

A portrait of Paul Reiser, a middle-aged man with short grey hair, wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue patterned shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a solid blue color.

# PAUL REISER

**An evening of standup comedy**

Voted by Comedy Central as one of the Top 100 Comedians of All Time

McANINCH ARTS CENTER

Oct 17, 2025

## Welcome to the McAninch Arts Center!



Dear Friends,

It is always a joy to welcome you to the McAninch Arts Center. Each season, our stage becomes a home for extraordinary artistry from around the world, and we are thrilled to share these experiences with you. From unforgettable music and breathtaking dance to thought-provoking theatre and laugh-out-loud comedy, our touring performances bring the very best of the arts right here to DuPage County.

Your presence here is more than just attending a show—it is a celebration of the arts and a vital part of keeping them alive in our community. Every ticket purchased, every standing ovation, and every shared moment in this theater helps us fulfill our mission to make the arts accessible, engaging, and transformative.

As you enjoy today's performance, I encourage you to explore everything the MAC has to offer—from our gallery exhibitions and educational programs to our local and international collaborations. Whether this is your first visit or your fiftieth, we are honored to share this experience with you and look forward to making you feel right at home.

If you enjoy coming to the MAC, the greatest help you can offer us is to share your experiences with friends and neighbors. Word-of-mouth is one of the most powerful ways to keep the arts thriving in our community. If there is anything we can do to make your experience more enjoyable, please do not hesitate to let us know.

We look forward to entertaining you this evening, and we thank you sincerely for your support of the MAC.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Diana'.

Diana Martinez  
Executive Director  
McAninch Arts Center

McAninch Arts Center  
at College of DuPage  
presents

# Paul Reiser

with singer/songwriter **Vance Gilbert**

McAninch Arts Center acknowledges support from  
the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



Fri, Oct 17, 2025, 7:30p  
Belushi Performance Hall



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Comedian, actor, television writer, author, and musician **Paul Reiser** is one of Hollywood's most prolific creatives.

On the heels of *The Problem with People*, an independent comedy shot entirely in Ireland which he wrote, produced, and starred in alongside Colm Meaney and Jane Levy, Reiser has released projects across a multitude of media formats.

There was *Aliens: What If...?* in which Carter Burke, Reiser's iconic character from *Aliens* re-emerged in a concept comic book from Marvel comics.

Reiser co-wrote *The New York Times* Best-Seller *What a Fool Believes*, the candid, freewheeling memoir of his friend and Rock & Roll Hall of Famer Michael McDonald from HarperCollins/DeyStreet.

In films, Reiser reprised his role from *BH Cop 1* and *2* in Netflix's *Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* and appeared in Magnolia Pictures' comedy *The Gutter*, directed by Isaiah and Yassir Lester, premiering at SXSW.

He has been busy in TV as well. Appraising his role in Hulu's critically-acclaimed comedy series *Reboot* from *Modern Family* creator Steve Levitan, *Awards Daily* wrote "Reiser truly excels, giving one of his very best performances...Here, he reminds us just how very funny and experienced he is in the world of television comedy."

He also took his first step into bloody, superhero glory in Season 3 of Amazon Prime's Emmy-nominated *The Boys* playing "The Legend," and returns in the upcoming final season of the show.

And of course the return to his comedy roots with last year's release of "Life, Death and Rice Pudding," his first standup special in over 30 years.

Reiser is widely celebrated for his roles in two hit shows for Netflix: *Stranger Things*—the company's biggest series of all time— and Chuck Lorre's *The Kominsky Method*, for which he received an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Supporting Actor.

*Mad About You*, the long-running Emmy, Peabody, and Golden Globe-winning comedy that Reiser created and starred in with Helen Hunt returned as a limited series on Spectrum Originals.

Throughout his prolific career, Reiser has worked with both independent and mainstream filmmakers. Having earned acclaim for his supporting role in the Academy Award-winning film *Whiplash*, Reiser was also seen in frequent collaborator Jeff Baena's *The Little Hours* and *Horse Girl*, which premiered at Sundance 2020, the fourth film the pair has worked on together. The veteran actor has garnered praise for notable performances in films such as *Diner*, *Bye Bye Love*, *One Night At McCool's*, and *The Thing About My Folks*, which Reiser wrote for his co-star Peter Falk.

