

CENTRAL CITY PARK

FUN IN THE PARK

Join us and experience exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

115 Willie Smokie Glover Drive Macon, GA 31201.

Event Hours:

Sunday-Wednesday: Noon-9:00 pm

Thursday-Friday: Noon-10:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am-10:00 pm

Admission:

\$5/person: Children 10 and under **FREE!**

Gate Specials:

Weekdays: **FREE!** Admission from 12:00-1:00 pm

Sunday 4/2: **FREE!** Admission from 12:00-1:00 pm

Military Day:

Presented by Greater Chamber of Commerce, Museum of Aviation Foundation and Planters First Bank

Monday 3/27: Military Appreciation Day – All Active, Retired, Reserve, and Veteran

Military, Department Of Defense Civilian Employees and immediate family admitted free with ID. Pay one price discount with Military or DOD ID, discounted \$10 unlimited rides!

Parking:

Visit cherryblossom.com for park and ride locations. Parking is **FREE EVERYDAY!**

Concerts:

Join us each night at the Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola at Central City Park!

Nightly entertainment is included with \$5/person Park Admission

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL AMUSEMENT RIDE MIDWAY

Presented by Drew Exposition

March 24-April 2

Central City Park

Your whole family will enjoy the fun fair atmosphere with Drew Exposition Amusement Rides! The rides are available at Central City Park all ten days during park hours.

Purchase ride tickets on site.

Ways to save:

Monday 3/27-Thursday 3/30: Unlimited rides \$20 per person and can only be purchased at the midway

Sunday 3/26: **FREE!** Rides from Noon-1:00 pm

Monday 3/27: Military day- \$10 rides free admission with Military ID

Wednesday 3/29: **FREE!** Rides from Noon-1:00 pm

Sunday 4/2: **FREE!** Rides from Noon-1:00 pm

CONCESSIONS & VENDORS

March 24-April 2

Central City Park

Come enjoy your favorite fair food favorites such as corn dogs, gyros, s'mores cobbler, cotton candy, italian ice, funnel cakes, kettle corn and much more!

ZUZU AFRICAN ACROBATS

Presented by State Bank and Trust Company

March 24-April 2

Central City Park

Weekday Show Times: 2:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 pm

Weekend Show Times: 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00 pm

Each show lasts approximately 20-25 minutes.

Featuring talented acrobatic super stars that will visit our festival for the first time! Two of the show cast members have previously performed on NBC's hit "America's Got Talent." Do not miss these skilled performers from Kenya as they tumble, dance, juggle, limbo, hurdle and much more. This is a show guaranteed to entertain people of all ages! **FREE!**

THE BUTTERFLY ENCOUNTER

Presented by Verizon

March 24-April 2

Central City Park

Daily Show Times: 1:00, 4:00, & 6:00 pm

Each show is approximately 15 minutes.

The exhibit is open until 8:00 pm nightly and 9:00 pm on weekends.

Experience this interactive, walk-through exhibit and see over 200 butterflies! Six different species are represented as guests learn about the butterfly lifecycle as well as how to fix a broken wing. Visitors are offered the opportunity to feed butterflies. Kits will be available for purchase so guest can take home their very own butterfly! **FREE!**

ATLANTA PUPPET SHOW

March 24-April 2

Central City Park

Daily Shows Times: 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 5:30, 6:30 & 7:30 pm

Each show lasts approximately 20-25 minutes.

Peter has long been regarded as one of the finest and most skillful professional puppeteers in the South. His exceptional talents have received praises from audiences at Walt Disney World / Epcot, the Georgia Governor's Mansion, Six Flags Over Georgia, Centennial Park, the 1996 Olympics, and in Europe. He has performed as Head Puppeteer in over 70 different professional puppetry productions that have won 4 International Awards from UNIMA. **FREE!**

DAILY MUSEUMS & TOURS

FREE BIRDS & NIGHT OWLS MUSIC HISTORY WALKING TOUR

Presented By Rock Candy Tours

Time: 1:00-2:30 pm

Monday, March 27 through Friday, March 31

450 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Macon, GA 31201

Price: \$10.00 per person. Cash or check at the beginning of the tour or credit card reservations may be made at www.rockcandytours.com

