN**  
FEBRUARY 14, 2024



**JOSHUA BELL & LARISA MARTÍNEZ**  
OCTOBER 3-8, 2023



**LES MISÉRABLES**  
JANUARY 9-14, 2024



**MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER**  
DECEMBER 21, 2023



**WYNTON MARSALIS**  
OCTOBER 18, 2023

**LIED CENTER CREATE YOUR OWN SEASON PACKAGES ON SALE NOW!**

ONLINE: [LIEDCENTER.ORG](http://LIEDCENTER.ORG)  
PHONE: (402) 472-4747  
IN PERSON AT THE LIED CENTER BOX OFFICE

CHOOSE ANY FOUR OR MORE SHOWS AND RECEIVE A 20% DISCOUNT ON TICKETS

## 2023-2024 SEASON PREVIEW INCLUDES MUSIC, DANCE, THEATER AND MORE!

Experience thrilling journeys, magical adventures, and unforgettable evenings of inspiration as Nebraska's Performing Arts Center brings top artists from all over the world to Lincoln in the spectacular 2023-2024 Lied Center season! Create-Your-Own Season packages are available now, giving you the opportunity to choose any 4+ shows in the season and save up to 20% on tickets. You don't have to purchase the same number of tickets to the shows in your packages, meaning you can mix-and-match date nights, family outings, tickets for gifting, and more! Featuring exceptional evenings of theater, dance, music, comedy, illusion, and much more, this season truly fulfills our promise of 'something for everyone.'

It all kicks off with **The Blues Brothers**, featuring Dan Aykroyd and Jim Belushi! They're still on a mission from God, getting audiences out of their chairs and dancing with all the hits from the official Blue Brothers cannon and other favorite classics.

We also get to welcome back some of our most beloved Lied Center artists, including **Wynton Marsalis**, **Joshua Bell**, and **Emanuel Ax**. For the first time since the Lied's inaugural season more than 30 years ago, **Les Grands Ballet Canadiens**

also returns to the Lincoln to present *Dancing Beethoven*. Accompanied by the full Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra, more than 50 dancers will bring Beethoven's iconic 5th and 7th symphonies to life in a spectacular, once-in-a-lifetime collaboration.

This season's Glenn Korff Broadway Series is the biggest yet, featuring two full-week runs of beloved shows as part of a historic lineup. The premiere Lincoln engagement of **Disney's Aladdin** kicks it all off, followed by the long-awaited return of **Les Misérables**, the thrillingly reimagined **Jesus Christ Superstar**, Academy Award® winner Aaron Sorkin's brilliant new adaptation of **To Kill A Mockingbird**, and much more!

And that's not even scratching the surface of everything you'll experience this season at the Lied! From family shows including **Coco in Concert** and **Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse** to comedy with **Tom Papa** and **Brian Regan**, Christmas with **Mannheim Steamroller** to illusionist **Rob Lake**, the groundbreaking **Kinetic Light** to inspirational new works, we invite you to join us for an abundant year of entertainment and inspiration for all the members of your family.



## 2023 ONSTAGE PARTY

On Thursday, May 9 hundreds of Lied Center supporters gathered to enjoy the 2023-2024 OnStage season reveal party!

FOL members at the 'Best Friends' level and higher, along with Circles of Giving Donors and corporate supporters were invited to enjoy great food, a special performance from Andrew Love (Broadway company of *Les Misérables*), and the first look at the spectacular new season.

# ARTS ACROSS NEBRASKA



## BEATBOX MEETS POPPING CLOSES OUT ARTS ACROSS NEBRASKA 2022-2023

Our final Arts Across Nebraska tour of the season, Amirah Sackett and Mr. MiC present *Beatbox Meets Popping*, departed in late March, visiting Macy on March 27, Benson on March 28, and Kearney on March 30 & 31. Sackett, an internationally recognized hip-hop dancer, choreographer, and teacher, explores and embodies her Muslim American identity by combining hip-hop movement and Islamic themes while her creative collaborator and beatboxer, Mr. MiC, drops original beats.