Reiser is a fixture behind the camera as well. He co-created and produced the seven-episode series *There's Johnny!*, a fictional story set behind-the-scenes of Johnny Carson's Tonight Show circa 1972, co-produced with director David Gordon Green. The show premiered to critical praise, with *Decider* saying *There's Johnny!* is "a television experience unlike any I've seen on TV in recent years" and "unfolds like a dream, a memory fondly recalled."

As an author, Reiser's first book, *Couplehood*, sold over two million copies and reached the number one spot on *The New York Times* bestsellers list. His subsequent books, *Babyhood* and *Familyhood*, were best sellers as well.

Voted by Comedy Central as one of the Top 100 Comedians of All Time, Reiser regularly performs sold-out standups at venues nationwide.

A SUNY Binghamton graduate of its prestigious music program, Reiser co-wrote the theme song for *Mad About You*, "The Final Frontier," with Grammy-winning producer Don Was, and released an album of original songs with British singer-songwriter Julia Fordham called "Unusual Suspects". Over the course of his career, Reiser has received multiple Emmys, Golden Globes, American Comedy Awards, and Screen Actors Guild nominations.

Reiser and his family reside in Los Angeles.



“If Joni Mitchell and Richie Havens had a love child, with Rodney Dangerfield as the midwife, the results might be something close to the great **Vance Gilbert**”, says *Richmond Magazine*.

Gilbert's new album, "The Mother Of Trouble", features Grammy winner Lori McKenna on background vocals, Juno award recipient and Bonnie Raitt Grammy hit song co-writer Joey Landreth on guitars, and Americana-Roots master mandolinist Joe K. Walsh. With four bullies, four deaths (three of them murders), three moms, two accidents, two Black people, two dogs, one dog ball, one gay kid, and one missed flight thanks to gas station sushi, this album benefits from the gifts of time and experience honing songwriting skills that put this most vital of acoustic storytellers at the top of the game.

Oh, and Management wants to make sure to tell you that this is the 14th release for this acoustic stalwart.

30 years into his career, the songwriter's influence can be felt all over the contemporary Folk and Americana realm as he has helped pave the way for many of the BIPOC artists who have followed.

Gilbert was born and raised in the Philadelphia area. Starting out hoping to be an R&B and jazz singer once at college, there he discovered his affinity for the storytelling sensibilities of the acoustic singer-songwriter thing. Word spread like wildfire about Gilbert's stage-owning singing and playing, and Shawn Colvin invited him to be special guest on her 1992 Fat City tour where he took much of America by storm and by surprise. “With the voice of an angel, the wit of a devil, and the guitar playing of a god..” wrote the *Fort Worth Star Telegram*.

Noted not only for being the ever consummate performer, Gilbert has recorded 13 albums, including five for Philo/Rounder Records. Along with being opener of choice for artists as varied as Arlo Guthrie, Anita Baker, The Milk Carton Kids, and Southside Johnny, the mid 2000's found Gilbert opening 150+ shows for comedian George Carlin.

Gilbert has also been a prominent presence at some of the world's most prestigious gatherings and halls, among them the Newport, Winnipeg,

## PROFILES

Rocky Mountain, Calgary, Ottawa, and Falcon Ridge Folk festivals, the Kate Wolf Music Festival, and Australia's Woodford Folk and Mullum Music Festivals, Mountain Stage, Boston's Symphony Hall, Nashville's Ryman Auditorium, The Barns at Wolftrap, and a private party for his veterinarian where there was terrific lo-mein.

Most recently he's been the opener of choice for *Mad About You/Stranger Things* star Paul Reiser's stand-up shows (50+) for the last seven years, along with his own busy acoustic music touring and coaching schedule. That current schedule includes *Vance's Monday Night Acoustic Pajama Party* on YouTube. Having started the first week of the pandemic in 2020, Gilbert has played a live, themed, weekly 90 minute mixed bag of originals and cover tunes to a rotating following of about 200 folks. 10 to 20% of his weekly tip jar is donated to a local 501(c)3 of his choice. At the time of this writing, having done 155 of these shows has become newsworthy in itself.

