



Elgin  
Community  
College

Arts Center

# 2023-24

## SEASON OF EVENTS

[eccartscenter.org](http://eccartscenter.org) | 847-622-0300



OCT. 14



OCT. 28



DEC. 15





## Welcome to the ECC Arts Center.

To quote an iconic Grateful Dead song, "What a long, strange trip it's been." Who could have imagined the journey we have all shared since March 2020? Audiences were slow to return after the pandemic, but over the past year, we've seen a return to full theaters. Thank you to all of you who continue to show your support for live performances.

This season marks the 30th anniversary of the Arts Center and the 75th anniversary of the college. We'll celebrate these milestones with special events, including free outdoor performances in the summer of 2024. Sign up for our email list at [eccartscenter.org](http://eccartscenter.org) for the latest updates and visit [elgin.edu/ECC75](http://elgin.edu/ECC75) for anniversary celebration details.

It is my hope that audiences will continue to support our work for the next 30 years. After all, it is for you, the audience, that we do what we do. And now...on with the show!



All the best,

Tommy Hensel  
Senior Director of Performing Arts

## A word from the president.

The arts have a long history with Elgin Community College. In 2024, ECC will celebrate its 75th anniversary, and the arts have been with us since the beginning. In 1950, one year after ECC's founding, members of the Elgin Public School's Board of Education approved a plan to organize the Elgin Civic Symphony Orchestra under the sponsorship of ECC. And since then, music, art, dance, and theatre have been integral to our students' education and the community.

Next year, we will also recognize the 30th anniversary of ECC's Arts Center. For three decades, it has been a staple in our region. You might have noticed that it is under renovation to better serve you and our students. I cannot wait for you to see the transformation. And yes, we are still open for business!

I invite you to come see a show; I know you'll have a memorable experience.

We hope to see you soon.



David Sam, PhD, JD, LLM  
President

## That chef's hat means you are in for a treat.



Dinner and a show — that's a winning combination. When you see a chef's hat icon next to an event listing, it means you can add dinner at Spartan Terrace Restaurant. It's not just a bite to eat, it's a fine dining experience.

Just steps away from our spacious theatre, ECC students are studying at one of the leading culinary arts and hospitality programs in the Midwest. Guided and mentored by award-winning chefs, expert faculty, and culinary experts, their assignment is to treat you to savory culinary and pastry delights. Select from a customized four-course menu that never disappoints.

We invite you to make your evening a special one by adding dinner to your ticket purchase. Bon appétit!



# SEASON-AT-A-GLANCE

## SEPTEMBER 2023

16	Centerstage	Jim Witter: <i>Feelin' Groovy</i>	p. 6
30	BFH	<i>Nuestra DNA</i>	p. 24

## OCTOBER 2023

1	BFH	<i>Nuestra DNA</i>	p. 24
6	Centerstage	Rising Tide: <i>The Crossroads Project</i>	p. 7
14	Centerstage	Pat Hazell's <i>The Wonder Bread Years</i>	p. 8
18	ECC Concert Band		p. 19
28	Centerstage	Nobuntu	p. 9

## NOVEMBER 2023

5	Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra		p. 25
10-19	ECC Theatre	<i>I and You</i>	p. 22
11	Centerstage	Victor Wooten and The Wooten Brothers	p. 10
12	Elgin Master Chorale		p. 25

## DECEMBER 2023

2	Centerstage	Lisa Rock in "A Carpenters Christmas"	p. 11
6	ECC Concert Band		p. 19
8	ECC Steel Bands		p. 19
11	ECC Concert Choir		p. 20
12	ECC Hip Hop Ensemble		p. 20
14	ECC Jazz Ensemble		p. 21
15	Centerstage	<i>The 12 Dames of Christmas</i>	p. 12

Cover photo by Casey Mitchell

## JANUARY 2024

20	American Grands XXIX	<i>A Grand Performance</i>	p. 13
27	Centerstage	Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater	p. 14