Rock, roll and stroll through Macon's legendary and notorious music history. See the homes, offices, crash pads and favorite haunts of some of southern music's most legendary players as well as the backstage cast of characters who played a crucial role in their catapult to fame. This special Cherry Blossom Festival sanctioned presentation of Rock Candy Tours' Free Birds & Night Owls Music History Walking Tour is a 1.5 hour "easy walking" public tour that focuses on downtown Macon's commercial district and takes place. The tour begins at 1:00 p.m. at the entrance of the Macon-Bibb County Convention & Visitors Bureau located at 450 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Macon, Ga. 31201 and ends back at the Macon-Bibb County Convention & Visitors Bureau at 2:30 p.m. Please wear comfortable shoes and dress weather appropriate. We at Rock Candy Tours look forward to rocking & rolling with you!

WOODRUFF HOUSE TOUR

10:00 am-5:00 pm

March 24-April 2

988 Bond Street, Macon, GA 31201

This Antebellum Mansion overlooks the entire city of Macon offering spectacular views. The Ikebana Japanese flower arranging Exhibit is also on display throughout the Woodruff House by members of the Middle Georgia Chapter of Ikebana International. **FREE!**

CANNONBALL HOUSE TOURS AND DEMONSTRATION

Monday through Saturday Tours: 10:00 am-3:30 pm

856 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201

\$8.00 – adults

\$6.00 – age 65+ or Military I.D.

\$4.00 – students (College with ID)

Under 4 - FREE!

The Cannonball House, named for damage sustained during the War Between the States, was built in 1853 as a planter's townhouse. Located in Macon, Georgia, The Cannonball House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is an example of authentic Greek Revival architecture containing fine period furnishings. The house is also the repository for the Founders' parlors of the Adelphean (ΑΔΠ) and Philomathean (ΦΜ) societies, recreated from Wesleyan College, where they began in 1851 and 1852.

For more information visit www.cannonballhouse.org.

HAY HOUSE DAILY GUIDED TOURS

Monday through Saturday 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Sunday 1:00–4:00 pm

Macon-Bibb County Public Schools, 934 Georgia Ave, Macon, GA 31201

\$11.00 Adults

\$10.00 Seniors (ages 65+) and Military with ID

\$7.00 Students (ages 6-College with ID)

Under age 6 and members of The Georgia Trust: FREE!

One of Georgia's most historic homes and distinguished structures, the Johnston-Felton-Hay House in Macon was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1974. Construction began in 1855 and continued into 1859. The House was built in the Italian Renaissance Revival style, a marked contrast to the Greek Revival architecture of the antebellum period.

GEORGIA SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Weekdays: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Macon-Bibb County Public Schools, 301 Cherry St, Macon, GA 31201

\$8.00 Adults (17 & Over)

\$6.00 Seniors, College, & Military with ID

\$3.50 Children (16 & Under)

The Georgia Sports Hall of Fame makes a difference in the lives of our youth and honors the struggle, perseverance, and achievement of our state's best teams, athletes, and coaches. Join in honoring the spirit of past generations while encouraging and supporting today's competitors.

For more information visit georgiasportshalloffame.com.

MUSEUM OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Tuesday - Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Monday: CLOSED

4182 Forsyth Road Macon, GA 31210

Members & Children 2 & Under FREE!

\$10.00 Adults,

\$5.00 Children 3-17

\$8.00 Senior Citizens & Military with ID

\$7.00 Students with ID

The Museum of Arts and Sciences in Macon is a community museum. The facility includes four galleries with frequently changing exhibitions, the Discovery House with hands-on activities, live animal habitats, the Mark Smith Planetarium, an observatory, nature trail, garden, store, auditorium and classrooms. For more information visit www.masmacon.org.

TUBMAN AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

Tuesday through Saturday- 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

First Friday of Each Month- 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Sunday and Monday- Closed

Macon-Bibb County Public Schools, 310 Cherry St, Macon, GA 31201

\$10.00 Adults

\$8.00 Adult Group Rate (15+)

\$6.00 Children/Teens (age 3-17)

The Tubman Museum is the largest museum in the nation dedicated to educating people about the Art, History and Culture of African Americans. For more information visit www.tubmanmuseum.com.

