

From: Musical Instrument Museum [tunedin@themim.org]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2016 10:00 AM
Subject: Executive chef shares how signature menus are created at Café Allegro

TUNED IN

Museum News

MIM

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MUSEUM



On the Menu at Café Allegro

Executive chef shares how signature menus are created






As anyone who has dined at MIM during a [signature event](#) knows, eating at [Café Allegro](#) is a worldly experience. During events such as Experience Middle Eastern Music, menus are crafted to reflect the culinary heritage of the region.

“The aroma from all of the spices used that day was exciting,” says MIM’s executive chef Chris Lenza. “I remember walking into the kitchen and being extremely proud of what we created.”

Signature event menus are planned a year in advance, based on what will be in season and fresh. And since everything is made from scratch, the café team makes adjustments to ensure people with dietary restrictions can find something they will enjoy too.

One of the most popular traditions in the café is giving fun and fanciful names to the special dishes. From the “Rings of Fire” onion rings served at the recent

FOLLOW MIM PHX

-  [Facebook](#)
-  [Twitter](#)
-  [YouTube](#)
-  [Pinterest](#)
-  [Trip Advisor](#)

MIM ELSEWHERE

- [MIM.org](#)
- [MIM Music Theater](#)
- [MIM Online Store](#)
- [Café Allegro](#)

CONCERT ALERT!

TOMORROW
July 19
[Buffy Sainte-Marie:
An Evening with a
Legend \(Solo Show\)](#)

July 20
[Reckless Kelly](#)

July 21
[Mindi Abair](#)
SOLD OUT

July 22
[Django Festival All-
Stars](#)

Johnny Cash and June Carter celebration to the chicken fried “Don’t Return to Sender” steak offered during the Musical Icon: Elvis™ event last year, the names of dishes often draw a laugh. “They are a great way for me to interact with guests, so I try to come up with names that will get them smiling,” Lenza says.

Sometimes, Lenza gets inspired while researching a country or artist and the name of a dish comes to mind. Other times, he already knows what recipe he wants to create and has to come up with a name to match the theme. Either way, his aim is the same. “My goal is to create an experience that guests will never forget and keep craving down the road,” he says.



[Learn More about Café Allegro](#)

July 23
[The Pedrito Martínez Group](#)

July 24
[Billy Strings Trio](#)

July 26
[Madeleine Peyroux](#)

July 27
[Earl Klugh](#)

[View all concerts >](#)

[Join our concert e-mail list!](#)



Veronica Kiszka
MIM Visitor



SPOT 127 Students Visit MIM

Teens create videos showcasing how music enhances culture

Last month, twelve high school students, interns, and instructors from [SPOT 127](#)'s intensive multimedia summer boot camp visited MIM. Students from this [KJZZ](#) educational outreach initiative had one week to film and edit videos. Their goal was to collect footage, conduct interviews, and take photographs in MIM's galleries, documenting the experience from their own point of view.

Before their visit to MIM, the students learned about multimedia production, toured KJZZ studios, and were introduced to the technology

Fall 2016 Concert Series

Look for a special issue of Tuned In next Monday

Mark your calendars, music lovers. It's almost time for our next concert series launch! More than thirty-five new concerts will be announced as part of the Fall 2016 Concert Series in a special issue of *Tuned In* on Monday, July 25.

Crystal Bowersox, Bombino, Ottmar Liebert, Annie Moses Band (*shown above*), and Marc Cohn—these are just a few of the fantastic artists and groups that will be performing in the months ahead. We will be sharing more of the exciting array of musicians from around the world and across multiple genres next week.

The wide range of performers covered this

and equipment they would be using in postproduction and filming. Once they returned to camp after their visit, they took the multimedia materials they had collected and produced short videos.

“I was impressed with how professional, organized, and cooperative the students were,” says Niki Cuccinotto, MIM’s museum guide and curriculum coordinator. “It is clear they constructed their own meaning from the instruments, cultures, and musical styles represented at MIM.”

We look forward to showing off their work at our annual [Preview Day](#) for prekindergarten through 12th-grade teachers on July 30 by screening one or two of the videos for attendees. The SPOT 127 videos show MIM through the eyes of high school students—a powerful message for educators.



[Watch SPOT 127 Videos](#)

season supports MIM’s mission to celebrate the world’s diverse musical cultures by offering guests a one-of-kind experience in the intimate [MIM Music Theater](#).

Tickets will go on sale to [Circle of Friends](#) starting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 25, by phone or at the preview event at MIM at that time. Members who give at the \$500 level and above are eligible for 10% off concert tickets. Tickets will go on sale to the public at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, July 28, when they can be purchased online, by phone, or in person at MIM.

Sponsored in part by



[Get Weekly Concert Updates](#)

Noteworthy

MIM Executive Director Named to Prestigious List

Az Business magazine recently announced its [Most Influential Women in Arizona Business](#) for 2016. The list of forty women includes MIM’s executive director April Salomon. Those selected were chosen from a pool of more than 1,000 candidates by the editorial team at *Az Business* magazine and a panel of industry experts.

[Read All MIM News](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[View All Events](#)



[The Pedrito Martínez Group](#)

Saturday, July 23
7:30 p.m.

\$30.50–\$38.50

Cuban percussionist and bandleader Pedrito Martínez is a master of Afro-Cuban folkloric music. He has played with Bruce Springsteen, Sting, Wynton Marsalis, and many others.

“The Pedrito Martínez Group is the real thing. They had the club *jumping!* It made me feel like a teenager!”—Quincy Jones



[Purchase Tickets](#)



[Preview Day for Educators](#)

Saturday, July 30
10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Free for educators

Preview Day attendees can learn about MIM’s field trips, enjoy a live musical performance, and pick up supportive educator resources. By participating in optional teacher-training modules related to STEM + Music, English Language Arts, and cross-curricular connections in MIM’s galleries, educators will also receive a letter for professional development hours to submit to their district.

Sponsored by



[MIMkids Musical Adventures](#)

Saturday, August 13
1:30–2:30 p.m.

\$12 each or 3 for \$30

Pick up your MIMkids Passport and embark on a musical journey with MIMkids Musical Adventures, an educational program designed for kids aged 6–10. This session will focus on African music and participants will make *sanzas*, or thumb pianos.



[Purchase Tickets](#)