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<http://www.mahaiwe.org/press.html>

Mahaiwe Announces Spring and Summer Events

**Highlights include Pat Metheny, Aimee Mann, Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieley,
Joey Alexander, and The Peking Acrobats**

Great Barrington, Mass.—Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly announces additions to the performing arts center's spring and summer schedule, including jazz guitarist Pat Metheny, rock singer-songwriter Aimee Mann, Broadway performers Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieley, teenage jazz protégé Joey Alexander, and The Peking Acrobats.

“We're thrilled to usher in a new season of dramatic, award-winning talents—some coming to the Mahaiwe for the first time and others as regional favorites,” said Jolly. “We really value the way music and the arts bring people together and love the spirit of community that comes across with every experience in the intimate, historic Mahaiwe.”

The Joey Alexander Trio will perform on Sunday, May 6 at 7:00pm. Born in Bali in 2003, pianist Alexander taught himself Thelonious Monk's “Well, You Needn't” at the age of six. Since then, this wunderkind has delighted audiences across the globe, earning the praise of jazz greats from Herbie Hancock to Wynton Marsalis. Alexander's playful musicality and keen sense of swing are showcased on his 2015 debut album, *My Favorite Things*, which garnered two Grammy Award nominations, making him the youngest jazz artist ever nominated for a Grammy. His sophomore album, *Countdown* (released in 2016), showcases Alexander's remarkable development as a contemporary jazz bandleader and promise as a composer. Tickets are \$29 to \$84.

Singer-songwriter Aimee Mann will make her Mahaiwe debut on Friday, June 22 at 8:00pm. She recently won the Grammy Award for Best Folk Album for her album, *Mental Illness*, and NPR named her one of the world's top 10 greatest living songwriters. She started out in the 1980s as the bassist and vocalist for the band 'Til Tuesday, which had a big hit with "Voices Carry." Her solo career began in 1993 with the album *Whatever* and made a name for herself through her independent success and the founding of her record label, SuperEgo Records. In addition to her solo albums, she has appeared on many film soundtracks, most notably the song score for Paul Thomas Anderson's *Magnolia*, with "Save Me" landing her Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations for Best Original Song. Tickets are \$30 to \$70.

Together and individually, Broadway's golden couple, Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieley, have delighted audiences with their glorious voices, moving interpretations, and comic timing. They will perform *Broadway and Beyond* on Sunday, June 24 at 7:00pm, showcasing songs they introduced on Broadway, in roles they originated, in *Ragtime*, *Passion*, *Kiss Me Kate* (revival, of course), *The Full Monty*, *Curtains*, and *The Visit*, as well as popular standards from the Great American Songbook. In addition to their theater work, the duo have made many TV appearances and performed in cabarets, concert halls, and with symphonies around the world. Tickets are \$39 to \$69.

The Peking Acrobats will perform on Friday, July 27 at 7:30pm and on Saturday, July 28 at 2:00pm. For the last 32 years, the troupe has redefined audience perceptions of Chinese acrobatics. They perform daring maneuvers atop a precarious pagoda of chairs and display their technical prowess at such arts as trick-cycling, precision tumbling, juggling, somersaulting, and gymnastics. They push the limits of human ability, defying gravity with amazing displays of contortion, flexibility, and control. Time-honored Chinese music coalesces with high-tech special effects and awe-inspiring acrobatic feats, creating an exuberant entertainment event with the festive pageantry of a Chinese carnival. Tickets are \$20 to \$50.

Winner of 20 Grammy Awards, guitarist Pat Metheny will perform on Thursday, August 2 at 8:00pm. The invention and energy of Metheny's music continues to shine, always searching for new sounds and ideas while retaining the melodic force and free-wheeling, joyous drive that has been his hallmark since he took the jazz world by storm in the 1970s. The concert will feature his new quartet, in which his unique guitar style is matched with two talents from a new generation—UK pianist Gwilym Simcock and bassist Linda Oh—and long-time Metheny sidekick, drummer Antonio Sanchez. With the release of his first album, *Bright Size Life*, he reinvented the traditional jazz guitar sound and he has continued to redefine the genre by utilizing new technology and constantly working to evolve the improvisational and sonic potential of his instrument. Over the years, he's performed with artists as diverse as Steve Reich to Ornette Coleman, Herbie Hancock to David Bowie. Tickets are \$45 to \$95.

Tickets for all of these events go on sale to Mahaiwe members on February 2 and to the public on February 9. In addition to early buying privileges, Mahaiwe members enjoy special discounts on tickets to all live shows. A limited number of youth discount \$15 tickets are available for audience members ages 30 and younger to the Mahaiwe's live performances (excluding The Peking Acrobats).

The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 6:00pm and three hours before show times. For tickets and information, see www.mahaiwe.org or call 413.528.0100.

About the Mahaiwe

Located in downtown Great Barrington, Massachusetts, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center is the year-round presenter of world-class music, dance, theater, classic films, Live in HD broadcasts, and arts education programs for the southern Berkshires and neighboring regions. The intimate jewel box of a theater opened in 1905. Since 2005, the performing arts center has hosted over 1,000 events and welcomed over half a million people through its doors. More than 18,000 students from 61 different schools have

benefited from the Mahaiwe's school-time performances and residencies. For more information, see www.mahaiwe.org.

About the Berkshires

Less than three hours from New York City and Boston, the Berkshires offers culture and adventure year-round. The surrounding mountains provide plenty of opportunity for outdoor excursions in all seasons while world class culture and entertainment, along with a deeply rooted food culture and an array of lodging options amidst picturesque towns, set this region apart. For more information, visit berkshires.org.

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