## FEBRUARY 2024

10	Centerstage	Chicago Tap Theatre	p. 15
23 -25	ECC Musical Theatre		p. 23

## MARCH 2024

1-3	ECC Musical Theatre		p. 23
10	Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra		p. 25
16	Centerstage	Bachelors of Broadway	p. 16

## APRIL 2024

5	Centerstage	<i>Trailblazing Women of Country</i>	p. 17
13	Centerstage	<i>Hollywood Revisited</i>	p. 18
14	Elgin Master Chorale		p. 25
26-28	ECC Theatre		p. 22

## MAY 2024

3-5	ECC Theatre		p. 22
6	ECC Concert Choir		p. 20
8	ECC Concert Band		p. 19
9	ECC Steel Bands		p. 19
12	Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra		p. 25
13	American Roots Ensemble		p. 21
14	ECC Jazz Ensemble		p. 21
15	ECC Electronic Music Ensemble		p. 21

*Bachelors of Broadway*



*Chicago Tap Theatre*

*Hollywood Revisited*



I AND YOU





"Time it was, and what a time it was..."

## Jim Witter: Feelin' Groovy

*The 60s and the music of Simon and Garfunkel*

**Saturday, September 16**

**7 pm**  
**\$42**

Get ready to let your hair down, kick off your shoes, and start "Feelin' Groovy," as Jim and the boys take you back in time. As the lights go down and the music begins, close your eyes for a moment. You may almost smell the incense burning and see the lava lamps bubbling. Songs like "Mrs. Robinson," "Scarborough Fair," "The Boxer," and many more will have you singing along and chanting, "Far out!"

Welcome back to the 60s!



**Add dinner! \$31**  
**Order by Monday,**  
**September 11**

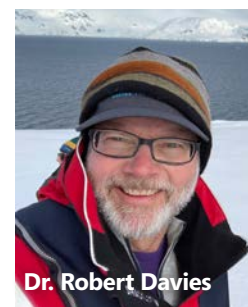


## Rising Tide

*The Crossroads Project featuring  
The Fry Street Quartet and Dr. Robert Davies*

