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North Carolina Museum of Art Announces 25th Anniversary Summer Outdoor Performing Arts and Film Season

Season includes partnerships with Carolina Ballet, African American Cultural Festival, and more in the Joseph M. Bryan, Jr., Theater in the Museum Park

Raleigh, NC—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Joseph M. Bryan, Jr., Theater in the Museum Park with a slate of exciting concerts, dance performances, films, and a special Juneteenth weekend of activities. The Museum will showcase Grammy Award–winning artists, local singers and songwriters, Academy Award–winning movies, and collaborations with Come Hear NC and Carolina Ballet. The season is presented by First Citizens Bank.

"For the past 25 years, the iconic Joseph M. Bryan, Jr., Theater in the Museum Park has been the site of many memorable concerts, performances, and films," said Valerie Hillings, museum director. "This year's anniversary lineup brings back old favorites, highlights North Carolina talent, and showcases partnerships with the African American Cultural Festival, Carolina Ballet, and more."

See full list of events below:

Concerts

The NCMA and Cat's Cradle present Old Crow Medicine Show Friday, May 20

Member tickets on sale Thursday, March 24 Nonmember tickets on sale Friday, March 25



<u>Old Crow Medicine Show</u>, an NCMA favorite, got their start busking on street corners in 1998, winning audiences along the way with their boundless energy and spirit. They eventually found themselves in Boone, North Carolina, where they caught the attention of folk icon Doc Watson while playing in front of a pharmacy. He invited the band to play at his festival, MerleFest, and the rest is history.

On their new album *Paint This Town*, Old Crow Medicine Show offer up a riveting glimpse into American mythology and the wildly colorful characters who populate it. The most

incisive body of work yet from the Nashville-based roots band, the album pays homage to everyone from Elvis Presley to Eudora Welty while shedding a bright light on the darker aspects of the country's legacy. Fueled by Old Crow's freewheeling collision of Americana, old-time music, folk, and rock and roll, *Paint This Town* relentlessly pulls off the rare and essential feat of turning razor-sharp commentary into the kind of songs that inspire rapturous singing along.

Herbie Hancock Sunday, May 29

Member tickets on sale Thursday, March 24 Nonmember tickets on sale Friday, March 25

There are few artists in the music industry who have had more influence on acoustic and electronic jazz and R and B than Herbie Hancock. As Miles Davis said, "Herbie was the step after Bud Powell and Thelonious Monk, and I haven't heard anybody yet who has come after him."

Now in the sixth decade of his professional life, Hancock remains where he has always been: at the forefront of world culture, technology, business, and music. In addition to being recognized as a legendary pianist and composer, he has been an integral part of every popular music movement since the 1960s. As a member of the Miles Davis Quintet that pioneered a groundbreaking sound in jazz, he also developed new approaches on his own recordings.

The Mavericks with Maggie Rose Wednesday, June 8

Member tickets on sale Thursday, March 24 Nonmember tickets on sale Friday, March 25

<u>The Mavericks</u>, the eclectic rock and country group known for crisscrossing musical boundaries with abandon, has gone through three distinct phases since it was founded in Miami in 1989—an initial period of heady success in the 1990s, a long hiatus starting in 2003, and a triumphant reunion in 2012.

Now The Mavericks usher in the fourth phase of their evolution with the #1 *Billboard* debut of their first-ever all Spanish album, *En Español*, released on the band's own Mono Mundo label. Although all 12 tracks are in Spanish, the collection represents a diversity of musical styles and cultural traditions, from tender boleros to brassy mariachi to reimagined Afro-Cuban classics. *En Español* adds a striking assortment of genres—salsa, ska, norteño, mariachi—to The Mavericks' sturdy rock/country base. The foundation is solidly Latin with streaks of irreverent rock and twangy guitars running through it, all branded with the unmistakable Mavericks style.



Stephanie Mills with Special Guest Will Downing, Presented in Association with the African American Cultural Festival of Raleigh & Wake County Friday, September 2

Member tickets on sale Thursday, March 31 Nonmember tickets on sale Friday, April 1

The NCMA is excited to welcome Grammy Award–winning singer, songwriter, actress, and Broadway star Stephanie Mills. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Mills started singing at the age of three and six years later starred in the Broadway musical *Maggie Flynn*. The New York native followed that up by winning the competitive Amateur Hour at the Apollo for six straight weeks and subsequently rose to stardom as Dorothy in the original Broadway run of the hit musical *The Wiz*. In 2015 Mills was cast as Aunt Em in the NBC live musical of *The Wiz* 40 years after her initial Broadway appearance in the production.

