Segerstrom Center for the Arts®
Celebrating 40 Years

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# Segerstrom Center for the Arts Announces 2026–27 Season

*Five curated series bring together leading voices in dance, jazz, cabaret, chamber and family programming.*

## Dance Season

Houston Ballet *Sons de L'ame* | American Ballet Theatre *The Nutcracker* | The Stuttgart Ballet *Onegin* | Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernandez | American Ballet Theatre *The Sleeping Beauty* | Ballet Hispánico New York *Don Q: In Pursuit of the Impossible*

## Jazz Season

Arturo O' Farrill & the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra | Isaiah Collier Plays Coltrane | Jason Moran Presents Duke Ellington: My Heart Sings | Caity Gyorgy | LUCÍA | Arturo O' Farrill: Copacabana Nights | Alfredo Rodrieguez featuring Pedrito Martinez | Rumba Para Monk Revisited

## Cabaret Season

Krysta Rodriguez | Joaquina Kalukango | Tituss Burgess | Conrad Ricamora | Bette, Babs and Beyond | Lizzy and the Triggermen

## Chamber Music Season

Attacca Quartet | Brooklyn Rider String Quartet | Brentano String Quartet | Takács Quartet | Acris Saxophone Quartet | Imani Winds | Catalyst Quartet

## Family Season

SUGAR SKULL! A Día de Muertos Musical Adventure | Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* | Yellow Bird Chase | Milo the Magnificent | Tales of the Sun & Moon | Meet the Hatter | The Pout-Pout Fish | Peter and the Wolf |Once Upon a Rhyme: GRIMMZ II

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**COSTA MESA,CA |** Segerstrom Center for the Arts is excited to announce its 2026–2027 season, marking the 40th anniversary of Segerstrom Hall and the 20th anniversary of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall with a newly curated slate of performances across five series. The season, shaped by Vice President of Programming and Production Limor Tomer in her first year in the role, brings together internationally recognized artists in dance, jazz, cabaret, chamber music, and family programming. Highlights include the appointment of Arturo O'Farrill as the Center's inaugural artist in residence, with multiple appearances throughout the season, and the return of the renowned Takács Quartet, newly named the Official Chamber Ensemble of Segerstrom Center for the Arts. Performances will take place across all venues on the Center's campus, emphasizing a season designed to offer both large-scale presentations and more intimate, experiences.

Limor Tomer, Vice President of Programming and Production shares "It is a privilege to announce my first season at Segerstrom Center for the Arts. This season centers on a group of visionary artists who reflect both the depth of tradition and the urgency of the present moment. This season is a conversation between past and future, across cultures, and between artists and audiences. Across jazz, chamber music, dance, cabaret, and family programs, I've sought out voices that are not only exceptional in their craft, but distinct in perspective, artists who honor legacy while actively expanding it. From long-standing collaborators to new discoveries, each program contributes to a larger artistic narrative that unfolds across the season. What excites me most is the opportunity to create experiences that feel both intimate and expansive, where audiences can encounter something unexpected, feel a deeper connection to the work, and return again and again to the Center to discover something new."

Segerstrom Hall, the leading dance home of Southern California, welcomes back American Ballet Theater, Official Dance Company of the Center, as well as new-to the Center companies such as **Houston Ballet,** which kicks off the season with ***Sons de L'ame***, featuring the dazzling pianist George Li. **American Ballet Theatre** returns to bring Southern California its favorite cherished holiday tradition, ***The Nutcracker***, with music from Pacific Symphony. **Stuttgart Ballet's *Onegin*** delivers a once-in-a-generation performance of Pushkin's devastating novel with the unmatched power of Pacific Symphony. **Ballet Folklórico de México** brings a powerful new production rooted in culture with vibrant color, rhythm, and tradition. **American Ballet Theatre** returns in the spring with to perform Alexei Ratmansky's reconstruction of the timeless classic, ***The Sleeping Beauty,*** originally premiered at Segerstrom, and performed with the Pacific Symphony. **Ballet Hispánico New York** concludes the season with the West Coast premiere of ***Don Q: in Pursuit of the Impossible*** a high energy, technically virtuosic take on the traditional ballet. From classical elegance to cultural celebration, this lineup invites audiences to experience the artistry and rich diversity of dance across the globe.

The Center will come to life with a jazz series rooted in legacy and charged with forward momentum. Spanning both the acoustically superb Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert hall and the intimate Samueli

Theater, the series opens with inaugural Artist in Residence. **Arturo O'Farrill** and his powerhouse **Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra**, setting the tone with Afro-Cuban rhythm and big-band brilliance. Next, **Isaiah Collier** channels the spiritual fire of John Coltrane through a bold contemporary lens. Pianist **Jason Moran** takes the Concert Hall stage in a powerful collaboration with the Pacific Symphony, reimagining the timeless genius of Duke Ellington. **Caity Gyorgy** returns with the ETHEL String Quartet to bring fresh life to the American Songbook, and emerging vocalist **LUCÍA** blends jazz with Afro-Caribbean and Mexican traditions in a vibrant bilingual debut. **Arturo O'Farrill** returns to transform the Samueli Theater into a hothouse of music and passion with a tribute to the great Mambo clubs of Los Angeles, New York and Havana with the festive energy of **Copacabana Nights**, and the high energy collaboration among pianist **Alfredo Rodríguez** and percussionist **Pedrito Martínez** brings an electric virtuosity rooted in Latin rhythm and improvisation. Closing the season, Arturo O'Farrill brings **Rumba Para Monk Revisited,** reimagining the meeting point between Thelonious Monk's angular brilliance and Afro-Cuban rhythm.

