DECEMBER 2017 AT THE HYLTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

featuring:
Paul Anka in Concert
American Festival Pops Orchestra
Dailey & Vincent
and many more!

(MANASSAS)— The Hylton Performing Arts Center released today its schedule of Hylton Presents and Hylton Center EXTRA! performances for December 2017. The month’s calendar includes varied musical programs, some of which celebrate the upcoming festive season. The schedule also includes performances and events presented by the Hylton Center’s Resident Arts Partners and other local community organizations.

The Hylton Center’s December programming begins on the first of the month with a Hylton Center EXTRA! performance featuring legendary singer and songwriter Paul Anka. On December 8, Northern Virginia’s American Festival Pops Orchestra returns to the Merchant Hall stage with its family-friendly-concert of timeless carols and holiday tunes, Holiday Pops: Sounds of the Season. The “rockstars of bluegrass,” Dailey & Vincent also make a Hylton Center comeback with a holiday show of country favorites. In Spirit of Christmas, Dailey & Vincent will once again share their undeniable talent and wit, which audiences are guaranteed to enjoy.

The month’s holiday-themed programming is rounded out by Resident Arts Partners, including the Manassas Symphony Orchestra: Silver Passport on December 2; the Manassas Chorale: Around the World...It’s Christmas on December 9; and the Manassas Ballet Theatre with its long-standing Christmastime tradition, The Nutcracker, from December 14-23.

A full schedule of December 2017 performances is below. Unless otherwise noted, performances will take place in Merchant Hall at the Hylton Performing Arts Center located at 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Virginia. Tickets are available for purchase in person at the Hylton Performing Arts Center Ticket Office (open Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.), by calling 888-945-2468, or through the Hylton Center’s website at HyltonCenter.org.
Hylton Center EXTRA! and Hylton Presents

Hylton Center EXTRA!
**Paul Anka in Concert**
Friday, December 1 at 9 p.m.
Merchant Hall

**Images:** Paul Anka

Legendary singer and songwriter Paul Anka dazzles in a performance featuring his biggest hits, including “Put Your Head On My Shoulder,” “Diana,” “She’s A Lady,” and “My Way.” With song-writing credits ranging from Frank Sinatra to Michael Jackson to Johnny Carson’s The Tonight Show theme, this Academy Award-nominee takes the Hylton Center stage for a Hylton Center EXTRA! exclusive.

Concert sponsored by Cecil Pruitt, Jr.
**Hylton Center EXTRA! Sponsors:** NOVEC, Buck and Julie Waters, The Waters Foundation

Tickets: $100, $80, $60

Hylton Presents
**American Festival Pops Orchestra**
**Holiday Pops: Sounds of the Season**
Friday, December 8 at 8 p.m.
Merchant Hall

**Images:** American Festival Pops Orchestra

Celebrate the Christmas season with Northern Virginia’s very own pops orchestra in its annual family concert of cheerful carols and cherished holiday tunes. This jovial evening includes a program of sentimental favorites from Tchaikovsky’s The Nutcracker to Leroy Anderson’s “Christmas Festival” and “Sleigh Ride,” and culminates in a rousing sing-a-long, in which the audience members get a chance to share in the experience. Under the baton of founder and artistic director Anthony Maiello, these talented musicians from the greater D.C. area perform favorites that are guaranteed to fill you and your family with holiday warmth and merriment.

**Holiday Performance Series Sponsor:** Insight Wealth Management

Tickets: $55, $47, $33

*Pre-Performance Discussion* with Bryan Kidd, American Festival Pops Orchestra Arranger in Residence begins 45 minutes before the performance.
Hylton Presents
Dailey & Vincent
Spirit of Christmas
Sunday, December 10 at 7 p.m.
Merchant Hall

Images: Dailey & Vincent

Come enjoy a country Christmas as this award-winning band returns to our stage for a holiday concert of country and bluegrass favorites. Dubbed the “Rockstars of Bluegrass” by Country Music Television, Dailey & Vincent are extolled throughout the music industry as one of the most exciting Bluegrass bands in America. They chose to record their live DVD and PBS TV special for sold-out audiences in the Hylton Center’s Merchant Hall because of its excellent acoustics, and now they’re coming back to share their talents and wit for a special holiday treat. Their contagious and spirited music has earned them numerous awards, including three Grammy® Award nominations, four Dove awards, one Emmy Award nomination, and 14 International Bluegrass Music Association awards. Get in the spirit with this exceptional holiday experience.

Holiday Performance Series Sponsor: Insight Wealth Management

Pre-Performance Discussion with a Member of the Company begins 45 minutes before the performance.