**Friday, October 6**

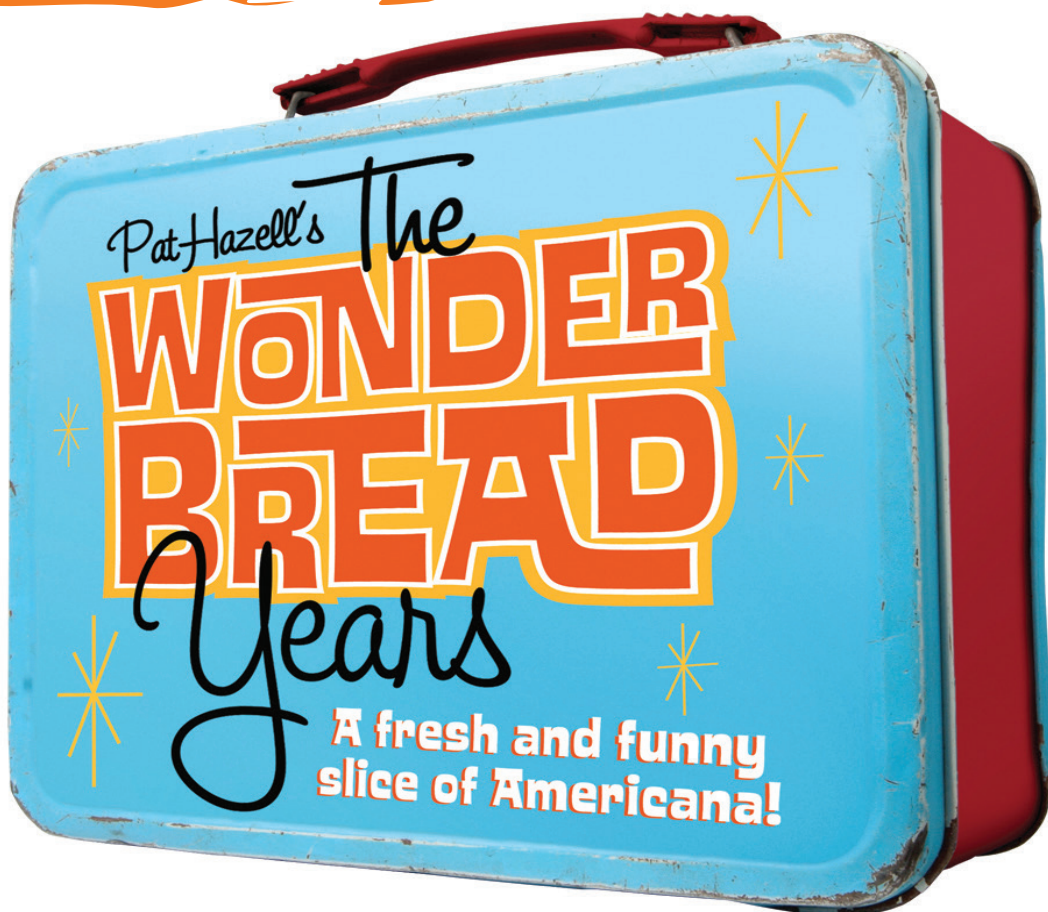
**7:30 pm**  
**\$37**



Dr. Robert Davies

Grounded in science, elevated by art, igniting response — this project confronts a planet under siege and a future in peril, inspiring audiences to change course. The Fry Street Quartet collaborates with climate physicist Dr. Robert Davies in this evocative performance about global sustainability that weaves art and science together through music, prose, and imagery.





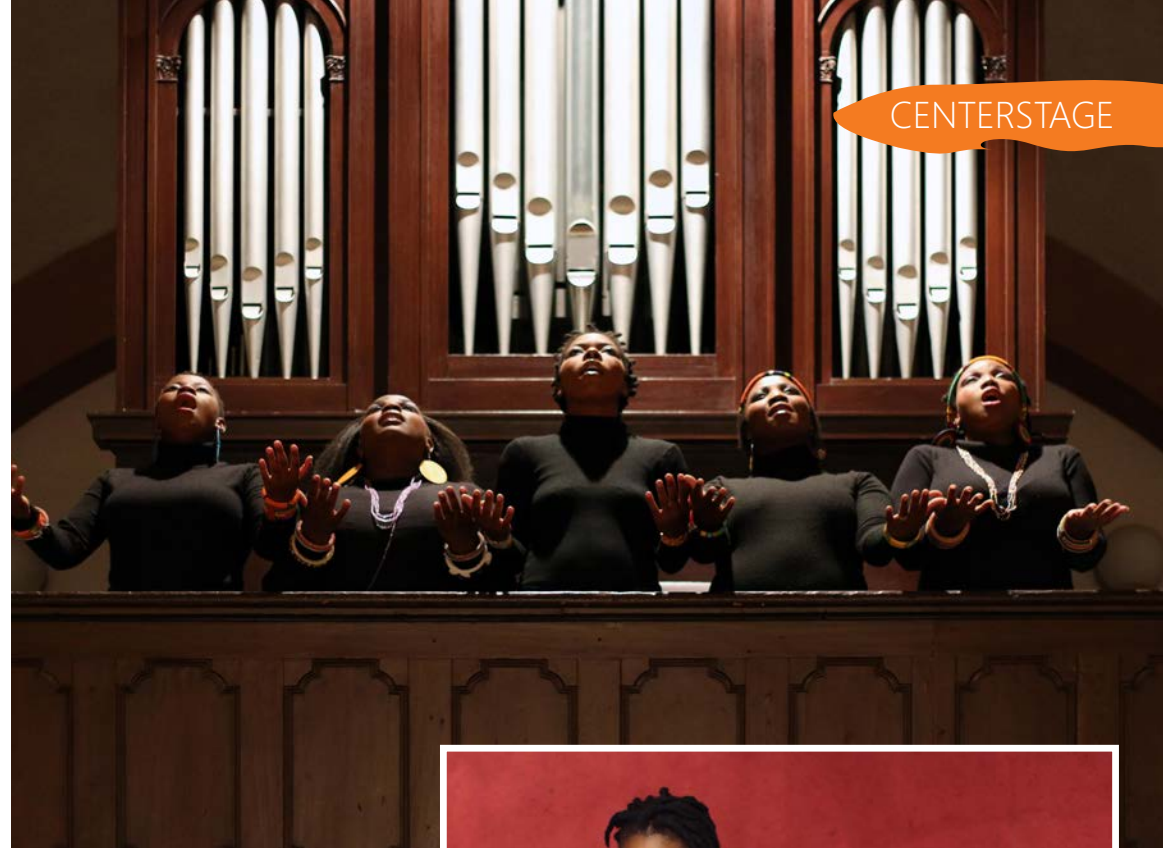
## Pat Hazell's *The Wonder Bread Years*

