

First Night Fort Collins 2010 Performer Descriptions

A Viewing: Bas Bleu Theatre

Come enjoy this adult comedic theatrical performance by Bas Bleu's own Wendy Ishii. *The Thief of Tears* is Mac, a beautiful Los Angeles drifter, who makes her living stealing jewelry from corpses. When her wealthy grandmother dies, leaving her nothing, Mac returns to her hometown and attempts to pry loose her inheritance, a diamond ring her grandmother promised Mac when she was a child. Her attempt leads Mac to find there are more obstacles to getting the ring off grandma's finger than she had imagined, and more revelations about her own past than she bargained for.

Alice in Wonderland -Canyon Concert Dance Ensemble

Join the Canyon Concert Youth Dance Ensemble in their dance production of Alice in Wonderland! This enchanting story comes to life on stage through dance and narration and set to music composed by Dave Jacoby. Come enjoy this beloved tale of adventure, fantasy and laughter!

Beet Street Young Performer Academy

Not to be missed!! Beet Street's Young Performer Academy invites youth of all ages to develop and share their performance abilities, and inspire creativity and imagination in themselves and others. Multiple stations will guide aspiring young performers in juggling, performing magic tricks, and just clowning around! No experience needed. So stop by the academy and earn your Beet Street Young Performer's Diploma, then stick around to see a professional street performer show (all indoors)!

Best of the TriMedia Film Festival

Come in from the cold and see the best of the TriMedia Film Festival at both theatres of the Lyric Cinema Café. From great family films, to documentaries, to award-winning short comedies and dramas, there's something for everyone at First Night!

Bounceland Inflatables

Bounce you way to the New Year! These giant inflatables include a huge slide, a castle with a legendary knight guarding it and an obstacle course! Located in the brand new gym of the Aztlan Center and right next to the Beet Street Young Performer Academy, face painting and a crafts station this is a Mecca of activity and fun during First Night. (All shoes must be removed in the gym and on the inflatables of Bounceland, but make sure to keep on your smile!!)

Bruiser the Ragdog (wandering)

Bruiser the Ragdog meets the people around Old Town Square—Bruiser walks in that mysterious world of the imagination beyond reality and the stars. Is it a real dog? You decide...

Building the Flag: A Patriotic Tribute

Special performance by the Fort Collins Masons: Building the Flag. Enjoy this patriotic tribute to our nation and her flag. This tribute, presented by Masonic veteran brothers will be interactive, educational and in honor of the history of the stars and stripes. One show only, 7:30pm in the beautiful Red Room at the Masonic Event Center.

Chinese Dragon Dance (wandering)

This year we are happy to partner with Colorado State University's Chinese Club's language students to bring you a traditional Chinese New Year Celebration. The dragon dance is a traditional Chinese performance originating during the Han dynasty. The dragon symbolizes prosperity, good fortune and is the centerpiece of any Chinese New Year Festival. Come to Old Town Square and witness the Dragon Dance and let it bring you good luck into the New Year.

Choice City Singers: Legends

From Disney to Duke Ellington, Choice City Singers' songs incorporate an array of legendary figures. Hercules, Danny Boy, and William Tell are just a few of the historical icons being sung about tonight! Audience members of all ages will enjoy this choral performance!

Cirque du Tribal Tique

Join the show under the big top! Cirque du Tribal Tique presents an evening of thrilling original tribal belly dance performances featuring experienced, enchanting and talented dancers. Audiences will be glued to their seats as the show creates a circus filled with colorful, feathered costumes, parasols, hoops and more!

Didgeridoo & World Instruments

Michael will play the Didgeridoo and Mbira along with other instruments from around the world! Along with music, he will be telling stories about the places he has been and the history of the instruments he plays. Come experience the world through these instruments and make sure not to miss this show!

Eric West Musical Adventure

Eric West is a classically trained bass player and former teacher who has entertained children since 1982. Accompanied by an antique trunkful of unusual instruments and puppets, complimented by guitar and banjo, Eric has entertained thousands of children and their families. His songs, both original and traditional, are imaginative and incorporate a lot of audience participation.

Exquisite Brass -Peter and the Wolf

The Exquisite Brass Quintet, one of Northern Colorado's favorite brass ensembles, is pleased to present Peter and the Wolf. The classic story with music by Sergei Prokofiev was originally scored for symphony orchestra, but no music is safe when the Exquisite Brass is around. Come enjoy the story of Peter, the cat, the duck and of course Grandpa as we welcome Mr. Phil Forman to narrate this wonderful tale with some unexpected twists.

