



SEPTEMBER 22
LEO KOTTKE

American folk/new acoustic music



OCTOBER 14
SIMPLY THREE

Progressive Classical



NOVEMBER 17
ELLIS MARSALIS TRIO

Modern Jazz



JANUARY 12
THE DUSTBOWL REVIVAL

Blues / Swing / Americana



FEBRUARY 10
PHOEBE HUNT & THE GATHERERS
Singer Songwriter - Country / Jazz



MARCH 23
DE TEMPS ANTAN
Traditional Quebecois / Celtic

BITTERROOT PERFORMING ARTS COUNCIL

CONNECTING WESTERN MONTANA'S
PATRONS OF THE ARTS

Encore!

VOL. 6 NO.3

SUMMER 2017

BPAC'S FOURTEENTH SEASON SET TO SHINE

The Bitterroot Performing Arts Council will be presenting a fantastic, multi-genre series of six performances that will enlighten, inspire, educate and entertain our audiences in the Bitterroot and Missoula valleys.

"We are also excited to share that five out of six of our performing artists have agreed to be part of our educational outreach clinics," Executive Director Laurie Ruffner said. "We also have some wonderful sponsors who are helping to make great things happen,"

Kicking off the series on Sept. 22 is world renowned singer, songwriter and acclaimed acoustic guitar legend **Leo Kottke**. Born in Athens, Georgia, and raised in 12 different states allowed him to absorb a variety of musical influences. Leo is legendary for his fingerpicking style that draws on blues, jazz and folk music as well as for syncopated, polyphonic melodies.

On Oct. 14, the captivating and electrifying trio, **Simply Three**, will be dazzling our audience with a classical cross-over style that combines original works with innovative arrangements. They've been leaving audiences hungry for more of their fascinating sound.

On Nov 17, legendary modern jazz pianist Ellis Marsalis is arriving in the Bitterroot to attend a VIP event for the BPAC and perform for what is anticipated to be another full house at the Hamilton Performing Arts Center. Marsalis is regarded by many as the premier modern jazz pianist in New Orleans.

The fourth show on Jan. 12, 2018, will be a high-energy, spontaneous performance by **The Dustbowl Revival**. A vibrant mix of vintage American sounds, the 8-piece band has been making a name for itself and receiving high praise.

On Feb. 10, we welcome **Phoebe Hunt & the Gatherers**. An accomplished Americana instrumentalist, singer and songwriter with foundations in country, swing and jazz, Rolling Stone Country named Phoebe Hunt as one of their Top 10 "New Country Artists You Need to Know."

The series will wrap on March 23 with the wonderful Celtic/Quebec artists **De Temps Antan**. Since 2003, this trio has been exploring and performing time-honored melodies from the stomping grounds of Quebec's musical past. They were also a highlight at the Butte Folk Life Festival in July 2015. Demand has been high for them to perform for our audience here in the Bitterroot.

Tickets for all shows in the 2017-18 series are available at bitterrootperformingarts.org

a line from Laurie

by BPAC Executive Director
Laurie Ruffner



We have been very fortunate in our wonderful community to enjoy world-class performers on our Hamilton stage. Our programs have provided students of all ages many educational opportunities with world-renowned musicians, dancers and even puppeteers. We are thrilled to announce that five of our six 2017/2018 season performers have agreed to provide educational outreach in our community.

Educating our children about the broader world through arts education will result in the sustainability of the arts in our area. These mentoring moments have proven to spark individual dreams and we cheer those raised in our area who are developing talents locally and beyond. We have witnessed how the performing arts has the power to bring people of all ages and from all backgrounds together and to build strong, united communities.

We are incredibly honored when community members step up and help finance these outreach opportunities. This year, the Southwell family at ABC Farms is sponsoring this season's educational outreach programs and we look forward to great returns on their generous investment. Our ongoing hope is that the performing arts will be sustained here in our community and in the larger world.

We so value your support and commitment to the mission and vision of the Bitterroot Performing Arts Council to inspire, educate, entertain and enlighten through the presentation of world-renowned performing arts programs.



BITTERROOT



Performing
Arts COUNCIL

BPAC is a 501(c)(3)
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THANK YOU
for including us in
your giving choices!

Start the new season with a gift

I value the work of the Bitterroot Performing Arts Council.
Please accept my gift of:

\$1,000

\$500

\$250

\$100

\$ _____

In kind gift _____

Please call me to process my contribution via credit card

Please call me to discuss other giving opportunities

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Address _____

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www.bitterrootperformingartscouncil.org

NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Bitterroot Performing Arts Council is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of:

Peggy Tonon, President
Ben Watters, Vice Pres.
Stacie Duce, Secretary
Byron Williams, Treasurer
Kristina Besseyney
Randy Lint
Laura Merrill
Judy Morrissey



The Bitterroot Performing Arts Council welcomes **LAURA MERRILL** as the newest member of our board of directors. Laura moved to the Bitterroot Valley in 1990 and can't say enough about living in Western Montana. With a background in forestry, it was the perfect place to move and enjoy the vastness of the region's backcountry, wilderness lakes and rivers. Her other passion is music and she enjoys her past time of plucking away at the guitar. Laura has been involved in the local real estate industry for 26 years.

"I am thrilled to become a member of the BPAC Board and be a part of such a vital asset in our community!," she said.

BOARD MEMBERS RETIRE

With deep appreciation and admittedly, some heavy hearts, we announce the retirement of three treasured members of our BPAC Board of Directors. Their shoes will be very hard to fill and we thank them for their continued support in smaller roles.

MICHELLE MENDENALL has been donating her precious time, creative talents and business support from the inception of the Bitterroot Performing Arts Council 14 years ago. She is an anchor to our institutional memory and is credited for helping the organization build a strong foundation.

ANITA MORA gave more than seven years as a member of the board and took on significant responsibility as an officer and lead on several committees. She donated countless hours during critical transitions and turbulent times and made certain the organization utilized resources wisely and stayed on budget. She was a leader in every sense of the word and we recognize her critical influence in helping us launch a successful season this year.

ROBERT DIEFENBACH served incredibly well for the last two years and made a difference from the day he entered the board room. From securing sponsorships to providing financial leadership and taking on worker-bee tasks with a great attitude, Rob will be greatly missed. We wish all three of these great members of our community the best of luck in their future endeavors and we thank their families for sharing them with us.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

The 2017 recipient of the Monica Grable Performing Arts Scholarship is **Josephine VanDenburg**, a graduate of Hamilton High School. Josie's impressive resume of classical ballet and dance training as well as her vast community service impressed our board. She auditioned and was accepted into the prestigious dance program at the University of Utah and has enrolled in school this fall semester.

The scholarship was made possible by Hamilton High student artists who donated a piece of art to be auctioned at our Spring for the Arts event last April. The winning bids were split evenly between the artist and the scholarship fund. The BPAC board matched the donation and Josie received the award at the annual scholarship assembly hosted by the Friends of Hamilton Schools. The generous student artists were **Madison Mora, Derek Perry** and **Royal Beyer**. Their pieces were framed compliments of **Art Focus**.

We look forward to repeating the scholarship program next year. Earmarked donations to this performing arts scholarship fund are gladly accepted.



DATE NIGHT

She's certain to swoon ... over you too.
Saturday, October 14 8 p.m.
Tickets on sale now at the BPAC Box Office

SAVE THE DATE *Spring for the Arts* 04.07.18

www.bitterrootperformingartsCouncil.org

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Performing
Arts
COUNCIL



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