

Lewis Black and (from top to bottom) Jeremy Hotz, Wanda Sykes and Trevor Noah



FEB 18 TO 27

JFL NorthWest

What's so funny? At the end of February, the answer is the inaugural JFL NorthWest festival (page 22), which brings belly laughs to multiple venues across Metro Vancouver. Prepare to have your funny bone tickled by the likes of Lewis Black, the angriest man in comedy; Jeremy Hotz, on his International Man of Misery tour; Miranda Sings, alter ego of YouTube star Colleen Ballinger Evans; Trevor Noah, host of *The Daily Show*; feisty Wanda Sykes; stunt magician Wes Barker; smart and sassy Janeane Garofalo; and lots more stand-up folks.



(L-R) Baby and Johnny sizzle in *Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story on Stage*. Pirate hijinks are guaranteed in *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Still walkers entertain at Winterruption

TO JAN 10

Peter and the Starcatcher

How did a lonely orphan ultimately become Peter Pan, the boy with the never-ending childhood? This prequel, filled with over-the-top adventures and humour ranging from silly to clever, follows the beloved character's path from orphan to hero. At the Goldcorp Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre. See page 25.

JAN 12 TO 17

Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage

"Nobody puts Baby in a corner." Diehard fans of the 1987 film starring Jennifer Grey and Patrick Swayze already know all the lines, as well as the lyrics to "Hungry Eyes," "Do You Love Me?" and "(I've Had) The Time Of My Life," but there's still time to study up before this musical adaptation dirty dances its way into the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. See page 25.

FEB 4

Science of Cocktails

Time for some molecular mixology: Science World (page 27) mixes things up with an adults-only evening event, temporarily transforming the geodesic dome into the city's largest cocktail laboratory. Sample libations from Vancouver's best bartenders at 25 beverage stations and learn about the physics, chemistry and biology of crafting the perfect drink, all while supporting a good cause: funds raised go to the science centre's Class Field Trip Program. Cheers!

FEB 12 TO 14

The Wellness Show

If your New Year's resolution is to become healthy, wealthy and wise in 2016, this event can get you part-way to your goal. Watch fitness demonstrations, hear talks on living well, pick up tips on healthy cooking, sample organic food and more. At the Vancouver Convention Centre. See page 22.

FEB 18 TO MAR 13

Chutzpah! Festival

No matter what your religion, if you're a fan of stellar dance, theatre, film, music and stand-up comedy, you'll find something to love at this international Jewish performing arts festival. Highlights include Spellbound Contemporary Ballet, comedians Jon Steinberg and Jessica Kirson, music from Klezmer and Baladino, and the world premiere of the Canadian play *A Very Narrow Bridge*. But remember, no kvetching allowed. See page 22.

FEB 19 TO 21

Winterruption

We interrupt your regularly scheduled boring winter to bring you this festival, filled with a lively line-up of the city's best theatre, music, art and family activities, not to mention food. For the 11th year in a row, the fest takes over Granville Island for three days of fun and frivolity—and feasting. See page 22.

PHOTOS: DIRTY DANCING BY MATTHEW MURPHY; PETER AND THE STARCATCHER BY EMILY COOPER