Face Painting

Make sure to adorn your face with the perfect First Night treat, face painting! Magical creatures, legendary designs, fairy masks, and much more are available tonight. Make one of the beautiful and lightning fast face paintings of Smilen' Faces yours on First Night at the Fort Collins' Library Lobby and at the Aztlan Center Classrooms. Or head to the Masonic Events Center for wonderful faces by Best Face Painter!

Fale African Drum & Dance

Come on a dynamic cultural journey of traditional African drumming, dancing and singing, which are living legends themselves! The program includes dances and drumming songs from Zimbabwe, Mali, Guinea and a children's Swahili song. Come experience traditional performances that expose and bring community together through exciting energetic music and dance!

Fireworks - Old Town Square

Enjoy the finale of First Night at the Old Town Square fireworks show. The sparks will be flying and the Fort Collins Pipe Band (bagpipes & drums) will be playing! Ring in 2010 with a bang! Come down on the bus or walk over and enjoy this wonderful show beginning at 10:30pm.

Fort Collins Pipe Band

A favorite of First Night attendees! The Fort Collins Pipe Band features Scottish bagpipe and drum music, Highland dance, and education in Scottish culture, the instruments, dance, and music. Come watch their musical show tonight - Look for them in Old Town Square before the fireworks at 10:20pm.

Grupo Tlaloc Danse Azteca

GRUPO TLALOC Danza Azteca is a non-profit traditional Mexica/Azteca group of Chicano/ Mexicano families and students of all ages dedicated to preserving and nourishing the ancient knowledge of their ancestors. Tlaloc means "He who fertilizes the Earth-liquor of the Earth. He is the rain, which makes things grow". Watch this show of elaborate feathered headdresses, dancers, drumming, ceremony and Aztec cultural traditions thousands of years old.

Handsome Little Devils: "I Love Lolo!"

An over the top juggling, comedy and vaudevillian style show: Lucille Ball is one of the great legends of American entertainment. "I Love Lolo!" emanates Lucy's great physical comedy and the classic situational slapstick that made "*I Love Lucy*" the #1 comedy on television! In tonight's show, "Mikey" is a tall, handsome and famous cabaret singer and Lolo is dying to make HER break in to showbiz. On this night, they believe a Hollywood producer is in the audience and they go to great lengths to impress him. Through a series of exceedingly ridiculous attempts, Lolo manages to take the stage, but not always as she intends it. Lolo's hilarious antics and Mikey's suave seriousness make for an over-the-top husband-and-wife comedy that you won't want to stop. Come see this show on the main stage at the Lincoln Center!

Ice Skating

Enjoy the holidays like they did in the olden days, with a beautiful skate outside in the town plaza. The Old Town Ice Skating Rink is only \$1 to skate with your First Night button. (Rentals are not included, but are available for \$1/person) Rink is located on the north end of Old Town Square and rentals available at the Downtown Information Center. So come enjoy the outdoor rink and take a skate for old time's sake!

Istari Drumming

After the human voice, the drum became the most important musical instrument for dance, communication, and entertainment. In this performance, Istari World Percussion will be in authentic African costumes as they demonstrate drums and percussion instruments from around the world! Be ready to join in and participate in ancient and modern rhythms! Try unique instruments such as the Caxixi from Brazil, the Djun Djun from West Africa, and the Zils from the Middle East! Dancing and /or /listening is encouraged and fun for all ages!

Jungle Jim's Animal Legends

This is one great fun and educational family friendly puppet show. It features 3 great legendary but real American animals: JAWS the rare American Crocodile (the smarter brother of the famous Tick Tock of Peter Pan fame), TWINKY the elusive magical Pygmy Rabbit found only in the American Pacific NW and BUZZ the legendary California Condor whose wing span is large enough to cover a VW Beetle.

Following these 3 puppet routines Jungle Jim (a former Professor of Anthropology nick named Jungle Jim by his students) will conduct a short puppetry workshop for all attendees.

Kids' Countdown

This event kicks off the whole evening at 5:00pm. Confetti will go flying, and the talented Beth Epley will lead the children in song, tell stories, and play interactive music with the children on the museum steps.

There will be instruments for the children to play, adding to the festivities and of course the New Years Eve March and Madness, a procession through the Museum courtyard.

