

6-24-2014

GSU's Center for Performing Arts New Season Brings More Than Just a Show

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Recommended Citation

Office of Marketing and Communications, "GSU's Center for Performing Arts New Season Brings More Than Just a Show" (2014).
Press Releases. Paper 13.
http://opus.govst.edu/press_releases/13

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For Immediate Release

**GSU's Center for Performing Arts new season
brings more than just a show**

University Park, Ill., June 24, 2014 – Governors State University's Center for Performing Arts kicks off another exciting season that offers a live entertainment experience unlike any other in the Chicagoland area.

The 2014-15 season features provocative theater; musical favorites like the Beatles, big band, and the blues; contemporary dance and family entertainment that are sure to leave a lasting impression.

The full slate is divided into series packages. The Mainstage series features "Raisin' Cane: A Harlem Renaissance Odyssey starring Jasmine Guy ("A Different World") and the Avery Sharpe Jazz Trio." Opera Up Close puts audiences on stage in an intimate cabaret-style seating that will give them a new appreciation for the art. The Family series features the classic holiday ballet, "The Nutcracker," and Spencers Theatre of Illusion, which combines the elements of live theater with elaborate stage illusions. The Made In Chicago series brings the vibrant and colorful influence Chicago has had on music, dance and drama to the Southland, thanks to the generosity of The Chicago Community Trust, First Midwest Bank and The National Endowment for the Arts. And



the Theatre series features performances from the Southland Area Theatre Ensemble (SLATE) and GSU's very own Theatre and Performance Studies program.

Returning for the third year in a row is "Chicago Live!," in which host Rick Kogan brings the Chicago Tribune newspaper to life with the help of special editorial and musical guests and the renowned Second City comedy troupe.

The Center for Performing Arts goes out of its way to offer engaging activities beyond the performances. As part of the Opera Up Close series, "Bon Appetit!," the audience will enjoy food sampling and Julia Child's French chocolate cake as the musical stories unfold. For "Raisin' Cane: A Harlem Renaissance Odyssey starring Jasmine Guy and the Avery Sharpe Jazz Trio," audience members may purchase a VIP ticket that includes a pre-show dinner reception and a post-show meet and greet with the star of the show, Jasmine Guy. For "Classic Albums Live presents Abbey Road-The Beatles," fans may buy a pre-show English pub experience food ticket. And for Congo Square Theatre's "Twisted Melodies," patrons should come early to enjoy a listening party featuring music of the late great Donny Hathaway and some of the best soul food in Chicago.

For a full lineup, detailed show descriptions, video previews, and ticket information, visit www.centertickets.net. Save up to 20 percent by purchasing a series package or building your own flex-package. Programming is supported in part by a grant from the Illinois Art Council, an agency of the State of Illinois.

Don't miss this eclectic mix of phenomenal talent in a world-class theater that is affordable and accessible, and where the parking is always free.



The box office is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and two hours prior to performances. For more information, contact the box office at www.centertickets.net or call (708) 235-2222.

Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway in University Park.