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Mahaiwe Announces Fall Schedule

Highlights include author David Sedaris; concerts by Bernadette Peters, Dianne Reeves, Arlo Guthrie and Family, John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit, and Black Violin; Met Opera and London’s National Theatre HD broadcasts

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center Executive Director Beryl Jolly announced the 2014 fall season today. Highlights include a talk by author David Sedaris; concerts by Bernadette Peters, Dianne Reeves, Arlo Guthrie and Family, John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit, and Black Violin; and Met Opera and London’s National Theatre HD broadcasts. “The mission of the Mahaiwe is to provide world-class programming that appeals to everyone in our community. This season, we’re fulfilling that mandate by presenting concerts that range from Broadway show tunes to jazz to folk to opera to hip-hop classical fusion,” said Jolly. “On Columbus Day weekend alone, our lineup features a best-selling author, a Broadway star, and a Met Opera Live in HD broadcast.”

Humor

On Friday, October 10 at 8:00pm, David Sedaris will return to the Mahaiwe for a second time to share his sardonic wit and incisive social critiques. One of America’s pre-eminent humor writers, he is a master of satire who slices through cultural euphemisms and political correctness to address the human condition today. Sedaris is the author of Barrel Fever and Holidays on Ice, as well as collections of personal essays, Naked, Me Talk Pretty One Day, Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim, When You Are Engulfed in Flames, and Let’s Explore Diabetes with Owls, each of which became a bestseller. There
are a total of more than seven million copies of his books in print and they have been translated into 25 languages. Tickets are $48 to $68.

**Music**

Broadway legend **Bernadette Peters** will headline the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center 2014 Gala on Sunday, October 12 at 8:00pm in a festive evening to benefit the Mahaiwe’s artistic and education programs and to honor founding board member Jane Iredale.

Bernadette Peters will perform a rich selection of Broadway songs from her extensive songbook that includes standards, Rodgers & Hammerstein, and Stephen Sondheim to name a few. She recently starred on Broadway in the Stephen Sondheim and James Goldman critically acclaimed production of *Follies*. Prior to that, she starred opposite Elaine Stritch in the Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler Tony Award-winning masterpiece, *A Little Night Music*. She received both the Tony Award and Drama Desk Award for Andrew Lloyd Webber’s hit musical *Song and Dance* and went on to earn a Tony Award, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Award for her starring role as Annie Oakley in the Tony-Award winning revival of *Annie Get Your Gun*. Peters also received Tony nominations for her work in *The Goodbye Girl*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Mack and Mabel*, and *On The Town* and earned a Drama Desk nomination for her memorable portrayal of the Witch in Sondheim’s *Into the Woods*. She is the co-founder, along with Mary Tyler Moore, of Broadway Barks!, an organization that promotes the adoption of shelter animals.

Gala honoree **Jane Iredale** is the founder, president, and CEO of Iredale Mineral Cosmetics. She was the first to supply the aesthetic industry with a full-line of makeup that was good for the skin. Before she formed her cosmetics company in 1994, her background had been in film, theatre, and television. She started as a casting director, working in television commercials for the three major networks, and then in film, television, and theater. She won an Emmy award for a public television series, *The Silent Years*, and was nominated for a Tony for the Broadway musical, *Wind in the Willows*. 
Skin disorders and sensitivities were common among professional actors and models, which not only threatened their careers, but also destroyed self-confidence. This is what inspired her to develop a makeup line that could contribute to the lives of women by aiding the health of the skin. From its base in Massachusetts, the company exports into 46 international markets. Jane Iredale is a committed environmentalist who strives to bring that commitment to her work. To accommodate growth, this year her company moves into its Gold LEED certified corporate headquarters that it converted from the Bryant School in Great Barrington where a number of its employees were students.

Mahaiwe Gala performance-only tickets ($80 to $250—the latter with a pre-show champagne reception) are available via the Mahaiwe box office. In addition, gala packages, including premium seating and a pre-show dinner honoring Jane Iredale, start at $500 and are available by calling Dave Barrett at 413.644.9040 x 106.

