

MOAB HAPPENINGS®

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Moab Music Festival's 10th Annual Winterlude Festival

Community and education take center stage at Moab Music Festival's 10th Annual Winterlude Festival, February 21-27, 2026. Winterlude brings a week of performances, community music workshops, and outreach events, headlined by 8 Grammy-winning artists. Returning from last year is the undeniably energetic and genre-transcending composer/pianist Pascal Le Boeuf, heading up his "Ritual Being" trio project with 4-time Grammy-winning cellist Nick Photinos and internationally touring drummer Christian Euman. Joining "Ritual Being" is the pioneering and decorated Akropolis Reed Quintet (oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, and bass clarinet) who make their Moab Music Festival debut. Particularly special about this combination of artists is the relationship between Le Boeuf, Euman, and Akropolis, who together as the "Strands Septet", won a 2025 Grammy for their album *Are We Dreaming the Same Dream?* Alongside Photinos, Winterlude's artists warm up downtown Moab with their spirited artistry and passion for music education.

Pascal Le Boeuf's "Ritual Being", Akropolis, and Festival Artistic Director and violinist Tessa Lark will spend the week engaging with preschoolers through adults in Moab's community, visiting Grand County schools, Musical Story Hour with Tessa Lark (Feb 21, Grand County Public Library), and the Grand Center's senior luncheon. Local adult and youth musicians alike are invited to sign up for free Winterlude workshops, including a Moab Community Dance Band Workshop led by Lark followed by an evening contra dance (Feb 21, MARC), a Jazz Improv Workshops for Beginners (Feb 22, Star Hall), after-school Advanced Youth String Workshops (Feb 23-27, Star Hall), and a "no experience required" Drum Circle (Feb 25, Star Hall). The week comes to



an exciting close with two public performances: a free mini-concert and conversation at the Festival's signature Sips & Sounds with Akropolis (Feb 26, Rooted Vine) and the culminating Winterlude Finale Concert featuring Pascal Le Boeuf's "Ritual Being" and Akropolis Reed Quintet with guest appearances by Tessa Lark and youth string workshop participants (Feb 27, Star Hall, \$25 adults/\$10 youth). Winterlude is not to be missed!

Concert tickets are on sale now. Free workshop registration by February 13. Visit moabmusicfest.org for details.

And be sure to mention you read about Winterlude in *Moab Happenings*.

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