

COLONIAL

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

100
years!

1924-2024

2024-2025 SEASON



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Dear Friends,

Welcome back to the Colonial Performing Arts Center's 100th Anniversary Season!

We have had an interesting start to this historic milestone year and can't wait for you to enjoy our full program for this season. We will be offering a wide range of options for you, including music, dance, comedy, theatre, and cultural presentations.

There will be something for everyone, from multi-platinum singers Andy Grammer and Josh Turner to comedian Lewis Black in his final tour to A Charlie Brown Christmas - Live on Stage. We also continue the Met Live in HD series, our impactful student programming, and much more.

We agree with our patrons when they tell us the Colonial is a fun and safe place to escape the pressures of day-to-day life. A place where you can relax, laugh, sing, and enjoy the company of others who love live music and theater.

We are delighted at the community's response to our new front-of-house area and the improvements to the stage area through our recent major renovations. Also, our second venue, SHOWROOM, directly behind the main theater, continues to host local, national, and emerging artists of many genres.

To everyone who has attended a performance, joined as a member, or donated over the years, we deeply appreciate you being a part of the Colonial family. Your support positively impacts the Colonial and the community we serve.

You make what we do possible. Thank you!

We look forward to welcoming you and your friends as we continue to celebrate 100 years of entertainment and enrichment!

Tom Minkler

*Next Act Capital Campaign, Chair
Colonial Board of Directors, member & former Chair*



C&S Family of Companies and Visory are proud to be Season Underwriters and invite you to share in their support of the Colonial Performing Arts Center.



SEPTEMBER

- IT'S BRITNEY! KEENE PRIDE TRIBUTE SEPT 7
- AJ CROCE - CROCE PLAYS CROCE SEPT 13
- 50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
- ANDY GRAMMER: GREATER THAN - A ONE MAN SHOW SEPT 15
- LEWIS BLACK: SEPT 20
- GOODBYE YELLER BRICK ROAD, THE FINAL TOUR!
- HARRISON GOODELL AND JAKE SWAMP & THE PINE SEPT 20
- (at SHOWROOM)
- GOLDENOAK (at SHOWROOM) SEPT 27
- JOSH TURNER - THE GREATEST HITS TOUR SEPT 29

OCTOBER

- CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE - BEATLES: ABBEY ROAD OCT 5
- ZACH NUGENT'S DEAD SET OCT 11
- BRIAN GLOWACKI (at SHOWROOM) OCT 12
- MAGIC ROCKS! ILLUSIONIST LEON ETIENNE OCT 18
- MET LIVE IN HD: JEANINE TESORI, OCT 19
- LIBRETTO BY GEORGE BRANT GROUNDED
- THE SWEET CAROLINE TOUR OCT 26
- FEATURING JAY WHITE
- MET LIVE IN HD: JACQUES OFFENBACH LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN OCT 26
- MR AARON BAND - FAMILY HALLOWEEN BASH OCT 27
- (at SHOWROOM)
- ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW OCT 30

NOVEMBER

- GET THE LED OUT NOV 1
- BRUCE COCKBURN NOV 2
- AYSANABEE (at SHOWROOM) NOV 7
- THE GILDED STAGE - FALL GALA NOV 9
- PETER YARROW & NOEL PAUL STOOKEY NOV 15
- JUSTON MCKINNEY NOV 16
- MUTTS GONE NUTS NOV 17
- ADDISON AGEN (at SHOWROOM) NOV 22
- PINK TALKING FISH NOV 23
- MET LIVE IN HD: GIACOMO PUCCINI TOSCA NOV 23

SEASON AT A GLANCE

SHOWS ADDED FREQUENTLY!

Sign up for our email list to stay in the loop.
THECOLONIAL.ORG



DECEMBER

NEW YORK THEATER BALLET'S *THE NUTCRACKER*
SCOTT BRADLEE'S POSTMODERN JUKEBOX
THE 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR
LOW LILY (at SHOWROOM)
MET LIVE IN HD: WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART *MAGIC FLUTE*
A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS - LIVE ON STAGE

DEC 7
DEC 13
DEC 13
DEC 15
DEC 28

JANUARY

MET LIVE IN HD: GIUSEPPE VERDI *AIDA*

JAN 25

FEBRUARY

KEENE LIONS CLUB MUSICAL

FEB 7-9

MARCH

HYPROV: IMPROV UNDER HYPNOSIS
STARRING COLIN MOCHRIE AND ASAD MECCI
NATALIE MACMASTER & DONNELL LEAHY
MET LIVE IN HD: LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN *FIDELIO*
PETER ANTONIOU (at SHOWROOM)
MOONDANCE
SONS OF MYSTRO (at SHOWROOM)
AN EVENING WITH DAVID SEDARIS

