



Lindsey Stirling (Photo credit: Paul Hebert)

## LINDSEY STIRLING

Moment House concert; Shea's gig for RMHC

Lindsey Stirling is the Simone Biles of giving.

The performer, who has more music video views than McDonald's has customers, is a gold-medal do-gooder. Her list of charitable endeavors is higher than a double-twisting, double-backflip dismount.

At present, the violinist, dancer, singer, actress and author is promoting The Upside Fund, an initiative to aid fellow creative types adversely impacted by the pandemic. On her website, Stirling wrote, "I realize that had this happened years ago when I was a beginning artist, it could have been the end of my career. Realizing that there are many who are at risk of losing all they have, I want to reach out to you, my fans, and help where I can. Timing is everything and right now I'm in a place where I can give back. ... The way we will beat this is if we all turn to our own communities and lift where we stand. I love you all."

This weekend, the "America's Got Talent" and "Dancing with the Stars" collaborator is teaming with Moment House to present "The Artemis Tour: Worldwide Digital Experience." Realizing many of her fans couldn't attend a live performance – be it for health or travel reasons – Stirling wanted to share the stage with her Stirlingites in the comfort of their own living rooms.

Stirling will return to Buffalo for a Dec. 11 concert at Shea's Performing Arts Center. The holiday performance will raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House of Buffalo.

•Visit [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com) for a Q&A, and to learn more about Lindsey Stirling's return to Western New York.

## THE STARS OF NBC'S 'CHICAGO'

'Chicago' airs 8-10 p.m. Wednesdays on NBC

Fans were cheated episodes, but certainly not intensity, last season on NBC's "Chicago P.D." and "Chicago Med."

The pandemic delayed and posed ongoing challenges to filming a traditional 20-episode season, shorting both shows four stories. That didn't deter the writers from telling compelling tales – and leaving fans wanting (so) much more following jaw-dropping finales.

"Chicago Med" wrapped with Dr. Will Halstead (Nick Gehlfuss) fired following an admission clinical trial medicines were taken and inappropriately used to treat the mother of Dr. Natalie Manning (Torrey DeVitto). Will didn't think twice about taking the blame for his former flame – but at the end of the episode, she confessed to hospital boss Sharon Goodwin (S. Epatha Merkerson).

Over on the other side of town, "Chicago P.D." officer Kim Burgess (Marina Squerciati) was clinging to life after taking two gunshots in her abdomen. The new mom and her squad were out looking for the men who killed the son of Superintendent Samantha Miller (Nicole Ari Parker) when Burgess was abducted.

Finding the shooter, Sgt. Hank Voight (Jason Beghe) was poised to pull a pound of flesh when he was stopped by Det. Hailey Upton (Tracy Spiridakos). She convinced him to take the perpetrator into custody when the villain got a hold of Voight's gun. Upton, who had moments earlier pleaded for the bad guy's life, was forced to end said life in protecting Voight.

•Visit [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com) to read our interviews with the "Chicago" stars.



Jason Beghe as Sgt. Hank Voight, Jesse Lee Soffer as Det. Jay Halstead and Tracy Spiridakos as Det. Hailey Upton on NBC's "Chicago P.D." (NBC photo by Lori Allen)



Pictured are Romany Malco, Adam Swain and Christina Moses on "A Million Little Things." (ABC photo by Jack Rowand)

## ROMANY MALCO & CHRISTINA MOSES

'A Million Little Things', 10 p.m. Wednesdays on ABC

Is it a stretch to say cable news networks are more interested in ratings than journalism? Really, is it hard to identify which ones play to the blue states and which one appeals to the red state? So much for objectivity.

It's no surprise, then, that people have turned elsewhere to find the real story on topics uniting or dividing this country, as well as new approaches to water cooler talk (or whatever suffices for a water cooler in times of COVID).

ABC's "A Million Little Things" made a mark in its first two seasons as the place for a dynamic mix of drama and comedy – not to mention some of the most intense episode-to-episode cliffhangers. Of course, when a show is built on the premise of a group of friends coming together to grieve a suicide among its ranks, you know it's not afraid to tackle tough talk.

In the series' third season, it masterfully embraced masking, while also giving a platform to sexual abuse, disability, divorce, and the courage of coming out in high school. But where the show really set itself apart was in its handling of the unrest stemming from the death of George Floyd.

In particular, "AMLT" showed the hurt and harm that come with racism. Unlike those cable news networks, it painted a picture without cramming a particular side or viewpoint down its audiences' throats.

To do that – to craft fictional storylines that vividly demonstrate the harsh reality of the real world in 2020-21 – while still being entertaining, well, that's the mark of master craftspeople.

•Visit [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com) to read our full interview with Romany Malco and Christina Moses.

## IT'S HAPPENING

### Live music at Solidays

Solidays has announced its calendar of live music events for October. Scheduled to perform Saturday, Oct. 2, is the Thurman Brothers. Midlife Crisis will take the stage on Oct. 9. It's "Acoustic Wednesday" the 13th with Billy Hickey Live. Pop Rocks will do just that on Oct. 23, followed by Prestige Worldwide on Oct. 30.

Solidays is located at 6935 Ward Road.

### 'Jazz on the Steps' continues in Falls

The Niagara Arts and Cultural Center continues its outdoor "Autumn Harvest" concert series with a front-lawn performance by the award-winning Custode & Parisi Jazz Trio from 3-5 p.m. Saturdays, Sept. 25, and Oct. 2. Live music takes place on the venue's Pine Avenue steps.

Low Custode and Steve Parisi will be joined a new special guest performer each week. This event will also feature professional sound by Mickey Dumas of Precision Sound.

Food trucks will be on hand to offer tasty options as well as several community organizations offering information or services.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket, relax and enjoy!

This event is free and open to the public thanks to patrons and sponsors including Key-Bank, The Grigg Lewis Foundation, Niagara's Choice Federal Credit Union, Assemblyman Angelo Morinello and Cataract

### Tax and Accounting.

However, to raise funds for future programs, The NACC will accept donations and will be selling 50/50 tickets.

The concert will be moved inside to the NACC Grand Theater should weather be unfavorable.

Attendees are asked to bring masks and practice social distancing during this event.

Free Parking is available on Pine Avenue, Portage Road, Walnut Avenue and 13th Street.

The NACC is located at 1201 Pine Ave, Niagara Falls.

### Batavia Downs needs wiener dogs for annual dachshund races

Races & family events will take place Oct. 17

Batavia Downs Gaming & Hotel announced Batavia Downs will

host its famous wiener dog races on Sunday, Oct. 17. While there is no live harness racing that day, a different type of racing will go on at Batavia's historic track. At 3 p.m., up to 80 dachshunds will race for the crown of fastest wiener dog in Western New York.


Each "heat" winner will receive free play, and the top 3 finishers in the championship race will receive free play, food vouchers and a free hotel stay. Family-related

activities will also take place from 1-3 p.m., including on-site entertainers, pumpkin painting, carriage rides and pony rides. Kettle corn will be available, as will \$1 hot dogs and sodas. Admission and parking are free.

Those with a purebred dachshund who would like to enter their dog can call or email Arna

Tygart at 585-343-3750, ext. 6437, or email [atygart@bataviagaming.com](mailto:atygart@bataviagaming.com).

"The wiener dog races have a great history here at Batavia Downs," President and CEO Henry Wojtaszek said. "We look forward to welcoming families and the community back for another fun and affordable event."



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