Saturday, October 14  
7 pm  
\$42

*Milk-snorting funny!*

— Jerry Seinfeld

This fresh and funny salute to Americana starring Pat Hazell (former *Seinfeld* writer) is a fast-paced, hilarious production that gracefully walks the line between standup and theater. Audiences across the country are enjoying a show that not only restores a much-needed sense of wonder but leaves audiences laughing and savoring the past like never before. From sitting at the kids' table to riding in the way back of the Country Squire wagon, *The Wonder Bread Years* is a comic bullseye for baby boomers everywhere.



## *Nobuntu*

Saturday, October 28  
7 pm  
\$37

Nobuntu, the female a cappella quintet from Zimbabwe, has drawn international acclaim for its inventive performances that range from traditional Zimbabwean songs to afro jazz to gospel. The ensemble performs concerts with pure voices, augmented by minimalistic percussion, traditional instruments such as the mbira (thumb piano), and organic, authentic dance movements.



## Victor Wooten and The Wooten Brothers

Saturday, November 11  
7 pm  
\$47

Five-time Grammy Award-winner Victor Wooten has been heralded as the Michael Jordan of the bass and one of the most fearless musicians on the planet. His talent has led to invitations to record and perform with such luminaries as Bootsy Collins, Branford Marsalis, Keb Mo, Chic Corea, The Dave Matthews Band, and the legendary Moroccan group Nass El Ghiwane. Wooten is a founding member of the super-group Béla Fleck and the Flecktones. He will be performing with his brothers, Joseph (keys/vocals), Roy (percussion/vocals), and Regi (guitar/vocals).



**Add dinner! \$31**  
**Order by Monday,**  
**November 6**



*"When she hits the lower range of her marvelous voice,  
if you close your eyes, you can see Karen Carpenter's face."*

– Alan Bresloff, Cabaret Critic, Around the Town Chicago

## Lisa Rock in "A Carpenters Christmas"

Saturday, December 2  
7 pm  
\$42

While The Carpenters are known for more than a dozen chart-topping hits, they also won over their fans with their Christmas celebrations. Singer and playwright Lisa Rock and her six-piece backing band are keeping The Carpenters' holiday traditions alive and bringing their unforgettable Christmas songs to the stage.



**Add dinner! \$31**  
**Order by Monday,**  
**November 27**





Artists Lounge Live presents

## ***The 12 Dames of Christmas***

*Starring Angela Ingersoll*

**Saturday, December 15**

**7 pm**  
**\$42**

Chicago's award-winning songstress Angela Ingersoll brings her merry musical romp back to Elgin! Ingersoll captures the iconic voices of the holiday season including a rockin' Brenda Lee, a purr-fect Eartha Kitt, a haunting Judy Garland, a proper Julie Andrews, a soulful Edith Piaf, and more. The yuletide revels include festive favorites such as "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Santa Baby," and "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree."



## ***American Grands XXIX***

*A Grand Performance*

**Saturday, January 20**

**1 pm, 4 pm, and 7 pm**

**\$26 adults | \$17 children 12 and under**

With 12 grand pianos generously provided by Cordogan's Pianoland and close to 500 local performers, this musical spectacular returns for its 29th season. Under the direction of Colin Holman, conductor, and Stephanie Spolum, musical director, this Fox Valley original is a celebration of the piano and those who love to play it.

