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## ***March is full of various Downtown sights and sounds***

Whether it's old-school Southern rock or something that is visually stunning, a variety of sights and musical sounds will emanate from the Averitt in March.

The **Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band Skynfolks** will help you stroll down memory lane in the Emma Kelly Theater on **March 19**. Postponed from the original early January date due to COVID, the band returns to the Jan Brown Anderson stage this month.

“Gimme Three Steps,” “What’s Your Name,” “Saturday Night Special,” “Sweet Home Alabama” and, of course, “Freebird” are just a few of the favorites that this group of talented musicians cover in exquisite detail.

If you missed this bunch of talented musicians when they first appeared in late 2019, you definitely don’t want to miss them now because they have only gotten better.

“Authentic”...when it comes to the Tribute Band world, that word seems to be used a bit more than it should be but with Skynfolks, it’s richly deserved.

This Atlanta-based band was formed as a result of some very devoted musicians who wanted to bring a little more to the game than what they’d seen of Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute bands. They also knew how discriminating and tough real Skynyrd fans can be, so they set their performance bar high...really high.

Brought together by luck, fate, devotion and drive, the members of Skynfolks pledged to create a band that would exactly reproduce the music of Lynyrd Skynyrd. No improvisation allowed -- every part had to be played exactly like the original recordings. Constant practice honed the music like a razor. What emerged when they finished has never been done since the days of the original Skynyrd lineup. The performance will feature totally authentic, accurate renditions of the music from the first five Lynyrd Skynyrd albums.

**Skynfolks** is exclusively sponsored by **Dabbs, Hickman, Hill and Cannon, LLP**.

The mixed-media art of **Scott Foxx** will be on display and on sale in the Averitt Main Gallery beginning with a 5:30 p.m. artist’s reception on the **10th**. An instructor at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Foxx is a Savannah native who received his MFA from Georgia Southern in 2014. As an instructor at Georgia Southern, his appetite for new techniques and media led him to try his hand at everything from painting processes, to fibers and sewing, puppetry and ceramics, reflecting an inability to focus that has ended up being his greatest strength in his mature painting. Foxx’s work, from his artwork to his puppetry to his scenery designs, were featured for many years at the Averitt Center of the Arts when he and his husband Tim Chapman lived in Statesboro.

**Praise dance** (liturgical dance) has always been an important component of the dance experience for Rebekah Harville Carlisle, the director of the Cotton Rose School of Dance at the Averitt Center for the Arts. On the wall of her 5 North Main Studio are two excerpts from the Holy Bible. One states, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news” (Romans 10:15). The other is more direct, “Let them praise His name with dance” (Psalms 149:3). That’s the concept behind **Grace...A Performance of Praise**. From the youngest ballerinas to the most accomplished young adults, these dancers will use simple elegance and refinement of movement to worship through bodily movement on the stage of the Emma Kelly Theater on **March 25** and **26**. **Jim and Betsy Nichols** are the exclusive sponsors of these beautiful evenings.

A beautiful pink **Tulip Tree** is the subject of this month’s **Paint-n-Party**, sponsored by [borotakeout.com](http://borotakeout.com), which will be on **11th** from 6-8 p.m. at the Roxie Remley Center for Fine Arts on East Vine

Street. No experience is necessary! Just come and have fun with friends and your favorite drink! (21+ to drink). The price includes a 16 x 20 canvas and art supplies that you will use to create your very own masterpiece. Our instructor will guide you through the steps to paint your version of this neat scene.

The Averitt Center offers a wide range of classes for children, teenagers and adults in Dance, Theater, Visual Arts and Music. The fourth session begins March 21 and some new and exciting adult classes are planned in Visual Arts such as **Painting with Watercolors, Advanced Wheel Throwing, Drawing for the Ultimate Beginner** and **Art Your Way** and **three Ceramic Sampler classes**. There is room in the youth Visual Arts classes and Theater classes as well.

All meet in the late afternoon or early evening (homeschool classes meeting in the late mornings or early afternoons) at one of the three Averitt campuses and meet once or more per week. Classes are grouped by age and ability level. Class tuition varies and members do receive discounts.

Tickets for performances and classes can be purchased in the Averitt Center Main Gallery (open 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday through Friday), by calling 912-212-2787 or on-line at [www.averittcenterforthearts.org](http://www.averittcenterforthearts.org).