MAR 1
MAR 14
MAR 15
MAR 21
MAR 22
MAR 22
MAR 30

APRIL

EVIL WOMAN - THE AMERICAN ELO PRESENTS:
THE ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA EXPERIENCE
DRAGONS AND MYTHICAL BEASTS
APPLE HILL STRING QUARTET
ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN
MET LIVE IN HD: WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART
LE NOZZE DI FIGARO

APR 4
APR 5
APR 13
APR 17
APR 17

MAY

MET LIVE IN HD: RICHARD STRAUSS *SALOME*
MET LIVE IN HD: GIOACHINO ROSSINI *IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA*

MAY 17
MAY 31



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We'd like to take this opportunity to provide a special thank you to our Board of Directors. They are an amazingly talented and selfless group, whose incredible commitment illustrates their investment in the work that we all do. Their passion is unmatched as they support and advocate for the Theatre day in and day out. We sincerely appreciate their service and look forward to their support as we continue to celebrate our 100th year! Thank you very much - we are so grateful for your generosity.

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COLONIAL
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



MISSION

The Colonial Performing Arts Center is a historic performing arts center, which brings the cultural and creative spirit of our community to life.

VISION

The Colonial Performing Arts Center will be the model regional performing arts center; exciting, educating and challenging audiences of all ages.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

The Colonial Performing Arts Center is a nonprofit organization typically entertaining more than 50,000 patrons annually (including thousands of school children), with acclaimed film, music, theater and dance performances at two venues. The historic 900-seat theatre, opening in 1924 and undergoing a major restoration in the 1990s, was named to the New Hampshire State Registry of Historic Places in 2004. A second round of major renovations was completed on the historic theatre in 2021, expanding the lobby area and adding functionality to the stage and rigging. The adjacent building for the new second venue, SHOWROOM, was purchased and renovated in 2020/2021.

Pursuing its vision to “be the model regional performing arts center; exciting, educating and challenging audiences of all ages,” the Colonial Performing Arts Center presents diverse and relevant programming, including its trademark live performance series, award-winning films, and innovative community outreach programs. Additionally, the organization plays host to numerous community events for the benefit of over a dozen local nonprofits each year.

A cultural anchor in the regional economy, the Colonial Performing Arts Center and its patrons contribute more than \$4 million annually to the local economy through show and visitor-related spending during an average season.

For more information, visit TheColonial.org.



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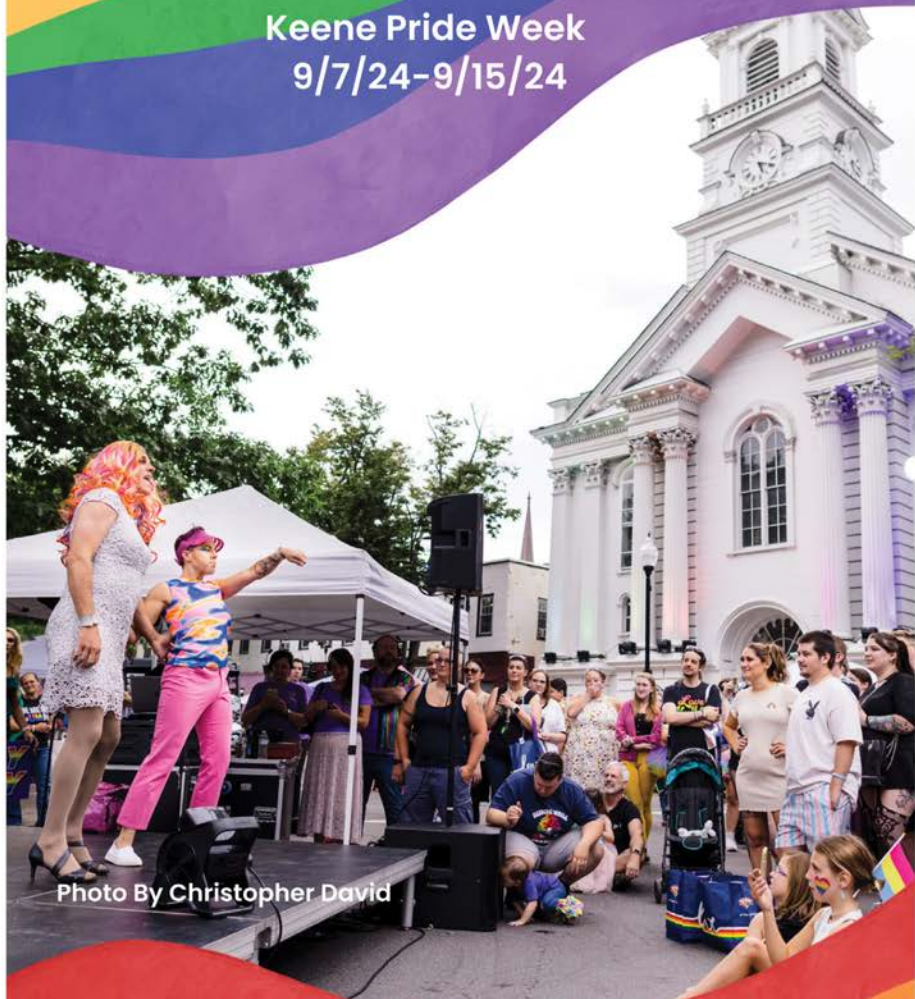


