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ACANSA Board of Directors and New Executive Director Announce Eighth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South

(Central AR) ACANSA's Board of Directors and the nonprofit organization's new executive director, Leslie Golden, recently announced the lineup for the Eighth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South to be held September 7-23. For tickets and the complete schedule, visit www.ACANSA.org.

More than sixty artists will convene in central Arkansas to perform in multiple Little Rock and North Little Rock venues, including Arkansas Repertory Theatre, CALS Ron Robinson Theater and The Rail Yard in Little Rock. North Little Rock venues include ACT II, Argenta Plaza, The Joint Theater, and UA-PTC CHARTS. Performances include world-class music, dance and theater.

Each year ACANSA showcases signature art by an Arkansas artist. Robin Tucker's 29 foot high and 16 foot wide mural of legendary saxophonist Pharoah Sanders in the Argenta Arts District has been selected for the 2023 Festival. Additionally, ACANSA Gallery will host visual arts exhibitions featuring creations by Louise Terzia, Jeremy Couch, Kay Reed, and - opening September 15 in conjunction with Argenta Arts District's 3rd Friday Art Walk - Jim Gunnell. ACANSA Gallery and the Festival's office are located at 413A Main Street in North Little Rock.

Executive Director Leslie Golden oversees ACANSA and the ACANSA Arts Festival of the South, succeeding Dillon Hupp, who departed the role earlier this year for employment in Syracuse, New York. Golden has served in similar capacities in other local nonprofit organizations, including as Executive Director for Wildwood Park for the Arts and Associate Producer for Arkansas Repertory Theatre. A native Arkansan, Golden is among ACANSA's Founding Board members and formerly provided public relations and marketing support to ACANSA as an employee of Thoma Thoma in Little Rock.

Eighth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South Schedule & Programming

Tickets for the Eighth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South are now on sale. Single ticket prices for paid events begin at \$15, and Festival Gold Passes include all ticketed events at \$250 each. As always, some featured events are free, and students 18 years old and younger are admitted to Festival events free of charge. Seating may be limited even in the larger venues; advance ticket purchases are recommended. For the complete schedule of the Eighth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South, visit www.ACANSA.org or call ACANSA's office in Argenta at (501) 663-2287.



Greasy Greens

Thursday, September 7

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$15

The Rail Yard

1212 East 6th Street, Little Rock, AR 72202

The legendary Arkansas "Band of Opportunity" jump-starts the Festival with a good ol' Southern shindig. Greasy Greens takes the stage al fresco at The Rail Yard where party guests will find a dozen musicians, beverages, food trucks, and plenty of room for dancing.



Scythian

Friday, September 8

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$35

CALS' Ron Robinson Theater

100 River Market Ave, Little Rock, AR 72201

Highly energetic and technically brilliant, this Washington DC-based band is a favorite among the Celtic Festival and Bluegrass/Americana music circuits. Founded by first-generation sons of Ukrainian immigrants, Scythian's charismatic folk rock has elated fans across the United States, Europe, Canada and Australia.



Damn Tall Buildings

Saturday, September 9

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$35

CALS' Ron Robinson Theater

100 River Market Ave, Little Rock, AR 72201

With a sound that blends swing, ragtime, jazz and folksy rock influences with original songwriting, Damn Tall Buildings brings four quintessential roots instruments - banjo, fiddle, guitar and bass - to downtown Little Rock for a rousing good time.



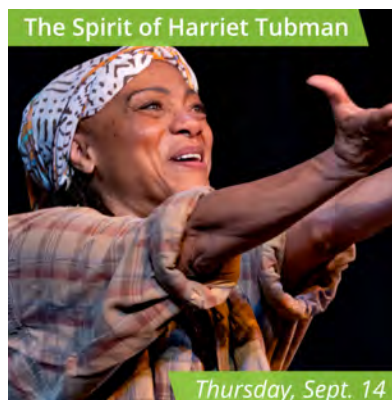
DOUBT: A Parable in Partnership with Argenta Community Theater (ACT)

Wednesday, September 13 - Saturday, September 23

Various showtimes and ticket prices

315 Main Street, North Little Rock 72114

ACANSA and Argenta Community Theater present John Patrick Shanley's DOUBT. This intriguing parable explores an unconscionable accusation leveled against a priest as a sister realizes that the only way to get justice is to create it herself. The play won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and Tony Award for Best Play and was later adapted as an Academy Award-nominated feature film starring Meryl Streep and Philip Seymour Hoffman.