Gilbert has been a songwriting, performance, and voice coach all around the world, kinda, from Australia to Winnipeg, at all the festivals above plus The Kerrville and Rocky Mountain Song Schools. He is currently on staff as Instructor/Professor at the University Of Colorado Denver and has a decade worth of summer programs at the Berklee College Of Music under his belt. What? Private coaching? Yes, six to 10 students weekly too.

Considered by many to be an integral part of the national folk scene, his previous record "Good Good Man" features an eclectic roster of musical types including rocker Mike Posner, world renown Celtic harpist Aine Minough, bluesman Chris Smither, and Al Green's organist Stacey Wade.

Gilbert runs three to four miles ever so slowly 5 days a week to stay sharp for the road and does historical aviation research and model building just for great nerdy fun.

He even has a tune on a Grammy Nominated children's album. How rounded is that?



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The Friends of the MAC is a family of those who have decided that a world-class performing and visual arts center should reside in their community. Ticket sales provide only 42 percent of our \$4 million operating budget. It is through the support of College of DuPage and through the generous gifts from patrons and local businesses that we can keep art in our museum and on our stages.

## Your Gift to the MAC

- Brings nationally and internationally renowned artists to our community
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- Provides students and community members the opportunity to interact with artists
- Enhances quality of life in our community

Without the generous support of the Friends of the MAC, we would not be the beacon for the arts in DuPage County. We gratefully thank our friends, and we invite others to join them.

## Arts Center and MAC-tastic Treat Seats Endowments

Donor may choose to direct gifts to the Arts Center Endowment or the MAC-tastic Treat Seats – Tickets for Kids & Families Endowment. Donations made to these MAC Endowments, our “savings accounts,” go into principal secured, invested accounts that will provide ongoing support for arts programs and arts accessibility for years to come.

The McAninch Arts Center and the College of DuPage Foundation can also provide you with information on planned giving options, gifts of stock, IRA Charitable Rollovers and other giving opportunities.

**For complete details, visit the MAC Box Office or contact the College of DuPage Foundation at (630) 942-3088 or [foundation@codfound.org](mailto:foundation@codfound.org).**

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 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lundberg  
 Lu's Fine Asian Cuisine LLC  
 Lynfred Winery  
 Ms. Elizabeth Mabilangan  
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 Madsen  
 Madeleine Marbach  
 Ms. Sharon M. Marcisz  
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 Katherine Markham  
 Janet Marks  
 Dechantal Markus  
 Marriott Theatre  
 John Mategrano  
 Ms. Diane M. Maurer  
 Mr. and Mrs. Karl J. Maurer  
 Ms. Denise McAleer  
 Amanda McCarthy  
 Ms. Kathleen McCullough  
 Caroline McGowan  
 Marty and Marian McGowan  
 Kari McKinley  
 Michael Meehan  
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 Patricia Mellinger  
 Jackie Micek  
 Mr. and Mrs. Craig Miller  
 Gail Minkus and Daniel  
 Minkus  
 Mion Artisan Soap  
 Miroballi Shoes  
 Michael Monteith  
 Janis Mooney  
 Hugo Moran  
 Ms. Pamela A. Morong  
 Ms. Kimberly G. Morris  
 The Morton Arboretum  
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 Cathy Mousseau  
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 Ms. Erika Nelander

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 Mr. Andrew Palomo  
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 Ms. Sarah Richardson  
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 Tina Rudins  
 Shari Ryan  
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 Ms. Sherie Shapiro  
 Ms. Joanne Sikorski  
 Ms. Lisa Sikorski  
 Ms. Lisa Simonson  
 Walt and Sandy Slazyk  
 Barbara Smilanic  
 Barbara Smith  
 Mallory Spann  
 Sue Stealey  
 Mr. and Mrs. D. G.  
 Stephenson, Jr.  
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 Gerald Stewart  
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 Grace and Len Swanson  
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Ms. Sonia Trevino  
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Roger Williams  
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Reserve 22 at Village Links  
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## Volunteer at the MAC

We are always looking for enthusiastic, dedicated, reliable and customer service-oriented people to become volunteers serving as ushers, greeters and docents at our events. Volunteers provide invaluable service by assisting guests to their seats, answering questions and most importantly creating a welcoming environment for our guests. Volunteers are unpaid, but that doesn't mean you won't be rewarded. The cultural perks you'll enjoy as a volunteer include vouchers for every shift worked offering discounts to use at the MAC Box Office and invitation to our annual volunteer appreciation dinner including prizes and gifts.