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The arts & culture sector - nonprofit, commercial, education - is a **\$1.02 trillion industry** that supports **4.9 million jobs** (2021).

The arts represent **4.4% of the nation's economy** - a larger share of GDP than agriculture, transportation, and construction.

The arts have a **\$17.8 billion** international trade surplus.

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Welcome to the theatre! As you all know, this is a shared human experience. It is made and managed by dedicated, caring people. All the professionals working in this theatre are here to help you. They are trained and knowledgeable, and want you to have the best experience at the show.

As audience members, you are essential to this performing arts experience—the show could not go on without you. You play an important part of the show by helping maintain the sanctity of this space.

TO HELP YOU (AND THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU) HAVE THE BEST TIME, WE PLEASE ASK THAT YOU:

- § Always cooperate with the ushers and front-of-house staff. They are here to help you, keep an orderly environment, and ensure the show begins on schedule.
- § Treat all theatre staff you see with respect and kindness. They want you to have a great time, and they deserve respect and a positive work environment.
- § Be engaged with the show! But also respectful of the people around you and do not make any overly disruptive comments.
- § Turn off your cell phone. All the way off...
- § Stop drinking alcohol immediately if you're feeling tipsy. Drink some water.
- § Be patient with the restroom lines. We know they're long and space is tight. But do not become pushy or rude. Everyone will get their turn.
- § Relax, sit back and enjoy the show! Once again, we could not be here without you.



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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COLONIAL THEATRE



The Colonial Theatre on Opening Night in 1924



The Colonial Theatre Marquee on the night of the 70th Anniversary Celebration, 1994

- 1923 Construction of the Colonial Theatre begins.
- 1924 January 29, the Colonial Theatre opens with the silent film *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Owner Charles Baldwin gives away 6,000 free tickets.
- 1929 Thornton Wilder begins spoken-word tradition reading *The Women of Argos*.
- 1932 Amelia Earhart lectures on the possibility of trans-Atlantic air travel; Maude Adams, the highest-paid actor of her day, performs her final role as Maria in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*.
- 1944 Iconic neon marquee installed; in continuous use through present day.
- 1945 Live entertainment discontinued.
- 1950s Permanent Cinemascope screen installed.
- 1984–1993 The Colonial Theatre purchased and operated by Steve Levin & Ira Gavin. Live entertainment returns with performances by artists such as John Prine, Bonnie Raitt and Emmylou Harris.
- 1993 The Colonial Theatre Group, Inc. is formed as a nonprofit corporation and purchases the Colonial Theatre.
- 1994–2000 The Colonial undergoes restoration.
- 2007 Aging main doors and clerestory windows replaced with renewably sourced, locally crafted, historically accurate doors and windows.
- 2019 The Colonial Theatre celebrates 95 years of continuous operation and 25 years as a nonprofit organization. The process begins to undergo a major renovation and rebrand as the Colonial Performing Arts Center.
- 2020 COVID-19 closes the doors of The Colonial Theatre in March. The building at 20 Commercial Street is purchased and renovations begin to create a second smaller venue (SHOWROOM).
- 2021 The Colonial Performing Arts Center announces a 10.5 million dollar capital campaign. SHOWROOM is completed and begins operations. Renovations begin on the historic theatre.
- 2022 The newly renovated historic theatre opens to the public in April.
- 2023–2024 **THE COLONIAL CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!**

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ChesterfieldPSF.com

THE COLONIAL THEATRE VOLUNTEER USHERS

BECOME AN USHER!



Colonial volunteer ushers come from all walks of life: professionals, retirees and students. Participants enjoy many benefits as ushers: service to the community and the arts, camaraderie with other volunteers and the opportunity to see the variety of world-class performers who entertain our community.

thecolonial.org/about/volunteers/

In the 2023-2024 Season, ushers contributed 3,836.15 hours which is valued at \$132,884.58 (per Independent Sector).

THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS:

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Jonathan Baer
Madonna Baker
Janis Barnes
Julie Barrett
Jeanette Bergeron

Christopher Black
Kathleen Blackwood
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Reasons to Support the Arts

**ARTS DRIVE
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Arts attendees spend on average **\$31.47 per person**, per event, beyond the cost of admission on items such as meals, parking, and lodging which is vital income for local businesses.

Arts travelers stay longer and spend more money seeking out authentic cultural experiences.

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EDUCATION & COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Colonial is passionately invested in the cultural health of our community through our commitment to providing community engagement for all ages, making the performing arts a vital and fundamental part of education. Our educational programs are designed to engage in the artistic process, cultivate appreciation for the performing arts and celebrate our diversity as a community.

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EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

WHY EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR THE COLONIAL?

WHY EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR THE COLONIAL?

Culture. The single word can define us. Give us a sense of belonging.

The dictionary definition of culture reads, “a particular form or stage of civilization, as that of a certain nation or period.” However, culture is much more than definition. This one word carries the power to engage, educate and enrich the quality of life. This one word gives meaning to our past, present and future.

The many unique aspects of culture can be shown through artistic expression. Art is a universal language that can bridge divides within a community, act as a vessel to share stories, raise awareness and celebrate all cultures.

The Colonial is passionately invested in the cultural health of our community. We are committed to providing community engagement for all ages, and to elevating the performing arts as a vital and fundamental part of education. Our educational programs are designed to share the artistic process, cultivate appreciation for the performing arts and celebrate our diversity as a community.

COLLABORATORS IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music
- Arts Alive
- Art Walk
- Badger Balms
- Bees Tees
- CC&D
- City of Keene
- Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies
- Deep Roots
- Eat More Cake
- Elegant Settings
- Historical Society of Cheshire County
- Keene International Festival
- Keene Pride
- Keene Sentinel
- Keene State College – Office of Justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Keene Young Professionals Network
- MoCo Arts
- Monadnock Music Festival
- MONIFF
- NNDI
- Nova Arts
- Peterborough Players
- The Production House
- Silver Direct
- YMCA

2023-24 SEASON

COLONIAL EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

CLOSE TO 9000 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ENJOYED 2023-2024 COLONIAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS THAT WERE FREE OF CHARGE.

The Colonial Partners with Annual Community Events

- Art Walk
- Taste of Keene
- Keene Pumpkin Festival
- Keene Ice and Snow festival
- Juneteenth

Colonial Education & Engagement for Students

- **American Ballet Theatre** open rehearsal/warm up
- **Cirque Fabrique** warm up and post-show Q&A
- **Kurn Hattin** - Film students theatre tour & short film
- *The Life and Times of Malcolm X* -Met Live in HD
- *The Magic Flute* -Met Live in HD Opera - taught in school class time –opera, orchestra, theater
- *Romeo & Juliet* -Met Live in HD Opera -taught in school class time – opera, orchestra, theater
- *Madama Butterfly* -Met Live in HD
- *Carmen* -Met Live in HD



Colonial Education & Community Engagement Sponsorship 23-24

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- Fenton Family Dealerships
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- New England Foundation of the Arts
- NH Charitable Foundation
- Putnam Foundation
- Walpole Savings Bank
- Send a Kid Sponsors and Fundraiser Donations

Colonial Education & Engagement Through Film

- *Everybody's Talking about Jamie* - Celebrating Pride Month
- *Incident at Restigouche* (1984); *Our People Will Be Healed*; *Gene Boy Came Home* (Aboriginal Veteran) - 3 short films by Alanis Obomsawin, winner of the 65th MacDowell Gold Medal in 2023 (Indigenous History)
- *Kid Flicks: Celebrating Black Stories*, for JUNETEENTH
- *Loving Vincent* - ArtWalk
- *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (silent film from 1924)