The cabaret series provides a unique opportunity to get up close and personal with the biggest stars from Broadway, TV, and film. These evenings of story and song allow the artist to be wholly themselves. They choose the material that speaks to them. They choose the memories they want to share with us. No scripts, just sheer talent and authenticity. In our Cabaret Series, no two shows are ever the same! Feeding off the audience's energy, the artist draws immediate inspiration, giving life to spontaneous moments that only happen once. The season opens with actress and singer **Krista Rodriguez,** most well known for her role as Ana Vargas in the NBC series *SMASH*. The series continues with the return of Tony® Award-winning Best Actress and vocal powerhouse **Joaquina Kalukango**. The versatile **Tituss Burgess** brings his Emmy®- nominated charm from *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* to the stage, followed by *How to Get Away with Murder* star **Conrad Ricamora. Bette, Babs and Beyond** honors the iconic voices of Bette Midler and Barbra Streisand with soaring songs and captivating storytelling, and the season closes with the genre-defying energy of the 10-piece indie swing band **Lizzy and the Triggerman** whose roots-rock flair and dynamic stage presence promise a high-spirited finale. Each performance blends personal storytelling, powerhouse vocals, and theatrical artistry, offering audiences an intimate, one-of-a-kind experience.

The Center is thrilled to announce a significant new partnership with the appointment of Takacs Quartet (*"...the best string quartet on the planet.—The Age)* as its Official Chamber Ensemble. Renowned worldwide for the precision, emotional depth, and fearless interpretations, the Quartet will bring its signature artistry to the Center's chamber music series, offering audiences an intimate experience with some of the most exquisite music in the repertoire. This collaboration highlights the Center's commitment to fostering enduring relationships with world-class artists, ensuring that each performance not only showcases musical brilliance but also deepens the connection between performers and the community they inspire.
The chamber music series is focused on the living legacy of Ludwig van Beethoven, combining his timeless genius with contemporary innovators who carry his spirit forward. The season opens with two-time

Grammy Award-winning **Attacca Quartet,** launching the journey with Beethoven's transcendent String Quartet No. 14 in C♯ minor, Op. 131 alongside music by Caroline Shaw and even Radiohead. **Brooklyn Rider String Quartet** continues the dialogue, framing Beethoven's String Quartet No. 9 in C major, Op. 59 alongside modern compositions that reflect our world today. **Brentano String Quartet** returns and delve deeply into Beethoven's evolving quartet language luminous precision and emotional depth. **Takács Quartet** will present a masterful program tracing Beethoven's evolution, from the wit and lyricism of his early quartets to the dramatic intensity of his later works. **Arcis Saxophone Quartet** reimagines his spirit through bold arrangements and rhythmic flair. **Imani Winds** expands the lens further, connecting classical tradition with global and contemporary voices, and the **Catalyst Quartet** returns to close the season with the profound *String Quartet No. 15 in A minor*, framing Beethoven within a broader reflection on resilience and renewal. Together, these performances celebrate the enduring power of music to connect past, present, and future in moments of beauty, energy, and discovery.

The family series offers young audiences a diverse collection of educational, inspirational, accessible, and fun-filled, kid approved performances. Starting off with ***SUGAR SKULL! A Día de Muertos Musical Adventure***, families will journey through vibrant traditions, regional music, and magical characters. **Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*** brings Disney magic to the stage with breathtaking sets, dazzling costumes, and the beloved score by Alan Menken and Tim Rice. Whimsical adventures continue with ***Yellow Bird Chase*** and ***Milo the Magnificent*** offering two immersive productions using puppetry, physical comedy, and inventive storytelling. Audiences will explore celestial myths in ***Tales of the Sun & Moon***, dive into fantastical wonder in ***Meet the Hatter,*** and delight in ocean-sized heart with ***The Pout-Pout Fish***. Young audiences will get to experience the Center premiere of ***Peter and the Wolf***, a whimsical, storybook ballet created for young audiences and families. The season concludes with ***Once Upon a Rhyme: GRIMMZ II***, offering inventive retellings of classic tales. Each performance is designed to spark imagination, celebrate creativity, and create unforgettable shared moments for families.

*Yellow Bird Chase, Tales of the Sun & Moon,* and *The Pout-Pout Fish* will offer Sensory Friendly/Relaxed (SF/R) performances intended for anyone who might benefit from a more relaxed sensory environment. Families can subscribe to the three-show SF/R series which features adjusted seating, low house lights, a lobby break space, a pre-visit guide, the ability to use electronic devices, and more!

All performances include one hour of free, fun activities for families to enjoy together before the show. The Center offers these enriching experiences to provide young people and their families with opportunities to play together creatively, explore the themes and content of the performances, and connect with other patrons. Pre-show activities have included puppet making, drum circles, conducting lessons, and even a silent disco!

