

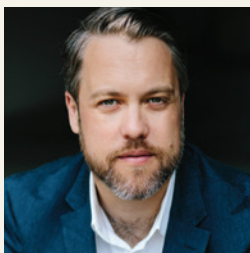


Flip Fabrique; photo by Emmanuel Burriel



“PASSION IS ONE GREAT FORCE THAT UNLEASHES CREATIVITY, BECAUSE IF YOU’RE PASSIONATE ABOUT SOMETHING, THEN YOU’RE MORE WILLING TO TAKE RISKS.”

— Yo-Yo Ma



DEAR FRIENDS,

“Looking Back, Leading Forward” is a phrase that has guided our planning for our 50th anniversary season. In reflecting on the past five decades of Penn Live Arts’ artistic programming, I feel honored to be part of an institution with such a meaningful legacy. From introducing Philadelphia to playwright **August Wilson**

and composer **Phillip Glass**, to presenting countless dance companies over a 40+ year series history, to producing the longest-running children’s festival of its kind in the country, PLA has long demonstrated its commitment to inclusive, cutting-edge programming, reflective of and responsive to the challenging issues of our times and the diverse communities we serve.

Leading forward, we are building upon this proud heritage. With a continuing commitment to inclusive storytelling and the creation of new work, we are expanding our support of artists and their creative process through extended residencies and our recently launched **Accelerator Program**. We are deepening integration with the University, engaging students and faculty in the performing arts through curricular and co-curricular activities, and leveraging the specialized knowledge of scholars at Penn to contextualize and deepen artistic experiences within and beyond the theatre. We are pursuing collaborations across campus and the greater Philadelphia region to extend access and participation in the arts. And we are actively fundraising for the renovation and expansion of our physical infrastructure to further support the burgeoning creative community at Penn and in Philadelphia.

Thank you for accompanying us on this exciting journey, as we create the next act at Penn Live Arts together.

With gratitude,

Christopher A. Gruits

OUR MISSION

As the University of Pennsylvania’s home for the performing arts, Penn Live Arts connects diverse audiences with visionary artists and innovative ideas, engaging both the University and the greater Philadelphia community in transformative artistic experiences.



Top: New Breed Brass Band on Locust Walk during PLA’s 50th Anniversary Open House; photo by Paola Nogueras

Bottom: Benjamin Bagby and members of the Penn community discuss his performance of the epic poem *Beowulf* at the Penn Libraries; photo by Eric Sucar



LOOKING BACK: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Pilobolus; photo by John Kane

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 LABOR DAY	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 BRANFORD MARSALIS 8:00 PM	30 ODYSSEY The Acting Company 8:00 PM



Penn Live Arts heralded its 50th anniversary season with befitting fanfare—announcing the planned construction of the new **Stuart Weitzman Theatre**! Named for the award-winning designer and footwear icon in honor of his leadership gift to the project, the **Weitzman Theatre** is the cornerstone of a multi-phase capital plan to renovate and expand the **Annenberg Center** and increase performance and rehearsal space across Penn’s campus.

This modern jewel of a space extending onto the **Annenberg Center Outdoor Plaza** will be put to immediate use by students for everything from table reads with visiting playwrights, dance troupe rehearsals and student cabaret nights, to film screenings, improv performances and chamber music. It will also provide a new venue for select PLA professional performances for which this flexible, indoor-outdoor space will be ideal.

Upon the heels of this announcement, PLA opened the 2022-23 season with a two-day community open house, featuring a second line parade on Locust Walk and free performance by the **New Breed Brass Band of New Orleans**, a **Penn Student Band Slam**, free shows and activities for neighborhood children, and a full-house welcome for the legendary gospel headliner, **Blind Boys of Alabama**.



Stuart Weitzman Theatre. Representative architectural rendering, subject to change.

