

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Suffolk Center Announces Upcoming Season

Beach music, jazz, comedy, country music, musical theater, and political satire are among the offerings in the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts' 2017-18 performance season. "In many ways the season was programmed by our patrons," noted Executive Director Jackie Cherry. "In the spring we conducted a survey on our website and at some of our performances asking, among other things, the types of performances people would like to see at the Center and we used those responses to build our season."

Patrons have several options for receiving discounted ticket prices. Group tickets (10 or more) can be purchased at a 10% discount. Suffolk Center members at the Sponsor level and higher also receive a 10% discount.

2017- 2018 Season

SEPTEMBER

Gallery Exhibit

William and David Turner Bronze Sculpture

On View, Sept. 14 – Oct. 21

Opening reception, Sept. 14, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

6:30 presentation by David Turner on the lost wax bronze casting process.

The work of renowned sculptors William and David Turner of the Eastern Shore of Virginia will be on exhibit at the Suffolk Center September 14th (opening reception) until October 21st. Both the BB&T and Norfolk Foundation galleries will house the amazing Turner creations in bronze as well as some of

William Turner's paintings. William Turner's four published books will be available for purchase during the exhibit. The Turners, father and son, share a talent of capturing the beauty and motion of wildlife in bronze. To date the Turners have created more than 700 different limited edition bronzes and more than 100 large public commissions found throughout the U.S.

OCTOBER

Capitol Steps: Orange is the New Barack

Friday, Oct. 13, 2017, 8:00 p.m.

For over 30 years the Capitol Steps have put the “mock” in Democracy! Since their beginning in 1981 they have made more albums than the Constitution has amendments. They’ve been featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, PBS, and are heard twice a year on NPR stations nationwide during their “Politics Takes a Holiday” radio specials.

The Hurray Players

Disney’s The Lion King Experience

Saturday, Oct. 21, 3:00 p.m.

Disney’s “The Lion King” brings the African savanna to majestic life with Simba, Rafiki, Mufasa and an unforgettable cast of characters. Organized in 1984, The Hurray Players have been recognized by local and regional media and theatrical organizations

NOVEMBER

Johnny Peers and the Muttville Comix

Sunday, November 5, 3:00 p.m.

Sit! Stay! Get ready to howl! A Ringling Brothers Clown College graduate, Johnny Peers has been working with dogs since he got his first puppy, Freckles, a Beagle mix, from the Humane Society. The show stars mostly dogs rescued from shelters, like skateboarding Basset Hounds, ladder-climbing Fox Terriers, and a dog who only responds to commands in Spanish. Johnny leads over a dozen dogs through challenging and hilarious tricks.

Gallery Exhibit

Artisan Center of Virginia: Artists’ Artful Giving

On view Nov. 9 – Dec. 23

Opening Reception Nov. 9, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Showcasing the work of artists chosen through a juried process by the Artisan Center of Virginia. Works on display will be from a variety of mediums and items will be available for purchase, a unique gift-giving opportunity for the holiday season. Information on the extensive state-wide Artisan Trail in Virginia will be available.

DECEMBER

The Embers featuring Craig Woolard

Friday, December 1, 2017 at 7pm

The Embers are widely considered a musical MARVEL and have laid the groundwork for what has become known as ‘Beach Music’ in the Carolinas, Virginia, the gulf coast region of North America and every beach in between. The Embers consider the genre of Beach Music as “music with a memory” and have been creating lasting memories since its inception in 1958. Simply put – Heart and Soul, Rhythm and Blues, Feel Good Music. This legendary Beach Music band sings new arrangements of classic Christmas tunes the whole family will love.

JANUARY

The Malpass Brothers Saturday, January 20, 2018 at 8pm

The Malpass Brothers are as authentic as stone-ground grits, hush puppies & chopped pork barbecue -- and they're every bit as good. It doesn't matter if you're already a fan of classic old-time "real" country music when you take your seat, you will be by the time you leave the hall. As young boys in eastern North Carolina, Christopher and Taylor Malpass soaked up the music of their granddad's jukebox in his country store. Christopher earned his first talent show trophy at age 7, and Taylor was playing mandolin by the time he was 10. Today, they promote the work and music of classic country artists they treasure while creating new music and making their own mark in the lineage of a rich American cultural heritage.