Four time Grammy-winning jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves will perform on Sunday October 19 at 7:00pm, backed by an all-star quartet of musicians, including Gerald Clayton, Romero Lubambo, James Genus, and Terreon Gully. The concert will feature selections from her new album, Beautiful Life, which showcases her sublime gifts by melding elements of R&B, Latin, and pop within the framework of 21st century jazz. “At its essence,” says Reeves, “Life is beautiful and I wanted to celebrate that which is too often overlooked.” The album includes singularly memorable covers of Bob Marley’s “Waiting in Vain,” Fleetwood Mac’s “Dreams,” Marvin Gaye’s “I Want You” and Ani DiFranco’s self-empowering “32 Flavors,” along with a range of emotionally volcanic new songs. Reeves has recorded and extensively performed with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and Wynton Marsalis, as well as with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic. In addition, she was the first Creative Chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the first singer to ever perform at the famed Walt Disney Concert Hall. Reeves appeared throughout George Clooney’s award winning Good Night and Good Luck and performed every song on the Grammy-winning soundtrack. More recently, she has toured the world in a variety of contexts, including a program entitled
Sing the Truth, a musical celebration of Nina Simone in which Liz Wright and Angelique Kidjo were also featured. Tickets are $32 to $82.

Arlo Guthrie’s “Guthrie Family Reunion” show, featuring family members Abe, Cathy, Annie, Sarah Lee, and son-in-law Johnny Irion will come together on the Mahaiwe stage on Saturday, November 22 at 8:00pm. Arlo Guthrie was born with a guitar in one hand and a harmonica in the other, in Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York in 1947. He is the eldest son of America’s most beloved singer/writer/philosopher Woody Guthrie and Marjorie Mazia Guthrie, a professional dancer with the Martha Graham Company. He gave his first public performance in 1961 at age 13 and quickly became involved in the music that was shaping the world. His career exploded in 1967 with the release of “Alice’s Restaurant,” whose title song premiered at the Newport Folk Festival and helped foster a new commitment among the ‘60s generation to social consciousness and activism. Over the last five decades, Guthrie has toured throughout North America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia winning a wide, popular following. Tickets are $25 to $64.

The world’s first and quite likely only classical music and hip-hop fusion duo, Black Violin, will perform on Friday, October 17 at 10:00am (school field trip concert) and at 7:00pm (public show). The group features classically trained string instrumentalists Kevin “Kev Marcus” Sylvester on violin and Wilner “Wil B” Baptiste on viola. By its very nature, everywhere the group has performed the decade-old duo has succeeded at defying preconceptions and erasing boundaries both musical and societal. The south Florida duo also integrates elements of bluegrass, rock, and R&B into its musical mix, which features sampling, turntablting, cello, percussion, and vocals. Black Violin’s existence challenges audiences to reconsider notions of “classical” and “hip-hop,” and what it means to be a creative artist, as well as a human being. Tickets are $6 per student and $15 for the public performance. The field trip performance is sponsored by Berkshire Bank, Dr. Robert C. and Tina Sohn Foundation, and Cain Hibbard & Myers.
Celebrate the holidays in the Berkshires with John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit, two favorite Mahaiwe entertainers, here together for the first time on Saturday, December 27 at 8:00pm. Soulful elegance, virtuosic musicianship, melodic creativity, and an unfailing swing will be operative during this meeting of these two artists, each a world-class communicator of an encyclopedic array of American popular song styles. Renowned seven-string jazz guitarist, singer, and bandleader Pizzarelli addresses, in his own manner, repertoire associated with Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, the Beatles, and others. Known for her extraordinary vocal instrument since she burst onto the scene in her early twenties, multiple Grammy-nominated vocalist Monheit has steadily come into her own, and collaborated with artists such as Michael Bublé, Ivan Lins, Terence Blanchard, and Tom Harrell. Tickets are $25 to $100 (the latter includes post-show reception with the artists).

**Fim and “Live in HD” Broadcasts**

Carrie Cracknell directs the London’s National Theatre production of Euripides’s powerful tragedy, Medea, in a new version by Ben Power, to be broadcast live on Thursday, September 4 at 7:00pm. Helen McCrory returns to the National to take the title role; the cast also includes Michaela Coel, Danny Sapani, and Cath Whitefield. Tickets are $18 to $25.

The Mahaiwe will also continue its popular broadcasts of The Met: Live in HD, the Metropolitan Opera’s Emmy and Peabody Award-winning series of live transmissions to movie theaters, which will reach its widest-ever global audience in its ninth year. The 2014-2015 season of ten productions starts in October and will run through May.