ALICE & JOHN: A COLTRANE FESTIVAL

Lakecia Benjamin

OCTOBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 ODYSSEY The Acting Company 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	2 ODYSSEY The Acting Company 10:30 AM	3 JUMP START YOUR ARTS CAREER Penn Student Event 4:30 PM	4	5	6 MALPASO DANCE COMPANY 8:00 PM	7 MALPASO DANCE COMPANY 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
8	9 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY	10	11	12	13	14 THE CROSSING & BERGAMOT QUARTET SIN-EATER 3:00 PM 8:00 PM
15 THE CROSSING & BERGAMOT QUARTET SIN-EATER 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	16	17	18	19 CAPPELLA PRATENSIS & SOLLAZZO ENSEMBLE The Feast of the Swan 7:30 PM	20 NEGRO ENSEMBLE COMPANY No Policy, No Justice 8:00 PM	21 NEGRO ENSEMBLE COMPANY No Policy, No Justice 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
22	23	24	25	26	27 PENN FAMILY WEEKEND	28 PENN FAMILY WEEKEND
29 ULYSSES OWENS JR. BIG BAND 7:00 PM	30	31	1	2	3	4

Jazz fans enjoyed a rich offering in the 2022-23 season, beginning by honoring jazz royalty **Alice & John Coltrane** with a 10-day festival. As part of the programming, choreographer **Pam Tanowitz** and her company performed the world premiere of *Walk with Me*, a PLA commissioned work played live by rising saxophone star **Lakecia Benjamin**. As the festival's artistic advisor, Benjamin continued the celebration with her band, **Pursuance**, offering an all-Coltrane inspired evening of jazz. Harpist **Brandee Younger** showcased Alice's earlier music, while **Ravi Coltrane** brought a personal connection to the exploration of his parents' jazz archive. Members of the **West Philadelphia High School Jazz Band** enjoyed complimentary tickets, a special backstage tour, and got to meet with the **Ravi Coltrane Quintet**! All festival participants had the opportunity to dig deeper into the Coltrane family legacy through documentary films, and pre- and post-show discussions with the artists and Coltrane scholars.

Other jazz highlights of the season included **Terence Blanchard's E-Collective** and the **Turtle Island Quartet** performing in tandem with **Andrew F. Scott's** live curation of works by iconic photographer **Gordon Parks**, a Philadelphia premiere that made a powerful statement on American culture past and present. And, as part of PLA's **ListenHear** series, which profiles significant contemporary musical voices, **Arturo O'Farrill** and the **Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra** filled the house with a program of Philadelphia premieres.



Teatro delle Albe, *fedeli d'Amore*; Photo by Enrico Fedrigoli

NOVEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	1	2	3 PENN HOMECOMING	4 PENN HOMECOMING
5 PENN HOMECOMING	6	7	8	9 THE SONGS OF SOLOMON The Music Of Salamone Rossi 7:30 PM	10	11
12 THE FLYING KARAMAZOV BROTHERS 4PLAY 3:00 PM	13	14	15	16	17 DOUG VARONE AND DANCERS 10:30 AM 8:00 PM	18 DOUG VARONE AND DANCERS 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
19 ERENA TERAUBO 7:00 PM	20	21	22	23 THANKSGIVING	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

English, music, and Penn Libraries

Performances throughout the season allowed PLA to highlight connections to Penn’s research and curricular landscape—especially where epic poems were concerned! A cluster of enthusiastic **English, music, and Penn Libraries** faculty rallied around **Benjamin Bagby’s** performance of *Beowulf* to produce an interdisciplinary, accessible, and downright fun roundtable event exploring historical performance, translation, nationalism, and more.

Music and **Italian Studies** students and faculty also welcomed the husband-and-wife team of **Teatro delle Albe**, a devised theatre group from Ravenna, Italy. Long delayed due to pandemic and international travel challenges, the U.S. premiere of *fedeli d’Amore*, which evoked the last days of Dante, at last delivered an innovative experience that placed PLA on the cutting edge of presenting international theatre in Philadelphia. Italian Studies students also took part in a workshop led by **Teatro delle Albe** director **Marco Martinelli** that provided a crash course in the company’s signature creative process.

