

2025-2026 PERFORMING ARTS SEASON



THE REIF

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WILCOX THEATER

REIF DANCE
Spring Show

Life

is an
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UPCOMING EVENTS

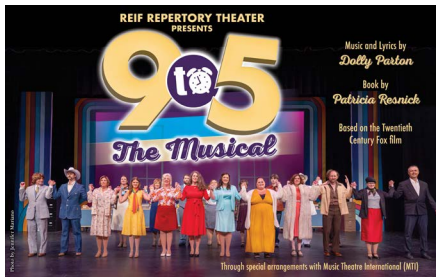


An Afternoon on LaPlant Road w/ special guest Landon Pahl

June 21, 2026 @ 2:00pm
The Reif: Ives Theater

Josh Blue

Friday, June 26, 2026 @ 7:00pm
Yanmar Arena: Pavilion



Reif Repertory Theater Presents: 9 To 5: The Musical

July 10, 11 & 12 AND 17, 18 & 19
Fri. & Sat. @ 7:00pm
Sun. @ 2:00pm
The Reif: Wilcox Theater



Reif Theater Arts Presents: Wunder Kids

August 7 & 8
Friday @ 7:00pm
Saturday @ 2:00pm and 7:00pm
The Reif: Wilcox Theater

You Oughta Know – 90's Dance Party

August 14 @ 7:00pm
Yanmar Arena: Pavilion

THE FABULOUS ARMADILLOS: What's Going On: Songs From The Vietnam War Era

September 11 @ 7:00pm
The Reif: Wilcox Theater

Doug Stone Farewell Tour

September 18 @ 7:00pm
The Reif: Wilcox Theater

McCullough Bros & Friends with Horns: Tribute to the Blues Brothers Show

September 24 @ 7:00pm
The Reif: Wilcox Theater

TICKETS AT [TheReif.org](https://www.thereif.org)

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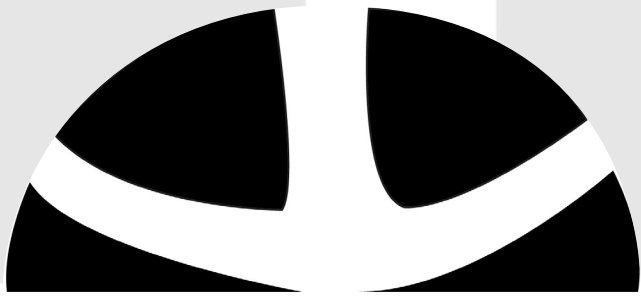
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The Loggy Dome

REIF DANCE
Spring Show

Life is an
Open Book

As a little girl growing up in Grand Rapids, there was no place I loved to go more than the old Carnegie Library. I spent countless days exploring the world through its books. The day I got my first library card, I felt as though I had been given a passport to anywhere real or imaginary. It was these memories from my childhood which inspired me to write this story, and it is simply magical to relive this journey through literature.

We first produced *Life is an Open Book* in 2012 here on the Reif stage. As we were thinking about what to do for this year's spring production, it seemed only too fitting to bring this story to life again. Our new beloved Grand Rapids Area Library has lost so much this year, which is truly a loss for all of us. In this age of technology and instant information, the simple joy of holding a book is forgotten too easily. I hope this story will inspire you to visit the library, thank them for the gift they are to our region, and pick up a book.

Thank you for being here to support youth and arts in our community. Enjoy the show!

Katie E. Smith
Artistic Programs Director

Special thanks

Katie Benes, Becky Boucher, Megan Brekke, Katie Cargill, Brielle Carlson, Marta Carrigan, Kelli Jo Chandler, Teran Germscheid, Mary Gunderson, Julie Harper, Megan Hemphill, Tara Huotari, Nicole Johnson, Jessica Loes, Maezie McBride, Sarah McBroom, Bethani Monson, Megan O'Connor, Kelly Peterson, Kate Reilly, Amy Savela, Katie Smith, Bev Wilson, Jinnea Zenzen and ALL the incredible parents who have helped backstage and volunteered their time.

