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## Free Colorado Performing Arts Festival

Explore a wide variety of musical and stage works at this exciting, creative event.

### Festival Schedule

**DATES / TIMES:**  
Saturday, Sept. 20  
(10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Sunday, Sept. 21  
(11 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

- [Schedule of performances](#)
- [Map of theatre complex](#)



SEPTEMBER 15, 2003 -- The Colorado Performing Arts Festival provides an opportunity to discover the world of performing arts in a fun, friendly and stimulating atmosphere. The festival takes place in the Denver Performing Arts Complex on Saturday, September 20 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sunday, September 21 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The festival is the largest free performing arts event in the state, and it is designed to offer a wide sampling of the performing arts. It features over 100 ensembles and performers offering all types of music, dance and theatre. Performances and activities will take place both days at the Bonfils Complex, the Garner Galleria Theatre, Boettcher Concert Hall, the Drama Room, and in other theatres and outdoor stages at the complex.

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### Admission

FREE

*Some free events require complimentary admission tickets. See the schedule for details.*

Some highlights include live performances of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* by Denver Center Attractions, and this year's Arts Resource Center that features a 25-year retrospective on the Denver Center Theatre Company.

Also included as part of the festival is an exciting special event called *Dance After Dark* that will take place Saturday evening at the Historic Paramount Theatre. The show features five hours of awe-inspiring dance performances by the Colorado Ballet, the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, Kim Robards Dance, Speaking of Dance, and the Fiesta Colorado Latino Dance Company.

Other performances during the weekend include those by Hannah Kahn Dance, poetry by Sirious, Flamenco Fantasy Dance Theatre, Tango Colorado, Ballet Arts Theatre, the Colorado Wind Ensemble, the Denver Jazz Orchestra, Japanese koto by Waves of Peace, African drums by Joda & Friends, music by Grupo Folklórico Sabor Latino, Chris Daniels & Kings, the Nelson Rangell Jazz Quartet and many more. A [complete schedule of performances](#) and events can be found online.

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### Location

Denver Performing Arts Complex  
950 13th Street  
Denver, CO 80204  
Phone: 303-640-6944

The festival is produced by the Mayor's Office of Art, Culture and Film and Denver Theaters and Arenas, with additional support from community and



media partners. Many of the festival performers are recipients of funding from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year.

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### More Information

Visit the [Performing Arts Festival Web Site](#) or call 303-640-6952.

“We are truly fortunate to have an active arts community rich in talent, diversity, and passion for their craft,” stated Mayor Hickenlooper. “The Colorado Performing Arts Festival is a showcase of that community, giving everyone the opportunity to experience the wide variety of music, dance, and theatre locally available. The Festival is a wonderful way to introduce the entire family to the performing arts, especially with the many interactive activities and performances focusing on kids,” the mayor added.

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### Related Links

- [Mayor's Office of Art, Culture and Film](#)
- [Denver Theaters and Arenas](#)
- [News Article: SCFD's 15th Anniversary Celebration](#)

Special entertainment performances at the festival for children include the Bug Theatre for Kids, Central City Opera for Kids, the Aurora Fox Children’s Theatre, Sue Schnitzer Wee Bee Music, the Creede Repertory Theatre, and others. In the Open Air Galleria West, kids can engage in their own fantasies by dressing up in theatre costumes at the children’s Costume Canopy, or paint faces in the Theatrical Make-up for Kids section.

The Colorado Performing Arts Festival recently won *Westword's* 2003 Best of Denver award for the "[Best Annual Festival-City](#)." For more information about the festival, please call 303-640-6944.

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Written by Content Developer [Betsy Kimak](#), Office of Television and Internet Services.

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