

BEN FOLDS

PAPER AIRPLANE REQUEST TOUR

Featuring special guest Lindsey Kraft

Zellerbach Theatre

Saturday, November 16 @ 8 PM

There will be an intermission.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ben Folds is widely regarded as one of the major music influencers of our generation. The Emmy-nominated singer-songwriter-composer has created an enormous body of genre-bending music that includes pop albums with Ben Folds Five, multiple solo albums and numerous collaborative records.

His latest pop solo album, *What Matters Most*, was released in 2023 to rave reviews and sold-out performances. He recently released his first Christmas album, *Sleigher*, in time for the 2024 holiday season, and recorded a live album with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in D.C. slated for release in 2025.

Folds currently tours as a pop artist, while also performing with some of the world's greatest symphony orchestras and serving in his eighth year as the first-ever Artistic Advisor to the NSO. In his role as Artistic Advisor, Folds curates an ongoing concert series called Declassified: Ben Folds Presents, which pairs contemporary artists from all genres of music with the NSO.

A *New York Times* best-selling author and former podcast host, Folds is also working on new compositions for film, TV and theatre. He frequently guest stars in films and TV.

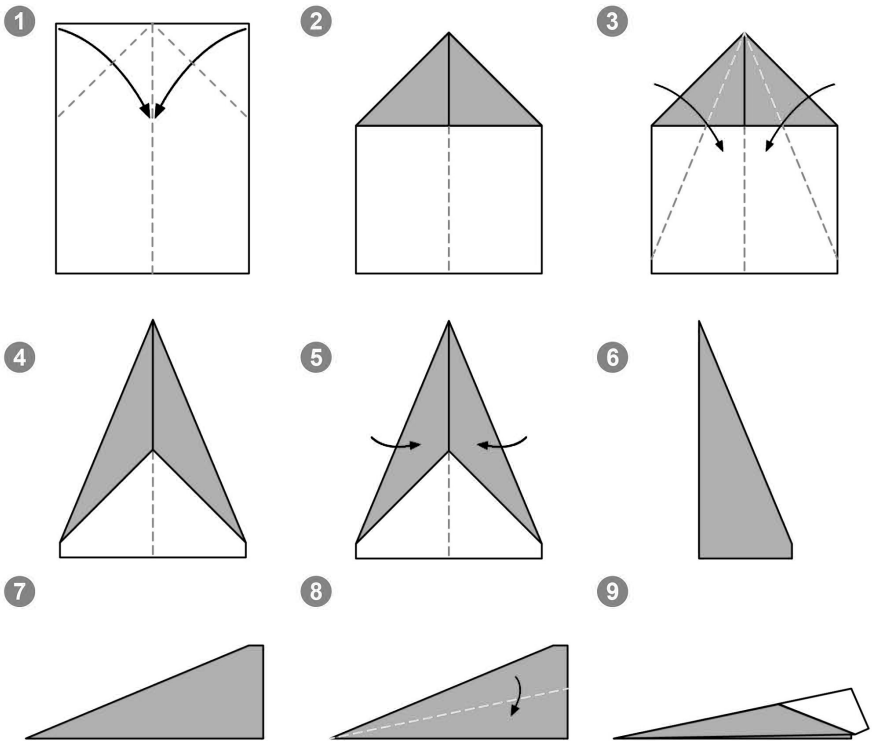
In 2022, Folds launched a charitable music education initiative in his native state of North Carolina entitled Keys for Kids, which provides funds and keyboards to existing nonprofits that offer free or affordable piano lessons to school-age children from economically disadvantaged households. He continually advocates for improving public policies for the arts and arts education on the national level as a member of Americans for the Arts and the Arts Action Fund.

Lindsey Kraft is a multi-faceted artist: actress, singer and composer. You may recognize her from various TV roles including Netflix's *Grace and Frankie*, HBO's *Getting On* and, most recently, Netflix's *Obliterated*.

As the opening act for Ben Folds, she performs her brand of theatrical pop, including songs from her musical, *love, me*, a one-woman show workshopped recently in LA for a live album. For an opening performance for Ben Folds at the Kennedy Center in 2023, she received glowing praise by DC Music Review which wrote that the audience "was treated and transfixed by the performance of Lindsey Kraft. Within the first few moments of her piece, concertgoers realized how perfect the pairing was. A burgeoning newcomer to musical performances, Kraft, in addition to her brilliant piano playing and songs, masterfully interacted with and entertained the audience with her witty and sincere songs."

She characterizes her songs as deeply personal, funny and sad, her sound inspired by Carly Simon, Carole King, Billy Joel, Bette Midler, Randy Newman and Broadway (but like, only the good shows). IG: @linzkraft

During intermission, write down a song request on the paper provided at the table in the lobby. Fold it into an airplane and launch it to the stage on cue!



Source: Shutterstock