Feature Series 2019–20 Season
presented by

Wintrust Community Banks

presents

BritBeat®
A Tribute To The Beatles

Abbey Road 50th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, October 12, 2019
8pm

Chris Getsla as Paul McCartney | Eli Echevarria as John Lennon
Geoff Allen as George Harrison | Jeremy Benshish as Ringo Starr
Matt Kooi as Keyboardist
BIOGRAPHY

BritBeat was born in a high school vision by Chris Getsla as a freshman at Glenbrook South High School, after being honored on national television by President Bill Clinton at the 1997 State of the Union Address. In a private White House ceremony following the address, Chris met with President Clinton and the two discussed their passions for music, the President with his saxophone and Chris with his voice and guitar. After that meeting and inspired by words from the President, Chris came back to Glenview, Illinois determined to start his own band, BritBeat, and pay tribute to his favorite group, the Beatles.

From its humble beginnings as a high school variety show band onto its first professional shows after high school, BritBeat has become, over 15 years, an international touring show with over 1,000 performances worldwide. BritBeat has performed to a vast array of audiences and been privileged to perform on many stages with a virtual who's who of sixties rock history.

BritBeat’s current cast has been together for years and is comprised of Chris Getsla as Paul McCartney, Eli Echevarria as John Lennon, Geoff Allen as George Harrison, Jeremy Benshish as Ringo Starr and Matt Kooi as Keyboardist.

BritBeat has spent countless hours to create a show that tells the story of the Beatles that is compelling, accurate, thought provoking, fun and filled with the passion, moods and emotions of the sixties. Every detail has gone in to the creation of BritBeat – A Multimedia Concert Journey through Beatles Music History. Each era of the Beatles history is recreated on stage covering the early days at The Cavern Club in Liverpool, The Ed Sullivan Show, the Shea Stadium Concert, the psychedelic Sgt. Pepper era, the Magical Mystery Tour and Abbey Road Studios recording sessions with six costume changes. Dedicated to offering a unique and different look into the music and history of the Beatles, BritBeat is more than a tribute band, it is a theatrical event.

Highlights of BritBeat’s touring history include performing with Herman’s Hermits, The Buckinghams, The Rascals, Jefferson Starship, Micky Dolenz, Blood, Sweat & Tears, The Beach Boys, The Guess Who, The Grass Roots and Gary Puckett and the Union Gap. As well, one of the Beatles actually performed with BritBeat at U.S. Cellular Field for the 40th Anniversary of the Beatles at Comiskey Park. That Beatle would be Pete Best, the drummer for the Beatles before he was replaced by Ringo Starr in 1962.

In 2014 BritBeat was chosen by the State of Indiana to recreate the 1964 concert by the Beatles at the Indianapolis State Fair. In the same building, on the same stage, with the same microphones used by the Beatles, BritBeat performed a 50th Anniversary Concert at the Indianapolis State Fair Coliseum for thousands of fans in attendance, many of whom had attended the 1964 concert there 50 years earlier. It was quite a moment for a band paying tribute to their musical icons.

BritBeat is dedicated to bringing audiences of all ages a trip back in time; to feel, remember, relive and experience the sight and sounds, moods and emotions of the Beatles influence on music and pop culture of the 1960s. The band invites those interested in the history and music of the Beatles and the 1960s to visit their website at www.BRITBEAT.com, on Facebook at BritBeat Beatles Tribute and Twitter @britbeatbeatles. BritBeat is produced by Edge Entertainment Limited.
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RYAN HAMILTON
OCT 26
With a hilarious clean act, Ryan Hamilton is taking the comic world by storm, opening concerts for Jerry Seinfeld and releasing his first Netflix stand-up special, Happy Face in 2017. He’s been named one of Rolling Stone’s Five Comics to Watch.

THE CAPITOL STEPS
JAN 22-26
If politics are eating away at you like lions feasting on a wildebeest carcass on the African savannah, it’s time to just chuckle and say, “Hakuna Matata!” No worries! The circle of life and laughter continues with the Capitol Steps’ fresh musical parodies.

PIFF THE MAGIC DRAGON
FEB 28
50% Comedian, 50% Magician, 100% Dragon. The standout star of NBC’s America’s Got Talent and Penn & Teller: Fool Us, returns with his mythical mixture of wizardry, wit and sarcasm.

847.673.6300 NorthShoreCenter.org
Recent Projects of the Foundation

In recent years, the Foundation has renewed its commitment to enhance the facility’s offerings. Completed projects include the installation of the orchestra shell for classical music, the renovation of the green room and dressing rooms for visiting artists, and the transformation of a conference room into The Mezzanine Room, a space suitable for meetings, receptions and other special events.

Currently, the Foundation is raising funds for the installation of a telecoil loop in the Center Theater. Once the telecoil project is complete, the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts will be the largest venue in the area providing their guests with this amenity.

YOUTH THEATRE EDUCATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM

The North Shore Center’s Youth theatre program serves more than 12,000 school children annually through a series of performances that cross numerous arts and education genres. Last season, with support from donors like you, over 2,400 underserved students attended an educational program at a reduced price or for free. Through the Rice Young People’s Endowment, which it manages, and other direct gifts, the Foundation helps to ensure that this vital program continues to serve the community.

The Foundation is also instrumental in enabling the Center to provide community outreach programs. Past projects include the Chicago premiere of Dar He: The Story of Emmett Till in 2015, the Center’s 20th Anniversary celebration events in 2016 and the free public performance of the United States Air Force Band of Mid America’s Concert Band in 2019.

Sponsor-a-Seat

The Foundation continues its Sponsor-a-Seat campaign, which offers you a unique opportunity to create a prominent legacy at the North Shore Center by placing the name of your family, friend or business in the limelight. Your donation is commemorated with a personalized plaque, mounted on a seat in the theatre.

For more information, visit NorthShoreCenter.org/Sponsor-a-Seat.

How can you join our efforts?

The Foundation accepts donations of any amount, which can be for general support or designated for a specific project or program. For more information contact Dipto Patel at 847-679-9501 x3308 or dpatel@northshorecenter.org.
The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Foundation was established to support the ongoing programming and capital needs of the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie. The mission of the Foundation is to create and sustain the North Shore Center as a preeminent venue for the arts and as a major asset to the communities it serves.

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For more information about the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Foundation, please call (847) 679-9501 ext 3308.
The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts gratefully acknowledges the support of the following Businesses, Individuals, Foundations and Government entities.

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North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

9501 Skokie Boulevard | Skokie, IL 60077 | Administrative Phone (847) 679-9501 | Box Office Phone (847) 673-6300

www.NorthShoreCenter.org

Administrative Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Box Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. or until curtain;
Saturday, Noon–5 p.m. or until curtain. Sunday: Open two hours prior to curtain (summer hours may vary)

Professional Facilities Management, of Providence, R.I., manages the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

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THE NORTH SHORE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS IN SKOKIE opened in 1996 and operates as part of the Village of Skokie’s plan to provide cultural, and educational programs, benefiting the citizens of Skokie and the surrounding communities.

IN CONSIDERATION OF OTHER PATRONS
• Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

• Please turn off your cell phones and refrain from using them during the show. They are distracting to the performers and your fellow audience members.

• The North Shore Center features a ListenTech RF assistive listening system available for all shows on a first come / first served basis. We ask that patrons using these devices please leave a driver’s license, state ID card or credit card with the House Manager until the device is returned at the end of the performance.

• Lost and Found: please call (847) 679-9501 ext. 3202 for lost items.