Her number one hit records include "I Have Learned to Respect the Power Of Love," "I Feel Good All Over," "You're Putting a Rush on Me," "Something in the Way You Make Me Feel," and "Home." Mills is the recipient of many prestigious awards, including Grammys, Tonys, NAACP Image Awards, and American Music Awards. She continues to do what she loves: travel around the country on tour and perform live in front of sold-out audiences, spreading love and empowering people to be their best.

Lake Street Dive Wednesday, September 14

Member tickets on sale Thursday, March 31 Nonmember tickets on sale Friday, April 1

Since forming in 2004, <u>Lake Street Dive</u> have matched sophisticated musicianship with a fearless refusal to limit their sound. As shown on their most recent album, 2021's critically acclaimed *Obviously*, the Boston-bred band possesses a keen talent for combining sociopolitical commentary with immediately catchy pop gems. With their current lineup, comprised of founding members Rachael Price (vocals), Bridget Kearney (bass), and Michael Calabrese (drums)—as well as keyboardist/vocalist Akie Bermiss and touring guitarist James Cornelison—Lake Street Dive continue to create joyously soulful rock and roll with equal parts ingenuity, intelligence, and irresistible abandon.

Lake Street Dive have partnered with PLUS1 so that \$1 per ticket goes to supporting the Climate Justice Alliance and their work uniting frontline communities and organizations into a formidable force in the climate movement.

The NCMA and Cat's Cradle present Watchhouse Saturday, October 1, 8 pm

Member tickets on sale Thursday, March 31 Nonmember tickets on sale Friday, April 1

Formerly known as Mandolin Orange, the beloved local duo founded by Andrew Marlin and Emily Frantz rose to ascendancy as a new flagbearer of the contemporary folk world, sweetly singing soft songs about the hardest parts of our lives, both as people and as a people. Ready for a change, Marlin and Frantz found themselves writing a new kind of tune and thus evolved into the duo we now know as Watchhouse. The name, like their new record, represents their reinvention as a band at the regenerative edges of subtly experimental folk rock. Challenging as they are charming, their recent additions to an extensive catalog welcome lessons about what any of us might become when the night begins to break.

Alongside drummer Joe Westerlund, guitarist Josh Oliver, and bassist Clint Mullican, Marlin and Frantz indulge novel structures and textures. They have discarded neither their tenderness nor thoughtfulness; instead, they've enriched those essential qualities by submitting to the risks of new sounds, structures, and inputs.

The NCMA and Come Hear NC present Music at the Museum Festival Saturday, October 8

Free ticket reservation date coming soon

The Music at the Museum Festival is a day to celebrate North Carolina music, people, and places. The NCMA welcomes back five artists from the Museum's free livestreamed and PBS-broadcasted Music at the Museum series, this time to the Joseph M. Bryan, Jr., Theater in the Museum Park stage. The series started during the pandemic to showcase diverse North Carolina bands that represent our state's rich musical landscape. Recorded in the Museum galleries and presented with Come Hear North Carolina, this virtual concert series kicked off September 1, 2020, and premiered on PBS NC in April 2021.

Juneteenth Weekend



<u>Juneteenth Joy: A Celebration of Freedom and Gospel Music</u> Friday, June 17

Tickets on sale now

Kick off the Juneteenth weekend with the live, in-person concert Juneteenth Joy: A Celebration of Freedom and Gospel Music. This special event features GRAMMY® - and Dove-nominated artist Kelontae Gavin, GRAMMY® and Stellar Award-winning vocalists

Kierra Sheard-Kelly and Le'Andria Johnson, and GRAMMY®, Stellar, and Dove Awardwinning gospel music legends Bishop Hezekiah Walker & LFC and Fred Hammond.

Kelontae Gavin

Whether you know the 21-year-old gospel music sensation Kelontae Gavin as the viral "Cafeteria Singer," a *Billboard*-charting artist, or a Stellar and Dove Award nominee, chances are you don't know his full story. Gavin's first album, *The Higher Experience*, was released in April 2018. It debuted at number two on *Billboard*'s Top Gospel Albums chart. "No Ordinary Worship" spent nearly a year on the Gospel Airplay chart. In 2019 Gavin was nominated for four Stellar Awards and nominated for a Dove Award (for New Artist of the Year). "Hold Me Close" is the first single from his forthcoming second live album, *The N.O.W. Experience* (RCA Inspiration) was released on March 5, 2021.

Kierra Sheard-Kelly

Kierra Sheard-Kelly is no stranger to breaking new ground. After all, the young dynamo grew up with two gospel barrier-breakers as role models: mother Karen Clark Sheard, a member of legendary group the Clark Sisters, and grandmother/Clark matriarch Dr. Mattie Moss Clark. Now the Grammy and Stellar Award–winning artist is back with her first project in five years. Released on her family's Karew Entertainment label and dropping April 17, the highly anticipated album has already produced the genre-blurring hits "Don't Judge Me," featuring Missy Elliott, and "It Keeps Happening."