Subscriptions for all series are available now. Tickets for individual performances will go on sale at a later date. Visit the Center's Website www.SCFTA.org for more information. For Group sales call (714) 755 – 0236.

## 2026–27 Dance Season

**Houston Ballet Sons de L'ame | October 15–18, 2026**
**With George Li, Piano**

Making its West Coast debut, the intimate and elegant *Sons de L'âme* (*Sounds of the Soul*) is set to piano pieces by Frédéric Chopin. With renowned pianist George Li sharing the stage with 16 members of the acclaimed Houston Ballet, the ballet blends hypnotic solos with dramatic, elaborate partnerings and ensemble sections - showcasing not only the technical skill of the dancers but also the romantic, emotional nature of Chopin's music.

**American Ballet Theatre The Nutcracker | December 10-24, 2026**
**with Pacific Symphony**

American Ballet Theatre's critically acclaimed production of *The Nutcracker* returns for its 11th season at Segerstrom Center. Created by one of today's most celebrated choreographers, Alexei Ratmansky, this dazzling holiday treat features ABT's roster of superstar dancers along with gorgeous sets and costumes by Tony winner Richard Hudson, and Pacific Symphony playing Tchaikovsky's timeless score.

*The Nutcracker* is the tale of a young girl, Clara, who receives the gift of a nutcracker doll at her family's Christmas party. In her dreams that night, the nutcracker doll comes to life as a handsome prince who joins her on a magical journey. Together, they travel to lands filled with dancing snowflakes, waltzing flowers, a mouse army and other exotic characters, all brought to vivid life on stage by a cast of over 100 performers!

**Stuttgart Ballet Onegin | February 4-7, 2027**
**with Pacific Symphony**

Stuttgart Ballet's defining masterpiece Onegin returns in a once-in-a-generation event!

In the enchanted palaces and gardens of imperial Russia, love arrives too soon… and is recognized too late. In this heart-rending adaptation of Pushkin's novel, a jaded aristocrat coldly rejects the true love of a young girl only to realize years later the damage caused by his pride and indolence. Love, fleeting and fragile, has passed him by.

Featuring John Cranko's cinematic choreography, the signature artistry of Stuttgart Ballet and Pacific Symphony performing the soul-stirring music of Tchaikovsky, *Onegin* is ballet storytelling at its most shattering!

**Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández | February 21, 2027**

Founded in 1952 by dancer and choreographer Amalia Hernández, Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández brings together the music, dance and costume of Mexican folklore from pre-Colombian civilizations to the modern era. The Ballet is permanently in residence at the iconic Palacio de Bellas Artes in Mexico City, and has choreographed over 120 ballets, comprised of 60 folk dancers and musicians who continue to perform extensively across Mexico and abroad.

**American Ballet Theatre The Sleeping Beauty | April 22–25, 2027**
**with Pacific Symphony**

American Ballet Theatre's *The Sleeping Beauty* is everything we love about storybook ballet! With the superstar dancers of American Ballet Theatre performing Alexei Ratmansky's inspired choreography, lavish sets and costumes by Tony Award-winner Richard Hudson, and Tchaikovsky's enchanting score performed live by Pacific Symphony, *The Sleeping Beauty* is certain to cast a spell on your heart!

**Ballet Hispánico New York Don Q: In Pursuit of the Impossible | Saturday, May 15, 2027**
**with Pacific Symphony**

For this added attraction to Segerstrom Center's 2026-27 Dance Season, Ballet Hispanico will be performing their newest commission, *Don Q*, a contemporary take on the classic *Don Quixote* story, by today's most sought-after choreographer, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa. Center audiences will be the very first in the world to experience Ochoa's newest creation performed live with a symphony orchestra.

## 2026-27 Jazz Season

**Arturo O' Farrill & Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra | Saturday, September 19, 2026**

The 2026–27 Jazz Series opens with its defining voice. Arturo O'Farrill and the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra bring the full force of Afro-Cuban rhythm, modern jazz harmony, and big-band brilliance to the Concert Hall. Founded at Jazz at Lincoln Center and now celebrated internationally under O'Farrill's leadership, the Orchestra represents jazz as a living, evolving art form—rooted in history, yet urgently contemporary. As Segerstrom Center's inaugural Artist-in-Residence, O'Farrill anchors the season's exploration of

"Now," demonstrating how jazz continues to absorb, respond, and reinvent. This opening-night performance sets the tone for a season driven by excellence, energy, and forward momentum.

**Isaiah Collier Plays Coltrane | Saturday, October 3, 2026**

Isaiah Collier approaches the music of John Coltrane not as a replica, but as a living language. Drawing from Coltrane's spiritual intensity and fearless improvisation, Collier channels that legacy through his own voice—urgent, expansive, and deeply personal. This performance honors one of jazz's most transformative figures while affirming the music's ability to evolve across generations.
Collier represents the "Next" of American jazz: artists who revere the past while refusing to be confined by it. The result is music that feels both grounded and electric, offering longtime jazz listeners fresh insight and inviting new audiences into Coltrane's enduring world.