Elsewhere in the season, celebrated composers **Caroline Shaw** and **Oswaldo Golijov, GR’91**, who were part of the **ListenHear** series, had intimate audiences with students from **Penn’s Music Composition** program. In addition, visiting dance artists offered seven dance master classes throughout the season, which were opened to local high school students for the first time, to enthusiastic response.

STUDENT PERFORMING ARTS

DECEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3 CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE'S NEW JAWN 7:00 PM	4	5	6	7	8 DORRANCE DANCE The Nutcracker Suite 8:00 PM	9 DORRANCE DANCE The Nutcracker Suite 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
10 AOIFE O'DONOVAN Special Guest Yasmin Williams 8:00 PM	11	12	13	14	15 THE CROSSING @ CHRISTMAS 6:00 PM 8:30 PM	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27	28	29	30
31						

The holiday season brought the annual **A Toast to Dear Old Penn** student showcase to NYC's **Carnegie Hall**. The program featured an impressive collection of Penn's talent across genres, including performances by **Arts House Dance Company**, **iNtuitons Experimental Theatre**, **Penn Atma**, **Penn Jazz Ensemble**, **Penn Lions**, **Pennchants**, **Quaker Notes**, and **WAVE** (West African Vibe). In addition to the ~450 people who saw the performance live, a livestream and subsequent recording were made available for audiences around the globe.

Throughout the academic year, Penn Live Arts supported student groups preparing for and mounting their own productions. The 2022-23 season saw 59 performances from 24 student groups across Annenberg Center stages, including **Penn Players**, **Bloomers**, **Stimulus Children's Theatre**, **The Inspiration**, and **Soundworks Tap Factory**, to name a few.

Penn Live Arts production staff continued to train students and facilitate the process of livestreaming and archival recording, providing opportunities for remote audiences to experience **Student Performing Arts Night**, **PennYo**, and **Penn k-Beats**, among others.



Ballet Hispánico, Club Havana; Photo by Hayim Heron

JANUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	16	17	18	19 BODYTRAFFIC 10:30 AM 8:00 PM	20 BODYTRAFFIC 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
21 BARTOK'S MONSTER Daedalus Quartet with Sebastienne Mundheim & Pig Iron School 7:00 PM	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 CIRQUE MECHANICS Zephyr 3:00 PM	29	30	31	1	2	3

January 2024

Dance took center stage in Penn Live Arts 50th anniversary season, with nine companies performing across multiple styles, including contemporary, ballet, hip hop, and swing. **Pilobolus** opened the season with a retrospective celebrating its own 50th anniversary, followed by **Pam Tanowitz Dance**. **Ballet Hispánico** offered three Philadelphia premieres, while **Rennie Harris Puremovement** remounted its most celebrated work, *Rome & Jewels*, a reimagined Shakespearean hip hop journey through the streets of Philadelphia.

Dance Theatre of Harlem performed the world premiere of *Blake Works IV (The Barre Project)*, choreographed by the renowned **William Forsythe**, and **Martha Graham Dance Company** gave us the Philadelphia premiere of the reimagined 1952 work, *Canticle for Innocent Comedians*, alongside the iconic *Appalachian Spring*. **Paul Taylor Dance Company** returned with the world premiere of *If You Could Swallow the Sun*, while India's premier dance troupe, **Nrityagram Dance Ensemble**, joined with **Chitrasena Dance Company** and live musicians for the Philadelphia premiere of *Āhuti*.

Penn Live Arts closed the 2022-23 season with tap superstar **Caleb Teicher** and collaborators performing the Philadelphia premiere of *SWING OUT*. The Lindy Hop choreography and improvisation featured live music by the **Eyal Vilner Big Band** and finished with an on-stage jam session with audience members. It was a joyful conclusion to the anniversary season, marking decades of bringing the best of dance to Philadelphia.