To our tech crew: Greg Johnson, Melanie McCoy, and John Miller for the amazing work behind the scenes.

Huge thanks to Kevin McCoy for his creative designs and animations behind the dancers!

Soloists

Girl in the yellow dress 1	Hettie Carrigan
Girl in the yellow dress 2	Molly Peterson
Girl in the yellow dress 3	Nora Johnson
Girl in the yellow dress 4	Sage Swanson
Mother	Elia Maki
Librarian	Kendall Gunderson
Daughter	Ava Germscheid

Prologue

“Dreams and the Music Box” by Klaus Badelt from Leap!
Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann

Hettie Carrigan, Kendall Gunderson & Elia Maki

ACT I Scene I - Library

Storytime Kids:

“ABC” by The Jackson 5

Jazz I/II | Choreographed by Jinnea Zenzen

Avenly Aultman, Georgia Bartz, Mavis Bujold, Hettie Carrigan, Luella Chesness, Amelia Dalziel, Ava Germscheid, Ruby Giffen, Lorna Harper, Olivia Jones, Leah Kozitza, Annabelle Kruse, Isabelle Loes, Olivia Loney, Elena Moberg, Henley O'Connor, Juniper Schermerhorn, Remi Shermoen, Jada Snyder

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

“Chicka Chicka Boom Boom” by Crystal Taliefero

Preschool Thursday Class | Choreographed by Teran Germscheid

Elias Belcher, Greta Carrigan, Alden Germscheid, Cora Hocking, Jemma Kesanen, Roselle Maki, Jameson Meininger-Graupmann, Adeline Monson, Neve Richards, Madelyn Sandeen, Mabel Smothers, Ayana Sugino, Yuna Sugino

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

“First Day of School” by Michael Giacchino from Inside Out

1st Grade Tuesday Class | Choreographed by Teran Germscheid

Haven Bauer, Mila Lindquist, Luna Miller, Sophia Saloka, Sedona Tribbett, Indie Valentyn

Harold & the Purple Crayon

“Harold & the Purple Crayon” by Black River Soundscape Kids Music
Kindergarten Thursday Class | Choreographed by Teran Germscheid

Severin Hallanger, Sophie Mann, Mabel Mlinar, Isla Orvedal, Isabella Wopata, Juliette Zenzen



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Rainbow Fish

“Walking is Just Like Swimming” by Dan Romer

Preschool & Kindergarten Tuesday Class | Choreographed by Teran Germscheid

Imogen Benes, Halle Dorry, Eve Dozier, Beck Hagley, Cece Hagley, Ainsley Kozitza, Hazel Line, Rose McCartney, Liliana Schroeder, Sylvia Schroeder, Isla Valentyn, Isabelle Walker

Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes

“Rhapsody In Blue” by Duke Ellington

Pointe VVI | Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann

Eliza Brekke, Gabby Bushman, Gracie Giffen, Kendall Gunderson, Emma Jesness, Nora Johnson, Clara Kastendick, Elia Maki, Siena Maki, Claire Reilly, Tess Reilly, Sage Swanson

101 Dalmatians

“Cruella De Vil” by Dr. John

Tap I | Choreographed by Jinnea Zenzen

(Cruella De Vil) Alice Anderson

Avenly Aultman, Willa Benes, Eleanor Buchert, Audrey Dozier, Sienna Geving, Emmerson Hughes, Lucy Mann, Juniper Schermerhorn, Audrey Selleck, Remi Shermoen, Jada Snyder

A Tale of Peter Rabbit

“Our Secret” by Sunna Wehrmeijer

Ballet III | Choreographed by Beverly Wilson

(Peter Rabbit) Avery Gustafson, (Mr. McGregor) Kae' Lynn Stokes, (Mother Rabbit) Milliana Harms, (Flopsy, Mopsy, & Cottontale) Lydia Resch, Lena Sutherland, & Hailey Wolff, (The Cat) Amelia Curtiss, (The Birds) Maria Hanson, Francesca Squadroni, Ivree Swiers, (The Mouse) Zaley Carlson, (The Garden) Anna Daigle, Daisy Foss, Violette Gerlitz, Paislee Guck, Annika Gustafson, Lucia Radel, Lilyanna Yordy

