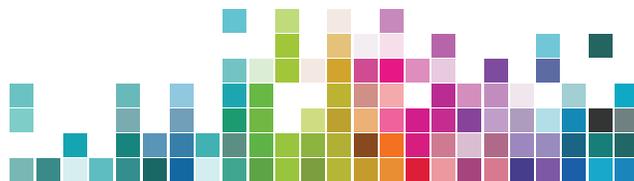


UGA
presents.
22|23 SEASON



Performances for Young People





DEAR EDUCATORS:

Welcome to the new school year—and the new season of Piedmont Area Regional Performances for Young People at the UGA Performing Arts Center.

Each year we encourage you to bring your students here for educational and unforgettable performances by world class artists. This year we have a new incentive for you: research that indicates arts field trips improve students' outcomes and in no way distract from their studies.

A forthcoming paper* by professors at Brigham Young University and John Hopkins University, and a research fellow at the Heritage Foundation, examines the difference in standardized test scores and grades between two groups of Atlanta 4th and 5th graders. Some students went on three field trips per school year. The others did not; they went on just one trip to a non-arts cultural destination such as the Carter Center.

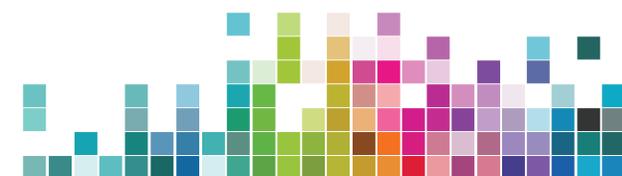
The difference between the two groups was striking: “We find that treatment students exhibit higher levels of school engagement as well as increased tolerance and conscientiousness compared to control students. Surprisingly, we find that treatment students perform significantly better on their end-of-grade standardized tests and receive higher course grades than control students.”

The authors also say that arts field trips have other positive effects beyond the classroom: “We find that treatment students report a greater desire to consume the arts in the future, express greater tolerance for people with different opinions, and exhibit increased conscientiousness in the same year as treatment.”

Their conclusion is clear: **“The most significant implication of our findings is that schools can increase culturally enriching extracurricular experiences for students without harming their academic achievement, and potentially improve it ... Educators and policymakers should consider the multidimensional benefits from culturally enriching experiences when they are deciding how to allocate time and resources.”**

We stand ready with 11 one-hour morning performances from September through March. They're each unique and very inspiring. You may introduce your young people to drummers from Japan, singers from South Africa, and musicians from Scotland and Israel, as well as two spectacular dance companies. The students will come closer to realizing their full potential.

* “An Experimental Evaluation of Culturally Enriching Field Trips”
by Heidi H. Erickson, Angela R. Watson, and Jay P. Greene.





PERFORMANCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Inspiring the artists and audiences of tomorrow with live, in-person performance experiences.

The University of Georgia Performing Arts Center's Performances for Young People program is designed to expose K-12 students to the performing arts at a young age by facilitating in-person, culturally diverse, educational experiences for them. The program's purpose is to inspire the next generation of artists and arts supporters. The costs of these performances are generously subsidized by friends of the Performing Arts Center who share that vision.

Admission to Performances for Young People is \$2 for students and \$4 for adult chaperones. Students must be at least six years old to attend. Reservations for performances begin August 1. Large school groups should use the order form for reservations. Home school groups please contact the box office at (706) 542-4400 or in person Monday - Friday, 10:00am-5:00pm. Any questions, please contact the outreach coordinator at PACoutreach@uga.edu or (706) 542-2634.



THE KLEINER FOUNDATION
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ARTS EDUCATION PARTNERS FUND

Yamma Ensemble
Fri, Sept 23, 10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Complexions Contemporary Ballet
Thurs, Sept 29, 10:00 am
Fri, Sept 30, 10:00 am
Fine Arts Theatre

Villalobos Brothers
Thurs, Nov 3, 10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Soweto Gospel Choir
Hope: It's Been A Long Time Coming
Tues, Nov 15, 10:30 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Leyla McCalla
Wed, Jan 18, 10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Martha Graham Dance Company
Thurs, Feb 2, 10:00 am
Fri, Feb 3, 10:00 am
Fine Arts Theatre

