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ONE Holiday Concert

Mical Whitaker, Creator of ONE Series
Ressie Fuller, Hostess
Robert Cottle, Music Director
Amy Presley, Stage Manager
Robert Faller, Technical Director
Dionna Williams, Marketing Director

Featured Performers

Vivian Summers
Brandi Harvey
Dr. Michael Braz
Eddie Frazier
Nora Franklin
Donald Chavers Jr.
Shaunta Ellis
Robin Holmes-Lanier

Guest Musicians

Robert Cottle, Piano
Eric Kollar, Drums
Jacob McCooey, Bass
Alton West, Piano
Kameron Humphries, Piano

Performance Order

INTERMISSION

INTRODUCTION/OPENING REMARKS

This Christmas	Shaunta Ellis
Merry Christmas Darling	Brandi Harvey
Bαby It's Cold OutsideBrandi Ha	rvey and Eddie Frazier
A Fact Can Be A Beautiful Thing	Nora Franklin
Never Fall in Love With An Elf	Nora Franklin
Little Drummer Boy	Robin Holmes-Lanier

Performance Order

Entr'acteDr. Michael Braz	
Carol of the Bells/What Child is This	
Christmas Time is Here	
Silent NightRobin Holmes-Lanier	
O Come Let Us Adore HimVivian Summers	
The Corinthian SongVivian Summers	
O Holy NightEddie Frazier	
Jesus is the Center of My JoyDonald Chavers	
Mary Did You Know/Who Could ImagineShaunta Ellis and Donald Chavers	
FINALEWe Wish You A Merry Christmas	

Featured Performers



Vivian Summers is a native of North Augusta, SC. She is a graduate of North Augusta High School and South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC. She is the third of six children. Her father, the late Willie Johnson, Sr., was an enormous inspiration in her life as he was the most gifted gospel singer that she has ever heard. Her father and mother, the late Mamie L. Johnson, took all six children to church every Sunday. With this type of guidance, a seed was planted and within grew a deep love for the Lord and a passion for gospel music. Vivian sang in her church choir, Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Aiken, SC, and several other choirs in her hometown before moving to Statesboro in 1995. She also had the privilege of singing with James Bignon and the Deliverance Mass Choir of Atlanta, Ga. Vivian has performed in several plays including Come In Out of The Rain in Augusta, Ga and Black Nativity under the direction of Mr. Mical Whitaker. Vivian was the first presenter in the ONE Series in November 2018 at the Black Box Theatre which was also directed by Mr. Mical Whitaker. She was accompanied by Mr. Anthony Badie. Vivian and her husband, Micheal, have been married for 28 years and they have two children, Jasmyne and Micheal, Jr. One of her favorite scriptures is Psalm 103:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy



Brandi Harvey's ONE performance was also the CD release for her debut album Reckless. Prior to that she took the stage as "Lorrell" in *Dreamgirls* and "Annie Sullivan" in *The Miracle Worker*, but she is best known for her role as "Patsy Cline" in *Always*, *Patsy Cline*. She regularly performs in the area with the accompaniment of Robert Cottle and as one half of the musical duo The May Belles. Ms. Harvey has toured across the state and into Florida with The Dark Desert Highway Band. When not performing, she is busy working as an SEO Specialist at UP Market Media or spending time with her three daughters and her boyfriend, Robert Faller.



Dr. Michael Braz is Professor Emeritus of Music at Georgia Southern University and is keyboardist with the Savannah Philharmonic and has also been a member of the Hilton Head and Augusta Symphonies. He has collaborated on piano and harpsichord for hundreds of soloists, chamber ensembles, and musical shows, in addition to music festivals in the U.S. and England. As a composer, he has written commissions for school and professional ensembles across the country and premiered two original operas: Memoirs from the Holocαust and A Scholar Under Siege. His hobbies are comparative religions and international travel, including music teaching experiences in England, Nepal, and China.

Featured Performers



Eddie Frazier has been teaching at Statesboro High School since 2001. He's directed dramatic pieces such as Wit; Suddenly, Last Summer; and 'night, Mother. He has also directed 9 to 5: The Musical, Guys and Dolls, Mary Poppins, and The Sound of Music for the Averitt Center. He was the voice of "Audrey II" in the Averitt's production of Little Shop of Horrors. He also starred as "Uncle Fester" in The Addams Family and "Dr. Frank-N-Furter" in The Rocky Horror Show at the Averitt! Most recently, he played "Willie Clark" in the Averitt Center's production of Neil Simon's The Sunshine Boys. He is very excited for ONE Holiday Show!



