

# HAPPENINGS

## December

**29** **End of the Year Jam**, 5-11 p.m., Midtown Sundries University Park off W.T. Harris Blvd and David Cox in the Cheshire Place Shopping Center. Free party with R&B, reggae, house, old school and hip hop.

**30** **"Salute to Vienna,"** 8 p.m., Blumenthal Performing Arts Center Belk Theater. Viennese conductor Sascha Goetzel will host the live performance that includes Hungarian soprano Monika Gonzalez and tenor Valeriy Serkin as well as Vienna Opera Ballet. Tickets range from \$35 to \$75 and are available by calling (704) 372-1000 or logging on to [www.blumenthalcenter.org](http://www.blumenthalcenter.org).

**31** **Bill & Gloria Gaither's Jubilate**, Charlotte Bobcats Arena, 7 p.m. Tickets \$19.75 and \$35.75. Tickets available at [www.charlottebobcatsarena.com](http://www.charlottebobcatsarena.com) or calling (800) 495-2295.

## January

**6** **USHRA Monster Jam**, Charlotte Bobcats Arena, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$17 in advance \$19 day of show; children \$5 in advance and day of show. Second performance Jan. 7 at 8 p.m. Tickets available online at [www.charlottebobcatsarena.com](http://www.charlottebobcatsarena.com) or calling (800) 495-2295.

**8** **"Oh Freedom: Music of the Civil Rights Era—Symphony 101"** Talk 5, 9 a.m., Matthews Public Library, Matthews Town Center, 230 Matthews Station St. Also at 12:15 p.m., Main Library, 310 N. Tryon St. Free, informal talks will explore the music of the church, protesters and pop culture and how they worked to propel the civil rights movement. Singer Dawn Anthony will be the guest artist.

**12** **Aerosmith with special guest Lenny Kravitz**, Charlotte Bobcats Arena, 7:30 p.m. Tickets available online at [charlottebobcatsarena.com](http://charlottebobcatsarena.com), [cellardoor.com](http://cellardoor.com), calling (800) 495-2295.

**13** **Park Martinia with the Charlotte Symphony**, — Pops, 8 p.m., Belk Theatre, 130 N. Tryon St. Albert-George Schram conducting. Admission is \$19-\$59. Call (704) 972-2000 or log on to [www.charlottesymphony.org](http://www.charlottesymphony.org). Park Martinia has played with Sergio Mendes and Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, Cannes Film Festival and Al Green.

**14** **The Listener-Lollipops**, 11 a.m., Belk Theater, 130 N. Tryon St. Pre-concert festival at 10 a.m. in theater lobby. Allan Yamamoto conducting with Magic Circle Mime Company. Admission \$8-\$20. Lollipops concerts help young listeners make friends with great music and the orchestra.

Comedian **Larry The Cable Guy**, 7:30 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Part of the "Right to Bear Arms" tour. Tickets are \$40.75.

**16** **Martin Luther King Memorial Concert "Daybreak of Freedom,"** 7 p.m., Belk Theatre of Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. Conducted by Harry Davidson, music director and conductor of the Duke Symphony Orchestra and Tony McNeill, director of the Charlotte Community Choir. Tickets are \$5-\$30 and can be purchased by calling (704) 972-1000, logging on to [www.charlottesymphonyorchestra.org](http://www.charlottesymphonyorchestra.org) or the CSO ticket office at 201 S. College St.

**18** **Allison Krauss & Union Station with Jerry Douglas**, Ovens Auditorium. Tickets \$49.50 and \$45.50.

**on Jovi**, Charlotte Bobcats Arena, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$49.50 and \$89.50.

**0** **Bookoo Arenacross**, Cricket Arena. Tickets \$5-\$22. Continues through Jan. 22.

## February

**3** **"Little Women: The Broadway Musical,"** Belk Theatre through Jan. 8. Tickets are \$20-\$56 and on sale at the Performing Arts Center box office at (704) 372-1000 or [www.blumenthalcenter.org](http://www.blumenthalcenter.org). Discounts available for groups by calling (704) 379-1380.

**8** **Vienna Choir Boys**, 7 p.m., Belk Theatre, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. Tickets start at \$20 and can be purchased at the CSO ticket

office at 201 S. College St. [www.charlottesymphony.org](http://www.charlottesymphony.org) or calling (704) 972-2000.

**16** **Keith Urban with special guest Pat Green**, 7:30 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Tickets \$42 and \$29.50. Continues through Jan. 22.

**17** **"Off the Wall & Onto the Stage: Dancing the Art of Jonathan Green,"** 8 p.m., Blumenthal Performing Arts Center Belk Theater. Ballet presented by the Afro-American Cultural Center as part of its annual Heritage Signature event. Tickets are \$25 to \$55 and available by calling (704) 372-1000 or at [www.aacc-charlotte.org](http://www.aacc-charlotte.org).

**20** **Cop-A-Squat Coffee House** will hold auditions for dinner theatre performance of selections

from "Cats," 7 p.m., Cop-A-Squat Coffeehouse, 107 South Main St. Lancaster, S.C. Have music selection ready and be prepared for light movement. Second round of auditions Jan. 21.

**23** **WWE Monday Night Raw**, 7:45 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena.

**26** **"La Traviata,"** Belk Theater at North Carolina Performing Arts Center through Jan. 29. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26; 8 p.m. Jan. 27-28 and 2 p.m. Jan. 29. All performances have projected English titles. Opera Carolina Chorus, The Moving Poets Theatre of Dance and The Charlotte Symphony. Tickets are \$15-\$92 and available at [www.operacarolina.org](http://www.operacarolina.org) or (704) 372-1000.