Tickets: $60, $51, $36
1 Free Student Ticket Available with Mason ID on November 28, 2017

Other Performances and Events at the Hylton Center

Lifelong Learning Institute Lecture
Why So, Tense? A Discussion of Verbs and Time in English
Speaker: Douglas Wulf, Ph.D.
Presented by the Lifelong Learning Institute, Manassas
Friday, December 1 at 10:30 a.m.

The grammatical category we call tense derives its name ultimately from the Latin word *tempus*. Anyone who knows that *tempus fugit* means “time flies” can guess that tense must be how time is expressed in grammar. Time is indeed a mysterious phenomenon, and how tense expresses time can be rather mysterious in its own right. For example, if I have a question to ask you right now, it seems less polite to say, “I want to ask you a question” than “I wanted to ask you a question.” For politeness, I tend to place my request into the past tense even
though, in fact, I am making my request at the present. Looking into this and other tricky issues, the instructor deals with (or will deal with?) the way tense works in the English language.

**Douglas Wulf** is an associate professor of linguistics in the English Department of George Mason University. In addition to his interest in the history of the English language, he researches the study of meaning (semantics/pragmatics) and applied linguistics as it pertains to preparing individuals to become teachers of English as a second language.

This event is free and open to the public

*Resident Arts Partner*

**Manassas Symphony Orchestra**

*Silver Passport*

Saturday, December 2 at 4:30 p.m.
Merchant Hall

Kick off the holidays by joining the MSO (following the Manassas Christmas Parade) for its fifteenth annual family concert. The afternoon includes music from around the world and the premiere of a new work based on author Bob Staake’s brand new children’s book, *Book of Gold*.

Tickets: $20 adults, $16 seniors, active and retired military, and educators
Students through college receive free tickets

**Clara’s Christmas**

Presented by Asaph Dance Ensemble

Sunday, December 3 at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Merchant Hall

Based on the well-known “The Nutcracker,” *Clara’s Christmas* is about a young girl who discovers hope, joy, and the true meaning of Christmas.

Tickets: $30 adults, $20 seniors and students

**Gallery Exhibition**

*Ephemeral Treasures*

Works by Zofie Lang and Mojdeh Rezaeipour

Tuesday, December 5–Saturday, January 20
Buchanan Partners Art Gallery

*Ephemeral Treasures* features work exploring the precious and evanescent magical nature of dreams, visions, fairy tales, desires, hopes, and elusive longing through the collage and assemblage works of Zofie Lang and Mojdeh Rezaeipour. Through delicate collages featuring encaustic details incorporating foraged materials, Mojdeh Rezaeipour’s work evokes tender and forceful imagery asking the viewer to reflect upon the mesmerizing everyday encounters that
connect our inner and outer worlds. Zofie Lang’s elaborate and intricate assemblages delve deeply into our subconscious to reveal themselves as magical vessels of transformative imagination, prompting the viewer to contemplate the tender and forceful imagery and become lost in a world of dreamlike wonderment and curiosity. Often working with wood and photography, both artists create new realms filled with story and introspection through a fierce accumulative culmination of purposefully found and mindfully reconstructed elements. More information about the artists can be found on their individual websites.

Evening receptions for Friends of the Hylton Center are held for the opening of each Gallery exhibition. Receptions feature hors d’oeuvres, wine or craft beer from a local winery or brewery, and a chance to meet each artist and hear about their work. Fall Gallery receptions will be held from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. on September 28, November 9, and December 6, 2017.

Gallery Sponsor: Buchanan Partners

This event is free and open to the public

*Lifelong Learning Institute Lecture*

**Lecture: Revisiting the Vietnam War**

Speaker: Sheri David

Presented by the Lifelong Learning Institute, Manassas
Tuesday, December 5 at 10:30 a.m.
Gregory Family Theater

Fifty years have gone by since much of the Vietnam War took place. What questions are we still asking? What has changed about the way we view the lessons learned? What kind of research is now taking place? The class will consider these issues and more. To facilitate discussion, students are encouraged to view the Ken Burns ten-part PBS series on Vietnam, which will begin in September. The class will also consider Mark Bowden’s new and widely read book, *Hue 1968: A Turning Point of the American War in Vietnam.*

**Sheri David** has taught American Policy in Vietnam at Northern Virginia Community College for almost 30 years. She holds a doctorate in American history, is a Fulbright Scholar, an author of one book, several articles and papers, and has participated in a Faculty Seminar in Vietnam and Cambodia. She has recently retired to focus on her grandsons, travel, and research on the last days of Americans in Vietnam.