The fall Met productions include Adrian Noble’s chilling production of Verdi’s Macbeth, starring soprano Anna Netrebko as Lady Macbeth, the mad and murderous mate of Željko Lučić’s doomed Macbeth in Shakespeare’s tragedy, on Saturday, October 11 at 1:00pm (encore on Sunday, October 26 at 1:00pm); Met Music Director James Levine conducts a spirited new production of Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro), directed by Richard Eyre, starring bass-baritone Ildar Abdrazakov.
in the title role on Saturday, October 18 at 1:00pm (encore on Wednesday, November 5 at 1:00pm); Richard Eyre’s mesmerizing production of Bizet’s Carmen, a steamy melodrama with mezzo-soprano Anita Rachvelishvili singing her signature role of the ill-fated gypsy temptress, on Saturday, November 1 at 1:00pm (encore on Sunday, November 9 at 1:00pm); Michele Mariotti conducts Rossini’s Il Barbiere di Siviglia (The Barber of Seville), the classic comedy—featuring some of the most instantly recognizable melodies in all of opera—starring Isabel Leonard as the feisty Rosina, Lawrence Brownlee as her conspiring flame, and Christopher Maltman as the endlessly resourceful and charming barber, himself, on Sunday, November 23 at 1:00pm and Wednesday, December 3 at 1:00pm (encores); and James Levine returns to one of his signature works, Wagner’s Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg, an epic comedy about a group of Renaissance “master singers” whose song contest unites a city on December 13 at 12:00pm (encore on Sunday, December 21 at 12:00pm). Tickets are $18 to $25.

Opera expert Scott Eyerly gives an introductory talk about each Met opera at the Mahaiwe two hours before its live broadcast. Mixing erudition and humor, Eyerly’s lectures enhance the opera-goer’s experience. All interested community members are welcome to attend these educational seminars whether attending the broadcast or not. Note: the Sunday, November 23 screening of Rossini’s Il Barbiere di Siviglia (The Barber of Seville) is an encore screening, but the first time it will be shown at the Mahaiwe, so the pre-broadcast lecture is happening on that day. Tickets are $10 per lecture (general admission).

The Mahaiwe will present its traditional Thanksgiving screening of the Wizard of Oz (1939) on Saturday, November 29 at 4:00pm and 7:00pm. 2014 marks the 75th anniversary of this classic movie. This event is sponsored by Greylock Federal Credit Union. Tickets are $7.

Community Events
The Mahaiwe will host a wide variety of community events presented by **Berkshire Bach Society, Close Encounters With Music**, and **Fairview Hospital**. The full schedule follows in the calendar summary below.

**Tickets**
A limited number of $15 tickets are available for patrons ages 30 and younger through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program, sponsored by Greylock Federal Credit Union. 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](http://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 and has been in continuous operation for over 100 years. In 2005, the theater experienced a renaissance as a beautifully restored 681-seat venue to offer a broad range of cultural and community events. Today’s “Mahaiwe Mix” of diverse, high quality programming strives to provide meaningful, memorable entertainment for all ages and interests.

**Mahaiwe Fall Schedule at a Glance**

**Thursday, September 4 at 7:00pm**
Mahaiwe Presents
**London’s National Theatre in HD**
*Medea* by Euripides.
Helen McCrory plays the title role in this powerful Greek tragedy, in a new version by Ben Power, directed by Carrie Cracknell
$18 to $25

**Saturday, September 20 at 8:00pm**
**Fairview Hospital Gala Presents**
**The Midtown Men**
Four stars from the original cast of *Jersey Boys*
Tickets are $52 (balcony seats)
Gala packages available; Call Fairview Hospital for info 413.854.9609

Saturday, September 27 at 7:30pm
**Berkshire Bach Society Presents**
**St. Luke’s Chamber Ensemble**
$27 to $72
Berkshire Bach member discount $5
Students free with ID

Friday, October 10 at 8:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**David Sedaris**
Humorist and best-selling author
$48 to $68

Saturday, October 11 at 11:00am (pre-broadcast lecture by Scott Eyerly)
Saturday, October 11 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**The Met: Live in HD**
**Verdi’s Macbeth**
Star soprano Anna Netrebko delivers her searing portrayal of Lady Macbeth in Adrian Noble’s production of Verdi’s masterful adaptation of Shakespeare’s tragedy.
$18 to $25

Sunday, Oct 12 at 8:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**2014 Mahaiwe Gala: An Evening with Bernadette Peters in Honor of Jane Iredale**
Performance-only tickets ($80 to $250—the latter with a pre-show champagne reception) are available via the Mahaiwe box office. In addition, gala packages, including premium seating and a pre-show dinner honoring Jane Iredale, start at $500 and are available by calling Dave Barrett at 413.644.9040 x 106.

