



THE REIF

2026-2027 PERFORMING ARTS SEASON

PLAYBILL

SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

WILCOX THEATER



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UPCOMING EVENTS



Celebrating Marvelous Music
Thursday, October 8
1pm | The Reif: Ives Theater

Wilson Fairchild
Saturday, October 17
7pm | The Reif: Wilcox Theater

Deconstructing The Music Live!
The Dark Side Of The Moon
Friday, October 30
7pm | The Reif: Ives Theater

Andreas Klein
Thursday, November 5
7pm | The Reif: Ives Theater



The Seven Wonders
A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac
Thursday, November 12
7pm | The Reif: Wilcox Theater



Reif Theater Arts:
Disney's Aladdin JR.
November 20, 21 & 22
Fri & Sat @ 7pm | Sat & Sun @ 2pm
The Reif: Wilcox Theater



The Book of Bublé - Christmas
Saturday, November 28
7pm | The Reif: Wilcox Theater

Reif Dance Presents:
The Nutcracker
December 11, 12 & 13, 2026
Friday & Saturday @ 7pm | Sunday @ 2pm
The Reif: Wilcox Theater

Rock & Roll Xmas Spectacular
Wednesday, December 16, 2026
7pm | The Reif: Wilcox Theater



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THE MISSION IS MUSIC

I Can't Turn You Loose

(includes Intro) Written by Otis Redding

Hey Bartender

Written by Floyd Dixon

Expressway to Your Heart

Written by Kenny Gamble & Leon Huff

She Caught the Katy

Written by Taj Mahal & James Rachell

Guilty (Tara Aleshire, vocalist)

Written by Randy Newman

Shake Your Tail Feather

Written by Otha Hayes, Verlie Rice, & Andre Williams

Everybody Needs Somebody to Love

Written by Solomon Burke, Bert Berns, & Jerry Wexler

Sweet Home Chicago

Written by Robert Johnson

Flip Flop & Fly

Written by Big Joe Calhoun, Lou Willie Turner

Gimme Some Lovin'

Written by Spencer Davis, Steve Winwood, & Muff Winwood

Theme from Rawhide

written by Ned Washington & Dimitri Tiomkin

Stand By Your Man

Written by Tammy Wynette & Billy Sherrill

INTERMISSION

Peter Gunn Theme

Written by Henry Mancini

Messin' with the Kid

Written by Mel London
Recorded by Junior Wells

Do You Love Me (includes elements of "Mother Popcorn") Written by Berry Gordy Jr.
Recorded by The Contours

Goin' Back to Miami

Written by Wayne Cochran

Minnie the Moocher (Guest vocalist)

Written by Cab Calloway & Irving Mills

Think (Tara Aleshire, vocalist) Written by Aretha Franklin & Ted White

Rubber Biscuit Written by The Chips

I Don't Know Written by Cripple Clarence Lofton & Willie Mabon

Soul Man Written by Isaac Hayes & David Porter



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Hunter and Colton McCullough, born and raised in the Northland and long known for their tight harmonies, musical versatility, and lively stage chemistry. Hunter's roots include piano, drumming, and now is on local TV and radio. Colton's musical path began early with piano lessons, a love of guitar, and has grown to include sax, and vocals. They launched The Northwood's Band in 2014 and collaborate as The McCullough Brothers, writing and selling dangerously catchy jingles.

Together, these brothers bring the "Jake-and-Elwood" spark fully to life with humor, heart, and authentic vocal firepower.

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THE HORN SECTION; ALL KILLER, NO FILLER.

Randy Lee, acclaimed woodwind performer, co-founder of the Big Time Jazz Orchestra, and long-time educator.

Jeff Cherne,* veteran band director, classical performer with the Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra, Lake Superior Chamber Orchestra, Sentimental Journey Big Band, Ice Capades, and more.

John Carr, baritone sax; he's crushing it in the Two Harbors City Band, Twin Ports Wind Orchestra & Pit Orchestra. For 18 years he arranged the choir parts, and directed for Dave Rogge's musical *"Who Is That You Say I Am?"* and so much more.

Karen Draeger* backup vocals; Music has flowed through her life, starting in 6th grade with guitar, and clarinet in band and Duluth-Superior Youth Symphony. In the U.S. Army she performed in band and tenor sax with the Army's Jazz Band

Chet Johnson,* first trumpet, respected four decade Iron Range band instructor, freelance performer with major orchestras/touring acts including The Four Tops, Bobby Vinson, Guy Lombardo Orchestra, and The Temptations.