Visit [AtTheMAC.org/Volunteer](http://AtTheMAC.org/Volunteer) to fill out an online application and for more information on requirements and qualifications. Applications accepted year-round.

For more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator  
Rob Nardini: [nardinir@cod.edu](mailto:nardinir@cod.edu) | (630) 942-3705.

## HOUSE NOTES

- Cameras and recording devices are not allowed in the theater and are prohibited by our contracts with the artists.
- Smoking is not permitted in the theater or on campus.
- For your comfort and security, all backpacks and large bags must be checked.
- Please turn off all cell phones and any other alarms while in the theater.
- Emergency phone number at COD Police Department for after-hour calls is (630) 942-2000.
- Latecomers seated at discretion of the House Manager.
- Groups of 10 or more may contact (630) 942-3026 or [grouptix@cod.edu](mailto:grouptix@cod.edu) to arrange for group discounts.
- If you notice a spill in the theater, please notify an usher.
- McAninch Arts Center volunteers are people who assist the house staff in areas of ticket taking, ushering and general management during performances. To get involved, call (630) 942-3705.
- For **Americans With Disabilities Act** accommodations, call (630) 942-2141 (voice) or (630) 858-9692 (TDD).
- **Infrared Assistive Listening Devices:** For audience members who desire audio amplification of performances, headsets with individual volume controls are now available. You may check out the headsets at the Box Office with a driver's license. *Underwritten by a generous gift from The Knowles Foundation.*

## MAC STAFF LISTING

### MAC Administrative Staff

Director of the McAninch Arts Center.....	Diana Martinez
Business Manager .....	Molly Junokas
Assistant Business Manager .....	Linda Sharbaugh
Curator, Cleve Carney Museum of Art .....	Justin Witte
Assistant Curator.....	Julia Walker
Gallery Assistant .....	Madelene Przybysz
Marketing and Patrons Services Coordinator .....	Janey Sarther
Graphic Designer.....	Wendy Melgar
Director of Development for Cultural Arts.....	Jon Nadel
Education and Community Engagement Coordinator.....	Mandy Rakow
Project Manager .....	Kari Schoettle
Office Manager/Events Coordinator .....	Morgan Bainbridge
Student Clerical Assistant.....	Kate Cadag

### MAC Box Office and Front of House Staff

Box Office Manager .....	Julie Elges
Assistant Box Office Supervisors .....	Daniel Arzola, Elise Wash
Box Office Assistants .....	Patrick Garon, Joanne Hunt
Patron Services Manager .....	Tom Murray
House Manager/Volunteer Coordinator .....	Rob Nardini

### MAC Resident Professional Ensembles

Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Managing Artistic Director .....	Gus Menary
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Associate Artistic Director.....	Daniel Millhouse
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Business Manager.....	Bryan Burke
New Philharmonic, Music Director and Conductor .....	Kirk Muspratt
New Philharmonic, Associate Conductor and Librarian .....	Benjamin Nadel
New Philharmonic General Manager .....	Paula Cebula
New Philharmonic Personnel Manager.....	Karen Dickelman
New Philharmonic Assistant Librarian.....	Ryan Michel

### MAC Design and Technical Staff

Technical Production/Lighting/Sound Coordinator.....	Richard Arnold, Jr.
Technical Theater Supervisor .....	Sabrina Zeidler
Costume and Make-up Design Coordinator .....	Kimberly G. Morris
Assistant Costume Coordinator and Stitcher .....	Gretchen Woodley
Production Manager .....	Joe Hopper
Sound and Lighting Specialist.....	Ben Johnson
Lighting Production Specialist .....	Elias Morales
Audio Production Specialist .....	Fisher Parsons
Events Production Specialist/Tech. Director – BTE .....	Caitlyn Woods
Stage Hands .....	Bobby Bryan, Zak Zubka



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