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**KIM RUSSO, MARK KNOPFLER, UB40  
ALONG WITH BROADWAY AND REGIONAL THEATER'S BEST  
HELP KICK OFF NEW ARTS SEASON THIS OCTOBER  
AT THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

**FORT LAUDERDALE** – The Broward Center for the Performing Arts raises the curtain on another spectacular arts season with the Broadway blockbuster *Once*, music legends UB40 and Mark Knopfler, the “Happy Medium” Kim Russo and season openers by Slow Burn Theatre Company, Arts Ballet Theatre and Symphony of the Americas, among others.

October opens with Broward 100 presenting *Duende: “WE” - The Passion & Rhythm of the People* on **Saturday, October 3** in the Au-Rene Theater at **8 p.m.** Broadway director and Cirque Dreams Founder Neil Goldberg created “WE,” a Broadway-style show illuminating Broward County’s culture, talent and diversity with awe-inspiring performances, spectacular theatrics and stunning visuals. Renowned celebrity, Broadway and recording artists Linda Eder, Jon Secada and more will be joined on stage by a diversified and talented cast of over 100 talented South Florida musicians, dancers, poets, choirs, athletes and creative variety acts celebrating the community “WE” call home. Tickets are \$25–\$85 with LAN & TAM Airlines Club Level tickets available for \$115. VIP Dinner & Ticket packages are available for preshow dinner in the Mary N. Porter Ballroom, located on the Broward Center campus.

*Once*, the winner of eight 2012 Tony Awards including Best Musical and winner of the 2013 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album, comes to the Au-Rene Theater on **Tuesday, October 6 through Sunday, October 18**. *Once* features an impressive ensemble of actor/musicians who play their own instruments onstage while telling the enchanting tale of a Dublin street musician who's about to give up on his dream when a beautiful young woman takes a sudden interest in his haunting love songs. As the chemistry between them grows, his music soars to powerful new heights but their unlikely connection turns out to be deeper and more complex than an everyday romance. The production is an unforgettable story about going for your dreams, not living in fear and the power of music to connect everyone. The Broadway in Fort Lauderdale 2015-16 subscription season is made possible with the generous support of Bank of America and is presented by Florida Theatrical Association in association with The Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$35 to \$80 with LAN & TAM Airlines Club Level tickets available for \$125. Performances in week one are Tuesday–Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday at 1 and 6:30 p.m. Performances in week two are Tuesday at 8 p.m.; Wednesday at 2 and 8 p.m.; Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Ronin Taiko Japanese Drums presents *Icharibe Chodé: We Are Friends for Life* to benefit the Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center on **Saturday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Amaturio Theater. Through powerful sounds and energetic theatrical movement, Ronin Taiko has developed a unique performance style that reflects the group’s passionate dedication to the traditions of Japanese taiko drumming and performance. The show is presented as part of the Broward Center’s Arts Access

Program, which assists community-based organizations in presenting arts and cultural performances at the Broward Center. Tickets are \$35–\$75.

The JM Family Enterprises Smart Stage Series at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts presents ***The Main Street Kids' Club: A MathStart Musical*** in the Amaturio Theater on **Friday, October 9 at 10 and 11:30 a.m.** Inspired by the award-winning book series written by Stuart J. Murphy and adapted by *School House Rock Live!* creator Scott Ferguson, this high energy performance features six stories creatively woven together with each focusing on a different mathematical concept and is recommended for grades 1-3. Presented by the Broward Center for the Performing Arts by professional theater companies, the series promotes reading skills and science- and math-related knowledge making challenging concepts accessible to younger learners. Tickets are \$7.20 with \$3 lap seats for infants 12 months and under.

Based on the popular book series by Eric Hill, the 2015-16 Family Fun Series opens with the musical romp ***Spot*** in the Amaturio Theater on **Sunday, October 11 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.** This colorful, interactive program set on a farm features charming characters, plush puppets and upbeat songs designed to captivate children ages three to seven. Every Family Fun show includes free pre-show face painting and arts activities from Young At Art Museum, along with complimentary post-show snacks. Tickets for each production are priced at \$16 for individuals (\$18 the day of the show); \$14 for groups of ten or more; and \$3 lap seats for infants 12 months or younger.

**The Symphony of the Americas** presents an evening **Honoring Italian & Hispanic Heritage Month on Tuesday, October 13 at 8:15 p.m.** in the Amaturio Theater. The film music of legendary Nino Rota (movies of Federico Fellini, Franco Zeffirelli and *The Godfather*) will be featured with guest conductor Nino Lepore, artistic director of the National Symphony in Bari, Italy. Cuban powerhouse pianist Jorge Luis Prats joins Maestro Brooks-Bruzzese for the balance of the concert, including "Suite Española" by Cuban composer Ernesto Lecuona. Tickets are \$50–\$75.