Nora Franklin has been on stage many times at the Averitt with some of her favorite roles including "Anna" in *The King and I* and "Violet Newstead" in 9 to 5. She has worked professionally in Atlanta at The Alliance Theater as the "Snow Queen" in the *The Snow Queen* and toured the United States as the "Witch" in *Hansel and Gretel* as well as other productions through the years. She has been married for 24 years to her amazing husband and has two fabulous boys Jonah and Roman.



Donald Chavers Jr. is a lifelong resident of Bulloch County. He has a love for family and community and it is displayed in his community involvement through serving on the Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors, Blue Mile Creek Project, Dancing with the Statesboro Stars, community cookouts. food giveaways, fall festivals, and more. He serves as Senior Pastor at Agape Worship Center where he ministers in word and song. He is currently working on the Love and Peace Senior Living Project where he provides comfortable and affordable living for seniors. For relaxation, he enjoys free range farming for "farm to plate". He also enjoys consulting others on free range farming.



Shaunta Ellis is a member of the Ellis Family, first daughter of Delores Ellis and Harlee Johnson, and grew up on their family farm in Candler County. On the farm, she developed her love of music and was always exposed to the fine arts when visiting family homes with her parents. She often sang on programs at Scarboro Grove, Mercer Grove, and New Hope Baptist Churches. She is a graduate of Metter High School in the Class of 1982 and earned a B.S. in General Studies emphasizing Criminal Justice, Education, and African Studies from Georgia Southern University in 2009. She is an extremely proud mother of one son, Mylz Alondre Rivers, and two adult stepchildren, Keith Andrews and Jessica Rivers. She is also the eldest of 11 siblings. She has known Mical Whitaker since her junior year of high school in 1981 and is so thankful for his support throughout every production she did under his direction. She now joyfully serves under the leadership of Reverend Gregory Thomas at New Hope Baptist Church.

Featured Performers



Robin Holmes-Lanier was born and raised in Brooklet, Georgia and was educated in the Bulloch County School System. She is a graduate of Southeast Bulloch High School and earned a degree in Early Childhood Education at Albany State University. She is a musician, singer and songwriter and has served in these capacities well as she had always had a passion and love for music. She has played the piano/keyboard for church choirs as well as sing in churches, educational institutions and other venues all over the state of Georgia. She has presented as a guest soloist and been a member of several gospel groups that have toured the southeastern United States providing musical melodies. She is the founder and co-owner of Baby Grand Music, her own studio where she teaches music to children and adults. She is also the owner of Robin's Decor where she serves as a certified floral and decor designer. Last but not least, she is the wife of Jerry Lanier and together they have 4 children: Raiven, Valencia, Robert, and Ronell and 9 grandchildren.

Crew



Mical Whitaker is the creator and director of the ONE Series which began back in November 2018 with Vivian Summers. He retired from Georgia Southern University in 2005 after a 24-year tenure during which he directed and acted in over 100 productions. During that academic career, he received 2 Fulbright Fellowships: to Duke University, NC in 1990 and to University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, East Africa in 1992. At the Averitt Center, his work at the Emma Kelly Theater has been recognized with five Emma Awards. In 2013, he was inducted by the Georgia Theater Conference into its Theater Hall of Fame. In 2015, Georgia Southern University's Theater Program established the Whitaker African American Theater Scholarship. That same year, the Averitt Center added a new intimate Black Box Theater on West Main in his honor. Most recently, he was inducted into the Averitt Center's Legends of the Arts gallery after his last performance as "Al Lewis" in The Sunshine Boys which happened on his 80th birthday. He is the proud father of son, Mical Anthony (Kofi) and proud grandfather of 3 grandchildren: Messiah, Elijah, and Jazzaniah



Ressie Fuller has been the hostess of every single ONE Series event and this holiday concert is no different. She retired to Statesboro in 2010. Since moving to Statesboro, she has appeared in several Averitt Center productions such as The Miracle Worker, The Music Man, Calendar Girls, South Pacific, and An Averitt Christmas Carol. For her performance in Calendar Girls, she was awarded an "Outstanding Newcomer" Emma Award. She co-directed the Averitt Youth Theater production of Hansel and Gretel and enjoyed her Directorial Debut with the Averitt STARS production of Smoke on the Mountain.







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