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February is FULL at the Averitt

February is chock full of local music, art and fun at the Averitt Center.

In mid-February, local personalities **Christie McLendon, Rachel Elkins, Jenni Kight** and **Ashley Whittemore** return to the Jan Brown Anderson stage of the Emma Kelly Theater in the community theater production of ***The Marvelous Wonderettes: Caps and Gowns***.

The wonderful musical comedy runs four nights in mid-February and features the sights and sounds of the 1950s and '60s. In 2019, the foursome brought the original show, ***The Marvelous Wonderettes***, which is a nostalgic, jukebox musical comedy from Roy Bean, to the Emma Kelly stage. That show was so well received by the local and area community that the foursome decided to get back together to perform one of the three sequels.

In ***Caps and Gowns***, Betty Jean (Whittemore), Cindy Lou (McLendon), Missy (Elkins), and Suzy (Kight) sing about their final year in high school in 1958, celebrate with their fellow classmates and teachers, and prepare for their next step toward a bright future. Act II zooms ahead to 1968, where the girls perform as bride and bridesmaids to celebrate Missy's marriage to Mr. Lee!

Songs featured in the show are classics from the 1950s and 60s including "Rock Around the Clock," "At the Hop," "Dancing in the Street," "Don't Mess With Bill," "River Deep, Mountain High," "Don't Mess With Bill," "Hooked On A Feeling," and many more hits.

The show is sponsored by Synovus, CORE Credit and Tormenta FC.

On the 25th, the second performance of this year's ***ONE*** series, sponsored by Brinson, Williams and Groomes Insurance, features local music legend Chris Mitchell.

A product of Evans County, this accomplished singer/songwriter/guitarist has been touring the Southeast for over 20 years with bands such as Wallace Green and The Chris Mitchell Band. He is also an accomplished guitar teacher and formed his own company, the Statesboro-based Pladd Dott, which has been going strong since 1999.

Mitchell is also a maker of fine guitars (Chris Mitchell Guitars) and Devilcat Amplifiers. Both companies have national distribution from Maine to California along with international sales.

The February ***Paint-n-Party*** will be held on the 11th at the Roxie Remley Center for Fine Arts with the talented Erika Busbee as the instructor and snacks provided by Mr.

Delivery. A Mason jar with brilliant purple flowers will be the subject.

Winter Break Camp for school-aged children will be held February 14-18 on the Averitt third-floor multipurpose room. Spaces are still available but it's filling up fast.

There is still room in our visual arts, ballet and theater classes as well as our Little Artists half-day morning program for children aged 3-5. Private lesson instruction in piano, violin, guitar, voice, mandolin and fiddle can also be arranged.

Tickets for all events are always on sale and can be purchased in the Box Office at the Averitt Center Main Gallery (open 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday through Friday), by calling 912-212-2787 or on-line at averittcenterforthearts.org/performances-events. For more information or to sign up for classes, camps or other programs, please call 912-212-2787.