**Jason Moran Presents Duke Ellington: My Heart Sings with Pacific Symphony | Tuesday, October 27, 2026**

Pianist and composer Jason Moran engages in a creative dialogue with one of America's greatest musical voices: Duke Ellington. Joined by Pacific Symphony, Moran reframes Ellington's work through a contemporary lens, revealing its sophistication, swing, and emotional depth on a symphonic scale. Rather than preserving Ellington in amber, Moran treats the music as a living body—open to reinterpretation, expansion, and surprise. This performance represents the "Then" of the season, not as history, but as an enduring source of inspiration that continues to shape American music today.

**Caity Gyorgy | Friday, January 22, 2027**

Vocalist Caity Gyorgy returns to Segerstrom Center, this time with a new evening-length project created in collaboration with ETHEL string quartet. Together they bring warmth, clarity, and modern sensibility to the American Songbook. Known for her impeccable phrasing and playful approach to classic repertoire, Gyorgy bridges eras with ease—honoring the great jazz singers while crafting a sound distinctly her own. Her return engagement highlights the "Now" of the season: artists who keep jazz vibrant through personality, storytelling, and craft. Intimate and inviting, this performance celebrates jazz as a shared experience—one rooted in connection and joy.

**Arturo O' Farrill: Copacabana Nights | Friday, February 19, 2027**

Step into a night of glamour, rhythm, and pure joy as Arturo O'Farrill transforms the Samueli Theater into a vibrant Latin dance club. Inspired by the legendary Copacabana, Tropicana, and the golden-age nightlife

of Havana, New York, and Los Angeles, this playful, social evening invites audiences to move, mingle, and celebrate.

Led by O'Farrill and a handpicked ensemble of virtuoso musicians, the music blends irresistible grooves, bold brass, and Afro-Latin rhythms designed to lift spirits and fill the floor. This is jazz as it was always meant to be experienced: communal, stylish, and alive. Whether you come to dance, listen, or simply soak in the atmosphere, Copacabana Nights offers a festive escape and a reminder that jazz has always been as much about connection as sound.

**LUCÍA | Friday, March 12, 2027**

At just 24, vocalist LUCÍA represents the next generation of jazz artists shaping the music's future. Singing in both English and Spanish, she blends jazz phrasing with Afro-Caribbean rhythms and Mexican son jarocho, creating performances that feel personal, contemporary, and rooted in tradition. Her debut appearance highlights jazz as a global language—one that continues to evolve through new voices and cultural perspectives. LUCÍA's artistry reflects the season's forward-looking spirit, offering audiences a glimpse of where jazz is headed next.

**Alfredo Rodriguez Band featuring Pedrito Martinez | Saturday, April 24, 2027**

Pianist Alfredo Rodriguez joins forces with percussionist Pedrito Martinez for a night of explosive rhythm and virtuosity. Their collaboration draws from Latin traditions, modern jazz, and improvisational fire, creating music that feels both grounded and unpredictable. This performance sits squarely in the "Now" of the season—artists actively expanding jazz's rhythmic and expressive possibilities. Expect dazzling technique, deep groove, and moments of spontaneous brilliance.

**Rumba Para Monk Revisited | Friday, May 7, 2027**

Closing the season, Arturo O'Farrill revisits *Rumba Para Monk*, honoring the groundbreaking 1989 recording by Jerry González and the Fort Apache Band. This vibrant reimagining celebrates the meeting point between Thelonious Monk's angular brilliance and Afro-Cuban rhythm—an encounter that permanently expanded the language of jazz. Featuring O'Farrill and friends, the performance embodies

the full arc of the season: legacy transformed through contemporary voice. As Artist-in-Residence, O'Farrill brings the journey full circle, connecting jazz's past, present, and future in one electrifying evening.

## 2026-27 Cabaret Season

**Krysta Rodriguez | September 10 –12, 2026**

"It's not hard not to be enraptured by Krysta Rodiguez" – Entertainment Tonight
Our 2026-27 Cabaret season opens with the electric presence of OC hometown hero **Krysta Rodriguez**, whose Broadway triumphs include *Spring Awakening*, *In the Heights*, *The Addams Family*, and *First Date*. A triple-threat (actress, singer, and dancer), Krysta's career began on the small screen as fan favorite Ana Vargas on NBC's SMASH. She later starred as Liza Minelli in Ryan Murphy's *Halston* limited series- and you know Krysta has to be a dynamic talent and captivating personality to portray that iconic entertainer!

Known for her vibrant vocals and contemporary edge, Rodriguez sets the tone for the series—bold, intimate, and joyfully expressive. Her cabaret performance blends signature songs with fresh interpretations, offering a portrait of an artist equally adept at powerhouse anthems and tender confessions. With her signature humor and heartfelt storytelling, Rodriguez reflects on the roles, artists and experiences that have shaped her career.

We are thrilled to welcome the Orange County School of the Arts graduate and one of today's most thrilling leading ladies back for her Segerstrom Center debut!