In Macy, the duo performed a school matinee for middle and upper grade students and participated in a workshop and Q&A at Omaha Nation Public Schools with performing arts students. This presentation was an extension and continuation of our Kennedy Center partnership with the community. The next day, Sackett and Mr. MiC performed a school matinee for fine arts students from Benson High School, a post-show Q&A outreach, and public performance at the Benson Theatre. This was the first time Arts Across Nebraska has visited this newly renovated, historic performance space! Members of the Friends of Lied Education Committee, led by Dee Cummins, were also in attendance to host a pre-show reception for guests, providing coffee and cookies for patrons.

To finish the week, the artists engaged in extended outreach in Kearney, performing two student matinees and three outreach services over the course of two days. Over 1,300 students and teachers from Kearney and the surrounding area were able to experience student matinees at the Merryman Performing Arts Center. Audiences commented on how much they learned about hip hop culture and appreciated the way that Sackett and Mr. MiC engaged students and encouraged their own unique talents. Mr. MiC was able to attend two classes at Kearney High School to share his original film, *Lateef*, and discuss his experiences as a native Tunisian who immigrated to the United States.

Sackett led a hip hop dance master class with the University of Nebraska Kearney dance program. Sackett and Mr. MiC collaborated on a lecture demonstration hosted by the University of Nebraska Kearney Office of Diversity and Inclusion, where 65 students and community members experienced their message of staying true to yourself and the power of the performing arts as a tool to build understanding. Between the three communities, the Beatbox Meets Popping tour served 3,122 Nebraskans.

In total, the 2022-2023 Arts Across Nebraska season served **5,382 Nebraskans**, performing 11 student matinees, 8 public performances, and 12 outreach services in communities across Nebraska!

For the 2023-2024 season, in mid-October we will be presenting UNL Opera's *O Pioneers!*, a dramatic retelling of the classic Cather novel, in North Platte, McCook, and Red Cloud. Mariachi Zapata will be our second tour in mid-November, traveling to Fremont, Nebraska City, Grand Island, and Kearney. Our third tour is still in development and will be scheduled for spring 2024!



## FRIENDS OF LIED CHECK PRESENTATION

Thanks so much to all of our members who made it possible for the Friends of Lied to make a record donation of \$610,000 to the Lied Center this spring. The presentation was made by Vice President of Membership Leslie Wright and 2022-23 Friends of Lied President Nancy Krumland to the Lied's Executive Director & Chief Artistic Officer Bill Stephan at the May 3 performance of American Ballet Theater's *Giselle*.

## AMERICAN BALLET THEATER VISITS EVERETT ELEMENTARY

On May 1st, students at the Everett Elementary Community Learning Center after school program had the opportunity to work with American Ballet Theater company and *Giselle* cast member Abbey Marrison on the basics of ballet. Students hopped, twirled, learned choreography, and asked Marrison questions about the life of a professional dancer.



# GIVE — TO — LINCOLN

A big thank you to everyone who donated to Friends of Lied through Give to Lincoln Day on May 24, 2023. We received 166 donations from current and new members and raised a total of \$66,893.83 to support the performing arts in Nebraska!

*Friends*  
of



Lied Center for Performing Arts  
301 North 12th Street  
PO Box 880151  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0151  
[liedcenter.org/support/friends](http://liedcenter.org/support/friends)

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Lincoln, NE  
Permit No. 1034



**START SPREADING THE NEWS!**  
**ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF LIED ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK**  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024

The Lied Center will be transformed by the bright city lights and sounds of Broadway on Saturday, February 10, 2024. Dress in your finest attire from Fifth Avenue and join us for upscale cocktails, gourmet dining, and dazzling entertainment. Experience the excitement of the city that never sleeps without leaving Lincoln!

