



## *News Release*

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**For Immediate Release**  
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### **RIO GRANDE THEATRE CALENDAR OF EVENTS December 2014**

#### **Tuesday, December 2**

**El Paso Pro-Musica presents Catalyst String Quartet** **7:30 pm**

El Paso Pro-Musica brings one of the most exciting string quartets on tour today to the Rio Grande Theatre. Hailed by the New York Times at their Carnegie Hall debut as “invariably energetic and finely burnished...playing with earthy vigor,” the Catalyst Quartet, winners of the Gianni Bergamo Classical Music Award 2012 (Switzerland), is comprised of top Laureates and alumni of the internationally acclaimed Sphinx Competition. Tickets are \$25 adult, \$20 senior/military and \$5 student. To purchase tickets call (915) 833-9400, or visit [www.eppm.org](http://www.eppm.org).

#### **Friday, December 5**

**Artist Reception for Denise Barella** **5 to 7 pm**

An Artists' Reception for December artist Denise Barella will take place in the El Paso Electric Gallery from 5 to 7pm during the First Friday Downtown ArtRamble. Please join us for this wonderful exhibit, meet the artist and get a first hand look at the artistic process.

**Santa Fe Opera Holiday Show** **7:30 pm**

As a special gift to the citizens of Las Cruces, the Santa Fe Opera Educational Department and the Doña Ana Arts Council present a free holiday concert, featuring arias, songs of the season, musical theater selections and sacred music, all performed by up-and-coming opera stars accompanied by SFO Musical Director Kirt Pavitt. All seating is general admission. Complimentary tickets are available at [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com) or by calling (575) 523-6403.

## **Tuesday, December 9**

### **Every Other Tuesday: DALO preview**

**6:30 pm**

Doña Ana Lyric Opera will present an evening of carols, arias and a special preview of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, which will have its weekend run Saturday and Sunday, December 13 and 14 at the Rio Grande Theatre. *Every Other Tuesday* is a Doña Ana Arts Council program that showcases local performers beginning promptly at 6:30 pm. The event is FREE and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com) or call (575) 523-6403.

## **Wednesday, December 10**

### **Film Las Cruces**

**7 pm**

The Doña Ana Arts Council's monthly film forum will be on hiatus during the months of December and January. Check the Film Las Cruces Facebook page for further updates. For more information visit [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com) or call (575) 523-6403.

## **Thursday, December 11**

### **El Paso Brass**

**7 pm**

One of the country's finest brass quintets returns to the Rio Grande Theatre for its annual holiday concert. Composed of key members of the El Paso Symphony Orchestra and other distinguished musicians from the Southwest, the ensemble is renowned for outstanding musicianship and the diversity of its repertoire. Tickets are \$15 in advance for adults, \$20 at the door. Children 6 to 8 are \$7.50 in advance, \$10 at the door. Available at the Rio Grande Theatre offices, KRWG FM and Better Life Pet Food. For ticket and event info, call (575) 646-2222 or visit [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com).

## **Saturday & Sunday, December 13 & 14**

### **Amahl and the Night Visitors**

**7:30 pm**

The Doña Ana Lyric Opera and the Doña Ana Arts Council present the one-act opera by Gian Carlo Menotti, which originally aired on television in 1951 and has remained a perennial Christmas favorite ever since. Amahl, a disabled boy who needs a crutch to walk, and his mother are very poor and may have to resort to begging to stay alive. One night they receive three very special guests, the Three Kings bearing gold and expensive gifts and following a star that will lead them to a wondrous child. The events of this night will prove miraculous for the young boy. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$5 for students. For more information, call (575) 523-6403 or visit [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com).

## **Sunday, December 14**

### **Mesilla Valley Chorale presents Hearts Aglow**

**3 pm**

The Mesilla Valley Chorale, a community chorale of 60 voices under the direction of Nancy Ritchey, presents its annual holiday concert, Hearts Aglow. The diverse program includes sacred selections, spirituals and exciting choral arrangements of holiday favorites with instrumental backup. Tickets are \$10 general admission. For more information, or to reserve tickets, call (575) 647-2560.