**Joaquina Kalukango | November 5-7, 2026**

A force of nature on the Broadway stage, Joaquina Kalukango returns to Samueli Theater with the commanding presence and emotional depth that have made her one of the most thrilling performers of her generation. A Tony Award® winner for her revelatory performance in *Paradise Square*, Kalukango is celebrated for a voice that can soar with gospel fire, whisper with aching vulnerability, and land squarely in the soul.

Kalukango blew us away at her Center debut in 2024, and we instantly knew this was an important artist and one we wanted to bring back often. Since she last dazzled us on stage, Joaquina starred as the living-legend Queen of Disco in "I Will Survive: The Gloria Gaynor Story" on Lifetime.
Kalukango's cabaret evening is a powerful act of storytelling—part concert, part testimony—drawing from Broadway triumphs, deeply personal musical touchstones, and the rich traditions that shape her artistry. With fearless honesty and radiant musicality, Kalukango invites audiences into a space of reflection, resilience, and joy.

Back by popular demand, Kalukango's engaging performances are sure to remind us of music's ability not just to entertain, but to transform.

**Tituss Burgess | December 10 - 12, 2026**

Few artists in the entertainment industry can boast about the variety of credits Tituss Burgess has amassed in his diverse career. With one scene-stealing role after another, we are thrilled that this mega-watt star will have the spotlight all to himself in our intimate Samueli Theater!
Tituss is an Emmy and SAG-nominated actor, musician, and writer who has quickly emerged as one of today's most versatile and dynamic performers, with his work in television, film, and theater generating both critical and commercial acclaim.

The actor was first introduced to television on the smash-hit comedy, *30 Rock*, as the dramatic hairdresser and sidekick D'Fwan. Tina Fey became so enamored with Tituss that she then wrote a role specifically for his talents on *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, a performance that would earn Tituss both cult-status and 5 Emmy Award nominations.

With his soaring tenor and flair for the dramatics, conquering Broadway was next for Tituss. He originated the role of Sebastian in Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, starred as Harold Zidler in *Moulin Rouge! The Musical*, and most recently took the lead as Mary Todd Lincoln in *Oh, Mary!*
A born entertainer, Tituss has the unique ability to light up any room. His humor, heart and vocal fireworks promise to make his Segerstrom Center debut one for the ages. Join us for the rich, warm, and irresistibly human Tituss Burgess!

**Conrad Ricamora | January 28–30, 2027**

Conrad Ricamora possesses a face that you most likely recognize instantaneously, as he starred for 6 seasons opposite Viola Davis in the hit ABC series *How to Get Away with Murder*! What you might not realize is that his talents extend far beyond acting, and that he is an even bigger name on Broadway!

Conrad made his Broadway debut as Lun Tha in Bartlett Sher's star-studded, Tony Award-winning revival of *The King and I*! (If you haven't seen the duets with he and Ashley Park as Tuptim, do yourself a favor and Google immediately!)

He originated the role of Ninoy Aquino in David Byrne's groundbreaking disco musical, *Here Lives Love,* about the former First Lady of the Philippines Imelda Marcos. Local audiences will also remember his starring role in David Henry Wang's *Soft Power* at the Ahmanson Theater.

His career ascended to even greater heights recently starring opposite Cole Escola as Abraham Lincoln in *Oh, Mary!*, for which he received his first Tony Award nomination!

With a voice that glows with clarity and nuance, Americantheatre.com raves Conrad is "a swoon-worthy tenor." Conrad is above all, an artist always true to himself, and his cabaret shows promise a reflective evening, capturing the quiet power of a storyteller in full command of his craft.

**Bette, Babs and Beyond | March 4–6, 2027**

Following the sold-out success of last year's *"Dancing Queens!,"* we are excited to bring the party back with this musical celebration of the most iconic female artists of all time!

Bette, Barbra, Dolly, Tina, Carole, Cher, and Aretha are among the legendary vocalists honored in this thrilling concert event that salutes the women and the songs that have defined popular music for over six decades. From radio to film, from Broadway to television, these ladies have done it all — and changed the world along the way.

A cast of New York's best voices will celebrate these legendary ladies and the stories behind their songs that have become the soundtrack of our lives, including "The Wind Beneath My Wings,""Don't Rain on My Parade,""I Will Always Love You,""Natural Woman,""If I Could Turn Back Time,""What's Love Got to Do With It?" and more.

**Lizzy and the Triggermen | June 10–12, 2027**

Our 2026-27 Cabaret Season closes with irresistible swing, style, and cinematic flair as Lizzy and the Triggermen make their Segerstrom Center debut. Led by the charismatic Lizzy Shapiro, this powerhouse ensemble, dubbed "one of the hottest swing bands in LA" by *Good Day, LA*, channels the glamour of 1940s jazz, big band swagger, and classic film noir—reimagined with modern wit and razor-sharp musicianship. With their thrilling ability to marry old and new, the music of this 10-piece band resonates across a broad range of audiences. They have toured with the iconic rock band Squeeze, performed at the SXSW music festival, and recently co-headlined Palm Springs' Modernism Week with Samara Joy and Nancy Sinatra.

Their show is a "joyously subversive" (Broadway World) mixture of vintage pop, show tunes, and biting originals. Like the great tunes of the 1930s which so inspire them, their music boldly tackles our modern troubles and turns them into killer dance songs that fill you with joy the way only a wailing horn section can.