Greg Ojakangas,* trombonist, scientist, PhD astrophysicist, NASA orbital debris researcher, jazz band veteran, and long-time performer with the Big Time Jazz Orchestra.

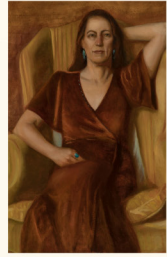
* Current members
of Lake City
Smokin' Section



OCTOBER 3rd & 4th
10am-5pm

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THE GROOVE MACHINE
RHYTHM SECTION AND
SCENE STEALERS
AKA FEATURED ARTISTS

Jane Aleckson,* bassist and vocalist whose career spans the Soviet Union tour with Women Who Cook, documentary performances, multiple regional bands, and an active life as a sheep farmer.

Paul Javorina,* guitarist, vocalist, and harmonica player with sixty years performance history, founding member of The Lake City Smokin' Section, and collaborator with national artists such as Tommy Castro and the Painkillers.

Russ Sackett, pianist, organist, vocalist, composer, multi-instrumentalist, and nationwide touring musician with credits including Trampled by Turtles and Low.

Todd James,* drummer, percussionist, vocalist, known for Street Beat Drum Academy, top ten national jazz band honors, festival appearances, performances with The Fireballs, The Platters, Mitch Ryder, The Cletones, Badfinger's Joey Molland, and many others.

Tara Aleshire, singer, Our featured vocalist on "Guilty" and "Think" she is a long-time performer in multiple projects. This owner/operator of a successful 13 yr old entertainment business shines brightest in her most important role as "mom".

Matt Leibfried, second trumpet, father of two played many years with Big Time Jazz Orchestra, DSSO, LSCO, and more.

His work crosses genres, including recording with Breanne Marie and the Front Porch Sinners, and touring with renowned Zimbabwean musician Thomas Mapfumo.

* Current members
of Lake City
Smokin' Section



**Sunday
FEBRUARY
21
@ 2:00pm
The Reif
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**Guys
On
ICE**
AN ICE FISHING MUSICAL

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MUSIC BY JAMES KAPLAN
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THE REIF

October 30
@ 7pm

The Reif: Ives Theater

Adult/Senior

ADVANCE PRICE \$25, DOOR PRICE \$30

Student \$10

TICKETS AT TheReif.org

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CHICAGO BLUES RESHAPED AMERICAN MUSIC.

What began in cramped clubs on the South and West Sides grew into a national force that changed everything from rock and soul to funk and rhythm and blues.

The sound was bold, electric, and deeply rooted in lived experience. Artists like Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Willie Dixon, Koko Taylor, and Buddy Guy pushed the music forward with amplifier grit, raw emotion, and a swagger that carried far beyond the city.

By the time the Blues Brothers arrived on the scene, the Chicago blues tradition had already carved its place in music history.

Their mission was simple: celebrate the players who built the foundation and carry the spirit to a new generation. They brought club-ready horn lines, powerhouse vocals, and the unmistakable joy that comes from music created for dancing, shouting, and feeling alive.

Chicago blues remains one of America's most influential musical movements. It inspired legends, fueled genres, and continues to shape artists across the world.

Tonight's concert honors this legacy with the same energy filling those iconic clubs and creating a sound that still hits straight to the heart.

*This show is dedicated to my sweet, late wife
Luanne Graham, who always encouraged me
to follow my passion;
also to the many people that helped make this show
a reality, and a special thanks to
all you fans that support live music
in this techno world in which we live today!*

-Paulie J



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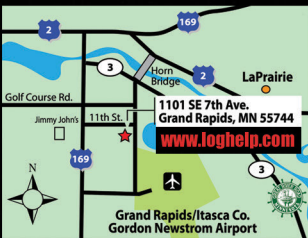


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- Buy 3 or more events at one time and save **10% on your order** (use code SAVE10 on eligible shows)

Enjoy student pricing on most Reif events. \$10 tickets for all students (birth thru college*)

*valid ID required for college students

*ticket checked for validity at the door

Reif Mission

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.

2026-2027 Reif Arts Council Board

Michelle Arnhold Davies,
Board Chair

Charlie Black,
Vice Chair – External Affairs

Sam Johnson,
Vice Chair – Internal Affairs

James McNear II,
Vice Chair – Governance

Heather Pederson, *Secretary*

David Cowan (*ISD #318 Rep.*)

Kisha Harms

Emilie Rondeau

Laurie Clausen

James Mack, *Executive Director*

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Woodland Bank

At Woodland Bank, our mission is to support our strong, vibrant community. The arts are a vital component of that, and that's why we're **proud to support the Reif Center**. Local people supporting local people. It's what we do!

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