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BEST IN FLORIDA

Florida State University's four-year graduation rate of 72 percent places FSU among the Top 10 public universities in the country and is the best in the state of Florida.



GLOBAL REACH

FSU's commitment to increasing the number of students studying abroad was honored with a 2019 Seal of Excellence from the Institute of International Education. The award specifically recognized FSU's extraordinary global-engagement network.



FSU FRESHMEN FLOURISH

Florida State's freshman retention rate is 93 percent, meaning more freshmen than ever are returning for their second year. That places FSU among the Top 20 public universities in the nation for freshman retention!



WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

FSU researchers received a record level of funding from federal, state and private sources in the 2019 fiscal year, bringing \$233.6 million to the university to support investigations into areas such as health sciences, high energy physics and marine biology.



THE WORD IS OUT

Prospective students are taking notice of FSU's preeminence. We received a record-breaking 60,555 first-time freshman applications for the 2019 summer and fall semesters.



AN OUTSTANDING VALUE

Florida State is ranked No. 9 in the nation among public universities that offer high-quality education at an affordable price, according to Kiplinger's annual list of Best Values in Public Colleges.



elcome to our final performance of the 2020-21 Season, An Evening with Billy Dean. In this highly anticipated performance, local doctors Hugh and Cody VanLandingham will join Billy on stage for their stage debut. Throughout the evening Billy will perform updated versions of some of his greatest songs accompanied by members of the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra. This will be an unforgettable night and a great way to conclude the season.

This performance is a part of Visit Tallahassee's summer Backyard Bucket List Challenge, a fun photo sharing contest. Just snap a picture for Instagram using the hashtag #TallyBucketListSweepstakes or enter via QR code at the event and you can win prizes including a grand prize of a staycation for two!

We recently announced One Night of Queen on August 24 and Chris Botti on September 2 as the first two events of the 2021-22 Season. Tickets are now on sale for these two outstanding performances to members and sponsors.

We announce the full season on July 8, and I hope you'll tune in to see the over 30 artists coming next season who represent a diverse array of genres. I look forward to seeing you all again for these incredible performances back on Florida State University's campus.

Your continued support made this season possible. We couldn't do what we do without you. Thank you.

Mukeel

Michael Blachly

Director, Opening Nights at Florida State University



Putting Our Hands Together *For Opening Nights*

Celebrating our 25th anniversary with the best entertainment.







Florida State University

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UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

JUNE

17 An Evening with Billy Dean

country, singer-songwriter
Sponsored by Ajax Building Company

JULY

2021–22 Season Announcement

Sponsored by Capital Eurocars

FALL ON-SALE DATES

JULY 9 Sponsors

JULY 15 Producer's Circle Members

JULY 19 Partner Members

JULY 22 Friend Members

JULY 26 Associate Members

JULY 28 Debut Members

JULY 30 Solo Members

AUGUST

2 GENERAL ON SALE

24 One Night of Queen

rock n' roll, tribute Sponsored by Carlton Fields

SEPTEMBER

2 Chris Botti

crossover, jazz, instrumental Sponsored by Peter Boulware Toyota

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Stay connected to Tallahassee's latest activities and attractions. Read Tallahassee Magazine in print and online, plus like and follow on social media for the latest events and happenings.

