

SHOW DESCRIPTIONS
ANCHORAGE CONCERT ASSOCIATION
08/09 SCHOOL PERFORMANCES

JAKE SHIMABUKURO, ukulele

Sept. 19, 2008 - 10:30am

BEST FOR GRADES 4 & UP

Called “the Jimi Hendrix of the Ukulele,” Jake Shimabukuro is a fast-rising star in the international music scene. His performances captivate audiences with electrifying, high-energy grooves and smooth, melodic ballads. A musical ambassador and virtuosic in styles ranging from jazz to folk to rock, Jake’s mesmerizing talent will appeal to music lovers from all walks of life.

AGA BOOM

Oct. 6, 2008 - 10:00am & 12:00pm

BEST FOR GRADES K-6

Combining talent and silliness, this clown clean-up crew offers vaudevillian physical comedy and amazing feats. These three clowns, former stars of Ringling Brothers and the Moscow Circus, extract endless delight from everyday cleaning supplies, a towering punch-away paper wall and even some brave audience members. Without language, the combination of theatrical clowning and audience participation creates pure fun!

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL, western swing

Nov. 3, 2008 – 10:30am

BEST FOR GRADES 3 & UP

The members of Asleep at the Wheel are undisputed masters of country swing. This group has defied the lures of the mainstream for over 36 years – and thrived – by keeping a distinctly American art form, western swing, alive and kicking.

PAT MENDOZA, Native American storytelling

Nov. 5, 2008 - 10:00am & 12:00pm

GREAT FOR ALL AGES!

Pat Mendoza is an internationally acclaimed storyteller and is also an author, singer, composer, humorist, musician and historian. Pat’s career as a storyteller and songsmith has been unique, in that he has carefully researched and visited all of the places from which he has crafted his tales. He has lived and worked with indigenous peoples in three cultures, in three countries and was formally adopted by the Cheyenne and honored by the Lakota people because of his storytelling. During his career he has appeared throughout the United States and Canada, as well as the British Isles. His work has been heard on National Public Radio, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the British Broadcasting Corp. He was nominated by United States Congressman Mark Udall to represent his home state of Colorado at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. for the 2000 Millennium Celebration.

INTERPRETI VENEZIANI, chamber orchestra

Jan. 9, 2009 – 10:30am

BEST FOR GRADES 3 & UP

Bringing the warmth of Venice to Anchorage, this Baroque chamber orchestra should be at the top of your list. Based in Venice’s San Vidal Church, Interpreti Veneziani is becoming a staple on the international music scene. They exhibit their youthful exuberance and European charm in concert while playing period instruments, charming audiences and critics alike.

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

Feb. 6, 2009 – 10:30am

BEST FOR GRADES 4 & UP

The Martha Graham Dance Company is the oldest and most celebrated contemporary dance company in America. This one-hour performance of some of Martha Graham's most beloved choreography is a great way to introduce your students to this uniquely American art form. Your students will be amazed by the athleticism of the dancers, coupled with the lyricism and storytelling that is evident in many of Graham's works. Her works put shape and form to movement that was previously viewed in a 2 dimensional visual art form. From stark palettes she lifts mood and density and challenges dancers to assume roles as well as memorize choreography. Isadora Duncan may have been the first to take off her shoes and allow dancers the freedom to explore emotion, but Martha Graham combined the artistry of drama, the relationships of one's body to the space and the stage as visual art to produce a new form of movement.

LA THEATRE WORKS "WAR OF THE WORLDS", radio theatre

March 2, 2009 - 10:00am & 12:00pm

BEST FOR GRADES 6 & UP

This innovative theatre troupe presents a staged recreation of H.G. Wells' famous 1938 *War of the Worlds* radio broadcast. The breathless pace and convincing details make it clear why the original broadcast of an "eyewitness report" of an invasion from Mars caused a nationwide panic in 1938. L.A. Theatre Works is dedicated to preserving significant works of dramatic literature, and bringing these works to as many audiences as possible – Anchorage finally included!

LAZER VAUDEVILLE,

March 31, 2009 - 10:00am & 12:00pm

BEST FOR GRADES K to 6

Lazer Vaudeville combines high-tech laser magic with the traditional arts of vaudeville to create an original theatrical production. Complete with superlative juggling, black light illusion, acrobatics, zany comedy, and audience participation, Lazer Vaudeville offers clean, classy fun for all. A cast of fantastical characters leads the audience on a journey through imagination including a wizard who creates magical illusions with laser beams, a neon cowboy with a luminescent rope-spinning display and a seven-foot tall, fluorescent, fire-breathing dragon.

YUVAL RON ENSEMBLE, Middle Eastern Music

April 16, 2009 - 10:00am & 12:00pm

BEST FOR GRADES 4 & UP

Led by Oscar winning composer Yuval Ron, the Yuval Ron Ensemble includes Jewish, Arabic and Christian artists who come together to perform both sacred and folk music of the Middle East. The ensemble is actively involved in creating musical bridges between people of the Jewish, Muslim and Christian faiths, and is dedicated to fostering an understanding of the Middle Eastern cultures through music.