The Little Prince

“Ripples in the Sand” by Hans Zimmer

Company | Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann

Alice Anderson, Gabby Bushman, Gracie Giffen, Kendall Gunderson, Emma Jesness, Nora Johnson, Clara Kastendick, Elia Maki, Siena Maki, Claire Reilly, Tess Reilly, Jenika Schermerhorn, Sage Swanson

Giraffes Can't Dance

"I Won't Dance" by Erin Boheme

Beginning Adult Tap | Choreographed by Katie E. Smith

Dakira Dagenais, Jennette Gerlitz, Hunter Hemmila, Adriana Kabotoff, Andrew Keating, Poppy Kreitzer, Bethani Monson, Alissa Tschida, Jada Zielke

Goodnight Moon

"Sleeping Angels Lullaby" by Mellow Petal

1st Grade Thursday Class | Choreographed by Teran Germscheid

Eleanor Buchert, Josephine Elsen, Sienna Geving, Isla Johnson, Olive Lenius, Scarlett Mann, Brynlee McLaughlin, Roslyn Olson, Audrey Selleck, Sophia Torgerson, Neytiri Wilson, Henrietta Zimmerman

Scene II - Girl's Bedroom

Peter Pan

"Pirates of the Caribbean" by Prague Cello Quartet & 2CELLOS

Jazz V/VI | Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann

(Captain Hook) Caroline Cargill, (Peter Pan) Siena Maki, (Wendy) Eliza Brekke, Gabby Bushman, Gracie Giffen, Kendall Gunderson, Emma Jesness, Nora Johnson, Clara Kastendick, Elia Maki, Claire Reilly, Tess Reilly, Sage Swanson

Where the Wild Things Are

"Wild Things" by Alessia Cara

Jazz III | Choreographed by Jinnea Zenzen

(Max) Kae' Lynn Stokes, Addie Benes, Zaley Carlson, Amelia Curtiss, Avery Gustafson, Maria Hanson, Milliana Harms, Mira Kozitza, Liz Snyder, Lena Sutherland, Ivree Swiers, Josie Thole, Lilyanna Yordy

Nancy Drew

“Theme from Get Smart” by TV Sound Unlimited
Tap II | Choreographed by Jinnea Zenzen

Avery Boucher, Joslinn Boucher, Hettie Carrigan, Ava Germscheid,
 Ruby Giffen, Solveig Hallanger, Helen Harms, Lorna Harper,
 Isabelle Loes, Olivia Loney, Henley O’Connor, Elin Siegle

A Wrinkle in Time

“10:35” by Teisto & Tate McRae
Jazz IV | Choreographed by Teran Germscheid

Anna Daigle, Daisy Foss, Violette Gerlitz, Paislee Guck, Molly Peterson,
 Lucia Radel, Gracelyn Roberts, Jenika Schermerhorn, Kennedy Swanson

Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland

“Wonderland” by Anson Seabra
Ballet I | Choreographed by Beverly Wilson

(Alice) Juniper Schermerhorn, (White Rabbit) Mahala Wourms, (Queen of Hearts)
 Emmerson Hughes, Avery Boucher, Piper Christiansen, Audrey Dozier, Esmæ
 Hochstein, Seraphina Kotansky, Tenley Lindquist, Evelyynn Schmitt, Remi Shermoen

Charlotte’s Web

“A Bunny Book to Conjure With” by Nigel Westlake
Ballet VI | Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann

Eliza Brekke, Gabby Bushman, Kendall Gunderson, Emma Jesness,
 Nora Johnson, Elia Maki, Tess Reilly, Sage Swanson

Pippi Longstocking

“Tightrope” by Janelle Monae
Choreographed by Katie E. Smith

Lucia Radel, Avery Gustafson & Lena Sutherland

Guess How Much I Love You

“A River Flows in You” by Yiruma
Choreographed by Christina Andersen

Elia Maki & Molly Peterson



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Informal demonstration: Friday, August 21

Instructor: Reif Dance Staff

Location: The Reif, Grand Rapids

Fee: \$80

Questions? Email Raeanne at
rgraupmann@reifcenter.org or call
218-327-5780

Back by popular demand! A week-long day camp for every young prince or princess. For students entering grades PreK-1. This half-day camp features theme-based classes and will focus on ballet inspired creative movement, imagination-based learning, and arts and crafts. Dancers will perform a small, informal dance demonstration on the last day of the camp to showcase all that they have learned.