## RADIO DAY



GASTON COLLEGE

A group of girls participating in a program with the Gastonia Housing Authority toured Gaston College's radio station WSGE (91.7 FM). The girls were on campus to learn more about career choices available at the college.

## BIKER SANTAS



PHOTO/WADE NASH

Custom Ryders Motorcycle Club and Hi Definition Motorcycle Club contributed Christmas gifts to Another Choice, an adoption advocacy group. The cyclists often give to Another Choice, including school supplies.

## ECHO GALA



PHOTO/WADE NASH

Juanita Gordon and David Cunningham were all smiles at the Excelsior Club Humanity Organization's Extravaganza, a formal fund raising event to celebrate a year of service.

## Notes

**Lowe's Shootout presented by Bojangles'** Dec. 29 at Charlotte Bobcats Arena. High school basketball games start at 3:30 p.m. with Charlotte Christian vs. West Charlotte, South Mecklenburg vs. Providence Day (girls); Norcross (Ga.) High vs. Laurinburg Institute; The Episcopal Academy (Pa.) vs. Statesville Christian. General admission tickets are \$15 and available online at [www.charlottebobcatsarena.com](http://www.charlottebobcatsarena.com) or calling (800) 495-2295.

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**Kuumba Kwanzaa Cultural Camp**, Dec. 30, 6 p.m., Seigle Avenue Presbyterian Church, 600 Seigle Ave. Closing ceremony followed by a Karamu, or Kwanzaa feast. Call (704) 504-1445 for information.

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**Dell Curry Bojangles High School Hoops Tournament** Dec. 29-31 at Belk Activities Center, Charlotte Latin School. Twenty-four teams will compete in three divisions: national boys, national girls and local boys. Volunteers also needed for statistics crew, clock operators and game announcers. For information, call Jeffrey Hood at (704) 332-KIDS.

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**Evening of Elegance**, Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m.-2 a.m., Sheraton Charlotte Airport Hotel, 3315 S. Interstate 85 at Billy Graham Parkway. Former Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools superintendent James Pughley is recipient of the Excellence in Education Award by host Beta Nu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. Tickets are \$60 each, and includes dinner, live band and champagne toast at midnight. Proceeds go to the fraternity's scholarship fund and Alpha Academy, which enhances educational development, cultural awareness and social development for African American boys in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. For information, e-mail [gala@bnlfraternity.org](mailto:gala@bnlfraternity.org) or call (704) 701-8899.

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**Pride Awards**, Jan. 14, Westin Hotel. Black-tie gala titled "Men Moving Mountains" will honor C. Ray Kennedy (American Products Distributors), Mecklenburg County Manager Harry Jones; Michael DeVaul (University City YMCA); Emmanuel Ohonme (Samaritan's Fee) and Lewis Young Jr. of Philip O. Berry Academy. Individual tickets \$165. For information, call (704) 375-9553 or log on to [www.prideawards.net](http://www.prideawards.net).

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**Martin Luther King youth basketball celebration**, Jan. 16, Ray's Splash Planet gymnasium, 215 N. Sycamore St. Double elimination tournament for teams 12 years-under, 14-under and 16-under boys and girls. Cost is \$150 per team, which includes admission to the indoor water park. Deadline for entry is Jan. 2. For information, call Ramona Staton at (704) 432-4296 or Mario Torrence at (704) 336-7995.

## Exhibits

**Vintage Vernon**, Local Accents Gallery, Museum of York County through Jan. 1. Featuring 15 illustrations and memorabilia of Vernon Grant. The museum is located at 4621 Mt. Gallant Road, Rock Hill. For information, call (803) 329-2121.

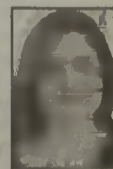
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**"Renaissance to Rocco: Masterpieces from the collection of the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art,"** Mint Museum of Art, 2730 Randolph Road. Exhibit through Jan. 15. Hours are Tuesday 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Wednesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 12-5 p.m. Admission is free Tuesdays from 5-10 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students; \$3 for students age 6-17.

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**Don Reitz: Clay, Fire, Salt and Wood** through Dec. 31 at the Mint Museum of Craft + Design, 220 N. Tryon St. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 12-5 p.m.; free Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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**"Faces & Stories: A Portrait of Southern Writers,"** through Jan. 5, Charlotte Museum of History, 3500 Shamrock Drive. Photographic exhibit features 60 portraits by Curt Richter.

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**"Joe Walters: Selected Works"** through Jan. 5, Joie Lassiter Gallery, 1440 South Tryon St., Suite 104. Exhibit includes a combination of sculptures and works on paper. For information, call Kate Baillon-Case at (704) 373-1463.

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Award-winning poet and non-fiction writer **Margaret Ryan Griffin**, Charlotte Art League guest speaker Jan. 17, 7 p.m. Griffin will share seven approaches to tapping into your own creative genius. The art league is at 1517 Camden Road.



Griffin

Concerts, art exhibits and community-oriented events can be submitted to The Charlotte Post P.O. Box 30144 Charlotte, NC 28230. You can fax (704) 342-2160, log on at [www.thecharlottepost.com](http://www.thecharlottepost.com) or e-mail [editorial@thecharlottepost.com](mailto:editorial@thecharlottepost.com).



The world-famous Radio City Rockettes bring their high-energy routines to Charlotte through Jan. 1 at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. This is the troupe's first appearance in Charlotte.

BLUMENTHAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER