



The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College

735 Anderson Hill Road • Purchase, New York 10577

Administration 914.251.6222 • Ticket Office 914.251.6200 • Fax 914.251.6171 [www.artscenter.org](http://www.artscenter.org)

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For Immediate Release

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Media Contact: Mara Rupners

914-251-6263 / [mara.rupners@purchase.edu](mailto:mara.rupners@purchase.edu)

**The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College presents**

**Five-time Grammy Award winner Angélique Kidjo**

***This live concert will be the final performance in The Purchase PAC's 2022-2023 season***

**Purchase, New York – March 3, 2022:** The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College will close out their 2022-2023 season on Saturday, April 15 with a live performance by five-time Grammy Award winner **Angélique Kidjo**.

Angélique Kidjo is considered to be one of the greatest artists in international music today. As a performer, her striking voice, stage presence and fluency in multiple cultures and languages have won respect from her peers and expanded her following across national borders. Kidjo has cross-pollinated the West African traditions of her childhood in Benin with elements of American R&B, funk and jazz, as well as influences from Europe and Latin America.

Kidjo is a creative force with sixteen albums to her name. Her most recent, *Mother Nature*, took home the Grammy for Best Global Music Album in April 2022, reinforcing her status as a true icon of African music. Met with career-best raves, *Mother Nature* tackles major issues like the climate crisis and the struggle for freedom, but in Kidjo's hands, these themes are translated through music that is radiantly joyful.

*Time Magazine* has called her "Africa's premier diva," and named her one of the most influential people in the world for 2021; The BBC, Forbes Magazine, and The Guardian have all highlighted her importance to the people of the African continent. She is the recipient of the 2015 Crystal Award given by the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, the 2016 Amnesty International Ambassador of Conscience Award, and the 2018 German Sustainability Award, and the 2023 Vilcek Prize in Music.

Kidjo also advocates on behalf of children as a UNICEF and OXFAM Ambassador. She created her own charitable foundation, Batonga, dedicated to support the education of young girls in Africa.

"We embarked on the 2022-2023 season not fully knowing what to expect," comments Interim General Manager Ian Driver. "All we knew is that we had a powerful line-up of world class artists and a dedicated staff ready to make things happen, and we hoped that audiences were equally ready to come back and experience live performing arts again. I am thrilled to report that they certainly were. And I couldn't think of a more appropriate way to celebrate and close out the season than by filling the Concert Hall with our friends and fans, and with Angélique Kidjo's exuberant and joyous sound."

Angélique Kidjo's live performance at The Purchase PAC will begin at 8pm on Saturday, April 15; doors will open at 7:30pm. Regular price tickets range from \$40 - \$77. Discounts are available for seniors, veterans, students, children, and Purchase College faculty, staff, and alumni. Tickets are available online at <https://www.artscenter.org/events/angelique-kidjo/>

More information about Angélique Kidjo is available on her website: <http://www.kidjo.com/>

Press photos:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jzPvINXGbNKtFiAAPPst\\_9TfA3Ab-fi7?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jzPvINXGbNKtFiAAPPst_9TfA3Ab-fi7?usp=share_link)

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### **ABOUT THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, PURCHASE COLLEGE**

TICKETS: <https://www.artscenter.org/events/>

ADDRESS: 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY 10577

WEBSITE: [www.ArtsCenter.org](http://www.ArtsCenter.org)

**THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, PURCHASE COLLEGE (The PAC)**, a four-theatre complex located on the campus of Purchase College, SUNY, is the major professional, non-profit arts presenter in the Southeastern New York–Southwestern Connecticut region.

The PAC has long been a hub for highly skilled artists, civic and academic leaders, community activists, and volunteers who recognize the power of investing in the performing arts to spark creativity and connection.

Through Education & Engagement programs, The PAC creates opportunities for over 20,000 local K -12 students and multi-generational learners to participate in the artistic process.

The PAC has a collaborative relationship with the campus population, hosting performances for the Conservatories of Music, Dance, and Theatre Arts. Purchase College students can take advantage of master classes, on-site training, internships, job opportunities, and ticket discounts. An active facility rental business focuses on providing space and support to high-quality musical recordings and technical rehearsals.

*The PAC acknowledges with great appreciation our major funders and sponsors: PepsiCo, Inc., The Vivian and Seymour Milstein Endowed Fund, Lucille Werlinich, Chair of Purchase College Foundation, ArtsWestchester, The Jandon Foundation, and the Bee Steinhaus Memorial Arts-in-Education Fund.*

**Purchase College**, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY, is located 28 miles northeast of New York City at the Connecticut border. The College, part of the State University of New York (SUNY), is an institution of public higher education encompassing the liberal arts and sciences, professional training in the performing and visual arts, continuing education, the Neuberger Museum of Art, and The Performing Arts Center.

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