Le'Andria Johnson

Grammy Award-winning recording artist Le'Andria Johnson has taken the gospel music scene by storm since being crowned the season three winner of BET's Sunday Best in 2010. In 2011 Johnson received her first Grammy Award for Best Gospel/Contemporary Christian Music performance for her debut single, "Jesus." In 2019 she released the prolific song "Deliver Me" with Grammy and Stellar Award-winning producer and recording artist Donald Lawrence. They earned a *Billboard* No. 1 hit with "This Is My Exodus (Deliver Me)." The song spent four weeks at No. 1 on *Billboard*'s Gospel Airplay chart in 2019 and remained on *Billboard*'s Gospel Streaming Songs chart for 115 weeks. It was recently certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA).

Hezekiah Walker

Hezekiah Walker's signature sound has set an international standard in gospel music. Walker, the multiple Grammy Award-winning, newly inducted Gospel Music Hall of Famer, continues to uplift the masses with inspirational songs that focus on maintaining faith and overcoming life's daunting moments. The year 2022 marks 36 years in the music industry for Walker. He has earned multiple music awards and two Grammys for Best Gospel Album for *Live in Atlanta at Morehouse College* in 1994 and *Love Is Live!* in 2001.

Fred Hammond

For more than 40 years, music lovers around the world have known Grammy Awardwinning artist Fred Hammond as a gifted vocalist, songwriter, musician, producer, and arranger. But as his peers and supporters alike have so reverently declared, he is without debate the architect behind the creation of a genre of gospel music called Urban Praise and Worship. As a result Hammond has become one of the most respected names in the music industry. *Essence* magazine (2017 Collector's Edition) named him one of the 50 greatest male singers of all time. Hammond has been hailed as an inspirational music icon whose music reaches people from all walks of life.

Juneteenth Joy: The Sound, Fashion, and Cinema of Freedom Saturday, June 18

Member tickets on sale Friday, April 15 Nonmember tickets on Saturday, April 16

Join the NCMA to celebrate Black culture, wear iconic 1960s fashions, and remember the music as people fought for civil rights in the United States. This event features a dance party with grooves from all soul genres followed by a screening of the Oscar-nominated documentary *Summer of Soul*, directed by Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson.

- MUSIC: DJ Set and Dance Party 6-8 pm
- FILM SCREENING: Summer of Soul 8:30 pm

NCMA Groove

The NCMA Groove series celebrates music + joy + people with DJ-set dance parties in the Museum Park.

NCMA Groove: The Joy of Soul Sunday, July 17, 3 pm

NCMA Groove: The Joy of Latinx Music

Sunday, September 18, 3 pm

Dance

Choreographers Spotlight Series sponsored by Carolina Ballet

Friday, August 26

Ticket information coming soon

The NCMA and Carolina Ballet are excited to announce the second annual Choreographers Spotlight. This year's program features original works by Ja'Malik, Heather Maloy, and Sokvannara Sar and will be performed on the outdoor stage of the Joseph M. Bryan, Jr., Theater in the Museum Park. The event starts with a master class with Zalman Raffael, Carolina Ballet artistic director, and a conversation with the guest choreographers and Moses T. Alexander Greene, the Museum's director of film and performing arts, before the original works are performed.

<u>Film</u>

Tickets

Free for members and children 6 and under, but tickets required for entry \$7 Nonmembers (plus taxes and fees)

Member tickets on sale Wednesday, May 18 Nonmembers tickets on sale Friday, May 20

Encanto Friday, June 24, 8:30 pm

<u>Soul</u> Saturday, June 25, 8:30 pm



Spider-Man: No Way Home Friday, July 8, 8:30 pm

Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings Saturday, July 9, 8:30 pm

Dune (2021) Saturday, July 23, 8:30 pm

Judas and the Black Messiah Saturday, July 30, 8:30 pm

Nightmare Alley Saturday, August 6, 8:30 pm

Nomadland Saturday, August 13, 8:30 pm

West Side Story (2021) Saturday, August 27, 8:30 pm

Season Presenting Sponsor:



First Citizens Bank

Image Captions (top to bottom):

Joseph M. Bryan, Jr. Theater in the Museum Park.

Herbie Hancock, photo by Nick LeTellier.

Juneteenth Joy performers.

Encanto movie poster.

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's collection spans more than 5,000 years, from antiquity to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing special exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh and is home to the People's Collection. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, under the auspices of Governor Roy Cooper; an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, guided by the direction of Secretary D. Reid Wilson; and led by Director Valerie Hillings.