Visit [elgin.edu/americangrands](http://elgin.edu/americangrands) to be part of American Grands.



**Add dinner! \$19**



## Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater



*"Wowed the audience."*

– The New York Times

**Saturday, January 27**  
**7 pm**  
**\$37**

Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, in residence at Northeastern Illinois University, celebrates its 48th season as the premier Spanish dance company and center in the United States. Under the dynamic leadership of Irma Suarez Ruiz, artistic director, and Jorge Perez, executive director, it is comprised of 30 dancers, singers, musicians, and guest artists. The company's mission is the preservation, presentation, and promotion of the classical, folkloric, flamenco, and contemporary dance and music traditions of Spain.



*"A collision of unparalleled footwork, live music, and storytelling that dares the rest of the tap world to elevate its game."*

– Chicago Stage Standard

## Chicago Tap Theatre

**Saturday, February 10**  
**7 pm**  
**\$37**

Chicago Tap Theatre is a vibrant dance company with a unique mission to preserve the quintessentially American dance form of tap and to take tap to the next level of creativity and innovation. Chicago Tap Theatre stands apart from other dance companies by bridging the gap between tap and other forms of concert dance, such as jazz, ballet, and modern, by adopting a conceptual, narrative, and more emotional approach to its work.





## Bachelors of Broadway

**Saturday, March 16**  
**7 pm**  
**\$42**

This brand-new, three-man act features lush symphonic arrangements of songs from modern and classic musicals like *Wicked*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Jersey Boys*, *42nd Street*, *Miss Saigon*, *The Greatest Showman*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Les Misérables*, and many more. Starring New York City's top theatrical talent, *Bachelors of Broadway* offers a fresh take on audience favorites that have captivated millions worldwide.



## Trailblazing Women of Country

**Friday, April 5**  
**7:30 pm**  
**\$42**

Patsy Cline, Loretta Lynn, and Dolly Parton revolutionized country music and blazed a trail for future generations of female artists. With their chart-topping hits and record-breaking sales, Patsy, Loretta, and Dolly wove threads of contemporary womanhood throughout the tapestry of country music, resulting in unprecedented commercial success and earning each a place in the Country Music Hall of Fame. *Trailblazing Women of Country* will entertain and inspire audiences during this pivotal moment in our nation's history. The performance also features Miko Marks, CMT's 2022 Next Woman of Country, and Nashville-based singer Kristina Train supported by a five-member, all-female band.





## Hollywood Revisited

Saturday, April 13  
7 pm  
\$42

Experience what it's like to watch the stars walk the red carpet as your favorite Tinseltown classics come to life in this stunning musical revue. It showcases a truly dazzling lineup of costumes actually worn by the stars in the original Hollywood films. Set to the music that defined the times, this show will leave you in awe as you learn about and come close enough to touch these historic, original masterpieces of old-time Hollywood. Don't miss the live spectacular that is *Hollywood Revisited*. Learn more at [hollywoodrevisited.com](http://hollywoodrevisited.com).



## ECC Concert Band

Wednesday, October 18  
Wednesday, December 6  
Wednesday, May 8  
\$12 adults | \$10 seniors and students

ECC Concert Band thrills audiences with a broad range of music in heart-stirring arrangements.



## ECC Steel Bands

Friday, December 8  
Thursday, May 9  
7:30 pm  
\$12 adults | \$10 seniors and students

The ECC Steel Bands, under the direction of Steve Butters, always delight with an eclectic mix of calypso, reggae, rock, and more.





## *ECC Concert Choir*

**Monday, December 11**

**Monday, May 6**

**7:30 pm**

**\$12 adults | \$10 seniors and students**

Under the direction of Chris Cherry, The ECC Concert Choir will perform a wide breadth of choral music from many eras.

