

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 22, 2019

LAURIE BERKNER BAND RETURNS TO McCARTER FOR TWO PERFORMANCES



Laurie Berkner returns for two shows at McCarter. Photo by Todd Owyong.

Princeton, NJ: Known as the “Pied Piper of Pre-Schoolers” or the “Queen of Kindie Rock,” Laurie Berkner is an industry unto herself. She has been a long time fixture of children’s television (*Noggin*; *Jack’s Big Music Show*; and *Sing It, Laurie!*) and her original songs, music videos, books, and three original off-Broadway musicals have made her ubiquitous in American households. Her latest foray into EDM (*Laurie Berker: The Dance Remixes*) will have both kids and parents dancing around the room. Laurie will be joined by her longtime collaborators Adam Bernstein, Susie Lampert and Bob Golden performing hits both old and new.

Ticket Information

The Laurie Berkner Band will perform in the Matthews Theatre on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 3 p.m. Tickets start at \$25 and can be purchased online at mccarter.org, by phone at (609) 258-2787, or in person at the McCarter Ticket Office.

Special Solo Sensory Friendly Performance by Laurie Berkner

Saturday, March 2 at 11 a.m.

Laurie Berkner will be back at McCarter this year with a special solo acoustic Sensory-Friendly Performance at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 2. Designed for **people on the autism spectrum, with cognitive and developmental differences, other sensory or communication needs,** sensory-friendly performances provide a **welcoming and judgment-free environment** so that they and their families may enjoy live performance together.

About Sensory-Friendly Performances

Sensory-friendly performances provide a performing arts experience that is welcoming to **all individuals who are diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder or other sensitivity issues and their families.**

At a sensory-friendly performance, the play is performed at the same high quality as always, with the light and sound levels adjusted slightly to create a more sensory-sensitive environment. Volunteers are on hand to assist parents and caregivers, a family restroom is available, and there are designated activity and quiet areas in the lobby. Sensory-friendly performances are a “shush-free” zone where patrons are free to talk and leave their seats throughout the performance, as well as bring their own snacks, fidgets, and communications devices with them to their seats.

Most of all, a sensory-friendly performance is a judgement-free environment, where all are welcome to enjoy the performance in whatever way makes the experience work for them.

If you are wondering whether a sensory-friendly performance is the right fit for you and your family, please call our Ticket Office at 609.258.2787 for more information.

About McCarter Theatre Center

McCarter Theatre Center’s mission is to create world-class theater and present the finest performing artists for the engagement, education, and entertainment to the community. Under the artistic leadership of award-winning playwright and director Emily Mann and Managing Director Michael S. Rosenberg, McCarter produces a vibrant six-play Theater Series each season. Winner of the 1994 Tony Award® for Outstanding Regional Theatre, world premieres include Christopher Durang’s *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (2013 Tony® - Best Play); Tarell Alvin McCraney’s *The Brother/Sister Plays*; Emily Mann’s *Having Our Say*; and Danai Gurira’s *The Convert*. Other works which later moved to Broadway include Brian Friel’s *Translations*, Nilo Cruz’s *Anna in the Tropics* (Pulitzer Prize), and Frank McGuinness’ translation of *Electra*. Through the leadership of Special Programming Director William W. Lockwood, McCarter brings the best artists from around the world to Princeton, New Jersey. Education and outreach efforts serve tens of thousands through student matinees, in-school residencies, and adult education classes.

McCarter is supported by contributions from Princeton University, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, corporations, foundations, and from over 2,000 individuals. More at mccarter.org.

The 2018-2019 Signature Series at McCarter is sponsored by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

For further inquiries and more information, contact: Tom Miller, Director of Public Relations
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