On behalf of the Youth Series team at Krannert Center, it’s my pleasure to welcome you to the 2015-16 Youth Series season. We remain unwavering in our dedication to sharing performing arts of the highest caliber with young people in Central Illinois and to addressing Common Core and Illinois learning standards through a vibrant mix of performance experiences.

This season we bring internationally touring artists to our community from the USA, Canada, Australia, China, and Ireland who represent a wide range of performing arts genres. We look forward to greeting students from public, private, and home schools throughout our region and sharing with them the life-affirming power of live performance.

We greatly value your interest in and support of Krannert Center’s Youth Series. If you have questions, comments, or thoughts you wish to share, please contact us. We’d love to hear from you.

We look forward to seeing you here!

Emily Laugesen
Community Engagement Liaison
Evalyn Parry’s

**SPiN**

Created and performed by Evalyn Parry
Featuring Brad Hart on the bicycle
Starring the bicycle as muse, musical instrument, and agent of social change.

Innovative, award-winning Toronto artist Evalyn Parry takes her audience on an uncommon theatrical and musical journey in **SPiN**. Inspired in part by the incredible true tale of Annie Londonderry—the first woman to ride around the world on a bicycle in 1894—Parry spins a web of stories which travel from 19th-century women’s emancipation to 21st-century consumer culture, peeling back layers of history to ultimately reveal a profoundly contemporary and personal heart to her theme of liberation.

Parry’s co-star is a vintage bicycle: suspended in a mechanic’s stand on stage, and outfitted with electronic pickups, the bike is played by percussionist Brad Hart, who conjures an astonishing array of sounds on his “iron horse,” creating a richly textured and utterly unique sonic accompaniment to Parry’s songs and monologues.

“Part theatre, part music gig, part spoken word poetry, part documentary . . . whatever it is, it is brilliant.”
—Toronto Star

National Circus and Acrobats of the People’s Republic of China

**PEKING DREAMS**

Back by popular demand! Direct from Beijing, The National Circus and Acrobats of the People’s Republic of China was founded in 1953, making it one of the longest-running and most distinguished circus troupes in China. Acrobatic art, Chinese circus, and Peking Opera are Chinese cultural treasures and are beloved among the people of Peking. **Peking Dreams** invites audiences into a world of wonder, combining music, acrobatics, performance, mime, and dance.

**RECOMMENDED GRADES: ALL LEVELS**
**WE-TH SEP 16-17, 2015 AT 10AM**
**TRYON FESTIVAL THEATRE // $5/TICKET**
**PAYMENT DUE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

**RECOMMENDED GRADES: 6 AND UP**
**WE OCT 21, 2015 AT 10AM**
**FOELLINGER GREAT HALL // $5/TICKET**
**PAYMENT DUE: OCTOBER 1, 2015**
**THE MAYHEM POETS**

“Let’s go see a poetry show.” That is a sentence rarely proclaimed and usually responded to with cringes and excuses. The Mayhem Poets are on a mission to change that. Having been dubbed “an amazing ride” by the *New York Times*, this mind boggling trio has toured internationally since 2006, spreading its mission to reshape society’s view of poetry. These theatre-trained, comedically gifted, lyrical virtuosos seamlessly blend raw elements of hip hop, theatre, improv, and stand up comedy to tell soulful truths that leave audiences forever changed.

**RECOMMENDED GRADES:** 3-5; 6-8
**TU FEB 9, 2016 AT 10AM GRADES 3-5**
**WE-TH FEB 10-11, 2016 AT 10AM GRADES 6-8**
**COLWELL PLAYHOUSE // $5/TICKET**
**PAYMENT DUE: JANUARY 12, 2016**

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**PATCH THEATRE COMPANY**

**ME AND MY SHADOW**

In a playground of paper, light, music, and color, a whimsical story about childhood friendship comes to life when one young girl meets a particularly sly and silly fellow—her shadow! Australia’s award-winning Patch Theatre Company makes its Krannert Center debut with *Me and My Shadow*. Specifically crafted with younger kids in mind, its deceptively clever staging is intriguing for audiences of all ages. With fantastical imagery, quirky physical performances, and an intriguing score, *Me and My Shadow* creates sensory experiences that appeal to both the young and the young at heart.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

**RECOMMENDED GRADES:** PREK-2
**WE-TH NOV 18-19, 2015 AT 10AM**
**TH NOV 19, 2016 AT 12:30PM**
**TRYON FESTIVAL THEATRE // $5/TICKET**
**PAYMENT DUE: OCTOBER 1, 2015**
ELLINGTON

is a highly engaging, interactive live multi-media educational program that aims to illuminate the rich, vital legacy of the great American composer, pianist, and bandleader Duke Ellington. One of the most prolific, celebrated musicians in music history, Duke Ellington’s canon comprises a timeless, highly personal aural account of both the human condition and the African-American experience of the 20th century. Through the creative integration of live music from the Metta Quintet, captivating video projections, live narration, and numerous audience-participation segments, ELLINGTON introduces new generations to a wide variety of Duke’s broad array of musical achievements including hit songs, blues riffs, and extended suites and scores for stage and screen.