From smoky ballads to high-octane swing, their performance feels like stepping onto a Hollywood soundstage at midnight: sophisticated, playful, and endlessly cool. With lush arrangements, vintage sparkle,

and a bold contemporary edge, Lizzy and the Triggermen deliver a cabaret evening that's as visually vivid as it is musically thrilling. It's a joyful, stylish finale—sending audiences out on a high note, dancing into the night.

## 2026-27 Chamber Music Season

**Attacca Quartet | Sunday, September 27, 2026**
Continuum

Attacca Quartet opens the season with a bold dialogue between Beethoven and the composers he continues to inspire. Attacca pairs Beethoven's monumental *String Quartet in C-sharp minor, Op. 131* —a work of astonishing emotional range—with music by Caroline Shaw, Paul Wiancko, and even Radiohead, revealing the throughlines that connect centuries of musical thought. Beethoven's late quartet, with its seamless structure and profound introspection, stands as one of the greatest achievements in chamber music. Heard alongside today's most imaginative voices, it doesn't feel historical, but urgent and alive. This opening concert sets the tone for a season that honors Beethoven as both an origin point and living influence.

**Program**
Caroline Shaw – *Entr'acte*
Paul Wiancko – *Benkei's Standing Death: Part I – The Thousandth Encounter*
Radiohead (arr. Nathan Schram) – *2+2=5*
Caroline Shaw – *Three Essays: Second Essay (Echo)*
Maurice Ravel – *String Quartet*: I. Allegro moderato — très doux
Caroline Shaw – *The Evergreen*: IV. Root
Ludwig van Beethoven – *String Quartet in C-sharp minor, Op. 131*

**Brooklyn Rider String Quartet | Sunday, October 11, 2026**
Voices that Rise

Brooklyn Rider presents a thoughtfully curated program that places Beethoven's *String Quartet in C Major, Op. 59, No. 3* within a broader musical tradition of innovation and expression. One of the three quartets commissioned by Count Razumovsky, this work marks a significant moment in Beethoven's development, expanding the expressive range and structural ambition of the string quartet. Framed by music from Haydn to contemporary composers, the program highlights how Beethoven's ideas grew from—and continue to influence—the chamber music tradition. Known for their precision, curiosity, and commitment to new music, Brooklyn Rider approaches this repertoire with clarity and balance, offering

performances that respect the past while engaging directly with the present. This concert reflects the season's central theme: Beethoven as both heir to tradition and catalyst for artistic evolution.

**Program**
Haydn – *String Quartet in F minor, Op. 20, No. 5*
Ted Hearne – *We Are Working Tirelessly for a Ceasefire*†
Angélica Negrón – *Our Children Speak Spanish and English*†
Don Byron – *String Quartet No. 3*
Bob Dylan (arr. Colin Jacobsen) – *The Times They Are A-Changin'*
Beethoven – *String Quartet in C Major, Op. 59, No. 3*
†Commissioned for Brooklyn Rider's 20th Anniversary

**Brentano String Quartet | Sunday, November 1, 2026**
Viennese Contrasts

The Brentano String Quartet performs music of Mozart and Beethoven in a program exploring the intimate and reflective side of the quartet tradition. From the emotional drama of Mozart's D-minor Quartet to Beethoven's expansive "Razumovsky," these works reveal the depth and expressive power of chamber music.
**Program:**
Beethoven — *String Quartet in F major, Op. 18, No. 1*
Mozart — *String Quartet in D minor, K. 42*
Beethoven — *String Quartet in F major, Op. 59, No. 1 ("Razumovsky")*

**Takács Quartet | Sunday, February 14, 2027**
Beethoven Unbound

The Takács Quartet is universally regarded as one of the greatest interpreters of Beethoven's string quartets. On Valentine's Day, they present a program that traces the composer's evolution—from classical elegance to dramatic intensity and symphonic scope. Beethoven's early *Op. 18* reveals wit and lyricism, the compact *Op. 95* distills raw emotional power, and the expansive *Op. 59, No. 3* reshapes the quartet forever. In Takács' hands, these works speak with clarity, urgency, and humanity. This performance stands at the heart of the season, offering a benchmark interpretation of Beethoven's genius by an ensemble that has defined this repertoire for generations.

**Program:**

Beethoven – *String Quartet in B-flat major, Op. 18, No. 6*
Beethoven – *String Quartet in F minor, Op. 95, "Serioso"*
Beethoven – *String Quartet in C major, Op. 59, No. 3*, *"Razumovsky"*

**Arcis Saxophone Quartet | Sunday, March 14, 2027**
The Nighclub Chronicles

Arcis Saxophone Quartet brings vibrant energy and unexpected color to the Chamber Music Series. *The Nightclub Chronicles* transforms the concert hall into a space of rhythm, atmosphere, and bold reinterpretation. Beethoven appears here not as a distant figure, but as a source of dance, movement, and playful invention—reimagined through the rich palette of the saxophone. Paired with contemporary works and Latin-inflected rhythms, this program highlights the flexibility and vitality of Beethoven's music when placed in new sonic contexts. Arcis delivers virtuosity with charisma, offering a concert that expands what chamber music can look and feel like while staying rooted in classical craft.