Latin Nights & Romantic Legends

Grupo Aztlan will perform songs that reflect and have been the work of Latin legends such as Selena, Freddy Fender, Vicente Fernandez and many more. Listen to the romantic songs and wonderful Latin sounds from this experienced Fort Collins quartet!

Legends of the Stars: Discovery Science Center Planetarium Shows

Many legends of the night are up in the sky! Come to the Star Lab Planetarium Show to see constellations of magical beasts and mythical heroes. Hear the legends that are thousands of years old explaining the origins of these stories! Families with children of elementary age or older will enjoy this unique experience. (Be sure to arrive early to pick up your free tickets, and do some astronomy activities while you wait seating is available.)

Life of the Gypsies: Storytelling

The Story "Life of the Gypsies" will be a historic ride on a wagon where the children at the show will be asked to come along for a pretend ride to many interesting places around the world. Including "Where the Wild Things Are"! Geared towards children 4-8 years old.

Little People Legends

"Legends are tales that, because of the tie to a historical event or location, are believable, although not necessarily believed"..... Laura and Erin bring to you the magic, myths and legends of "The Little People" as told from different cultures. Come join us for a fun filled night of "Big Fun" featuring "Little Performers" as they present to you legends and magic from both near and far.

Local Legends Historic Tours

Interesting to all ages, your guide Lynda will tell "legends" of early Fort Collins residents while strolling past the Old Town areas they inhabited in the 1800's. Come discover Downtown Fort Collins, rich in wild tales, colorful characters and wonderful old buildings. These walking tours last about forty-five minutes and meet at the Opera Galleria.

Make Your Own S'mores

Come create your very own New Years s'more at the fire. Some graham crackers, chocolate, a toasted marshmallow and lots of gooey fun! S'more making will be outside in the Fort Collins Museum Courtyard where volunteers will help you assemble your tasty First Night s'more.

Masonic Lodge Event Center

For the second year we very pleased to be able to partner with the Fort Collins Masons in the use of their Masonic Event Center. Be sure to visit their Museum where you can learn ancient secrets of the Masons! Also at the Masonic Event Center this year, face painting by Best Face Painter, Building the Flag demonstration, Sandbox Stories Theater & the Mystery of the Mummy's Treasure animal comedy show.

Museum Tours & Treasure Hunts

Go on a self guided tour or treasure hunt for kids of the Fort Collins' Museum/Discovery Science Center with all of it's' exhibits, interactive activities, and history. Ask for information at the main desk. Guided tours of all exhibits are also available.

Mystery of the Mummy's Treasure

The entire family will enjoy this show! Mummy's treasure, spiders, scorpions, snakes, comedy, song and more come alive in this show. Don't miss this story about treasure from a far away place, jokes, juggling, laughs and the occasional stray animal in this wild production. Explore the curious world of the mummy!

Native: A Colorado Play

Nonesuch Theater presents ... the first, EVER, production of NATIVE! the musical! Native. What does it mean? Is it a birth right ... or something in your blood? Can you earn it with time ... or are you forever to be labeled "transplant?" Whether you're a Coloradan or a Coloradoan, you know the real meaning of the word native in these parts. From John Elway to John Denver, NATIVE! The musical takes a comedic look at transplants, natives and the state they all love to call home. Featuring such future hit songs as "Double Rainbow" and "What's the Matter With Greeley?". Starring Gina Schuh-Turner, Mark Johnson, Camilla Johnson and Shane Curtiss Miller.

New Year's Eve Crafts

Come write your own resolution or create your own New Year's craft project. Enjoy the Fort Collins Museum or the Northside Aztlan Center Classrooms to warm your toes, and surround yourself with creativity. Just a "drop-in" event, no schedule restrictions.

Presto-Digitators Magic Show

Experience the magic touch and see many illusions at this ever popular show! Classic and new innovative magic illusions are performed by these First Night favorites as they explore the realm of possibility. The show will feature NEW feats of conjuring, prestidigitation, illusion and fun of the likes that is seldom seen in Fort Collins as well as magic legend Houdini's Metamorphosis and Escape from a Straight Jacket!

Sandbox Stories Theater

Sandbox Stories Theater Company will perform selected original stories from our wildly successful "Toenails, Tangos, and Other Tales performance. Almost 400 original stories written by local Fort Collins kids were submitted this year. Families with elementary age children will love this show! Don't miss the chance to see some of those stories come alive on stage by the professional actors of Sandbox Stories. Kid's Stories... Professional Actors... hilarity for all ages!