The Spirit of Harriet Tubman

Thursday, September 14

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$25

Arkansas Repertory Theatre

601 Main St, Little Rock, AR 72114

The famous Underground Railroad conductor theatrically springs to life in Leslie McCurdy's spirited production. Shared through familiar stories and others rarely told, the faith and conviction that drove a young Harriet Tubman to follow her dreams connect the past with the present and inspire envisioning a new future.



Caesar

Friday, September 15

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$35

Arkansas Repertory Theatre

Caesar's velvety smooth baritone vocals and debonair delivery (a la Nat King Cole), a grand piano, and a quartet of musicians promise an unforgettable evening of iconic hits from the Golden Age of American music. The first and only male vocalist to sing and tour with Julio Iglesias, Caesar has shared the stage with Herbie Hancock, Al Jarreau, Lou Rawls, Peter White, Boney James, Paul Brown, and Stanley Clarke, among others.



Take3

Saturday, September 16

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$35

Arkansas Repertory Theatre

Born of the nation's top conservatories, Take3 lives at the intersection where pop, rock and classical fusion collide. With a flair for the wild and unexpected, this genre-defying trio on piano, cello and violin infuses the refinement of a rigorous classical music background with rock star charisma, bringing unmistakable style and effervescent joy to the stage.



Finger Food in Partnership with Argenta Acoustic Music Series

Thursday, September 21

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$30

The Joint

301 Main Street, North Little Rock, AR 72114

In partnership with Argenta Acoustic Music Series, ACANSA is delighted to present Steve Davison's Finger Food, a veritable feast for acoustic guitar lovers. The guitarists perform "in the round" and trade songs and stories about their compositions and their approach to the guitar, focusing their music on contemporary instrumental American Fingerstyle Guitar with folk, jazz, Celtic, classical and blues influences.



Pine Leaf Boys in Partnership with Argenta Vibe Music Series

Friday, September 22

8:00 pm

Tickets: Free

The Argenta Plaza

510 N Main St, North Little Rock, AR 72114

Pine Leaf Boys perform their inimitable brand of Louisiana music, blending the sounds of Cajun, Zydeco, Swamp-Pop, Country, and Soul. Led by Wilson Savoy, Grammy Award-winning accordionist, keyboard player, fiddler and singer, Pine Leaf Boys have garnered four Grammy nominations, as well as six invitations from the U.S. State Department to present their music in 23 countries throughout Europe and Asia.



Ballets with a Twist

Saturday, September 23

7:30 pm

Tickets: \$35

Pulaski Technical College CHARTS

3300 West Scenic Drive, North Little Rock, 72118

From coast to coast, Ballets with a Twist is turning heads and setting trends. The company's signature production, *Cocktail Hour: The Show*, reinvents classic entertainment through an original mix of choreography, music, and costume design. Combining timeless American spirit with 21st century flair, this electrifying floorshow-to-stage experience brings the *Bloody Mary*, *Manhattan*, *Hot Toddy*, and more to life in a series of sparkling vignettes.

ACANSA Arts Festival of the South is a multi-disciplinary arts festival dedicated to building a more dynamic and engaging community through the arts and enriching the cultural vitality of the region. A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, was founded by Charlotte Gadberry with the help of hundreds of dedicated volunteers throughout the central Arkansas community. The first ACANSA Festival was held in 2014. The Festival's name, ACANSA, is borrowed from the Quapaw word for "southern place." www.acansa.org

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