This event is free and open to the public

*Annual Messiah Sing-A-Long 2017*

Presented by Osbourn Park High School
Wednesday, December 6 at 7 p.m.
Merchant Hall
Students from Osbourn Park (OP), Patriot, and Brentsville District High Schools join forces once more under the direction of OP choir director Dominick Izzo for their annual Messiah Sing-A-Long. The show features an all-student choir and orchestra with professional soloists. Handel’s timeless work resonates through Merchant Hall in an evening of joyous music. Sing-along with Manassas-area music students by bringing a score, or just come and listen!

Tickets: $15 adults, $10 seniors, $5 students

**Christmas at the Movies**  
Presented by Angela Knight Ministries  
Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m.  
Merchant Hall

Join Angela and friends as they bring you Christmas scenes and songs from the silver screen, including “Rudolph,” “Home Alone,” and “The Grinch.” You’ll hear holiday favorites accompanied by dancing, beautiful costumes, and hilarious antics. Don’t miss this annual Christmas tradition!

Tickets: $25 adults, $20 seniors, military, and students

**Resident Arts Partner**  
**Manassas Chorale**  
**Around The World… It’s Christmas**  
Saturday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m.  
Merchant Hall

Travel the globe with the Chorale as it sings carols and songs of the season from many countries. You’ll hear personal favorites, as well as new melodies. Let the Chorale, accompanied by a twenty-piece orchestra, take you on a “world tour” in only two hours.

Tickets: $20, $18  
Free to Mason students and children (18 years and younger)

**Resident Arts Partner**  
**Manassas Ballet Theatre**  
**The Nutcracker**  
Thursday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, December 16 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, December 17 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, December 22 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 23 at 3 p.m.
Merchant Hall

The magical story of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince comes to life with the help of an ensemble cast and the Manassas Ballet Theatre Orchestra. Known for its exquisite costumes, choreography, and scenery, MBT’s production of *The Nutcracker* has become Northern Virginia’s go-to family holiday tradition.

Tickets: $75, $65, $55, $45, $35

*A Christmas Chaos*
Presented by Prince William Little Theatre
Friday, December 15 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, December 16 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Sunday, December 17 at 2 p.m.
Gregory Family Theater

A hilarious backstage comedy, this play pokes fun at the classic novel and everything that can go wrong with a theatrical production. The Royal Shakespeare Company hasn’t arrived as promised to perform their stirring rendition of “A Christmas Carol,” so Prince William Little Theatre’s intrepid band of hapless actors and technicians must put together their own production in only seven hours!

What a pity they are not quite up to the task, even though they give it their all. This entertaining play focuses on the poor but dedicated thespians doing their best while chaos ensues around them. From kids fighting over who gets to play Tiny Tim, a confused actor who thinks she’s in another show, and a haughty lead actor to an actor playing both Bob and Mrs. Cratchit and an out of control director, the thrown-together props and costumes, ridiculous scenery, and tons of flubs and confusion make for an uproarious performance that will have audiences in stitches. Presented with permission from Heuer Publishing.

Tickets: $20 adults, $17 seniors, students, and military, $13 children under 12 years

*About the Hylton Performing Arts Center*
Dedicated to bringing a world-class performing arts venue to the Prince William region, the Hylton Performing Arts Center was born out of a partnership among Prince William County, George Mason University, the City of Manassas, the Commonwealth of Virginia and individuals and businesses in the private sector. Soaring more than nine stories and boasting a stunning mix of copper, glass and masonry, the 85,000-square foot center is home to two unparalleled performance venues for local arts groups and performers from around the world, as well as university-related activities. Modeled after the intimate European opera houses of the 19th century, Merchant Hall is a 1,123-seat multipurpose proscenium theater, which is encircled by
27 private boxes that rise three levels. The Gregory Family Theater is a flexible, 4,400-square foot space that can be configured for many different types of performances and events. In addition, the Didlake Grand Foyer, with its sweeping staircase, provides an ideal setting for community, corporate and social events. The Hylton Performing Arts Center, the only building of its kind in the area, has quickly become the cultural hub of Prince William County and the surrounding communities and is a shining example of civic collaboration and commitment to the arts.

About George Mason University
George Mason University is Virginia's largest public research university. Located near Washington, D.C., Mason enrolls 35,000 students from 130 countries and all 50 states. Mason has grown rapidly over the past half-century and is recognized for its innovation and entrepreneurship, remarkable diversity and commitment to accessibility.

For more information, please visit HyltonCenter.org

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