

Press Release

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The 19th Annual ARTS SENSATION! A Benefit Performance for The Good Shepherd Center

7:30 p.m. April 21, 2023
Thalian Hall Main Stage
310 Chestnut Street
Wilmington, NC 28401



Tickets are \$25 general admission. Please contact the Thalian Hall Box Office at 910.632.2285 or online for ticket reservations.

The 19th Annual Arts Sensation returns to the Thalian Hall Main Stage to showcase lively and entertaining local talent for a music and dance spectacular! This year's beneficiary is the Good Shepherd Center, whose mission is to be a safety net for our neighbors in crisis by providing hot and nutritious meals, case management support, showers and restrooms, clean clothing, warm beds, an onsite medical clinic and a pathway to safe and affordable housing...all with dignity and respect.

Eduardo de Rosamaria's Tablao Flamenco will transport you to the Andaluz region of Spain for an authentic Flamenco experience. Featuring flamenco dancer Chillona, singer Bella G. and guitarist Eduardo de Rosamaria, this amazing ensemble will perform traditional flamenco dances such as Sevillanas, Guajiras, Alegrias, Malagueñas, and Rumbas. Feel the passion and energy of a night out in Spain, right here in Wilmington!

Arts Sensation brings a variety of dance creations from the genres of tap, classical ballet, jazz, modern, cultural and contemporary, presented by local choreographers and dancers. And with their fine style, the captivating Company "T" Tap Dancers, choreographed by Tracey Varga, return to wow audiences with a new salsa flair. A special presentation of the unique and historic Thunder Roll and Rain Machine showcases these special effects, built right into the Thalian Hall stage, that were innovative and thrilling in their time and are used in performances to this day.

Dance presentations also include the Hi Steppers tap group, choreographed by Annette Crumpton, who won 1st place in the NC Senior Games Silver Arts, on the local level as well as 1st place in the NC Senior Games State Finals, Silver Arts performing arts competition in Raleigh,

September, 2022. Three classical and contemporary dance pieces by Choreographers Rachel Taylor, Rachel Sanford, and Tracey Varga with Forward Motion Dance, were recently performed at this year's Wilmington Dance Festival. Dreams Theatre of Wilmington is represented with 11 youth and teenage dancers, who tell a poignant story with "N'awlins", a contemporary, jazz, and cultural dance from Choreographer Kevin Lee-Y Green. A contemporary solo by Emily Lawler is a premiere piece honoring her grandmother who recently passed and was a great supporter of Emily's pursuit and love of dancing. Eleven dancers performing a high-energy Jazz/Broadway piece by Linda Ann Webb is choreographed to music by Cy Coleman, Chicago Ensemble and George Benson. Tap solo "Harlem Bound" is restaged and danced by Ashley Barnes with choreography by Anthony Morigerato.

Expect an inspired and exciting evening of music and dance that is sure to bring you lasting memories of the amazing talent in our community.



ARTS SENSATION! is presented by Forward Motion Dance Company. For more information, please visit us on Facebook or at forwardmotiondance.org.

About The Good Shepherd Center:

The mission of Good Shepherd Center is to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and foster transition to housing. Established in 1983 as a modest Soup Kitchen, Good Shepherd has grown to become the largest provider of homeless services in the region.



Current programs include the Soup Kitchen which serves over 89,000 meals a year; Second Helpings food salvage and distribution program; Sgt. Eugene Ashley Center providing transitional and permanent supportive housing for Veterans and men with disabilities; a Day Shelter providing the homeless with access to showers, clothing, transportation, and on-site mental health and health services; and a Night Shelter with 118 beds for homeless men, women, and families with children. Good Shepherd recently opened SECU Lakeside Reserve, an affordable housing unit with 40 apartments for chronically homeless adults with disabilities, including seniors and Veterans.