RECOMMENDED GRADES: 3-5
WE APR 20, 2016 AT 10AM AND 12:30PM
COLWELL PLAYHOUSE // $5/TICKET
PAYMENT DUE: MARCH 29, 2016

Hangin’ with the Giants

Hangin’ with the Giants is a fun, high-energy program designed to promote the inclusiveness and accessibility of jazz while highlighting the legacies and music of some of the art form’s central contributors. Staged as a late-night talk show with live music from the Metta Quintet, Hangin’ with the Giants features animated likenesses of jazz greats Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, and Thelonious Monk as show guests while offering numerous opportunities for students to interact and participate with the live performance.

RECOMMENDED GRADES: K-4
TU APR 19, 2016 AT 10AM AND 12:30PM
COLWELL PLAYHOUSE // $5/TICKET
PAYMENT DUE: MARCH 29, 2016
This enchanting story of friendship and empathy unfolds on a rustic set, exquisitely constructed out of twigs, feathers, and shell. Join three madcap birds on an adventure of a lifetime as they grapple with growing up and giving in to their natural instincts to take flight. Told through physical theatre, illusion, and music, this funny, delightful, and sometimes bittersweet tale resonates as strongly with adults in the audience as it does with children.

Cahoots NI is a professional children’s touring theatre company based in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Formed in 2001, the company has toured the globe with its captivating productions that emphasize the visual potential of theatre, with just the right dose of magic.

RECOMMENDED GRADES: PREK-2
TH-FR APR 28-29, 2016 AT 10AM
TH APR 28, 2016 AT 12:30PM
COLWELL PLAYHOUSE // $5/TICKET
PAYMENT DUE: MARCH 29, 2016

**THE MAYHEM POETS SLAM POETRY WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE**

For groups of up to 30 students. Grades 6-8 or 9-12.

Dates available: February 9-11, 2016, afternoons during the school day or after school. Date and time to be mutually determined.

Verbal Mayhem: participants will exercise skills in enunciation, improvisation, wordplay, connecting with an audience, and utilizing creativity and imagination.

Cost = $150

**MOVEMENT WORKSHOP WITH THE MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP**

For groups of up to 25 students. Grades 3-5, 6-8, or 9-12.

Dates available: February 29-March 3, during the school day or after school. Date and time to be mutually determined.

Based in Brooklyn, NY, the Mark Morris Dance Group is “the preeminent modern dance organization of our time” (Yo-Yo Ma). Introduce your students to modern dance through this customized movement workshop led by MMDG dancers, with live musical accompaniment. No prior dance experience is necessary.

Workshop participants and their families will be eligible for a special group discount to the evening performances of the Mark Morris Dance Group at Krannert Center on March 4-5, 2016.

Cost = $150
**TICKET ORDERING INFO**

**HOW DO I ORDER TICKETS?**
We realize that schools need time to organize funding for class trips, so our ticket purchase process allows you to order your tickets now and pay for them later. Once you place your order we will send you a ticket purchase agreement. Please check the agreement for accuracy, then confirm your order by emailing us (or send us a signed copy of the agreement). To ensure we can honor as many orders as possible, your tickets are guaranteed until the day after the payment due date. Please contact us if you need an extension to the deadline, or your tickets will be released to persons on the waiting list.

**PAYMENT DEADLINES:**
- September 1, 2015 • SPIN
- October 1, 2015 • Peking Dreams, Me and My Shadow
- January 12, 2016 • The Mayhem Poets
- March 29, 2016 • Hangin’ with the Giants, ELLINGTON, Egg

Checks should be made out to the University of Illinois, and credit card payments can be made by phoning the Youth Series office at 217.244.3009. Study guides (and parking permits, if requested) will be mailed to you approximately two weeks prior to the performance. Tickets will be held for you to pick up at the check-in station on performance days, or can be mailed with your study guides on request.

