



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Leslie Golden, Director

lgolden@acansa.org / 501-940-7475 (mobile)

[Promotional Photos](#)

**ACANSA celebrates 10th Birthday during 2024 ACANSA Arts Festival of the South  
September 5 - September 21, 2024**

(Central AR) ACANSA Arts Festival of the South, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2014, celebrates its 10th birthday this year. Dozens of artists are convening September 5-21, 2024, in central Arkansas venues to celebrate the milestone with world-class music, dance and theater performances during ACANSA's ninth festival. (The organization was forced to skip a year during the pandemic.)

The Ninth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South will be held in multiple venues in Little Rock and North Little Rock, including Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, The Rail Yard, The Studio Theatre, and - also in Little Rock - CALS Ron Robinson Theater. North Little Rock venues include Argenta Plaza, The Joint, ACT II Sharon Heflin Performing Arts Center (Argenta Contemporary Theatre), and UA-PTC CHARTS Theater. Funded by ticket sales and generous donors, the Festival's collaborative partnerships on both sides of the Arkansas River augment these arts opportunities for the entire community.

Virmarie DePoyster is creating the Ninth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South signature art, which will be on display throughout the festival. A solo exhibition of art work created by Sergio Valdivia will open in North Little Rock at ACANSA Gallery, curated by Will Hogg, on Friday, September 20. ACANSA Gallery, which is also home to the ACANSA Arts Festival, is located at 413A Main Street in North Little Rock. ACANSA is just one among a dozen venues sharing the work of local visual artists during September's 3rd Friday Art Walk in Argenta's arts and entertainment district.

Ticketed performances begin at \$15. Festival Gold Passes with special perks include all ticketed events at \$250 each. As always, some featured events are free, and students 18 years old and younger are admitted to the Festival's ticketed events free of charge. Seating may be limited even in the larger venues; advance ticket purchases are recommended. For the complete schedule of the Ninth Annual ACANSA Arts Festival of the South, visit [www.ACANSA.org](http://www.ACANSA.org) or call (501) 663-2287 to reach ACANSA's box office.

## ACANSA Arts Festival of the South 2024 Schedule & Programming

### THE BIG DAM HORNS



#### **The Big Dam Horns**

**Thursday, September 5**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$15**

**The Rail Yard**

**1212 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Little Rock, AR 72202**

ACANSA is celebrating big with a birthday party featuring The Big Dam Horns al fresco at The Rail Yard. With hits from the 1960s through today, The Big Dam Horns deliver a horn infused, one-two punch of jazz, blues, soul, R&B and a knockout blow of rock & roll. Beverages and the area's finest food truck fare will be available for purchase.

### THE HEART COLLECTORS



#### **The Heart Collectors**

**Friday, September 6**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$25**

**The Studio Theatre**

**320 W 7th St, Little Rock, AR 72201**

Traveling from Australia to Arkansas, The Heart Collectors are known internationally for blending inspiration from 1960s and 1970s folk and roots music with tight vocal harmonies and enchanting melodies. Performing with cello, guitar, mandolin, banjo and bodhran, their music spans harmony-led ballads to Bowie-esque soundscapes.

### FAMILY ARTS DAY



#### **Family Arts Day in partnership with UA-PTC**

##### **Featuring Buckets N Boards**

**Saturday, September 7**

**10am - 2pm / Stage Performance at Noon**

**Tickets: FREE TO ALL AGES**

**Argenta Plaza**

**510 N Main St, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

In partnership with UA-PTC, ACANSA welcomes all ages to a fun-filled arts exploration featuring creative, hands-on activities for the young and young at heart. Buckets N Boards - a hilarious and high-energy show chock-full of amazing percussion, ridiculous songs, spectacular tap dancing, inventive instrumentation and an incredible variety of musical talents - takes the stage at 12 noon.



**Cello Stories: A Life Under Broadway in partnership with  
Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts (AMFA)**

**Saturday, September 7**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$35**

**Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts' Amerine/Calhoun Glass Box  
501 E 9th St, Little Rock, AR 72202**

Acclaimed cellist Mairi Dorman-Phaneuf has performed in 21 Broadway shows. In *Cello Stories: A Life Under Broadway* she graces the AMFA Glass Box with exquisite arrangements for cello and piano, coupled with captivating stories about her life as a musician.



**Bassist John Hébert in partnership with Jazz at the Joint**

**Monday, September 9**

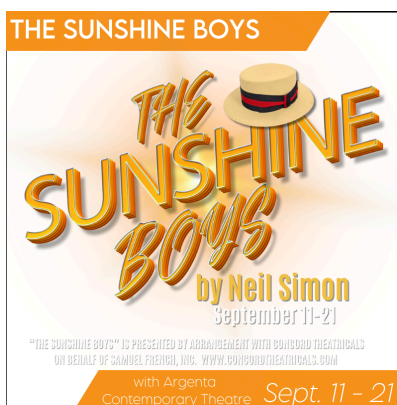
**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$30**

**The Joint**

**301 Main St, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

Bassist John Hébert, a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and leader of Byzantine Monkey, is known for his unique playing style and lush compositions. His Blue Note Records release, *Time Lines*, was awarded "Record of the Year" by Downbeat's Jazz Critics Poll. Performing around the globe with world famous artists, John now calls New York home, where he has performed at such venues as Village Vanguard, Blue Note, The Jazz Standard, Birdland, and The Iridium.