Matthew Whitaker
Fri, Feb 10, 10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Breabach
Fri, Feb 24, 10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Yamato: The Drummers of Japan
Fri, Mar 24, 10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall





WORLD STAGE

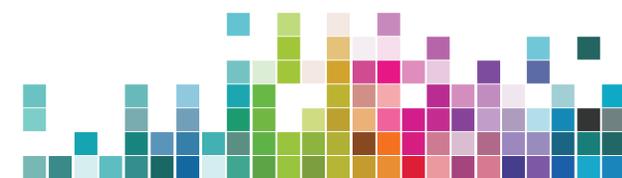
Yamma Ensemble

Sept 23 | FRI
10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Yamma Ensemble, Israel's foremost world music group, performs original Hebrew music and traditional songs of the Jewish diaspora. The band's soulful, captivating sounds emerge from ancient instruments typical of the area. Songs come from Jewish communities throughout the region such as Yemen, Iraq, and Spain, as well as Hasidic traditions. The ensemble's first visit to Athens will showcase the rich musical heritage and spirituality of the ancient and modern cultures from which they have emerged.

Supported by
SANDRA STROTHER HUDSON AND CECIL C. HUDSON
ROBERT E. PAUL, JR.

“The decade-old band has become viral among world music lovers.”
—*The Times of Israel*



DANCE

Complexions Contemporary Ballet

Sept 29 THURS
10:00 am
Fine Arts Theatre

Sept 30 FRI
10:00 am
Fine Arts Theatre

Founders Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, armed with a rich Alvin Ailey lineage and a corps of 16 spectacular dancers, have re-envisioned ballet for the 21st century through technical precision, athletic prowess, and sheer passion. With these stunningly gifted dancers, the company presents two diverse and extraordinary works for its Athens debut: *Bach 25*, a celebration of timeless compositions by Johann Sebastian Bach and Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, and *Love Rocks*, a lively rock ballet set to music by Lenny Kravitz.

Supported by
LAURA W. CARTER



“Forging a path for what ballet can be instead of what it historically has been.” —*The Guardian*



WORLD STAGE

Villalobos Brothers

Nov 3 THURS
10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

These three brothers from Xalapa, Veracruz—all former violin prodigies—and a childhood friend have risen to the top as one of today's leading contemporary Mexican bands. Their original compositions and arrangements masterfully fuse and celebrate the richness of Mexican folk music traditions with the intricate harmonies of jazz, classical, blues, and pop. The Villalobos Brothers have delighted audiences throughout Latin America, India, Russia, Canada, and across the U.S. and bring their infectious music to Hodgson Concert Hall for the first time.

Supported by
JANE AND BRUCE KING

“A crazy ball of sound: Mexican coastal traditions meet Sam Cooke in the Bronx!”
—*USA Today*



VOCAL PERFORMANCE

Soweto Gospel Choir

Hope: It's Been A Long Time Coming

Nov 15 | TUES
10:30 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

The spectacular and vibrant three-time Grammy Award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir makes its UGA Presents debut with a special program celebrating South African and American artists associated with the struggle for civil rights and social justice. Expect to hear South African freedom songs as well as music by Aretha Franklin, Harry Belafonte, and Mahalia Jackson, in addition to traditional African gospel music and spirituals. Through its earthy rhythms, rich harmonies, brilliant costumes, and winning spirit, the Soweto Gospel Choir truly uplifts the soul.

Supported by
JINX AND GORDHAN PATEL
MALCOLM AND PRISCILLA SUMNER

“This choir has the spirit of gospel deep in its blood — and it shows.” —*Washington Post*



Brett Schewitz

AMERICANA/WORLD STAGE

Leyla McCalla

Jan 18 | WED
10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Leyla McCalla finds inspiration from her past and present, whether it is her Haitian heritage or her adopted home of New Orleans. This multi-instrumentalist and alumna of the Grammy-winning African American string band, the Carolina Chocolate Drops, has risen to produce a distinctive sound that reflects the union of her roots and experience. McCalla's music is at once earthy, elegant, soulful, and witty. It vibrates with three centuries of history, yet also feels strikingly fresh, distinctive, and contemporary and features lyrics sung in English, French, and Haitian Creole.