Register at [TheReif.org](https://www.thereif.org)

Grow with Reif Dance!

ACT II
Scene I - Girls Bedroom

Harry Potter

*“Hedwig’s Theme”, John Williams & “Snape to Malfoy Manor” by Alexandre Desplat
Choreographed by Jinnea Zenzen*

Emma Jesness, Claire Reilly, Tess Reilly

Anne of Green Gables

*“BT” by Edgar Meyer, Sam Bush, Yo-Yo Ma, Joshua Bell, Mark O’Connor & Mike Marshall
Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann*

Gabby Bushman

The Chronicles of Narnia

*“Evacuating London” by Harry Gregson-Williams
Modern III/IV | Choreographed by Megan Parlanti Belcher*

Alice Anderson, Zaley Carlson, Anna Daigle, Daisy Foss, Violette Gerlitz, Paislee Guck, Annika Gustafson, Maria Hanson, Milliana Harms, Clara Hemphill, Greta Hemphill, Gracelyn Roberts, Jenika Schermerhorn, Kennedy Swanson

Little Women

*“Christmas Morning” by Alexandre Desplat
Ballet V | Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann*

Caroline Cargill, Gracie Giffen, Clara Kastendick, Siena Maki, Claire Reilly

Scene II - Library

Library Duet

*“Locked Out of Heaven” by Midnight String Quartet
Choreographed by Kendall Gunderson & Nora Johnson*

Kendall Gunderson & Nora Johnson

School Students

“It’s Oh So Quiet” by Lucy Woodward

Tap IV | Choreographed by Katie E. Smith

Alice Anderson, Addie Benes, Annika Gustafson, Molly Peterson, Jenika Schermerhorn, Kae’ Lynn Stokes, Kennedy Swanson, Evelyn Varberg

A Midsummer Night’s Dream

“Mushroomville” by Brandon Fiechter

Ballet II | Choreographed by Beverly Wilson

(Spring Fairy) Willa Benes, (Fall Fairy) Hettie Carrigan, Avenly Aultman, Joslinn Boucher, Adelyn Covey, Ava Germscheid, Ruby Giffen, Solveig Hallanger, Helen Harms, Lorna Harper, Nora Hochstein, Harper Huotari, Olivia Jones, Annabelle Kruse, Oliva Loney, Elena Moberg, Henley O’Connor, Taylor Olson, Maisie Perry, Eliza Rohling, Anna Schlicht, Elin Siegle, Jada Snyder, Paige Sondrol, Josie Thole, Juliet Wolff

The Odyssey

“Madness” by Ruelle

Modern V/VI | Choreographed by Christina Andersen

Eliza Brekke, Gabby Bushman, Gracie Giffen, Kendall Gunderson, Emma Jesness, Nora Johnson, Clara Kastendick, Elia Maki, Siena Maki, Claire Reilly, Tess Reilly, Sage Swanson

Lord of the Rings

“May It Be” by 2CELLOS

Ballet IV | Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann

Alice Anderson, Greta Carlson, Clara Hemphill, Molly Peterson, Jenika Schermerhorn, Kennedy Swanson, Evelyn Varberg

Don Quixote

“Puss in Boots” by Henry Jackman

Tap V | Choreographed by Katie E. Smith

Gabby Bushman, Gracie Giffen, Kendall Gunderson, Nora Johnson, Elia Maki, Siena Maki



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Much Ado About Nothing

"Anthems For A Seventeen Year-Old Girl" by Maggie Rogers & Sylvan Esso
Choreographed by Teran Germscheid

Anna Daigle & Jenika Schermerhorn

The Great Gatsby

"A Little Party Never Killed Nobody" Fergie, Q-Tip, GoonRock
Adult Tap II | Choreographed by Katie E. Smith

