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GAHA is endorsed and supported by the Georgia Council for the Arts, Gilmer County and the cities of Ellijay and East Ellijay.

# Arts in Ellijay

*Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association  
Dedicated to Promoting Arts and Heritage in Gilmer County*

## Award Winning Guitarist John Jorgenson to Perform January 10

Three time guitarist of the year, John Jorgenson, will perform in Ellijay, Saturday, January 10 at 7:30 pm. The John Jorgenson Quintet specializes in gypsy jazz.

"It combines so many different elements from other styles that I like," says Jorgenson. "It has the drama and virtuosity of classical music. It has the freedom and improvisation of jazz. It has the high energy of rock. It's a very joyful, energetic and challenging music."

Born in Madison in 1956 to musical parents, Jorgenson grew up first playing piano and clarinet in southern California. By age 12, Jorgenson taught himself to play the guitar by listening to bands such as The Beatles, The Byrds, The

Rolling Stones and Creedence Clearwater Revival.

In 1988, John Jorgenson was playing guitar with the Desert Rose Band at the famous Roxy Theatre in Los Angeles. Elton John highlighted a throng of celebrities in the audience. He later called and asked John to tour with him.

Elton John wasn't the first or last superstar Jorgenson backed up. A partial list includes Sting, Billy Joel, Don Henley, Willie Nelson, Bob Seger, Johnny Cash, Lyle Lovett, Tanya Tucker and Luciano Pavarotti. Jorgenson appears on Brad Paisley's new album *Play*.

Jorgenson is happiest playing with his jazz quintet, he said. "I've been doing this pretty

much full time for almost five years now," he said. "I'm pretty satisfied."

Tickets are \$17.99 to \$37.99, plus tax and may be purchased online at

[www.gilmerarts.org](http://www.gilmerarts.org) or by calling Gilmer Arts and Heritage at 706-635-5605.



*Gypsy jazz group John Jorgenson Quintet will play Saturday, January 10 at Ellijay Elementary School Auditorium. Members are, from left, rhythm guitarist Kevin Nolan, bass player Charlie Chadwick, lead guitarist John Jorgenson, drummer Rick Reed and violinist Jason Anick.*

## GAHA Looking for a Few Good Ideas

GAHA is looking for some new ideas on how to get the word out for exciting and upcoming events! Our members come from all walks of life and have so many talents that there have to be some really good ideas you'd be willing to share.

GAHA routinely provides publicity information to a number of publications such as the *400 Edition*, and we have ads in local papers in addition to notices to our

members and putting up flyers. There are always new ways and opportunities, however.

Do you belong to a Homeowners Association with a newsletter or website? Do you know of specialized websites, such as for musicians, that have Events Calendars? Do you belong to an organization that provides



members with information on activities they might like? Do you have a business where you'd be willing to post GAHA flyers?

That's just a start to get the ball rolling. As a non-profit, GAHA must make the most of its limited resources, so the phrase "no-cost, big impact" is high up on the list of goals.

If you'd like to help promote GAHA or have some thoughts on new ways GAHA can get the word out, please send us an email at [gaha@ellijay.com](mailto:gaha@ellijay.com) or call us at 706-635-5605.

Members are our best asset and the best word-of-mouth we have. Thank you for all you do to support the arts and heritage in our community!

## Twice the Talent Planned for January 24 Coffeehouse



*Barefoot Creek performs Saturday, January 24 at GAHA. Members are from left, bassist Jack Taylor, vocalists Tonia Conner and Sarrah Ellen McDonald, and guitarist Jim Pittman.*

In our ongoing goal of bringing the arts to Ellijay, Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association is once again featuring a series of coffeehouse events with live entertainment, open to the public at no cost.

Starting out the season is Barefoot Creek and The Buzzard Mountain Boys—twice the talent for zero the cost—on Saturday, January 24 beginning at 7:00 pm.

Sarrah Ellen McDonald's and Tonia Conner's singing define Barefoot Creek's early Grand Old

Opry "sister harmony" sound. Residents of Lumpkin County, Sarrah Ellen and Tonia grew up singing.

They only recently discovered how well their voices blend, and are among the finest singers of traditional songs in north Georgia.

Barefoot Creek also includes bassist Jack Taylor of Habersham County and Gilmer County resident Jim Pittman on the lead guitar. Jim also teaches an annual beginner guitar workshop at GAHA.



*Premiering at Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association—The Buzzard Mountain Boys, JoeBob and JimBob White.*

JoeBob Matteson and JimBob White are The Buzzard Mountain Boys. They play an amusing selection of Brother Duet and Old-Time music, interspersed with enough corny humor to warm your heart and take you back to the days of the traveling minstrels.

Joe is an accomplished mandolin, guitar and tenor banjo player. His Monroe style mandolin breaks and

fiery banjo strumming will set your toes to tapping. He has played in several bluegrass, old-time and gospel ensembles through the years.

Jim plays a lively fiddle, old time tenor guitar and sets the rhythm with his solid six-string guitar work. "Brother" duet harmony is the Buzzard Mountain Boys' forte and takes you back to the roots of bluegrass and rockabilly. A sprinkling of good-natured humor peppers their performances.

The event begins at 7:00 pm in the Hawthorne Room at Gilmer Arts and Heritage at 207 Dalton Street. Coffee and desserts are provided. Donations are greatly appreciated. Please come!

## Kitchen Ingredients on Display in GAHA Museum

Currently on display at GAHA is the *Kitchen Ingredients* exhibit which features culinary items and showcases old fashioned cooking methods in the

days before electricity.