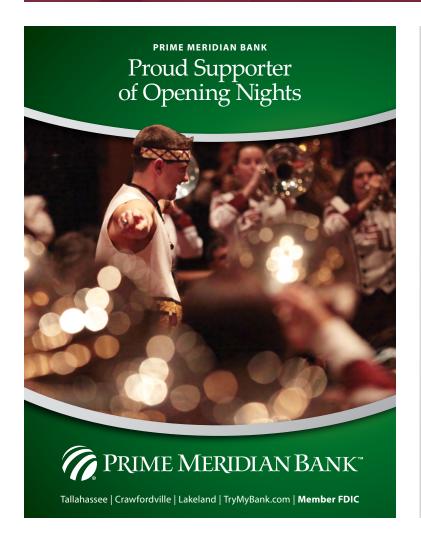




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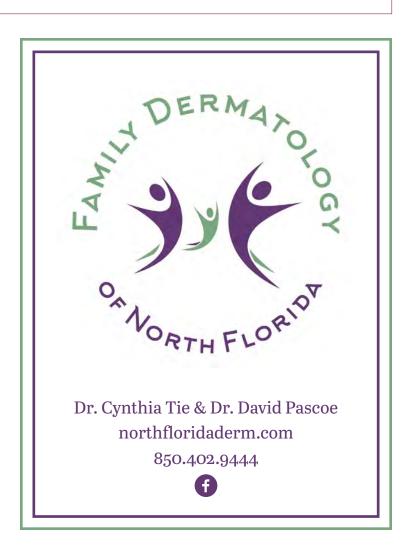
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THURSDAY June 17

7:30 P.M.

LOCATION

The Moon

GENRE

country, singer-songwriter

An Evening with Billy Dean

In this intimate evening, Billy Dean will perform new arrangements of his hit songs from the 90s accompanied by an eight-piece section of musicians from the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra. Local Tallahassee doctors and song writers Hugh and Cody VanLandingham will join Billy Dean and open the show with songs from Billy's recently released extended play record, Gadsden County Line. Billy Dean is an American troubadour who has mastered the art of singing, songwriting, and storytelling. His unique ability to morph into the characters in his songs, brings the storyline to life, captivating his audiences with musical drama. Billy's finger-style acoustic guitar playing is reminiscent of James Taylor, and his charismatic charm and approachable personality make his concerts an instant favorite.

Continued on pg. 21

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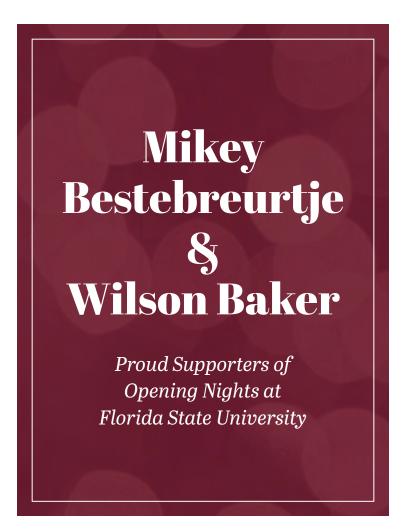
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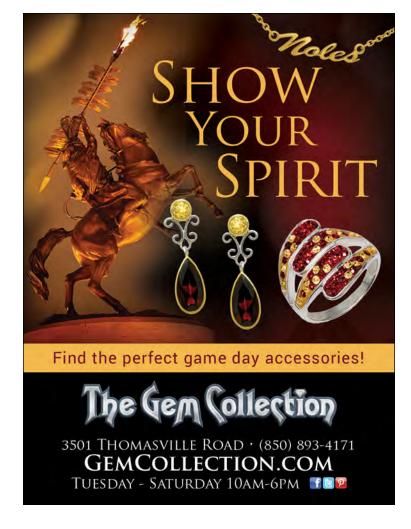




Dr. Jim & Mrs. Betty Ann Rodgers

Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A.

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An Evening with **Billy Dean**

Continued from pg. 17

Born in the small town of Quincy, Florida, Billy Dean started his music career at the age of eight, singing with his father's band, the Country Rocks. After touring the Gulf Coast circuit in his late teens and early twenties, Billy's first big break came in 1988 when he won Best Male Vocalist on Star Search, hosted by Ed McMahon. His success on the show led to signing with Capitol Records and the release of his debut album Young Man in 1990. Buoyed by the singles "Only Here for a Little While" and "Somewhere in My Broken Heart," Young Man became Billy's first of many Gold records.

His second and third albums, Billy Dean and Fire in the Dark, were also certified as Gold Records and featured the Billboard-charting singles, "You Don't Count the Cost," "Only the Wind," "Billy the Kid," "If There Hadn't Been You," "Tryin' to Find a Fire in the Dark," "I Wanna Take Care of You," "I'm Not Built That Way" and more.