### **Friday, December 19**

#### **David Benoit: A Charlie Brown Christmas**

**7:30 pm**

The Doña Ana Arts Council proudly continues its 2014/2015 Performance Series with Grammy-nominated jazz pianist, composer and producer David Benoit, who will celebrate the holidays with the iconic jazz from the Peanuts. Revive that wonderful Christmas feeling with Vincent Guaraldi's perennial Peanuts tunes, featuring classics like "Linus and Lucy" and "Christmas Time Is Here."

**Reserved seat tickets are \$45.50 (Main Floor) or \$34 (Balcony) all fees included**, and may be purchased in person at the box office (9-5 M-F) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Rio Grande Theatre, or by calling (575) 523-6403 or online at [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com).

### **Saturday & Sunday, December 20 & 21**

#### **The Santaland Diaries**

**7:30 & 2 pm**

The Doña Ana Arts Council proudly continues its 2014/2015 Performance Series with the return of Fusion Theatre Company and their production of David Sedaris humorous stageplay *The Santaland Diaries*, starring Ross Kelly. First broadcast as a radio essay on NPR's Morning Edition in 1992, *The Santaland Diaries* was Sedaris' account of his experience playing Crumpet the Elf at Macy's in New York City, during the holidays. With clever observations of the human condition, the essay made him an overnight sensation and continues to draw audiences as a stageplay, with biting wit that skillfully and sardonically slices through cultural euphemism and political correctness.

**Reserved seat tickets are \$23.50 (Main Floor) or \$17.50 (Balcony) all fees included**, and may be purchased in person at the box office (9-5 M-F) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Rio Grande Theatre, or by calling (575) 523-6403 or online at [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com).

### **Tuesday, December 23**

#### **Every Other Tuesday: Sage Gentle-Wind**

**6:30pm**

The Rio Grande Theatre welcomes singer/songwriter Sage Gentle-Wind performing original jazz, blues, Americana, story-driven songs and "hot guitar". *Every Other Tuesday* is a Doña Ana Arts Council program that showcases local performers beginning promptly at 6:30 pm. The event is FREE and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com) or call (575) 523-6403.

***The Rio Grande Theatre and the Doña Ana Arts Council offices will be closed in observance of the holidays, Thursday and Friday, December 25 & 26.***

### **Wednesday, December 31**

#### **Little Anthony Live In Concert**

**7 pm**

The Doña Ana Arts Council presents an intimate evening with Jerome Anthony Gourdine, better known as Little Anthony, in a one-man show celebrating 56 years in show business and the release of his new book, "Little Anthony: My Journey, My Destiny," by Arlene Krieger. Accompanied by pianist and Imperial Johnny Britt, Anthony will ring in the new year with stories, anecdotes and hit songs from the golden age of rock 'n roll. Hear how it all began in Brooklyn, hearing his first song on a transistor radio when he was just 18, through his influential relationships with some of the biggest acts of the day, including

Marvin Gaye, Sammy Davis Jr., Moms Mabley, Miles Davis and Aretha Franklin and on to his renaissance as a vital, in-demand link to a bygone era. Anthony will sign copies of his book, which will be on sale after the show.

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### **On Exhibit in the El Paso Electric Gallery**

A graduate of NMSU with a degree in biology, Denise Barella will display her nature drawings in the El Paso Electric Gallery at the Rio Grande Theatre during the month of December, 2014. Regular exhibit hours are **9am–5pm**, Monday through Friday.

The Rio Grande Theatre is located at 211 N. Main, in Las Cruces, NM and is managed by the Doña Ana Arts Council. For clarification, photos or additional information, visit [www.RioGrandeTheatre.com](http://www.RioGrandeTheatre.com) or contact the Doña Ana Arts Council, 575-523-6403, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Rio Grande Theatre.