The Heritage Museum is located at 207 Dalton Street in Ellijay and is open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

The exhibit is being presented in conjunction with the *Key Ingredients* exhibit formerly on display at the Gilmer County Library. The exhibit will run

through the end of February at GAHA.

## Thanks to All for a Fabulous, Fun, Fall Fundraiser!

"If you didn't make it to the Fall Fundraiser, you missed out on an amazing evening of good food, great talent, and superb hosts," says Tammy Bravo, Office Manager at GAHA.

Special thanks to Scott & Kelly McBride for opening up their home at Crawford's Crossing. Nestled on breathtaking land in an authentic civil war cabin, the McBrides live on some of the loveliest property in the county!

Gin Roberts and daughter

Michelle were planning, purchasing and coordinating from beginning to end to make this an evening to remember.

Thanks to Wolfcreek Canyon BBQ for great food and all the bands for singing their hearts out. There are too many to name individually, so please know we are grateful to our volunteers, sponsors and members who make these events happen!

We plan to repeat this event again next year and hope to see you there.



*Board member and chairperson of this event, Gin Roberts get ready to feed the hungry crowd!*

## Stig Rossen, Danish *Phantom of the Opera*, Performs Valentine's Day



Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association has a very special Valentine's evening planned! On Saturday, February 14 at 7:30 pm, Stig Rossen will be performing as part of our ongoing B.E.S.T. concert series at Ellijay Elementary School.

Stig Rossen is a world-renowned actor and vocalist who first came to fame

when he assumed the lead role of Jean Valjean in the musical *Les Misérables*.

He trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and in 1990 did an open audition for the London production of *Les Misérables*. He was offered a place in the ensemble, and after just three months, was asked to take over the lead role of Jean Valjean. This dream part gave him his international breakthrough, and to this day he has played the part almost 1500 times in 10 different countries.

Stig has recorded a number of albums, including *Starry Starry Nights*, *The Impossible Dream*, *Live In Concert*, *Letters of Love*, *Julelys*, *Stories*,

*Love Changes Everything*, *This is the Moment*, and *When You Wish upon a Star*.

In Denmark, Stig has appeared in numerous musicals including *Torden-skiold*, *Les Misérables*, *Chess*, *Ballads of Art and Love*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *The Colour of Love*.

Apart from his work in the musical theatre, his career spans from concert tours to TV parts. He has voiced Disney characters in the animated features *Mulan*, *Mulan 2* and *Lilo & Stitch*. Furthermore, he has recorded the Danish versions of the songs from *Tarzan*, *Tarzan 2*, and *Brother Bear*.

Stig Rossen published his biography, *Life Should*

*Not be Lived on Automatic Pilot* in October 2006 which draws on personal experience from his life and career.

With a powerful yet eloquent voice, Stig Rossen's musical virtuosity spans many genres, including musical theater, popular music, gospel, and timeless standards. Please join us on February 14 for a concert to remember!

Tickets are \$17.99 to \$37.99, plus tax. Call GAHA at 706-635-5605 or purchase online at [www.gilmerarts.org](http://www.gilmerarts.org).

## Upcoming Classes Offers Guitar, Sculpture, Photography, and Pencil



Instructor, Jim Pittman

### **Beginner Acoustic Guitar**

Yes, guitar enthusiasts, he's back! Jim Pittman teaches guitar only once a year at GAHA. He's been doing it for three years now, and it's become one popular class.

People tend to sign up early for classes with this accomplished lead and rhythm guitar player.

Pittman, a sixth generation Georgia native, has been performing with and teaching the guitar for over thirty years. His guitar workshops have become a staple of several music festivals, and he regularly performs with Barefoot Creek, known for its early Grand Ole Opry style music.

Join Jim for the Beginner Acoustic Guitar class for adults. It is not necessary to know how to read music. The six weekly classes start Tuesday, January 13, 2009, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm and run through February 17. The fee is \$80 for the six classes.

### **Open Art Class**

Work on your own project with instructor Mark Menendez's help or learn colored pencil techniques on a piece entitled "The Chickadee." Classes are Fridays from 10 am to 12 pm, starting January 2, 2009. The fee is \$30 per class with a four-week minimum sign-up. The supply fee is \$40 if needed.

### **Figurative Sculpture**

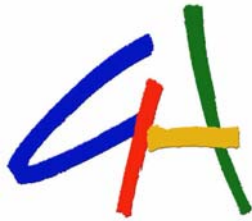
Sculptor Julia Evatt returns to teach a clay sculpture class for adults in response to area interest. Ms. Evatt has won blue ribbons for her work and has sculpted busts of two college presidents and a state governor. Classes start Thursday, January 15, from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm and run weekly

(except February 19) through February 26. The fee is \$95 plus \$20 for supplies if needed.

### **Photography**

Learn basics from photographer Jody Huneycutt, such as camera operation, composition, light, and techniques. Both film and digital are covered. Classes begin Thursday, February 5, from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm and run weekly through March 12. The fee is \$75, plus a supply fee of \$18. This is a great opportunity to learn the latest in this ever-changing field!

Call GAHA to sign up, 706-635-5605. Members receive a 10 percent discount.



## ***Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association***

207 Dalton St., Ellijay, GA 30540

Phone: 706-635-5605

Fax: 706-636-5606

Email: gaha@ellijay.com    www.gilmerarts.org

**Non-Profit Org.**

**U.S. postage**

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# Welcome!



### **NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS WHO JOINED SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER**

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