## *ECC Hip Hop Ensemble*

**Tuesday, December 12**

**7:30 pm**

**\$12 adults | \$10 seniors and students**

Under the direction of Adam Schlipmann, original hip-hop music is collaboratively arranged and presented for the enjoyment and excitement of the audience.



## *ECC Jazz Ensemble*

**Thursday, December 14**

**Tuesday, May 14**

**\$12 adults | \$10 seniors and students**

The smooth sounds of jazz performed by the talented ECC Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Shawn Maxwell, is an evening that you don't want to miss!

## *ECC Electronic Music Ensemble*

**Wednesday, May 15**

**7:30 pm**

**\$12 adults | \$10 seniors and students**



Under the direction of Adam Schlipmann, budding musicians will perform the sounds of electrifying, originally produced music.

## *American Roots Ensemble*

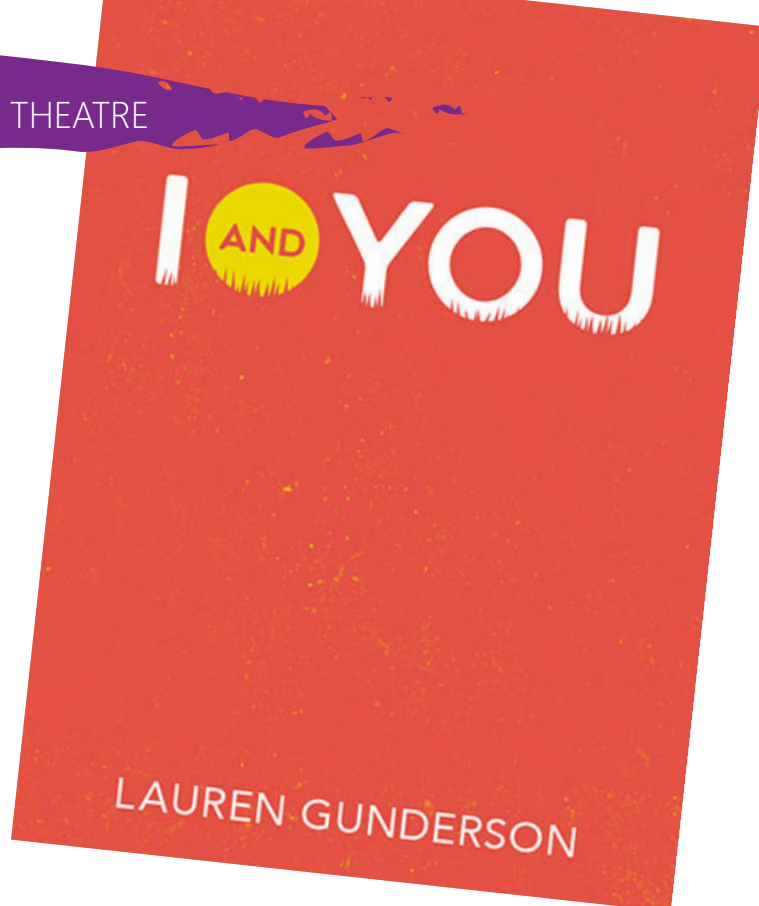
**Monday, May 13**

**7:30 pm**

**\$12 adults | \$10 seniors and students**

This talented ensemble will perform under the direction of Adam Schlipmann.





ECC Theatre presents

## *I and You*

by Lauren Gunderson

November 10-19

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm

Sundays at 3 pm

\$14 adults | \$12 seniors and students

Charming, mysterious, and poetic in the truest sense of the word, Lauren Gunderson's *I and You* is a study of the beauty, agony, and mystery of human connection. Rich with poetic theatricality intertwined with simple human truth, the play finds high school students Caroline and Anthony suddenly forced together when Anthony shows up in Caroline's bedroom unexpectedly, apparently to work on an English project that, to Caroline's surprise, is due the next day. *I and You* is a haunting, shocking music box of a play about youth, poetry, hope, heart, and the connections between us all.

## Spring Theatre Production

April 26 - May 5

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm

Sundays at 3 pm

\$14 adults | \$12 seniors and students

ECC's production team is working on something fabulous for the spring. Be sure to check back in late fall for more information.

