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# DOWNTOWN

MONTHLY

DOWNTOWN | THE PEARL | NORTHWEST / NOB HILL | OLD TOWN / CHINATOWN | WASHINGTON PARK | SOUTH WATERFRONT | UNIVERSITY DISTRICT

## Curtain Call

By **BOB HICKS**  
SPECIAL WRITER

All the world's a stage, that famous old scribbler from Stratford-upon-Avon said.

Well, maybe not the whole world. But downtown and Northwest Portland are loaded with stages big and small, each with its own style and charm. Comedy, tragedy, standup, improv, even a little song and dance: You'll find a theater for just about any mood that strikes. When it's time for a night on the town, check out our guide.



Blaine Covert



MICHAEL WILHELM

**Above:** The elegant Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall opened in 1928 as the Portland Public Theater, where vaudeville acts and traveling singers took the stage. Today it is home to the Oregon Symphony, but the hall also hosts dance performances and lectures.

**Top:** Dancer Maggie Rupp enchants in Portland Ballet's "La Boutique Fantasque" at the Newmark Theatre.

### Downtown / West End

**Antoinette Hatfield Hall.** Part of the **Portland Center for the Performing Arts** and next door to the **Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall**, the Hatfield includes three sparkling theaters: the elegant, 880-seat **Newmark Theatre**; the courtyard-style **Dolores Winningstad Theatre**, a flexible space with room for up to 292; and the small, open **Brunish Hall**, which holds up to 200 seats. You can also enjoy pre-show drinks and dinner at **ArtBar** in the high-ceilinged lobby, which is sometimes home to relaxing concerts. Two good children's theaters, **Oregon Children's Theatre** and **Tears of Joy** puppet theater ([www.tojt.com](http://www.tojt.com)) are in residence here, and other theater and dance pops up regularly. *1111 S.W. Broadway; www.pcpa.com*

Some fall highlights:

- "Hats," a musical comedy about the aging-with-verve Red Hat movement, Brunish Hall, Oct. 22-Nov. 22
- Roald Dahl's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," Oregon Children's Theatre in the Newmark, Oct. 31-Nov. 22
- Sharon Whitney's "Rumpelstiltskin" (Nov. 13-29) and Mercer Mayer's "There's a Nightmare in My Closet" (Dec. 11-20), Tears of Joy in the Winningstad

■ "La Boutique Fantasque," The Portland Ballet's charming version of the dancing-dolls ballet with music by Rossini; in the Newmark, Nov. 27-28

■ "A Tuna Christmas," sprightly comedy, Oregon Repertory Theatre in the Winningstad, Dec. 13-Jan. 3

■ "Disney's Beauty and the Beast," Pixie Dust Productions in the Newmark, Dec. 13-Jan. 3

**Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.** Home of the **Oregon Symphony** and **White Bird's** mainstage contemporary dance season, this elaborately refurbished old vaudeville and movie palace is a key part of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. With 2,776 seats, it's mainly for music, dance, lectures and events such as graduation ceremonies. *1037 S.W. Broadway; www.pcpa.com*

**Artists Repertory Theatre.** Intimacy is the touchstone at Portland's second-biggest professional theater company, where a blend of classics, premieres and recent Broadway and regional-theater hits keeps two stages humming. Steven Dietz's critically praised "Becky's New Car" closes Sunday, Oct. 25, and Marc Acito and C.S. Whitman's nervous seasonal comedy "Holidazed," a crowd-pleaser when it premiered last season at Artists Rep, returns with an updated script Nov. 17-Dec. 20.

Other big news: William Hurt stars in Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey Into Night" to kick off Artists Rep's 2010-'11 season next August; season subscribers get first crack at tickets starting in January. *1515 S.W. Morrison St.; www.artistsrep.org*



Photo courtesy of Portland Center for the Performing Arts

**Keller Auditorium.** This 2,992-seat hall (pictured above) is also part of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts but several blocks away from the Hatfield and Schnitzer, close to the riverfront. It's home to **Portland Opera** and touring Broadway shows – including the current run of Tracy Letts' eagerly anticipated "August: Osage County," last year's Pulitzer and Tony winner, which continues through Sunday, Oct. 25. *222 S.W. Clay St; www.pcpa.com*

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