Clockwise from left: Negro Ensemble Company's *Mecca is Burning*; Professor Herman Beavers and NEC Artistic Director Karen Brown; NEC's *Clipper Cut Nation*; Student discussion in an Academically Based Community Service course

BROWNSTEIN RESIDENCY FOR ARTISTIC INNOVATION



FEBRUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2 JACK QUARTET Beautiful Trouble 8:00 PM	3 CÉCILE MCLORIN SALVANT 8:00 PM
4	5	6	7	8 ESTONIAN PHILHARMONIC CHAMBER CHOIR 7:30 PM	9 BALLETS JAZZ MONTRÉAL ESSENCE 10:30 AM 8:00 PM	10 BALLETS JAZZ MONTRÉAL ESSENCE 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
11	12	13	14	15 NEGRO ENSEMBLE COMPANY Zooman and the Sign 10:30 PM 7:30 PM	16 NEGRO ENSEMBLE COMPANY Zooman and the Sign 8:00 PM	17 NEGRO ENSEMBLE COMPANY Zooman and the Sign 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
18 NEGRO ENSEMBLE COMPANY Zooman and the Sign 3:00 PM	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 BALAKLAVA BLUES 7:00 PM	26	27	28	29 FIMA CHUPAKHIN 7:30 PM	1	2

Through the **Brownstein Residency for Artistic Innovation**, PLA continued its investment in new, groundbreaking work that speaks to issues of our time. **The Negro Ensemble Company (NEC)**, a historic, NYC-based Black theatre company, received extended time and support to produce several world premiere performances in PLA's 2022–23 season.

Through a juried selection process from a world-wide pool of scripts, three works were chosen to build the one-act play festival, **Our Voices, Our Time**. This was followed in the spring by the world premiere of ***Mecca is Burning***, a collaboratively written piece exploring both speculative and real implications of gentrification and Black disenfranchisement.

The residency also facilitated artist engagement across the Penn and Philadelphia communities, ranging from **NEC** director visits to the **Academically Based Community Service** course, **August Wilson and Beyond**, to a special conversation between ***Mecca*** playwright **Cris Eli Blak** and the eleventh-grade humanities classes at **Science Leadership Academy** in Philadelphia's Fairmount neighborhood.

NEC will continue its residency in the 2023–24 season in the fall with another evening of one acts entitled **No Policy, No Justice**, and a spring production of **Zooman and the Sign** by Philadelphia's Pulitzer winning playwright, **Charles Fuller**.



ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

The Crossing: photo by Christian Stewart

MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26	27	28	29	1 MARIANA SADOVSKA The Night is Just Beginning 7:00 PM	2
3 DAKHABRAKHA 7:00 PM	4	5	6	7	8	9 LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO 8:00 PM
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 RENNIE HARRIS PUREMOVEMENT 10:30 AM 8:00 PM	23 RENNIE HARRIS PUREMOVEMENT 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

This past season, PLA launched a new program to continue our legacy of supporting artists in their creative process. The Penn Live Arts **Accelerator Program** is designed to provide resources, expertise, and facilities to artist-driven projects, generating new or remounted work. PLA then premieres this work for Philadelphia audiences before it tours in communities across the country and world.

Through extended time in the theatre to rehearse and build, expanded professional production support, and enhanced marketing and audience engagement activities, these inaugural artists and companies were able to achieve the following in this first year of the program:

The Crossing: East coast premiere of *Ochre* by composer **Caroline Shaw**; World premiere of *Self-Portraits 1964, Unfinished* by composer **Martin Bresnick**

Dance Theatre of Harlem: World premiere of *Blake Works IV (The Barre Project)*, choreographed by **William Forsythe**

Negro Ensemble Company: World premieres of three one-act plays and full-length play, *Mecca is Burning*