*"Gunderson's gift is the best thing a play can offer: we might be better people after seeing it."*

– Tim Treanor, DC Theatre Scene

ECC Musical Theatre,  
*Little Shop of Horrors*, 2022



## Musical Theatre

\$22 adults | \$20 seniors and students

February 23 - March 3

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm

Sundays at 3 pm

ECC's musical production team is working on something fabulous for the spring. Be sure to check back in late fall for more information.

## Auditions for Theatre and Musical Theatre



Enhance your experience by taking classes, performing in a theatre or musical theatre production, joining a music ensemble, or attending workshops in the performing arts discipline of your choice. The best way to learn about ECC Theater and Musical Theatre auditions is to sign-up for our audition announcement.



**BFH*****Dance, Express, Inspire!****Nuestra DNA (Danza, Nobleza y Amor)***Saturday, September 30 at 7 pm****Sunday, October 1 at 12 pm****In advance: \$25 adults, \$22 seniors, \$15 children 10 & under****At the door: \$30 adults, \$25 seniors, \$18 children 10 & under**

Folk dance is part of the BFH tradition, one that runs deep in their veins and teaches them to be noble. They strive to achieve the impossible out of love for those who came before them and for those who are to follow. It simply is in their DNA. Enjoy an evening of dance, nobility, and love.

***Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra*****GAIA****Terra naturalis****November 5****Terra nostra****March 10****Terra una****May 12****1:30 pm, 4:30 pm, and 7 pm****\$27 adults | \$22 seniors | \$16 students**

This award-winning orchestra is one of the most esteemed youth orchestras in the nation. Its five orchestras, brass choir, flute choir, percussion ensembles, Starter Strings program, and thriving Chamber Music Institute provide nearly 400 students a rich learning environment that promotes curiosity while presenting thrilling concerts. In EYSO's 48th season, explore how sound reflects the natural and built worlds around us. Learn more at [EYSO.org](http://EYSO.org).

***Elgin Master Chorale*****Sunday, November 12 at 3:30 pm****Sunday, April 14 at 3:30 pm****\$31 adults | \$26 seniors and students**

EMC performs Beethoven's *Mass in C* with Margaret Bonds' *Credo*, a setting of a prose poem by W.E.B. DuBois.

Visit [elginmasterchorale.org](http://elginmasterchorale.org) for more information.



# Host your next event at the ECC Arts Center!

Our newly updated building features a range of spaces for rent — from a 670-seat proscenium theatre to a 168-seat black box theatre and numerous classrooms. Our professional event staff and convenient accommodations will ensure that your next event is a success.

If you'd like your next performance, seminar, or meeting to take place in a beautiful facility known for its flexible spaces, top-notch technical knowledge, and professional personnel, look no further than the ECC Arts Center! It is ideal for performing arts events.

## Rental features include:

- ▶ Rental spaces accommodate a wide variety of set-up requirements.
- ▶ We offer complete event services from behind-the-scenes planning to box office and day-of-event services.
- ▶ We're easy to find — just minutes from I-90, U.S. 20, and Randall Road.
- ▶ We have ample free parking.
- ▶ Facilities are easily accessible for people of all abilities.

Contact us for more information at [artsoperations@elgin.edu](mailto:artsoperations@elgin.edu).



## Looking for a great place to volunteer?

Ushers enjoy watching amazing artists in intimate theatres, park for free, and can earn points to receive complimentary tickets for shows.

### Usher Volunteer Duties

- Greet patrons.
- Take tickets.
- Show patrons to their seats.
- Assist and monitor the audience during performances.
- Assist with concessions or merchandise sales.

Contact us at [artsvolunteer@elgin.edu](mailto:artsvolunteer@elgin.edu) with questions or to sign up today!

## ABOUT THE ARTS CENTER

### FINDING US

- Our address is 1700 Spartan Drive, Elgin, IL 60123. Once on campus follow the signs to Building H.

### PARKING

- Free parking is available in all open campus lots. Please observe signs and avoid parking in restricted lots and spaces.