Gallery Exhibit

Near and Far, Faces and Places – Glen McClure On view January 18 – March 24, 2018 Opening Reception January 18, 6:00PM – 8:00PM

The Suffolk Center presents the work of Norfolk Photographer, Glen McClure in "Near and Far, Faces and Places." The self-taught photo-artist McClure presents insightful portraits of the folks of Tidewater as they move through their daily life and work places. Also an accomplished landscape photographer, McClure will display photographs of moving unpopulated landscapes and work from his travels throughout Scotland and Ireland.

FEBRUARY

Virginia Opera Association's The Billy Goats Gruff February 1 & 2, 2018

Shows each day at 10am and 12 noon

This universal classic and its timeless characters provide the perfect backdrop for this pastiche opera, brilliantly interwoven by John Davies with music by Mozart and scenes by Mozart, Donizetti and Rossini. When three billy goats encounter a big bully goat blocking their way home from school, the billy goats try different strategies to defeat the bully goat.

Shana Tucker ChamberSoul Cello & Songs Saturday, February 17, 2018 at 8pm

Shana Tucker is a singer-songwriter and cellist who credits her genre-bending ChamberSoul™ journey to the influences of her jazz and classical roots interwoven with 80's & 90's pop music, movie soundtracks, and world music.

MARCH

The Backpack All Laughs Matter

Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 8pm

All Laughs Matter to The Backpack Four comedians. One stage. Celebrating our differences one joke at a time. That's how The Backpack, Vince Morris, BT, Billy D. Washington and Louis Johnson bill themselves. They have been featured on major networks, such as HBO, Comedy Central, Showtime, MTV, A&E, Fox, and BET, numerous times. According to their bio, "We are here to celebrate our individualism. Our motto is 'be yourself – because everybody else is already taken'." They use the acronym S.E.L.L.O.U.T. to describe themselves: Serious. Educated. Laughing. Learning. Outrageous. Unique. Talented. The Backpack has gotten rave reviews from venues where they've performed. "Their material is SO spot-on, just to the perfect "edge" in every way – with never going over or too far," one review noted. "They're very, very smart in reading their audience and they do so with humor and warmth."

Little Country

Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 8pm

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us! If Fleetwood Mac, Little Big Town, and Kansas made a band baby.....it would be Little Country. This six piece rock, pop and country cover band is homegrown and based out of Virginia Beach. The members of this band are seasoned musicians, and some come with major tour experience under their belts! With an ever-changing song list, their show is geared towards an all-around good time, packed with modern energetic rock, pop and country, as well as classic sing-a-longs.

APRIL

Masters of Soul

Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 8pm

Masters of Soul is a celebration of the legendary songs and performers that defined Motown and soul music. This 90-minute show features stylishly costumed, fully choreographed performances of both male and female groups backed by a live band. For many, Masters of Soul is the ultimate stroll down memory lane. For younger generations, the show offers an opportunity to experience an era in our country's history that produced many of the greatest music acts ever recorded. Masters of Soul has performed to numerous sold-out audiences and garnered rave reviews across the country at venues ranging from community theaters and universities to performing arts venues and concert halls.

MAY

Chowan University Choirs

Sunday, April 22, 2018 at 3pm

Chowan University Choirs will present an exciting and varied program of classical and contemporary choral music. Benjamin Thorburn is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Chowan University. A versatile conductor and singer with experience in opera, oratorio, and early music, he has appeared as a soloist throughout Virginia, the mid-Atlantic and the Northeast. As a music scholar, he is a specialist in Baroque music and performance practice and has presented his

research at national and international conferences. He received a Ph.D. in music history from Yale University and a Bachelor of Arts in music from the University of Rochester.

Gallery Exhibit

In Plein Site

On view: May 10 - June 30

Opening reception: May 10, 5:30PM -7:30PM

The exhibit *In Plein Site* will showcase the work of artists participating in the Suffolk Center's Plein Aire Event on May 5, 2018. Varying art will be works painted in the plein aire tradition. Artists will primarily be from the Tidewater area.