

# THEATER & CONCERTS

*Monmouth and Ocean Counties*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most theater and concert events have been cancelled or rescheduled. Instead, presented is a comprehensive guide to venues in the two counties for your consideration in 2021. We have included shows that were still scheduled as of press time. Please call or check the website before attending.

## October 2020 - January 2021

**ABERDEEN/MATAWAN REPERTORY THEATRE**  
**Spotlight Players, P.O. Box 108**  
**Matawan, NJ 07747**  
**Performances at: First Presbyterian Church**  
**Route 34 and Franklin Street, Matawan,**  
**(732) 583-7874**  
**www.spotlightplayers.org**

Spotlight Players is a community theater with the goals of entertaining, educating, and enriching members of the community. They aim to allow and encourage members to grow, develop, and take artistic risks.

**11-8 - 11-17:** A Popular Musical Set in a Very Strict School, various days and times

**ALBERT MUSIC HALL**  
**131 Wells Mill Road (Route 532) Waretown**  
**(609) 971-1593**  
**www.alberthall.org**

Since 1974, The Pinelands Cultural and Historical Preservation Society has dedicated itself to the preservation of Pinelands cultural heritage and to being the best place on the East Coast to hear live country, bluegrass, and old-time music. Concerts are played every Saturday night from 7:30 PM to 11:30 PM. Doors open at 6:30 PM. Admission: adults: \$5.; children 11 and under: \$1.

**ALGONQUIN ARTS THEATRE**  
**173 Main Street, Manasquan, (732) 528-9211**  
**www.algonquinarts.org**

Algonquin Arts was founded in 1992 to provide cultural enrichment for the residents and visitors of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Their programming includes dramatic and musical theatre, dance, musical concerts, film, and mixed media presentations. These presentations are offered to the public in the setting of the 540-seat Algonquin Arts Theatre, which reopened to the public in 1994 following an extensive renovation. Algonquin Arts also enhances the educational experiences of area students with diverse performances and artist-lead educational workshops. Call the box office or check the website for more information.

**10-16 - 10-25:** Jekyll & Hyde, The Musical (Broadway Series), various days and times

**11-28 - 12-13:** Elf The Musical (Broadway Series), various days and times

**1-8-21:** Uncle Vinnie's presents Vic DiBitetto, 7:00 PM

**1-9-21:** Uncle Vinnie's presents Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling, 7:00 PM

**1-2-21 - 1-31-21:** Neil Simon's Biloxi Blues, various days and times

**AXELROD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**  
**Vogel Auditorium, 100 Grant Avenue**  
**Deal Park, (732) 531-9100**  
**www.axelrodartscenter.com**

This state-of-the-art, 520-seat performing arts center features a year-round performance schedule of concerts ranging from rock, jazz, classical, klezmer, Broadway, and Yiddish, as well as theatrical performances, film festivals, festival of books, and children's events. A cultural gem at the Jersey Shore for people of all ages and backgrounds.

**BRICK CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY THEATRE (BCCT)**  
**Performances at: The Strand Center For**  
**The Arts, 400 Clifton Avenue, Lakewood**  
**(732) 920-9041**  
**www.bcct.org**

The BCCT is non-profit, community theater group dedicated to the children of Ocean and Monmouth counties. Established in 1992, the BCCT has spawned great reviews with much interest and a dedicated following from the local community. BCCT was voted "Best Community Theatre in Ocean County" Reader's Choice Award by The Asbury Park Press Readers' Choice Poll for 2008-2011, 2015-2017, and "One of the Best" for 2012-2014. BCCT was also nationally recognized at the 2015 iTheatrics Junior Theater Festival and has received several nominations for The Perry Awards, given for outstanding for achievements in New Jersey theater.



Algonquin Arts Theatre in Manasquan.

**CENTER PLAYHOUSE**  
**Center Players, 35 South Street, Freehold**  
**(732) 462-9093**  
**www.centerplayers.org**

Email: info@centerplayers.org

Center Playhouse is home to Center Players. It is an intimate, 49-seat, dessert theater, located in downtown Freehold Center. Programming includes Signature Series shows (fully staged productions that run for five weekends and include gourmet desserts and coffee), Applause Series events ("black-box" presentations with shorter runs that include original works, theater-for-children, musical events, and guest-theater presentations), and open house Play readings (monthly staged readings of new and under-appreciated works under consideration for future seasons).

**CONVENTION HALL**  
**AND PARAMOUNT THEATRE**  
**Ocean Avenue (between 5th and Sunset**  
**Avenues), Asbury Park, (732) 897-6500**  
**www.apboardwalk.com**

One of the most distinctive and majestic landmarks along the New Jersey Shore, Asbury Park's Convention Hall and Paramount Theatre is a

multi-purpose venue of two separate buildings joined by a Grand Arcade. Convention Hall, located on the boardwalk and extending out over the beach, has a capacity of up to 3,600, depending upon the event. It features an impressive stage area and a spacious arena floor. The historic Paramount Theatre, which opened in 1930, is a showcase for music and performing arts and offers a wide variety of entertainment. Call or check the website for current schedule.

**THE COUNT BASIE CENTER FOR THE ARTS**  
**99 Monmouth Street, Red Bank**  
**(732) 842-9000**  
**www.thebasie.org**

Founded in 1926, this 1,400-seat theater is known for first class entertainment in an intimate setting. The Center's mission is to inspire, educate, and entertain through distinct and engaging cultural and artistic offerings that reflect the diversity of the region. Family shows, musical plays, comedians, and famous political commentators have all appeared here. The Basie's vision for the future is to evolve into a world-class center for arts education, culture, and the performing arts. This evolution includes an industrious expansion, potentially doubling the number of its performance, educational, and cultural offerings, while reaching a wider sector of the community through new partnerships and programs.

**10-22:** Robin Trower, 8:00 PM

**10-30:** Bobby Bandiera: Runnin' Down a Dream, 8:00 PM

**11-5:** Sergio Mendes, 7:30 PM

**11-6:** Johnny Mathis, 7:30 PM

**11-8:** Earth's Dinosaur Zoo Live, 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM

**11-19:** Art Garfunkel, 8:00 PM

**12-17:** Midtown Men-Holiday Hits, 8:00 PM

**1-16-21:** The Elvis Birthday Bash, 7:30 PM

**1-28-21:** Paula Poundstone, 8:00 PM

**1-29-21:** Puff The Magic Dragon, 8:00 PM

**DUNCAN SMITH THEATRE**  
**Holmdel Theatre Company**  
**36 Crawfords Corner Road, Holmdel**  
**(732) 946-0427**  
**www.holmdeltheatrecompany.org**

This historic, 125-year-old barn has been transformed into a modern, fully air-conditioned facility with 99 comfortably cushioned seats that allow for flexibility in stage and seating arrangements to suit the specific requirements of a production. Artists are given the opportunity to explore more experimental modes of performance, and the intimate space allows the audience to connect with the performers offering a front row seat to exciting and imaginative theater.

**EARTH ROOM CONCERTS**  
**Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
**of Monmouth County**  
**1475 West Front Street, Lincroft**  
**(732) 747-0707**  
**www.earthroomconcerts.org**  
**www.uucmc.org**

Series of folk/acoustic/singer-songwriter concerts sponsored by and held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Monmouth County. Excellent national performers in the beautiful, intimate Earth Room setting (capacity approximately 200).

**10-24:** Matt Nakoa with Sophie Buskin, 7:30 PM