### SEATING

- Theatre doors open approximately 30 minutes before performances. All patrons, regardless of age, must purchase a ticket to be admitted to the theatre. Latecomers are seated at the discretion of management.

### ACCESSIBILITY

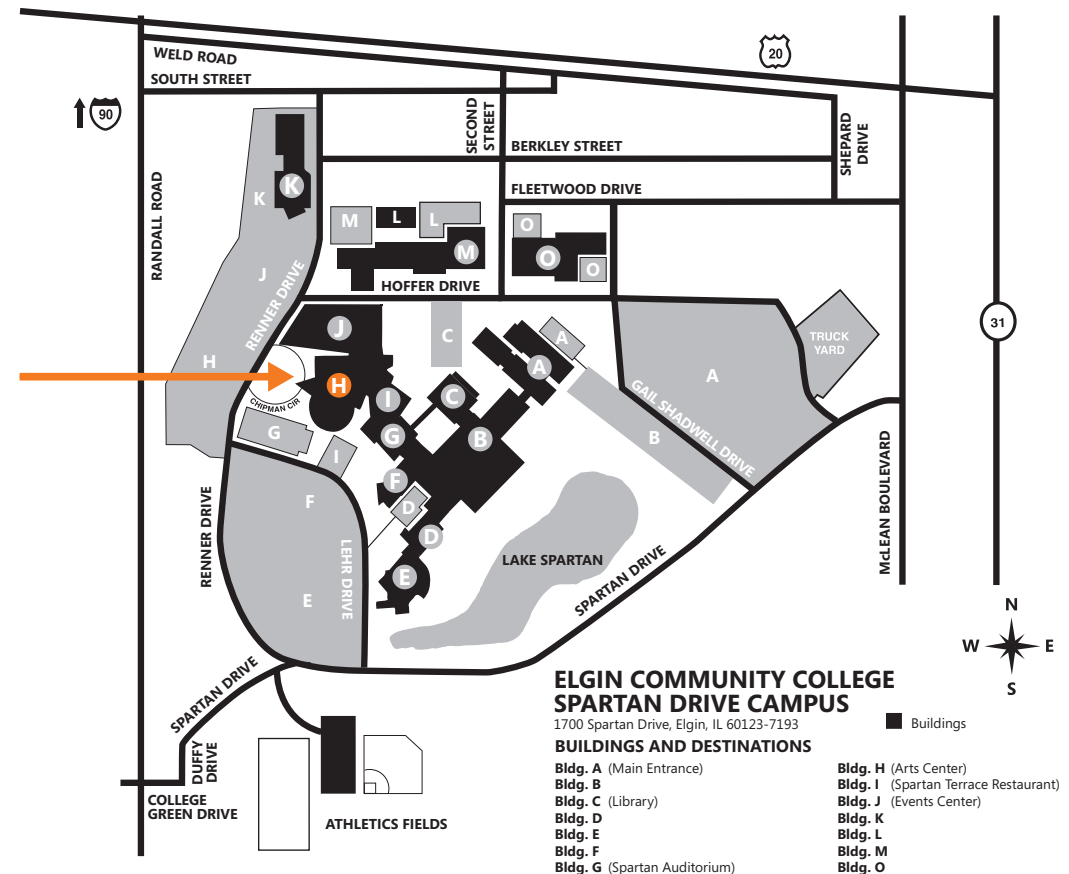
- The ECC Arts Center is fully accessible and includes handicapped parking and accessible seating and restrooms.

### CAMERAS/RECORDING DEVICES

- Photography and recording of performances is not allowed.

### FEES AND REFUNDS

- A \$5 per order handling fee is assessed for all online and phone orders. All ticket purchases are non-refundable. Exchanges requested 48 hours before the purchased performance are permitted on a space-available basis.







Elgin  
Community  
College

Bright Choice. Bright Future.

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NOV. 11



*Victor Wooten  
and The Wooten Brothers*

NOV. 12, 2023 | APR. 14, 2024



*Elgin Master Chorale*