**Program**
The Nightclub Chronicles:
Philippe Geiss – *Patchwork*
Marc Mellits – *Tapas*
Shuteen Erdenbaatar – *Echoes of Life*
Emma O'Halloran – *Night Music*
Piazzolla – *Moments with Piazzolla*
Beethoven – Select Dances (arr. Arcis Saxophone Quartet)

**Imani Winds | Sunday, April 4, 2027**
Take Flight

Imani Winds brings color, virtuosity, and storytelling to a program inspired by flight and freedom. While Beethoven does not appear directly on this program, his spirit of exploration and expansion lives on in music that breaks boundaries and celebrates individuality. From Mendelssohn's shimmering ethereality to Stravinsky's fire and Charlie Parker's swing, Imani Winds connects classical tradition with global and contemporary voices. Known for their technical brilliance and expressive range, the ensemble invites listeners into a world of richly textured sound that complements the season's
Beethoven focus, showing his legacy of innovation across genres and generations.

**Program:**
Mendelssohn – Scherzo from A Midsummer Night's Dream (arr. Gabler)

Karel Husa – *Five Poems*
Stravinsky – *Firebird Suite (arr. Landrum)*
Augusta Read Thomas – *Avian Escapades*
Paquito D'Rivera – *Kites*
Charlie Parker – *Yardbird Suite* (arr. Helen Sung, World Premiere)

**Catalyst Quartet | Sunday, May 23, 2027**
Against All Odds

Catalyst Quartet closes the season with Beethoven's *Op. 132*, one of the most profound works ever written for string quartet. Framed by music from composers who overcame immense obstacles, this program reflects on resilience, faith, and renewal. Beethoven's late quartet—written after the composer fell seriously ill—speaks directly to endurance and transcendence, two themes echoed throughout the evening. Catalyst brings clarity, intensity, and contemporary perspective to this monumental score, offering a powerful conclusion to a season that explores Beethoven from every angle. This final concert affirms Beethoven's enduring relevance and honors the boundless capacity of chamber music to speak across time.

**Program:**
Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges – *Six Concertante Quartets, No. 2*
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz – *Madre la de los primores* (arr. Catalyst)
Aftab Darvishi – *Daughters of Sol*
Florence B. Price – *Andante Moderato* (1929)
Toru Takemitsu – *Autumn Leaves*
Jorge Amado Molina – *Tríptico cubano*
Beethoven – *String Quartet No. 15 in A minor, Op. 132*

## 2026-27 Family Season

**SUGAR SKULL! A Día De Muertos Musical Adventure | September 19–20, 2026**
**Age Recommendation: Ages 6–12 and their families**

Experience the magic, music, and heart of SUGAR SKULL! A Día de Muertos Musical Adventure—a joyful, high-energy bilingual production for families and young audiences. When twelve-year-old Vita Flores questions why her family celebrates Día de Muertos, a lively candy skeleton whisks her into a vibrant world where ancestors dance, legends come to life, and tradition takes center stage. Featuring stunning regional Mexican music and dance, eyepopping visuals, and unforgettable characters, this uplifting journey helps audiences discover the meaning behind this beloved holiday.

**Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* | September 26–27, 2026**
**Age Recommendation: 6+ and their families**

Be Our Guest at Disney's 30th Anniversary production of Beauty and the Beast, the breathtaking musical filled with the romance and grandeur audiences know and love.

This enchanting and timeless tale has been brought to life like never before, with spectacular new sets and dazzling costumes. The show boasts the Oscar®-winning and Tony Award®-nominated score, including the classic songs "Be Our Guest" and "Beauty and the Beast."

Reuniting to create this new production are members of the original Tony Award®-winning artistic team, including composer Alan Menken, lyricist Tim Rice, book writer Linda Woolverton, with direction and choreography by Matt West, scenic design by Stanley A. Meyer, costume design by Ann Hould-Ward and lighting design by Natasha Katz. Beauty and the Beast is the beloved musical that will fill your heart with joy and Disney magic.

***Yellow Bird* Chase | October 24–25, 2026**
**Sensory Friendly/Relaxed Performance: October 24th at 10am**

**Age Recommendation: Ages 4-8 and their families**

Leap into a world of imagination with *Yellow Bird Chase*, a whimsical, wordless adventure for the whole family! When a bumbling maintenance crew discovers a magical yellow bird, chaos erupts as they race across land, sea, and sky – battling pirates, monsters, and their own clumsiness – all withoutever leaving the storage room. This inventive show combines puppetry, masks, physical comedy, and playful gibberish to deliver a story full of laughter, hear, and imagination. *Yellow Bird Chase* is fully accessible to Deaf and hard-of-hearing audiences, as well as non-English speakers. A smash hit at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, this unstoppable show celebrates creativity, cooperation, and the pure joy of play.