Over the course of his 25+ year career, Billy has released 11 albums and has been recognized with several awards and nominations. In 1992, he was nominated for a GRAMMY® for Song of the Year for "Somewhere in My Broken Heart," which went on to win Song of the Year at the American Country Music Awards. That same year, Billy was named Top New Male Vocalist of the Year at the Academy of Country Music awards and nominated by the Country Music Association for the Horizon Award. Four years later, Billy won a Grammy for Amazing Grace, A Country Tribute to Gospel, an album featuring Martina McBride, Allison Krauss, the Charlie Daniels Band and



Billy Dean will perform with local doctors Hugh and Cody VanLandingham and members of the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra.

others. In 2017, Billy was inducted as a member of the Florida Artist Hall of Fame.

A modern-day American Troubadour, Billy Dean has performed and toured with some of the industry's biggest country music stars including the Judds, Kenny Rogers, Clint Black, Alan Jackson, Wynonna Judd and others. Although Billy's best known in the Country Music genre for his 11 Top Ten singles, five #1 hits and over four million

albums sold, his musical roots are entangled with folk, southern rock, bluegrass and classic country.

After making a home in Nashville for decades, Billy has returned to his Florida roots and now lives in Quincy with his wife, Stephanie. Billy continues to perform and write—doing what he does best-telling the stories that have become the soundtrack of our lives.

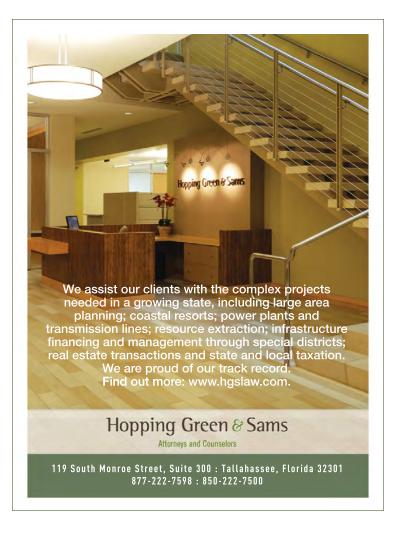
MARK YOUR CALENDARS... 2021–22 Season Announcement JULY 8

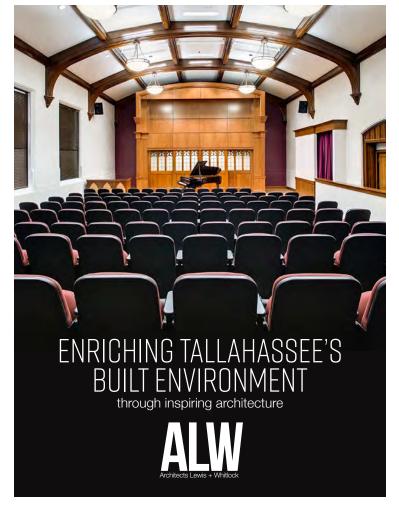
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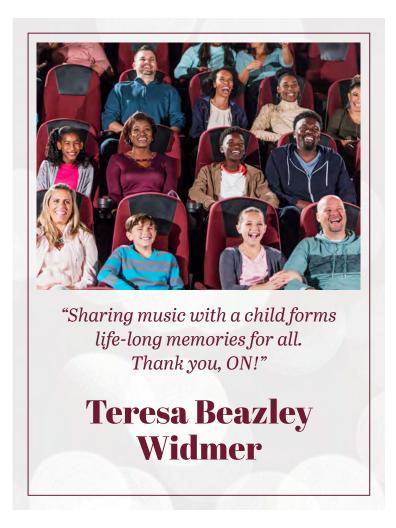


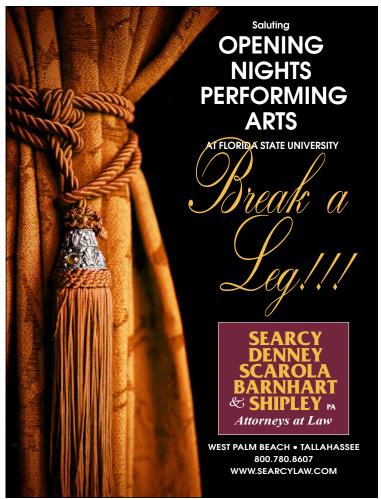






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Larry & Jo Deeb

"None of us knows about tomorrow but all of us know that the bright tomorrow will come and Opening Nights will need to be a part of that."

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Your gift helps FSU continue as a leading performing arts presenter as well as to subsidize student tickets. This fund accepts honorary and memorial gifts.

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