ARTS ADVOCACY

Community & Arts Impact Points made by The Americans for the Arts

- **LOW-INCOME STUDENTS** who participate and attend the performing arts, both in school and after school, have a dropout rate of just 4 percent—five times lower than their peers.
- **FIELD TRIPS TO LIVE THEATER ENHANCE LITERARY KNOWLEDGE,** tolerance and empathy among students, according to a study published by researchers in the University of Arkansas Department of Education Reform.
- **PEOPLE WHO ATTEND AND ARE INVOLVED IN LIVE** theater meet more people... making marginalized groups more visible and promote positive community connections.
- **THE ARTS ENCOURAGE** community partnerships, intercultural understanding, and stronger connections within the community

Reasons to Support the Arts

ARTS IMPROVE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

91% of Americans believe that arts are part of a well-rounded K-12 education

Students engaged in arts learning have **higher GPAs, standardized test scores, and college-going rates** as well as **lower drop-out rates** - benefits found across all socio-economic classes.

However, the Department of Education reports access to arts education for students of color is **significantly lower** than for their white peers.



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Provided by AmericansForTheArts.org.

Reasons to Support the Arts

ARTS STRENGTHEN MENTAL HEALTH

Studies show that the arts are effective in building resiliency, **reducing depression and anxiety**, and **increasing life satisfaction**.

Just **30 minutes** of arts activities daily can combat the effects of isolation and loneliness associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.



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THEATRE VOCAB

CROSSOVER

A route leading from one side of the stage to the other, out of the audience's view. (Ever wonder how someone could exit the stage on one side and appear on the other?)

DARK

A time when the theatre is not open to the public. At The Colonial, this can mean being closed for a private event, rehearsal, or maintenance; typically, there are less than 20 dark dates per calendar year at The Colonial.

FOLLOW SPOT

Usually, a powerful profile lantern that is mounted in or above the auditorium used with an operator so that the light beam can be moved around the stage to follow an actor.

DOWNSTAGE

The part of the stage nearest to the audience, or a movement towards the audience.

FLY

The action of lifting an item, like scenery, up (out) or down (in) when attached to the flying system.

GAFF TAPE

Ubiquitous, sticky, fabric-backed tape. Most common widths are 0.5" for marking out areas and 2" (usually black) for everything else. Used for temporarily securing almost anything. Originally known as Gaffer's Tape, from the Gaffer (Master Electrician) on a film set.

HANG

The "hang" or "pre-hang" is a lighting/rigging session – the time when the lighting equipment is hung for a specific performance.

ORCHESTRA

Seating area consisting of the entire downstairs at The Colonial Theatre.

PIT

Short for ORCHESTRA PIT. The area housing the orchestra or band. Originally, a lower section between the front of the stage and the audience, although now describes any area around the stage housing the musicians. For select performances, the pit at The Colonial Theatre contains additional seating.

THRUST

Form of stage which projects into the auditorium beyond the proscenium. For select performances at The Colonial, the thrust is added to the stage, bringing the performers and the audiences even closer together.

UPSTAGE

The part of the stage furthest from the audience.

WINGS

The out-of-view areas to the sides of the acting area.

SIGHT LINES

A series of lines drawn on to show how much of the stage can be seen by the extreme seating positions in the auditorium. Often marked in the wings as a guide to the actors and crew.

FRESNEL

(pronounced 'Fre-nell') A type of stage light which produces an even, soft-edged beam of light through a Fresnel lens. The lens is a series of stepped concentric circles on the front and pebbled on the back and is named after its French inventor, Augustin Jean Fresnel (1788-1827). He developed the lens for French lighthouses so that they could be seen further out to sea and could achieve a longer focal length with a lot less glass than a standard lens.

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Information sent to a venue by a touring group detailing lighting, sound, staging and dressing room requirements. Ideally arrives before the performer!!

GHOST LIGHT

A light left burning overnight on stage to keep friendly spirits illuminated and unfriendly spirits at bay. Also believed to keep the theatrical muse in a 'dark' theatre, and to stop people tripping over bits of scenery when they come into the theatre in the morning.



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As well as two hours before live performances and one hour before film.

ONLINE

TheColonial.org
Convenience fees apply.

BY PHONE

603-352-2033
Convenience fees apply.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FEE

A \$3.00 Historic Preservation Fee is included in the price of each ticket. This fee helps fund the long-term maintenance, restoration and improvement of our historic theatre. The Colonial Theatre is listed on the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places and in the League of Historic American Theatres.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Colonial Performing Arts Center welcomes anyone who wants to share in the theatre's experience. Integrated and dispersed accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities, their family and friends. These seats may be purchased online at thecolonial.org or by contacting our Box Office.