***Milo the Magnificent* | November 21–22, 2026**
**Age Recommendation: Ages 4–10 and their families**

The Jim Henson Foundation–supported *Milo the Magnificent* is a dazzling, wordless puppet show that follows an aspiring young magician with a big heart—and a touch of stage fright. Inspired by turn-of-the-century vaudeville, this highly physical comedy uses imaginative, award-winning puppetry to bring Milo's magical world to life. His tricks may not always go as planned, but the spectacle, humor, and creativity are

guaranteed to captivate audiences of all ages. Performed by the acclaimed duo Alex and Olmsted, this family-friendly production celebrates curiosity, resilience, and the joy of live theater.

*Tales of the Sun & Moon* | February 27-28, 2027
Sensory Friendly/Relaxed Performance: February 27th at 10am
Age Recommendation: Ages 4-10 and their families

No matter where you live or when you were born, we all look up at the same sun and the same moon. Every culture carries stories about the heavens, shaped by imagination, science, and tradition. Tales of the Sun and Moon is a world premiere theatrical experience from Honolulu Theatre for Youth that weaves together celestial myths from Hawai ʻi, China, Korea, and beyond. Told through language, movement, and music, this visually rich production invites audiences to become keepers of stories—honoring cultural perspectives while celebrating what connects us all under the same sky.

*Meet the Hatter* | March 20–21, 2027
Age Recommendation: Ages 5-10 and their families

Enter the fantastical world of Meet the Hatter, a breathtaking dance and multimedia production by Joss Arnott Dance. Told from the Hatter's point of view, this imaginative retelling of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland blends live performance with dazzling digital projection, animation, lighting, and original music. When no one arrives at his tea party, the lonely Hatter uses the power of imagination to create his own magical Wonderland. This cinematic experience celebrates play, creativity, and self-belief, inviting families to see the world through a magical mirror where anything is possible.

*The Pout-Pout Fish* | April 17–18, 2027
Sensory Friendly/Relaxed Performance: April 17th at 10am
Age Recommendation: Ages 4-8 and their families

Oh my blub! The Pout-Pout Fish splashes onto the stage in a joyful musical adventure filled with whimsical puppets, live performers, and ocean-sized heart. Based on the beloved New York Times bestselling book, this colorful production follows Mr. Fish as he sets out to recover Miss Clam's missing pearl—discovering friendship, confidence, and his own hidden sparkle along the way. This delightful show invites audiences of all ages to turn even the poutiest frowns upside down.

*Peter and the Wolf* | May 1, 2027
Age Recommendation: Ages 6+ and their families

Peter and the Wolf becomes a **whimsical, storybook ballet** in this original production created for Segerstrom Center by the ABT Gillespie School. Performed by pre-professional students, this charming retelling brings Sergei Prokofiev's beloved score to life through expressive choreography—an enchanting introduction to ballet for audiences of all ages.

*Once Upon a Rhyme: GRIMMZ II* | May 15-16, 2027
**Age Recommendation: Ages 5–12 and their families**

Jay and Will Grimmz—the hip-hop, fable, and story dance-pop sensations—return with the alll new *Once Upon a Rhyme: GRIMMZ II*. Following up on their 2023 hit, *GRIMMZ Fairy Tales*, this musical urban fairy tale delivers high-energy beats, theatrical effects, and a "rapsidazical" twist on classic stories. Enjoy fan favorites like Hansel and Gretel Lost in the Streets, Beauty and the Beast Drop the Beat, and the Granny-winning hit Sleeping Beauty Wakes. Featuring all-new songs, dances, and rhymes, the Grimmz bring fun, rhythms, and life lessons about making the world a better place. Pay your bling and hear them sing!

For more information on programming and ticketing please visit **scfta.org**

Box Office Information
**In-Person** –
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Tuesday through Friday 12-5 pm
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

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**Segerstrom Center for the Arts®** is an innovative nonprofit organization that champions artistic excellence and fosters a vibrant, inclusive community in Orange County through the transformative power of live

performance. As the region's leading cultural hub, the Center offers a diverse array of programming, featuring international dance companies, Broadway national tours, jazz and cabaret musicians, and an engaging speaker series. Its Education and Community Engagement departments present family-friendly events on the picturesque Julianne and George Argyros Plaza, including outdoor movie screenings, concerts, and lively festivals.

With six stunning venues nestled within a beautiful multi-disciplinary campus, the Center is home to the region's most esteemed performing arts organizations, including the Pacific Symphony, Philharmonic Society of Orange County and Pacific Chorale as well as two independently acclaimed organizations: Tony Award®-winning South Coast Repertory and Orange County Museum of Art. Segerstrom Center is also home to the American Ballet Theatre William J. Gillespie School and Studio D: Arts School for All Abilities.

The Center continues to uphold the vision of its founder, Henry Segerstrom, remaining true to its mission as the premier arts in Orange County since its inception in 1986 as Orange County Performing Arts Center®.

Segerstrom Center for the Arts applauds its corporate partner Kaiser Permanente, Official Health Care Partner. It also recognizes Riviera Magazine as the official media partner for the Dance Series. KJAZZ as media partner for the Jazz Series, KMozart as media partner for the Chamber Music Series, RAGE Monthly as media partner for the Cabaret Series, Parenting OC as media partner for the Family Series, and the Charles and Mildred Schnurmacher Foundation and Pacific Life for their support of the Family Series.

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