Pam Tanowitz Dance: World premiere of *Walk with Me* choreographed by **Pam Tanowitz** for **Alice & John: A Coltrane Festival**

Rennie Harris Puremovement: Remount of seminal production of *Rome & Jewels*



ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Top: Outreach event at NYC's Museum of Broadway, featuring a discussion facilitated by Penn Professor and Theatre Arts Program Director, Rosemary Malague (far left), with Penn alumni (from left) Jill Abramovitz, C'93, Vivek Tiwary, C'96, W'96, Betsy Dollinger, C'90, Siani Woods, W'20, and Mark Kaufman, C'89; At left: Members of Penn's theatre arts group, Quadramics, perform a duet; Photos by Kevin Birch

APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
ORQUESTA AKOKÁN 8:00 PM						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
ALARM WILL SOUND 7:00 PM					MOMIX 10:30 AM 8:00 PM	MOMIX 2:00 PM 8:00 PM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
RUTH NAOMI FLOYD Are We Yet Somehow Alive? 7:30 PM						
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

The 2022–23 season was dense with activities that engaged the Penn community both at home in Philadelphia and across the country with alumni, Penn parents, and friends. Over **Homecoming Weekend**, the **PLA Board of Advisors** gathered to celebrate the inauguration of Penn’s 9th President, **M. Elizabeth “Liz” Magill**. That evening, renowned filmmaker and member of PLA Director’s Council **Todd Lieberman, C’95**, received the **2022 Creative Spirit Award** at **Penn’s Alumni Award of Merit Gala**. An advance screening of Todd’s film, *White Bird*, drew out **Homecoming Weekend** participants, as did the ribbon-cutting for the **Gabriel Donnay Memorial Recording Studio**.

In addition to the **Carnegie Student Showcase** in December, the **Penn Performing Arts Regional Council of New York** hosted an outreach event on May 4th at the **Museum of Broadway**. The evening featured a panel discussion with Penn Alumni working on Broadway, a cameo performance by **Quadramics**, and a private tour of the museum.

In June, the **Penn Performing Arts Regional Council of Los Angeles** organized an outreach event around PLA’s newly launched **Arts & Entertainment Career Connections**, a program working to aggregate and amplify opportunities for students pursuing internships in the performing arts and entertainment. Penn alumni, parents, students, and friends gathered at the home of PLA board member **Julie Platt, C’79**, to network and hear from a panel of faculty, staff, and current summer interns.

PENN
LIVE
ARTS FOR
YOUTH

Indigenous Enterprise on the Julia Lang Mally, W'83 Stage of the Zellerbach Theatre; Photo by Mark Garvin

MAY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5 PHILADELPHIA CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL MACHINE DE CIRQUE La Galerie 3:00 PM	6 PHILADELPHIA CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL	7 PHILADELPHIA CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL	8	9	10 NDR BIGBAND & KINAN AZMEH Flow 8:00 PM	11
12 MADELEINE PEYROUX 7:00 PM	13	14	15	16	17 PENN ALUMNI WEEKEND	18 PENN ALUMNI WEEKEND
19 PENN ALUMNI WEEKEND	20 PENN COMMENCEMENT	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31 MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP The Look of Love 8:00 PM	1

Student Discovery programming came roaring back this season with youth-friendly, interactive performances by **Ballet Hispánico**, **Dance Theatre of Harlem**, and **Rennie Harris Puremovement**. PLA served nearly 7,000 young people through our youth programs, more than 70% from within the city of Philadelphia.

The **Philadelphia Children's Festival** also returned in full for the first time since 2019, to the delight of both families and school groups. **BKBXKids!**, a company dedicated to inclusivity and access, was the perfect complement to PLA's new **KultureCity** certification as a sensory-friendly venue. Older school groups enjoyed **Literature to Life's** interpretation of Lois Lowry's classic, *The Giver*.

Responding to teacher feedback, PLA will pilot a program in FY24 to facilitate deeper engagement for young audiences. For select performances, schools can book pre-performance visits by professional teaching artists that highlight themes, stories, and techniques students will encounter in the theatre.