MUSEUM OF AVIATION

Open Daily 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

1942 Heritage Blvd, Robins AFB, GA 31098

FREE! Admission | FREE! Parking

The Museum of Aviation opened to the public on Friday, 9 November 1984 with 20 aircraft on display in an open field and another 20 were in various stages of restoration. It has grown to become the second largest museum in the United States Air Force and the fourth most visited museum in the Department of Defense. The museum is a place that honors our veterans and their families and reminds our Airmen of their legendary Air Force heritage. For more information visit www.museumofaviation.org

SPRING SPIRIT STROLL

Presented by Historic Riverside Cemetery Conservancy

6:00 pm Nightly

March 24 - April 2

1301 Riverside Drive, Macon, GA 31201

\$10 per person/10 and under FREE!

Enjoy an early evening walk through our beautiful landscape on a one hour guided tour featuring actors in costume at graveside who bring to life selected stories from the “Notable and Notorious” tour introduced at Spirits in October. For more information call 478-742-5328.

OCMULGEE LANTERN LIGHT TOURS

Presented by Ocmulgee National Monument

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

March 24 - March 26 & March 31 - April 2

1207 Emery Hwy, Macon, GA 31217

Admission: \$5 per person/ 12 and under FREE!

Held yearly during Macon’s Cherry Blossom Festival, Ocmulgee National Monument hosts the Lantern Light Tours. Grab a lantern and stroll along the luminary lined path from the Visitor Center to the Great Temple Mound. Join

interpretive talks at the bridge, Earth Lodge, Trading Post, and Great Temple Mound sites. Step back in time to meet costumed characters with ties to Ocmulgee. Learn about the 17,000-year history of Ocmulgee and the people who lived here. Tour the Museum exhibits and 2,000+ artifacts.
For more information call (478)-752-8257.

PRE-FESTIVAL EVENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 20

AN EVENING OF MUSIC

Presented by the Department of Fine Arts of the Bibb County School District

7:00 pm

2155 Napier Ave, Macon, GA 31204

The Department of Fine Arts of the Bibb County School District presents “An Evening of Music” featuring the Bibb County Honor Choir and the Central High School Advanced Orchestra for more information visit bcsdk12.net. **FREE!**

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

TEA WITH THE QUEEN AND PRINCESS

10:00 am

First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

Calling all young Prince and Princesses, come hear a magical story and have tea with the Cherry Blossom Royalty. Dress in your best fairy tale attire and meet Macon’s own Royalty. Light refreshments will be available. Cost is \$5 per child and pay at the door. All proceeds will go to charity of choice of the Cherry Blossom Royalty.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

MACON YOUTH ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Presented by Macon Youth Orchestra

7:00 pm-8:30 pm

651 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201

The Macon Youth Orchestra, comprised of 50+ talented young musicians from all over the Middle Georgia area, will perform at the Grand Opera House. The show will consist of the Full Orchestra, String Orchestra, and select Chamber Groups for more information visit maconyouthorchestra.org. **FREE!**

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

SPRING PLANT SALE

Presented by Master Gardeners of Central Georgia

Thursday, March 23: Noon-5:00 pm

Friday, March 24: 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Saturday, March 25: 8:00 am-3:00 pm

2055 Eisenhower Pkwy Macon, GA 31206

Master Gardeners of Central Georgia, a volunteer non-profit organization, offers a variety of Master Gardener grown plants, trees, and shrubs to choose from at great prices. The group Provides gardening advice and research based information. The sale is a fundraising event supporting junior Master Gardener School programs, community projects, and scholarships. For more information visit mgcg.org. **FREE!**

SCHOOL IN PINK

Presented by SMART Inc. (South Macon Arts Revitalization Technology)

3660 Houston Avenue Macon, GA 31206

Noon - Judging of doors/Royal Court Meets Students

SMART, Inc., Cherry Blossom Representatives, and Members of the Queen's Court share this time with students from Pre-K through 2nd Grade. Cherry Blossom Representatives will judge the doors before joining the larger group for an assembly where students learn about the International Cherry Blossom and have fun activities. **FREE!**

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

MARCH 24-APRIL 2

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

CENTRAL CITY PARK OPENING CEREMONY

Noon-1:00 pm (park will be open until 10 pm after Ceremony)

Central City Park

International, state, and local dignitaries celebrate 35 years of Macon, Georgia's International Cherry Blossom Festival as they conduct the ribbon-cutting to open 2017. For more information visit Cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

