

STAR HAPPENINGS

Utah's Symphony's 'Great American Road Trip' Tour Coming to Bluff!



Three years after the Mighty Five® Tour brought the Utah Symphony to the state's five national parks, the symphony is embarking on another tour, this time with performances in rural communities in or near state parks and national monuments throughout Utah.

In August 2017, Utah Symphony | Utah Opera will embark upon a "Great American Road Trip" to perform free outdoor classical music concerts in rural populations of our

Moab Dark Skies

Mission: "Promote the appreciation and conservation of Moab's valuable and rare dark skies."

The Moab Dark Skies working group was formed by Joette Langianese, Executive Director for the Friends of Arches and Canyonlands Parks, Nate Ament, former National Park Service Colorado Plateau Dark Sky Coordinator, and Crystal White, Dead Horse Point State Park Assistant Manager and Night Sky Ranger, in an effort to engage the community's support for the Arches National Park International Dark Sky designation to be submitted at the end of the year. We presented dark sky information at a joint City and County meeting a year ago and received an enthusiastic response from both entities. It was decided to invite city and county representatives to participate in monthly meetings to encourage a focused effort to maintain and preserve Moab's unique dark skies. The group now consists of a variety of community leaders. Together they developed a mission and goals as guiding principles. The first plan of action was to conduct a lighting assessment of all city and county lights. Zacharia Levine, Grand County Community Development Director took the lead on recruiting University of Utah students to provide the assessment as part of their Master's degree program. The group also weighed in on the City's General Plan as it pertains to lighting.

The group believes it is important to involve youth groups and their families by sponsoring night sky events at Dead Horse Point State Park and at the Bar M trail head. The youth were able to participate in astronomy games and view the stars and constellations through high powered telescopes. On a monthly basis, Crystal White will be available at the MIC to meet and greet visitors to discuss the wonders of Moab's dark skies. On September 9th, the MARC will be hosting a Night Sky Art Contest as part of the Art Walk. There will be a dark sky viewing station set up nearby. The will be another Star Party held in conjunction with Moab's 2nd annual Science Festival on September 28th – October 1st. More events and informational meetings will be held on an ongoing basis.

Follow us on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/moabdarksdies/>

And go out tonight, turn out the lights and look up to see the billions and billions of stars that can always be found in Moab's Dark Skies.

state, forging connections with communities through great live music and celebrating Utah's natural resources and rich cultural heritage.

This exciting collaboration with the Utah Office of Tourism and the Natural History Museum of Utah will take music outside of the four walls of the concert hall into the breathtaking landscapes of our state. The tour will highlight the natural elements through song, classical repertoire and storytelling and exciting outreach opportunities and events.

Three free outdoor concerts featuring the full Utah Symphony, opera singers and music by Native American composer/musician Brent Michael Davids. Two free chamber music concerts against the stunning red rock of southern Utah. One magical week.

On Thursday, August 31st, Bluff, UT will host a performance of the 'Great American Road Trip' Tour with conductor Thierry Fischer leading the orchestra. Pairing

Star Parties:

Post-concert "star parties" will introduce the importance of limiting light pollution and introduce them to the magnificent night skies of rural Utah. These educational star-gazing events are presented by local astronomy groups in partnership with the University of Utah's Consortium for Dark Sky Studies and the Colorado Plateau Dark Sky Cooperative. At each party, the National Parks Service and Utah State Parks will help people explore the night sky through lectures provided by parks rangers and local astronomers, as well as viewing opportunities on high-powered telescopes.

Monday, August 28 | 9 PM | Unity Park
 Tuesday, August 29 | 9 PM | Springdale Community Center
 Wednesday, August 30 | 9 PM | Point Supreme
 Thursday, August 31 | 9 PM | Bluff Community Center
 Friday, September 1 | 9 PM | Goblin Valley Observation Point Parking Lot
 Saturday, September 1 | 9 PM | Steinaker State Park

live, classical music with the natural landscapes of southeast Utah, this free outdoor concert will feature the full Utah Symphony, as well as opera singers from the Utah Opera, and music by Native American composer/musician Brent Michael Davids.

Two works by Davids will be featured in the concert including his original piece, 'Fluting Around', which Davids will play on a traditional Native American wooden flute. Utah Opera's resident artist soprano, Abigail Rethwisch, will sing Davids' 'Spirit Woman Song', and will join her husband, baritone Andrew Paulson in operatic and musical theater selections.

All performances in this tour, including the Bluff performance, are free of charge, but tickets are required and a limited number of advance tickets will be offered. Tickets are available through the Utah Symphony by calling 801-533-6683 or online at www.utahsymphony.org/tours/gart/. Based on availability, walk-up tickets may be available the night of the performance, but are not guaranteed. The Bluff performance will be held at 8:00pm at Camp Stickie-ta-tudy located just off Hwy 163, 2.3 miles west of the Bluff Post Office. For more information, please call San Juan County Visitor Services at: 800-574-4386

Look up at the stars tonight!

Moab Dark Skies



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FRI. SEPT. 1ST
SUBMIT NIGHT SKY INSPIRED ART TO MARC BY 4PM

SAT. SEPT. 9TH
5PM: DARK SKIES ARTWALK
7PM: WINNERS ANNOUNCED

*Prizes will be awarded by a panel of judges to the artists who best represent the beauty and splendor of the night sky in each category.
 1st Place - \$400, 2nd Place - \$300, 3rd Place - \$200, Honorable Mention - \$100



MARC
 MOAB ARTS & RECREATION CENTER

MOAB SECOND SATURDAYS ARTWALK