2023 Philadelphia Children's Festival attendee; Photo by Mark Garvin

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CAREER CONNECTIONS



JUNE 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 <div>MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP <i>The Look of Love</i> 2:00 PM 8:00 PM</div>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 <div>THE CROSSING Monochromatic Light (Afterlife) 8:00 PM</div>	15 <div>THE CROSSING Monochromatic Light (Afterlife) 8:00 PM</div>
16	17	18	19 <div>JUNETEENTH</div>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Arts & Entertainment Career Connections

In summer of 2022, Penn Live Arts gathered Penn alumni, parents, and friends at the California home of PLA board member **Heather Lieberman, C'94**, for a soft launch of the career support program now known as **Arts & Entertainment Career Connections**. As part of the evening, Penn students and recent graduates shared their varied and creative pursuits in arts and entertainment, shedding light on the many ways this program could help support their professional learning experiences. Three funding awards for summer internship placements were granted in 2022, supporting students interning in Philadelphia, New York City, and Los Angeles.

Then, in the fall, PLA added the new position of **Director of Education & Engagement**, created in part to build the infrastructure for this emerging program. After surveying the existing landscape of arts career support on campus, the education department developed a two-part strategy of enhancing the menu of funded opportunities in the arts and collaborating more closely with existing departments and centers. The program convened PLA's first external review committee to award funding to four students in 2023, and has begun the process of recruiting employers to commit to 2024 internships for Penn students, all of which will also be supported with stipends.

GUEST
EVENTS



TEDxPenn

Penn Engineering doctoral student Devin Carroll presented on the Zellerbach Julia Lang Mally, W'83 Stage during TEDxPenn; Photo by Eric Sucar

JULY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

July 2024

Penn Live Arts guest events soared to new heights in this first full year following pandemic closures. Between July of 2022 and early June of 2023, more than 130 unique events, attended by over 28,000 people, were managed by PLA staff. This included several new clients such as West Philadelphia-based **Paul Robeson House and Museum**, whose event celebrated the 125th birthday of its namesake, the acclaimed athlete, actor, singer, and political activist. PLA also hosted **Jewish Family and Children’s Service** for the first time for a special event featuring **Philadelphia Eagles** offensive tackle and championship winner **Lane Johnson**.

PLA also saw many return clients. Penn’s student-run **TEDx Conference**, the largest of its kind in the world, took over the **Zellerbach Theatre** and **Feintuch Family Lobby** with a rich line-up of speakers, including acclaimed Hollywood producer, **Anthony Russo, C’92**, who swept the 95th Academy Awards with his film, **Everything Everywhere All at Once**. Among the other returning guest clients were the **University of the Arts**, with winter and spring dance showcases; **The Rock School for Dance**, with **Classic Nutcracker**; and **Legacy on Broad**, the premier Bollywood-fusion dance competition on the East Coast. As always, the **Annenberg Center** remains an essential venue for many **University of Pennsylvania** events, including lectures, conferences, expos, graduations, and celebrations of all kinds.

LEADING FORWARD: STUART WEITZMAN THEATRE

Stuart Weitzman Theatre. Representative architectural rendering, subject to change.

AUGUST 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2022-23 Season

The 2022–23 season saw great advancement in PLA's efforts to build a more collaborative infrastructure for the performing arts at Penn. Following two years of intensive planning, fiscal year 2023 launched an integrated fundraising effort between Penn Live Arts and **Platt Student Performing Arts House**, offering a diverse and robust menu of funding opportunities for alumni, Penn parents, and friends who want to support the performing arts, as well as a clear path for volunteer engagement. These efforts also facilitated the further development of the **Arts & Entertainment Career Connections** program.

Plans progressed for a more unified approach to performing arts venue management across campus, with the goal of providing a more efficient, cost-effective scheduling and service model. This will benefit not only Penn students but also PLA's professional presenting series and community arts partners, as spaces will be better utilized for maximum advantage.