TEA GARDEN

Presented by the Macon Arts Alliance

5:00-8:00 pm

486 First Street, Macon, GA 31201

Join Macon Arts Alliance on the first Friday of the Cherry Blossom Festival for the "Tea Garden" exhibition! Experience the beauty of Georgia-based artwork while enjoying complimentary drinks and delicious eats! For more information call 478-743-6940. **FREE!**

FLASH BACK TO THE 80S FEATURING THE VELCRO PYGMIES WITH ECHOSPEED

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

6:00-7:30 pm - Echospeed: When you need your '80s fix and only the best will do, Echospeed is the band you need! Playing the hits of the '80s since 1992. The Godfather of '80s cover bands. Simple enough.

8:00-10:00 pm - The Velcro Pygmies: Master of Ceremonies

front-man Cameron leads the crowd on a roller coaster trip through the 80s, with occasional detours into country and R&B while Chris Eddins amazes you with his antics on drums. Bassist Jacob Sanders lays down the thunder while guitar god Chase West wails on his Les Paul. **FREE CONCERT!**

TUNES N' BREWS ON THE TRAIL

Presented by Bike Walk Macon

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Ocmulgee Heritage Trail Macon, GA 31201

Join Bike Walk Macon's inaugural Tunes N' Brews Bike Bash for a family-friendly, festive evening of bike riding, live music, burgers, and beer! This ride features an easy pace 4 mile ride departing from the Tubman Museum and travels through beautiful Historic Downtown Macon. There will be a half-way rest stop with light refreshments and a live acoustic performance on the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail. The ride will end at Ocmulgee Brewpub, where riders can enjoy gourmet burgers, hand-cut fries, homemade sauces and craft beer brewed in house. Don't forget to tell your server you're riding with Bike Walk Macon. Ten percent of your tab will go to Bike Walk Macon to help improve active transportation options in Macon-Bibb County! Lights and helmets are required.

For More info visit <http://www.bikewalkmacon.com/events/tunesnbrews>.

FREE!

GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA

Presented by SMART, Inc. (South Macon Arts Revitalization Technology)

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Willingham Hall at Mercer University

Admission: \$10 per person in advance, \$15 per person at the door

Purchase tickets at the Cherry Blossom Festival Gift Shop

Showcases the Dazzling Diva's Inspirational Dancers, Aris and Artis, Future Generation, and special guests, the Georgia Mass Choir. For more information call 478-246-3285.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

BIKE THE CITY PINK

Presented by Cycles and Change Macon LLC & Georgia Health & Wellness Festival

7:00-9:00 am

Tubman Museum 310 Cherry Street, Macon, GA 31201

Ride will start at The Tubman Museum and end at Central City Park. This is a casual ride.

Please bring your own bike and safety gear. The route is estimated at 3 miles.

For more information visit cyclesandchange.com. **FREE!**

PINK PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Presented by Macon-Bibb County Fire Department

7:00-10:30 am

Central City Park - United Building

\$5 per person/ 5 and under - \$2 per person

Come enjoy delicious pink pancakes served up by the Macon-Bibb County Fire Department! All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

For more information call 478-751-9180.

CHERRY BLOSSOM GOLF TOURNAMENT

Presented by Macon-Bibb Department of Parks and Recreation

8:00 am-6:00 pm

3111 Millerfield Rd. Macon, GA 31211

Team of two - \$210

The 2017 Cherry Blossom Four-Ball Golf Tournament, hosted by Macon-Bibb Department of Parks and Recreation, will be held at Historic Bowden Gold Course. Bowden Golf Course is on the National Register of Historic Places due to its traditional layout and construction in the late 1930s and as the first facility to be integrated in Macon in 1961. For more information visit maconbibb.us/recreation.

CHERRY BLOSSOM OPEN AIR MARKET

Presented by Bearfoot Tavern

9:00 am-4:00 pm

543 Plum Street, Macon, GA 31201

Vendors sell handmade or homegrown goods from Middle Georgia.

Featuring food trucks, live music and a petting zoo. **FREE!**

CENTRAL CITY PARK

10:00 am-10:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!
See pages 4-6 for more information.