**Arts Ballet Theatre** opens its season with **Ballets With Latin Flavor on Saturday, October 17 at 7 p.m and Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m.** in the Amaturio Theater. Artistic Director Vladimir Issaev brings an exciting contemporary program featuring a new work for the company, "Tarde en la Siesta." The production is choreographed by Alberto Méndez, with music by Ernesto Lecuona and staged by Alberto Méndez. This new commission will be accompanied by live music including "Fuga con Pajarillo," along with excerpts from "Don Quixote" and "Laurencia." Tickets are \$30.

Slow Burn Theatre opens its new season with ***Big Fish*** beginning on **Thursday, October 22 through Sunday, November 8** in the Amaturio Theater. With music and lyrics by Tony nominee Andrew Lippa, *Big Fish* is based on the celebrated novel by Daniel Wallace and the acclaimed film directed by Tim Burton. In the musical, a traveling salesman, who lives life to its fullest, thrills those around him with his incredible, larger-than-life stories. His son, who is ready to become a father himself, is determined to find the truth behind his father's epic tales. Overflowing with heart and humor, *Big Fish* swims deftly between two worlds: the lush, vibrant world of the father's fantasies and the subtler world of his son's reality. *Variety* raved, "A show for everyone who loves musicals. Don't dare miss this!" Performances are Thursday–Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$45.

In their first American Tour in eight years, Grammy-nominated reggae pioneers **UB40 featuring Ali Campbell, Astro and Mickey Virtue** come to town on **Saturday, October 24 at 8 p.m.** in the Au-Rene Theater. Campbell, the legendary voice of UB40, reunites with original bandmates, the exceedingly talented percussionist/trumpeter/vocalist Astro and outstanding keyboardist Virtue, for a night of pop-infused reggae classics. The trio along with a seven-piece band will play all the hits including "Red, Red

Wine,” “(I Can’t Help) Falling In Love,” “Kingston Town,” “One In Ten” and “Food For Thought,” as well as new material from the band’s latest album release *Silhouette*. Tickets are \$30–\$60 with LAN & TAM Airlines Club Level tickets available for \$110.

Rootz of Music, Inc. presents ***American Roots of Jamaican Music: The Legacy*** on **Sunday, October 25 at 7 p.m.** in the Abdo New River Room. Chronicling the development of popular songs in Jamaica and the Americas starting from the mid-1940s to present times, the musical extravaganza celebrates the way the elements merged and became what is now known as reggae and hip hop. *American Roots of Jamaican Music: The Legacy* features singers, dancers and special guest artists performing the music of the various stars of each era. The concert is presented as part of the Broward Center’s Arts Access Program, which assists community-based organizations in presenting arts and cultural performances at the Broward Center. Tickets are \$25.

“The Happy Medium,” **Kim Russo**, will be in the Amaturo Theater on **Tuesday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m.** She has been able to see the world of spirit since the young age of nine and has appeared on A&E’s hit TV shows *Paranormal State* and *Psychic Kids*; the Biography Channel’s *Celebrity Ghost Stories*; and as the host of the weekly running series *The Haunting Of...* on the LMN channel. For this special, unique event, some audience members will be able to be read by Russo at random and listen to other readings. Tickets are \$35–\$50 with a VIP Meet & Greet Ticket for \$125 which includes an autographed photo but not a personal reading. You must be 18 years or older to receive a reading and to make a purchase. It is also understood by the purchaser that participating in a gallery reading with Russo provides no guarantees for a personal reading. Receiving a reading is not a substitute for professional, legal, financial, medical, or psychiatric advice or care. The advice of a trained medical doctor should be sought regarding any health concerns. Any decision made, as a result of a reading, is done by the audience member’s own free will. All readings are subject to the client’s interpretation.

Enthralling audiences with his wry lyrics, distinctive voice, indisputable guitar prowess and fingerpicking style, multiple Grammy Award-winner and former Dire Straits frontman **Mark Knopfler** will perform in the Au-Rene Theater on **Saturday, October 31 at 8 p.m.** A master of his craft as a singer, songwriter and musician, Knopfler composed the unforgettable hits: “Money for Nothing,” “Sultans of Swing,” “Romeo and Juliet,” “Walk of Life” and “Sailing to Philadelphia.” He has collaborated with many other talented artists including Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton, Randy Newman, Van Morrison and Emmylou Harris. The concert is presented by AEG Live and the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Tickets are \$59.50–\$125 with LAN & TAM Airlines Club Level tickets available for \$139.50.

Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at [BrowardCenter.org](http://BrowardCenter.org) or [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com); by phone at 954-462-0222; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center’s AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. We CANNOT PROVIDE REFUNDS OR CUSTOMER SERVICE for tickets purchased from unauthorized sites, brokers or secondary ticket sellers.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

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#### About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is one of America's premier performing arts venues. Presenting more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, the Center showcases a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events, and offers one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, serving more than 150,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit [BrowardCenter.org](http://BrowardCenter.org).

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.