This multi-faceted alignment could not come at a better time, as PLA embarks upon an ambitious capital renovation and expansion campaign to further support the flourishing performing arts scene at Penn and in Philadelphia. This project includes the renovation and expansion of the **Annenberg Center**, beginning with the design of the new **Weitzman Theatre** as well as the construction of a new student performing arts center at 33rd and Chestnut Streets. Further details on these evolving plans will be forthcoming in the year ahead. PLA's 50th anniversary season was truly Looking Back and Leading Forward!



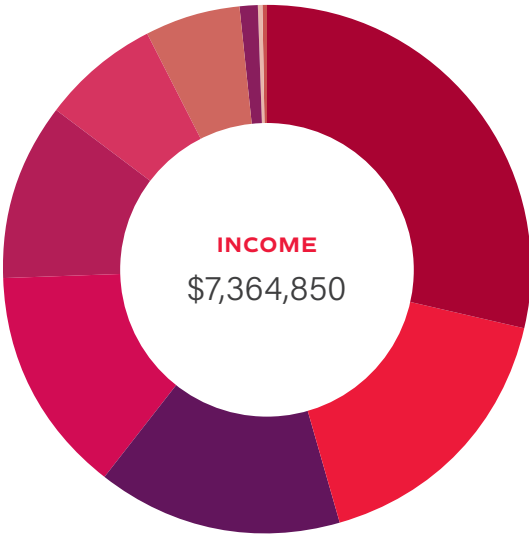
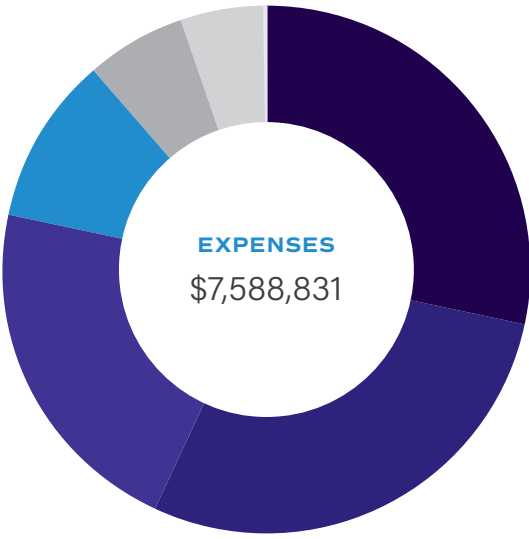
Air Play, Acrobuffos; Photo by Florence Montmare

22/23 SEASON BY THE NUMBERS

- 86,560 total patrons reached
- 16,230 tickets sold for Penn student performances
- 8,191 people reached through PLA education & engagement programs
- 2,318 individual subscribers to the 2022–23 season
- 128% increase in West Philly Welcome tickets with \$70,202 in subsidies
- 14 Philadelphia premieres
- 9 World premieres
- 3 Penn Live Arts commissions
- 2 U.S. premieres

FY23 FINANCIALS

Penn Live Arts is sustained through a mix of contributed and earned income. We count on your generosity and support to make the performing arts accessible to all in our community.



EXPENSES	
28% University Support Facility Advance	\$2,135,000
28% Programming	\$2,130,471
21% Production	\$1,557,227
10% Marketing	\$784,759
6% Administration	\$479,037
5% Fundraising	\$415,569
1% Education & Engagement	\$86,768

INCOME	
29% University Facilities Advance	\$2,135,000
17% Guest Rentals	\$1,219,590
15% Individual Giving	\$1,092,261
14% Ticket Revenue	\$1,001,017
11% University Support	\$817,000
7% Foundation & Government	\$545,253
6% Other Income	\$441,610
1% Endowment	\$73,119
0.34% Corporate	\$25,000
0.2 % In-kind	\$15,000

*FY23 capital gifts and special projects funding have been excluded from the above chart, as funds are earmarked for use at a later date.