MACON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SPECIAL EVENT STATION

Presented by Macon Amateur Radio Club

10:00 am-4:00 pm

Corner of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Poplar St., Macon, GA 31201

Local ham radio operators attempt to contact other hams across the US and Canada via shortwave radio to promote the 2017 Cherry Blossom Festival. Visitors are welcome. All area amateur radio operators are encouraged to attend. For more information call 478-957-2355. **FREE!**

OCMULGEE DUCK DASH

Presented by Big Brothers Big Sisters

10:30 am-Noon

2551 North Pierce Dr Macon, GA 31204

Adoption Fee - \$5 per duck

Bunch of Ducks: 7 for \$30

Quackers Dozen: 14 for \$60

Mega Ducks: 24 for \$100

Purchase ducks from Big Brothers Big Sisters, Crisis Line & Safe House, and the event website. All of the ducks will be placed in the Ocmulgee River at the same time. The person who purchased the winning duck will take home \$1,000! 2nd and 3rd place ducks will also win prizes.

For more information call (478)745-3984. **FREE!**

COTTON AVENUE REVIVAL FESTIVAL

Presented by Cotton Avenue Coalition

11:00 am-7:00 pm

Cotton Avenue, Macon, GA 31201

Join us for two days celebrating the lively and historic Cotton Avenue District. The Cotton Avenue Revival Festival will kick off with a brunch at the Ruth Hartley Mosely Women's Center and then roll into outdoor music performances. Historic and music tours are offered on Saturday showcasing the rich and diverse legacy of the people and businesses that built the neighborhood. Restaurants will feature "Festival Specials" for attendees. Iconic churches of the Cotton Avenue neighborhood will be open for tours and music.

For more information call 478-742-5084. **FREE!**

PAWS IN THE PARK DOG SHOW

Presented by Tobesofkee Recreation Area

Noon-4:00 pm

6880 Moseley Dixon Rd Macon, GA 31220

Entry Fee: \$3 per person

Lake Tobesofkee is going to the dogs! There will be prizes awarded for pups in many categories including Best Looking, Best Dressed, Owner/Dog Lookalike, Best Singer and many more! All leashed dogs are welcome.

For more information call 478-474-8770.

CHERRY BLOSSOM BED RACE

Presented by Walthall Oil Company

1:00-2:00 pm

Cherry and Third Street Macon, GA

Chuckle if you will, but these speed machines are serious!

The Bed Race is open to anyone who wants to get in on the fun and excitement of old fashioned bed racing. **FREE!**

FIREFIGHTER COMPETITION

Presented by Macon-Bibb County Fire Department

2:00-3:00 pm

Cherry Street Macon, GA 31201

Watch the Macon-Bibb County Fire Department put all their skills to the test in this annual competition! For more information call visit www.cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

NAVY BAND SOUTHEAST'S POPULAR MUSIC GROUP CONCERT

Presented by Atlanta Postal Credit Union and AARP

4:30-5:30 pm

Central City Park

Enjoy the music of the U.S. Navy as we celebrate and thank the men and women who serve our country! For more information visit www.cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

KICKIN' COUNTRY FEATURING JORDAN RAGER AND KALEIGH COURSON

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

6:00-7:30 pm: **Kaleigh Courson** is a Country Music singer-songwriter from Macon, GA who has a deep passion for writing and performing. Her ability to blend Southern Rock into her Country sound reminds you of what real country music is all about.

8:00-10:00 pm: **Jordan Rager** gained popularity by singing cover versions of popular country music songs, amassing more than 3.7 million viewers on YouTube as a result. One of the artists who discovered his videos was Justin Moore, who chose him to perform on the "Off the Beaten Path" tour. Rager was signed to Broken Bow Records in 2014. He released his debut single, "Southern Boy", via Broken Bow in February 2016, which features Aldean on duet vocals. Jordan Rager's Second Single, "Now That I Know Your Name" released to country radio on September 19, 2016. **FREE CONCERT!**

CHERRY BLOSSOM GALA

Presented by Georgia Power, ICB Construction Group, Infinity Network Solutions, Myers McRae & Jones, Cork LLP

7:00-11:00 pm

Middle Georgia State University 100 University Pkwy, Macon, GA 31206

\$500 for tables of 8

Reservations required; Individual tickets available

Black Tie Optional

To purchase tickets contact Mercer Ticket Sales at 478-301- 5470.

