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## ***All Fired Up about April at the Averitt***

Dance, visual arts and theater are all in full bloom in April at the Averitt Center for the Arts.

The month kicks off with the third annual **An Evening of Modern Dance** on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Emma Kelly Theater. Averitt Ballet Director Taylor Ellen has choreographed dances which are filled with a wide variety of music and dance styles. This annual performance, sponsored by Jim and Betsy Nichols, shows off the diversity that is found in the art of dance, from the abstract to traditional techniques and everything in between. Dancing will be Madelyn Wolfe, Laural Boyles, Annie O’Neill, Caroline Spivey, Emma Vickers, Ana Grace Evans, Annie Coghill, Ella Warren, Jillian Ley, Janelle Spivey and Ellen.

When school’s out, we’re in! Indulge your creative child with a week-long **Spring Break Camp** on April 5-9 in the world of art, creation, exploration, and experimentation. Campers will learn about colors, art techniques, and how to express themselves through art. For more information or to register, contact Education Superintendent Tony Phillips at 259-9228.

The monthly **Paint-N-Party** in the Roxie Remley Center for Fine Arts (31 East Vine Street) on the ninth begins at 6 p.m. This is a great opportunity to have fun with friends and you can also enjoy your favorite adult beverage (21+). The workshop is \$35 per session and includes a 16x20 canvas and art supplies for you to use. Instructor **Lorie Ward** will guide you through the steps to paint your version of the painting-of-the-month. Paint-n-Party is exclusively sponsored by borotakeout.com and features different foods each month.

Speaking of dance, Mical Whitaker’s final ONE series of the season highlights former Averitt dance instructor Mathyn Miller. **One: Mathyn Miller** will be held April 15 in the Emma Kelly Theater. The 90-minute event features both an interview portion and a performance with Mathyn, whose Technique Dance Company has flourished in just a few short years. **One: Mathyn Miller**, which is sponsored by Brinson, Williams and Groomes Insurance, will be the first ONE program to highlight dance.

The last Thursday in April will be especially busy with three events beginning on that day.

The annual Spring **All Fired Up Exhibition and Sale** begins at 2 p.m. at the Roxie Remley Center for Fine Arts (31 East Vine St.) as the Averitt Center Visual Arts Department and Georgia Southern University’s Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art (BFSDoA) teamed up to provide GSU art students with the opportunity to showcase and sell their artwork.

Other local and area artists will also display their wares during the three-day event. Doors are open to the public on Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday is a day-long event (10 a.m. to 8 p.m.) and Saturday’s sale is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Later that afternoon, the **S. Norton Pease exhibition** will be unveiled in the Main Gallery. The artwork of Pease, who is a Professor of Art in the Betty Foy Sanders Department

of Art at Georgia Southern University, encompasses both abstract and figurative portrayals that synthesize different traditions and genres while playing with perceptions of identity and social order. A reception will be held in the Main Gallery beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Later that evening is the opening night of **Dearly Beloved**, a fast-paced, laugh-a-minute comedy which is being directed by the Averitt's own Tony Phillips. This Averitt STARS performance includes an over-the-top wedding, three feuding sisters and a church full of small-town eccentrics. Local actors/actresses are Pam Baggett, Alan Tyson, Tate Miller, Julie Moody, Rachel Elkins, Lee Walker, Nichole Deal, Christie McLendon, Brandon Adams, Jamey Saunders, Brooks Adams and Eileen Bayens.

Registration will soon get underway for the **Averitt Center Summer Art Camps**. This annual program, sponsored by **Synovus**, provides kids the opportunity to be creative, have fun, meet new friends and start or continue a life-long love of the arts. Full-day or half-day camps are available in the areas of dance, theatre, music and visual arts.

Tickets for performances and camps can be purchased in the Averitt Center Main Gallery (open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday) or by calling 912-212-2787.