**HOW MANY TICKETS SHOULD I ORDER?**
Everyone who will be in the theatre needs a ticket. Include students, teachers, chaperones, student teachers, and drivers. If you're ordering in the spring or summer before the new school year, it’s safest to slightly over-estimate the number of tickets you’ll need, then reduce the ticket numbers if necessary when you confirm student enrollment in the fall. If you need additional tickets, please contact us so that we can check on ticket availability. Please remember that there are no refunds. The number of tickets must be finalized by the payment due date.

**HOW MANY COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS WILL I RECEIVE?**
You'll receive one free ticket for every 20 tickets in your order (order 20 tickets, pay for 19).

**WHAT IF I HAVE EXTRA TICKETS ON THE DAY OF THE PERFORMANCE?**
If you wish, you may leave extra tickets at the check-in desk to donate to anyone in need of a ticket.

**WHAT IF A PERFORMANCE IS FULL?**
You will be placed on a waiting list if a performance is full. Typically, we are able to accommodate several schools on the waiting list near the time of the payment deadline. If you do not receive an order summary with a ticket purchase agreement or a waiting list letter, please contact us.

**WHAT IF A PERFORMANCE IS CANCELED?**
If a performance must be postponed or canceled, we will contact you. Refunds will be issued only under those circumstances or if your school district closes due to bad weather.

**PARKING INFO**

**DO I NEED TO RESERVE BUS PARKING?**
Yes. Please indicate on your order form the number of buses or school vans you are bringing. Krannert Center covers the costs of curbside parking for buses, school vans, and vehicles with clearance greater than 6 feet 2 inches.

**WHERE DO I PARK MY CAR OR MINIVAN?**
Kransnert Center covers the costs of parking in the Center parking garage and will distribute passes to home school groups or schools without bus service on a 1:4 ratio (for every four tickets, one parking pass will be issued). The parking garage clearance is 6 feet 2 inches. In case we are unable to provide a parking permit (due to the timing of your ticket order), you can park at any open parking meter, either in the parking garage or on the surrounding streets at a rate of $1 per hour.

**PERFORMANCE INFO**

**WHAT IS THE RECOMMENDED GRADE LEVEL?**
Although grade levels are listed for each performance as recommendations, use your best judgment about your class’ abilities when placing your ticket order. If you have questions about a show’s content, please contact us.

**HOW MUCH TIME SHOULD I ALLOW?**
Most performances last approximately 60 minutes, but please check the show’s length before you confirm your transportation plans.

**WHAT MATERIALS WILL I RECEIVE?**
Study guides will be mailed to you approximately two weeks before the performance and are also available on our web site. While the performance experience itself is a primary way for students to achieve the state goals for learning, related classroom activities can significantly enrich a student’s involvement with a performance.

**ACCESSIBILITY/SPECIAL NEEDS**

**WHAT IF MY STUDENTS NEED ASSISTANCE?**
Kransnert Center is pleased to offer a wide range of accessibility assistance, such as wheelchair accessible seating, sign language interpretation, and amplifying headsets. Please inform us about your accessibility needs when you place your ticket order. The more specific you can be about the needs of your students, the better we will be able to accommodate them.

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**YOUTH SERIES TICKET SUBSIDY APPLICATION 2015-16**

One of Krannert Center’s goals is to broaden the access that young people have to the performing arts. The Campaign for Young Audiences keeps ticket prices affordable, and magnanimous sponsors and individual donors enable us to offer financial subsidies for ticket costs to public, private, or home schools most in need of financial assistance. To apply for a subsidy, please submit this form by Wednesday, May 20, 2015. Later requests will be filled as funds allow.

Performance(s) for which subsidy is requested: ________________________________

Number of students that subsidy will serve: ________________________________

Percentage of students eligible for free/reduced lunch in your group: ________________________________

Amount requested (please help us extend the reach of our financial support by requesting only the amount that makes your trip possible): ________________________________

**SUBSIDY APPLICATION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015**
The Krannert Center Youth Series team reviews all subsidy applications. You will receive notice of your award status by letter or email shortly after the application deadline.

If you know someone who is passionate about making the arts accessible to all and would like to contribute to our ticket and transportation subsidy fund, please ask them to contact Deborah Miller at 217.333.1629 or development@krannertcenter.illinois.edu. Thank you!

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**PLEASE PROVIDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT WILL HELP US UNDERSTAND YOUR NEEDS**

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<td>Check here if you would like to request a workshop application form, for the workshops with the Mayhem Poets or the Mark Morris Dance Group. Or, go to youth.krannertcenter.com to submit an online application.</td>
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