Science Matters

Join Science Matters in CO for an interactive science demonstration on the wonders of science. See a vortex air generator to create giant smoke rings, conduct and experiment using the Science Matters Razor Sharp Bed of Nails, test the properties of matter with a (small) Silo Explosion, and so much more. You'll marvel and be amazed and have some fun with science. And a word to the brave, we'll be needin' volunteers to help us with these experiments.

Science Toy Magic (wandering)

Matt Hannifin will appear as "Jerry the Janitor" and "Magic Science Guy" in Old Town Square near the Science Toy Magic Store. "Jerry the Janitor" is the unicycling janitor who leaves your space messier when he's finished than it was when he started! "Magic Science Guy" pulls science out of his wizard's robe to amaze even the most sophisticated scientist!

Statues

These live statues, located at the Lincoln Center lobby, are a wonderful addition to this whimsical First Night evening. Watch to see if you see them change positions or look at you. Not your average statues!

SOAR - Amazing Balancing Act

Sven Jorgensen has been performing solo works of circus art's theater for 21 years around the nation and around the world. Constantly fascinated by the journey of being human, his shows are not only amazing and entertaining, but also caring and thoughtful, inviting his audience to ponder the heroic journey of everyday life. As luck would have it, his latest show, "Soar," is perfectly timed to make its world premier performance here at First Night Fort Collins. Follow Sven as he spirals ever upward on an increasingly precarious balancing tower, striving ever to reach his dream, finding along the way that journey itself is indeed the greatest reward. Featuring extraordinary skills and powerful lessons, this show is sure to become legendary for audiences of all ages.

Top Hogs

The "Top Hogs" show is an exciting, fun-for-the-entire family trick pig act which has entertained thousands all over the US. Racing pigs are over in seconds, however, Mudslinger and Digger perform a non-stop 30-minute act from sports, (soccer, skateboarding basketball...) to impersonations of famous entertainers (Stevie Wonder, Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and more). The show is also choreographed to fun and existing music. They were both adopted from a pig rescue organization before becoming big stars. The Top Hogs comedy show is a fun, educational & crowd-pleasing performance which draws large audiences. "The most talented pigs in the world!" - Jay Leno, The Tonight Show. Don't miss this show!

Unicycle & Juggling Show

Silver Medal World Champion Juggler, Reid Belstock, will wow the audience with his unicycle riding, physical comedy, juggling! Come enjoy a truly talented stage and Street Performer as a part of the Beet Street Young Performer Academy! Reid will be helping conduct the Academy's activities and then putting on one heck of a great show; don't miss learning from a master!

Wayne & Wingnut

Experience for yourself the legend of the "vocal magician". Let Colorado's premier ventriloquism duo barnstorm their way into your heart. This pair combines a fresh twist on a vaudevillian legend. This pair combines original comedy, music, fun, "life-sized" characters and lots of laughs into one of the most entertaining shows around. Your family will love!

Discover Downtown

Art Lab

Wander into Art Lab for our Awesome New Year's Variety Show! We'll start the evening with some smooth jazz, and then roll on through the night with a Celtic trio music, hard-rocking holiday tunes, and finally a resounding Foco em Bloco drum salute to the New Year. You can be a part of the festivities by trying your hand at the Art Lab's bigger-than-life community Paint By Number project, create your own New Year's art card, write a poem — dig in, experiment, participate and create. Where else in Fort Collins can you find do-it-yourself art projects, Celtic tunes, Brazilian drum circles, and Singing Santa's all in one big happy place?

Illustrated Light Gallery of Fine Art Photography

The Illustrated Light Gallery of Fine Art Photography features the photography of award winning nature photographer David Clack as well as fine art nature photography from several other states. Come enjoy original artwork on this night of Fort Collins Arts celebration!

Indigo Gallery

Indigo Gallery and Frameshop is happy to participate in First Night in Downtown Fort Collins. There will be face painting from 7pm-9pm, cookie decorating and cotton candy, and a special treat for the kids! Join us!

Trimble Court Artisans Co-Op

At Trimble Court Artisans Co-op, exceptional arts and crafts of the region are offered for sale to people who value handcrafted items of the highest quality. Be sure to visit this uniquely Fort Collins gallery in its historical location - home since 1971. Trimble Court Artisans Co-op is open late to celebrate! Artists on duty, we're right up your alley in Old Town!