Katie Benes, Janelle Benson, Teran Germscheid, Glen Key,
Kaitlyn Mann, Jenna Namyst, Megan O'Connor, Angela Ogilvie,
Katie E. Smith, Cheri Troumbly, Alissa Tschida

Secret Garden

"Secret Garden", AURORA
Choreographed by Megan Parlanti Belcher

Alice Anderson, Gracie Giffen, Clara Hemphill, Nora Johnson, Clara Kastendick

Vanity Fair

"Me Too", Meghan Trainor
Tap III | Choreographed by Katie E. Smith

Zaley Carlson, Amelia Curtiss, Daisy Foss, Violette Gerlitz,
Paislee Guck, Avery Gustafson, Maria Hanson, Celeste Myers,
Lucia Radel, Lena Sutherland, Ivree Swiers, Josie Thole

Epilogue

"Dreams and the Music Box", Klaus Badelt
Choreographed by Raeanne Graupmann

Sage Swanson & Ava Germscheid



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Senior Highlight

This year, we are proud to recognize our four graduating seniors: Kendall Gunderson, Hunter Hemmila, Adriana Kabatoff, and Elia Maki.

Although Adriana and Hunter recently joined our Dance program, they have been part of Reif Theater Arts for many years. Kendall and Elia, however, have been with the Reif Dance program since Fundamentals, growing up in our studios and dedicating years of hard work, passion, and commitment to the program. Watching them grow as dancers and individuals has been truly special.

These seniors have been valued members of the Reif Dance family, and they will be greatly missed next year as they begin their college journeys.

Please join us at the end of the performance in celebrating these outstanding seniors and sending them off with a warm round of applause and best wishes for the future.



Kendall Gunderson



Elia Maki



Adriana Kabatoff



Hunter Hemmila



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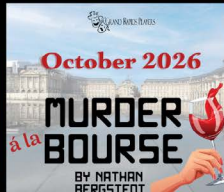
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2026/2027 Season



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A Note from the Director | 19

I had the opportunity to create several pieces for *Life is an Open Book* back in 2012. Putting two of my favorite things together in one performance was something I brought up frequently as I moved away from the Reif and started teaching elsewhere. When discussions surrounding upcoming “recitals” or “showcases” began, I would reminisce about the storytelling within the larger story, but no other studio I worked for felt the need for storytelling like Reif Dance does. And now to be back, helping tell the stories within the story is something so unbelievably wonderful.

When we first premiered this show, Katie and I co-taught the preschool classes that combined to create 26 dancing letters in *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*. Now, in quite the full circle moment, my son gets to dance as the same book alongside one of the original letters.

This story resonated with me then and continues to spark great joy today as a lifelong reader with favorite books at every stage of life. Creating movement inspired by imaginative stories allows me to fully immerse myself in the tales that occupy my mind. To me, there isn't a better example of a young girl's journey through life in books than to set those amazing stories to movement and music. And, it simultaneously encapsulates the journey our dancers take through this incredible program. I hope this joyful story inspires dancers and book lovers alike to celebrate the beauty, creativity, and sense of escape they each provide.



Raeanne Graupmann, Dance Director

About the Company

Our 14 Company members have put in so much time and effort this year, and though the Company in Concert performance was in February, they have continued to dedicate Saturday mornings to rehearsal and classes. This group of girls have worked so hard and have remained pillars of example throughout the year. I am so proud to have worked with them this year and want to encourage everyone to congratulate them on their amazing season. We will be holding auditions for the Reif Dance Company on Saturday, June 27th for the upcoming 26-27 season. See our website for more details about what it takes to be Company member, or email Miss Raeanne at rgraupmann@reifcenter.org.



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*ticket checked for validity at the door

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REIF MISSION

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To stimulate arts in Northern Minnesota.

Underlying principles that guide this mission include the Reif Arts Council's responsibility to provide a healthy organization and a well-managed facility in which a wide variety of visual and performing arts may be experienced, exhibited, and taught.

2025-2026

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