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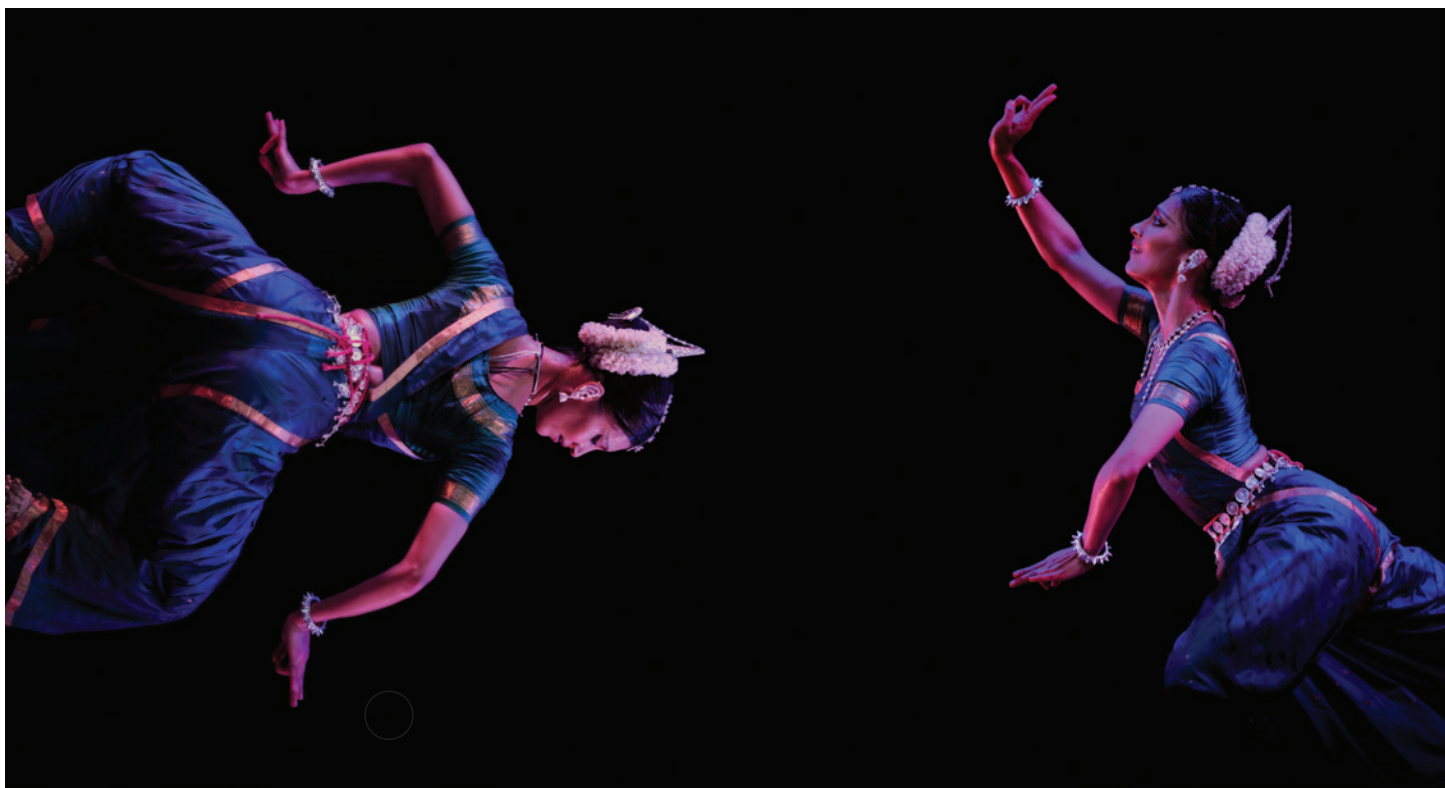
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