**Neil Simon's The Sunshine Boys**

**in partnership with Argenta Contemporary Theatre (ACT)**

**Wednesday, September 11 - Saturday, September 21**

**Various showtimes and ticket prices**

**Gold Passes attend Opening Night Reception & Show**

**ACT II, 315 Main Street, North Little Rock 72114**

Al and Willie as "Lewis and Clark" were top-billed vaudevillians for over forty years. Now they aren't even speaking. When CBS requests them for a "History of Comedy" retrospective, a grudging reunion brings the two back together, along with a flood of memories, miseries, and laughs. Directed by Vincent Insalaco.



**tripliciti in partnership with *Potluck & Poison Ivy***

**Thursday, September 12**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$30**

**The Joint**

**301 Main St, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

From the collective minds of virtuoso musicians Andy McKee, Calum Graham, and Trevor Gordon Hall, *tripliciti* is a bold, new musical experience showcasing three of the foremost acoustic guitar composers in the world today.



**The Other Mozart**

**Friday, September 13**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$35**

**CALS Ron Robinson Theater**

**Library Square, 100 River Market Ave, Little Rock, AR 72201**

Sylvia Milo's stunning and award-winning play, *THE OTHER MOZART*, tells the true, forgotten story of Nannerl, Amadeus Mozart's sister. Nannerl was a prodigy, keyboard virtuoso and composer who performed throughout Europe with her brother to equal acclaim, but her work faded away, lost to history.



**Gangstagrass in Partnership with *Argenta Arts District***

**Saturday, September 14**

**7:00 pm headliner during Argenta's Dogtown Throwdown**

**Tickets: FREE**

**Argenta Arts District**

**406 Main St, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

Gangstagrass is the Emmy-nominated, Billboard-charting band known for its dynamism and spontaneity - and the theme song for *Justified*, the FX television show. Led by Rench, these MCs and pickers are the pioneers of an authentic, paradigm-shifting bluegrass and hip-hop genre. Gangstagrass. It's not what you think.



**Tennessee Rising: The Dawn of Tennessee Williams**

**Thursday, September 19**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$30**

**The Joint**

**301 Main St, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

Written and performed by Jacob Storms, and originally directed for the stage by Alan Cumming. *Tennessee Rising* sheds light on the unexplored, formative years (1939-1945) of Tom Williams. He metamorphoses into his most iconic character - America's acclaimed playwright, Tennessee Williams. - while grappling with first love, professional triumph and torment, heartbreak, and ultimately "the catastrophe of success."



**3rd Friday Art Walk**

**Friday, September 20**

**5:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Tickets: FREE**

**Argenta Arts District**

**Main Street, North Little Rock, 72114**

Curated by Will Hogg, a new exhibit by Arkansas artist Sergio Valdivia opens in ACANSA Gallery at 413A Main Street. Grab an Argenta Arts District "Passport" and visit up to a dozen venues to see new works and public murals throughout Argenta's arts and entertainment district.



**Ryan & Ryan: Kickin' the Clouds Away**

**Friday, September 20**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$35**

**CALS Ron Robinson Theater**

**Library Square, 100 River Market Ave, Little Rock, AR 72201**

Ryan & Ryan, a dynamic father-son duo, are Kickin' the Clouds Away with classic and contemporary music played four hands on two grand pianos. Barron and his dad, Donald, perform jazz, ragtime, classical, and even gospel song arrangements. Barron Ryan's solo performance was a 2017 Festival favorite, and this concert, too, is sure to strike a chord with audiences.



### **Hispanic Heritage Festival**

**Saturday, September 21**

**Afternoon**

**Tickets: FREE**

**Argenta Plaza**

**510 N Main St, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

Presented by Seis Puentes, Hispanic Heritage Festival celebrates our local Hispanic community, artists, music, and culinary scene.

Join ACANSA as we explore authentic food vendors, arts and crafts, kids activities and live entertainment.



### **Dallas Black Dance Theatre's DBDT: Encore!**

**Saturday, September 21**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$35**

**UA-PTC CHARTS Theater**

**3300 West Scenic Drive, North Little Rock, 72118**

The #ACANSA2024 Festival comes to a close with a diverse mix of modern dance exuding the grace, strength and cultural flair of DBDT: Encore!, previously known as Dallas Black Dance Theatre II, as they perform contemporary and lyrical works including world premieres and revivals of the Theatre's repertoire.

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, ACANSA 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."

**For tickets and more information, visit [ACANSA.org](https://www.acansa.org).**