Friday, October 17 at 10:00am (school field trip concert)
Friday, October 17 at 7:00pm (public show)
Mahaiwe Presents
**Black Violin**
A neo-classical, innovative, urban style of violin, vocals, and funk
$15

Saturday, October 18 at 11:00am (pre-broadcast lecture by Scott Eyerly)
Saturday, October 18 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**The Met: Live in HD**
**Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro** (*The Marriage of Figaro*)
Met Music Director James Levine conducts this spirited new production, directed by Richard Eyre, starring bass-baritone Ildar Abdrazakov in the title role
$18 to $25

Sunday October 19 at 7:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**Dianne Reeves**
with Gerald Clayton, Romero Lubambo, James Genus, and Terreon Gully
Four time Grammy-winning jazz vocalist
$32 to $82

Saturday, October 25 at 6:00pm
Close Encounters With Music Presents
*Mozart - Rejoice, Exult!*
$25 to $45

Sunday, October 26 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**The Met: Live in HD (Encore)**
*Verdi's Macbeth*
Star soprano Anna Netrebko delivers her searing portrayal of Lady Macbeth in Adrian Noble’s production of Verdi’s masterful adaptation of Shakespeare’s tragedy
$18 to $25

Saturday, November 1 at 11:00am (pre-broadcast lecture by Scott Eyerly)
Saturday, November 1 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**The Met: Live in HD**
*Bizet’s Carmen*
Richard Eyre’s mesmerizing production of this steamy melodrama, with mezzo-soprano Anita Rachvelishvili singing her signature role of the ill-fated gypsy temptress
$18 to $25

Wednesday, November 5 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**The Met: Live in HD (Encore)**
*Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro)*
Met Music Director James Levine conducts this spirited new production, directed by Richard Eyre, starring bass-baritone Ildar Abdrazakov in the title role
$18 to $25

Sunday, November 9 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
**The Met: Live in HD (Encore)**
*Bizet’s Carmen*
Richard Eyre’s mesmerizing production of this steamy melodrama, with mezzo-soprano Anita Rachvelishvili singing her signature role of the ill-fated gypsy temptress
$18 to $25
Saturday, November 22 at 8:00pm  
Mahaiwe Presents  
**Arlo Guthrie – Guthrie Family Reunion**  
*Featuring Abe, Cathy, Annie, Sarah Lee, and son-in-law Johnny Irion*  
$25 to $64

Sunday, November 23 at 11:00am (pre-broadcast lecture by Scott Eyerly)  
Sunday, November 23 at 1:00pm  
Mahaiwe Presents  
**The Met: Live in HD**  
**Rossini’s Il Barbiere di Siviglia (The Barber of Seville)**  
Michele Mariotti conducts this classic comedy—featuring some of the most instantly recognizable melodies in all of opera  
$18 to $25  
Note: this is an encore screening, but the first time it will be shown at the Mahaiwe, so the pre-broadcast lecture is happening on this day)

Saturday, November 29 at 4:00pm and 7:00pm  
Mahaiwe Presents  
**Wizard of Oz (1939)**  
75th anniversary screening  
Tickets: $7

Wednesday, December 3 at 1:00pm  
Mahaiwe Presents  
**The Met: Live in HD (Encore)**  
**Rossini’s Il Barbiere di Siviglia (The Barber of Seville)**  
Michele Mariotti conducts this classic comedy—featuring some of the most instantly recognizable melodies in all of opera  
$18 to $25

Saturday, December 6 at 6:00pm  
**Close Encounters With Music**  
**A Holiday Celebration: Best of the Baroque**  
$25 to $45

Saturday, December 13 at 10:00am (pre-broadcast lecture by Scott Eyerly)  
Saturday, Dec 13 at 12:00pm  
Mahaiwe Presents  
**The Met: Live in HD**  
**Wagner’s Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg**  
James Levine returns to one of his signature works, an epic comedy about a group of Renaissance “master singers” whose song contest unites a city  
$18 to $25
Sunday, December 21 at 12:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
The Met: Live in HD (Encore)
Wagner’s *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*
James Levine returns to one of his signature works, an epic comedy about a group of Renaissance “master singers” whose song contest unites a city
$18 to $25

Saturday, December 27 at 8:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
A Holiday Celebration with John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit
Among the most gifted of the younger generation interpreters of the Great American Songbook
$25 to $100 (the latter includes post-show reception with the artists)

Wednesday, December 31 at 6:00pm
Berkshire Bach Presents
Bach at New Year’s
$TBA