McCalla's program will feature selections from *Breaking the Thermometer to Hide the Fever*, a multidisciplinary work that follows her personal journey as she uncovered the history of Radio Haiti, Haiti's first privately owned Creole-speaking radio station.

Supported by
JIM AND CAROL WARNES

"Her voice is disarmingly natural." —*New York Times*





DANCE

Appalachian Spring Martha Graham Dance Company

Janet Eilber, artistic director

Feb 2 THURS
10:00 am
Fine Arts Theatre

Feb 3 FRI
10:00 am
Fine Arts Theatre

The most celebrated modern dance company in America makes an eagerly anticipated visit to Athens at last! The Martha Graham Dance Company exemplifies its founder's timeless and uniquely American style of dance—one that has influenced generations of artists and continues to captivate audiences worldwide. The ensemble will perform *Appalachian Spring*—Graham's legendary signature piece set to Aaron Copland's iconic music and accompanied by a chamber orchestra of local musicians—along with the reimagined *Canticle for Innocent Comedians*. This performance promises to be one of the absolute highlights of the season.

Supported by
THE CHRISTINE AND THOMAS PAVLAK
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER ENDOWMENT
CHARLIE AND TERESA FRIEDLANDER





JAZZ

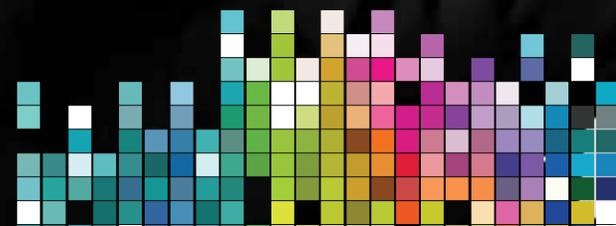
Matthew Whitaker

Feb 10 | FRI
10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

“I am a musician who happens to be blind,” American jazz pianist Matthew Whitaker says, “and my prayer is that I can continue to be a blessing and inspiration to others.” From his earliest days noodling on a keyboard before mastering the Hammond B3 organ, he has evolved into a full-fledged virtuoso playing Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Apollo Theater, and beyond. His phenomenal quintet joins him at UGA to share his influences: traditional and contemporary jazz, R&B, Latin music, and gospel.

Supported by
DIXEN FOUNDATION

“To see and hear him play is to know that divine talent exists.”
—WBGO





WORLD STAGE

Breabach

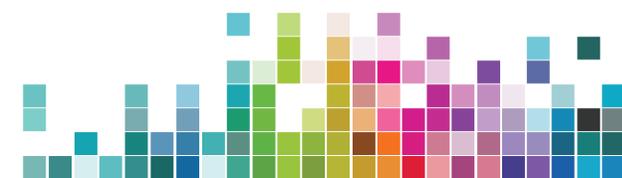
Feb 24 | FRI
10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Securely ranked among Scotland's most skilled and imaginative contemporary folk acts, Breabach unites deep roots in highland and island tradition with the innovative musical ferment of the band's home base in Glasgow. The five talented multi-instrumentalists use the fiddle, whistle, guitar, bagpipes, and more to give life to both traditional songs and modern melodies. The musicians acknowledge and respect the origins of both the music they play and their own cultural roots while also embracing a musical future bright with new ideas, creativity, and exploration.

Supported by

THOMAS P. AND M. JEAN LAUTH
HERB WEST AND MYRNA ADAMS WEST

“As polished as it was passionate, matching fiery intensity with exquisite finesse.”—*Scotsman*



PERCUSSION

Yamato: The Drummers of Japan

Mar 24 | FRI
10:00 am
Hodgson Concert Hall

Founded nearly 30 years ago in Nara Prefecture, said to be the birthplace of Japanese culture and civilization, Yamato travels the world with traditional taiko drums called "waidako" made from animal skins and ancient trees, some as old as 400 years. The highly trained drummers use pulsating rhythm, captivating physicality, and theatrical showmanship to bring an intangible but compelling force to the stage in a high-energy performance mixing ancient traditions with contemporary sensibilities.

Supported by
JANET RODEKOHR
CLAY AND AMIE DUNFORD