Assistive Listening Devices are available at the Box Office. Please contact us at 603-352-2033 to discuss individual accessibility requests.

HOUSE POLICIES

Late-comers may not be seated until an appropriate break in the program, at the discretion of the house manager.

Everyone attending a performance must have a ticket, including children and babies.

By attending this event you hereby consent to having your photo posted publicly for use in Colonial materials. Please note that some events have noise levels, fog or mature content that may not be appropriate for all audiences.

Photography and recording of any kind is not permitted.

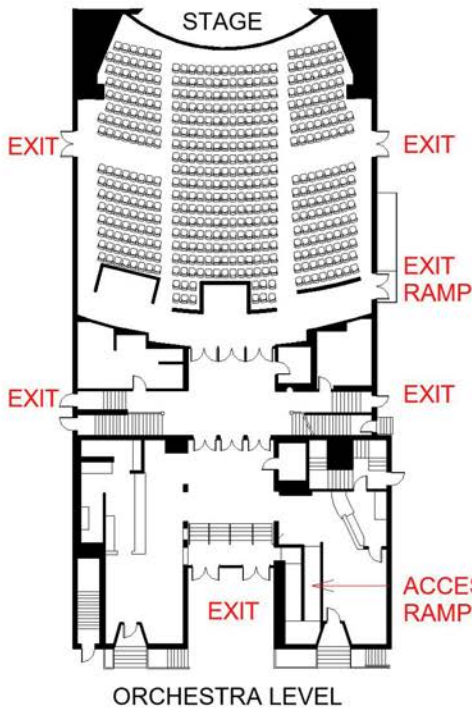
CELL PHONES

For the consideration of the performers and the audience, please silence all mobile devices during the performance.

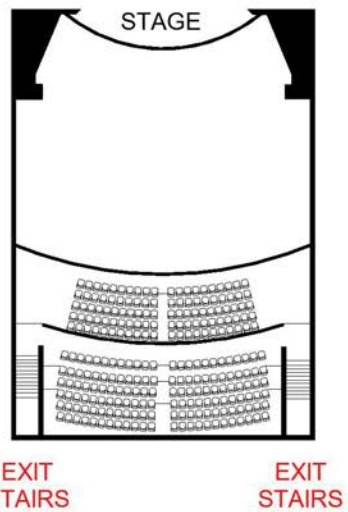
EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS

In the unlikely event of an emergency, please quickly and calmly follow Colonial personnel outside. You will be guided to one of three meeting points.

Please do not re-enter the Theatre for any reason until instructed to do so by Colonial personnel or Keene Fire/Police Departments.



ORCHESTRA LEVEL



MEZZANINE / BALCONY LEVEL

BUY YOUR TICKETS THROUGH THE COLONIAL

Over the last several years, we've seen third-party websites **RESELLING** our tickets for **HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS!** While these tickets are usually valid, they're almost always significantly more expensive than by purchasing through the venue.

What to look for:

1. Make sure you're on the venue's website (ours is thecolonial.org).
2. Know your seats! If the website you're on is giving you a seat in a range (instead of specific seat numbers) you're probably not in the right place.
3. Did your ticket fees suddenly go up? Most small venues have modest service fees (ours are only \$5.50).
4. When/how will you get the tickets? Venues will give you the option to email your tickets right away, hold your tickets at 'will call', or mail them if there's enough time. If the website you are on says it will email you the tickets later... you're probably on a 3rd party site.
5. Check your email confirmation: it should be from the venue, with the venue's logo and contact information.

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PHOTO CREDIT TO JEFFREY NEWCOMER

COLONIAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

OUR PATRONS ARE YOUR CUSTOMERS

Arts & culture events drive local spending! When an individual comes to the Monadnock region to see a show or attend an event, they spend an average of \$31.64 on other things in the community - from food to lodging, gas and souvenirs.

Increase your customer base with your advertising message here.

Call 603-357-1233 to find out about advertising in our next program

Striking the right chord

No matter where we spend our day — from our distribution centers to our offices — we help feed our families, neighbors and communities. We keep our values alive through a culture that embraces differences, promotes innovation and is focused on giving back.

It's more than a job. It's a legacy.

C&S is a proud sponsor of The Colonial Theatre.



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Covenant Living Communities & Services does not discriminate pursuant to the Federal Fair Housing Act.