Join us on the beautiful campus of Middle Georgia State University in Macon for the 2017 Cherry Blossom Gala. An evening featuring dining and dancing is the perfect way to celebrate 35 years of the Macon Georgia International Cherry Blossom Festival!

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

CHERRY BLOSSOM OPENING WORSHIP CEREMONY

Presented by Highland Hills Baptist Church

11:00 am-Noon

1370 Briarcliff Rd, Macon, GA 31211

At Highland Hills Baptist Church the worship is reverent, the fellowship is warm, and the ministry is sincere. Though the congregation is composed of people from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives, there is still a common love for God and one another. Join as we celebrate love, beauty and international friendship!

CENTRAL CITY PARK

10:00 am-10:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

See pages 8-9 for more information.

COTTON AVENUE REVIVAL FESTIVAL

Presented by Cotton Avenue Coalition

11:00 am-2:00 pm

Cotton Avenue, Macon, GA 31201

FREE!

FAM-TASTIC SCAVENGER HUNT

Presented by Family Advancement Ministries

2:00-4:00 pm

778 Mulberry St Macon, GA 31201

\$20 per group/groups can have up to 6 members

A scavenger hunt for families and groups that will benefit Family Advancement Ministries in Macon, GA. For more information call 478-745-7165.

LANTERN LIGHTING

Presented by Wesleyan College

3:00- 3:30 pm

Third Street Park Macon, GA 31201

Join Festival dignitaries for this special Cherry Blossom Festival tradition as they light the ceremonial lantern in Third Street Park. **FREE!**

CHERRY BLOSSOM PARADE

Presented by GEICO

4:00- 5:30 pm

Cherry Street and Mulberry St. Macon, Georgia

The Cherry Blossom Festival Parade is one of the Festival's premier events. Fantastic floats, marching bands, military units, costumed performers, international dignitaries, and more combine to transform an already beautiful historic downtown into a dazzling showpiece.

Performers and entertainers dazzle audiences of all ages, so bring your family and experience the magnificent Cherry Blossom Festival Parade. For more information visit cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

THE SHAOLIN WARRIORS

Presented by the Grand Opera House

6:00 pm

Grand Opera House, 651 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201

18 and under: \$39.50 per person: \$42.50 per person

Representing over a thousand years of Chinese martial arts culture, legendary Shaolin Warriors is a wildly popular theatrical experience performed by masters of Kung Fu. In this fully choreographed stage production, Shaolin Warriors brings the remarkable skill, stunning artistry and death-defying martial-arts prowess of

more than 20 Kung Fu masters to more than one million people across the globe The production features many forms of Shaolin Kung Fu as well as a look at the daily life of the warriors and their Zen philosophy. For more information call 478-301-2933.

THE ULTIMATE PARTY BAND EXPERIENCE

FEATURING A2Z BAND

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

7:00-9:00 pm: A2Z Band is a group of well experienced local musicians with a large library of dance songs.

FREE CONCERT!

MONDAY, MARCH 27

CENTRAL CITY PARK

Noon-9:00 am

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

See pages 8-9 for more information.

MILITARY DAY

Presented by Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, Museum of Aviation Foundation and Planters First Bank

Park Hours: Noon - 9:00pm

Central City Park

Military Appreciation Day, March 27, 2017 – All Active, Retired, Reserve, and Veteran Military, Department Of Defense Civilian Employees and immediate family admitted free with ID. Pay one price discount with Military or DOD ID, discounted \$10 unlimited rides!

THIRD STREET PARK FESTIVITIES

Presented by Atlanta Postal Credit Union, SCANA Energy &

Lighthouse Nursing Agency

11:30 am-1:30 PM

Third Street Park Macon, GA

Don't miss the exciting Third Street Park festivities happening every day during the weekdays of the Cherry Blossom Festival. Come and enjoy free Coca-Cola and Krispy Kreme refreshments from Cherry Blossom Festival sponsors while supplies last. Multiple entertainers and a special theme each day set the mood for light-hearted fun, while horse-drawn carriage rides take you back in time for an adventure-filled afternoon. For more information visit cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

2017 CHERRY BLOSSOM ORGAN CONCERT

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

719 Mulberry Street Macon, GA 31201

Noon

Come enjoy an afternoon with Gerald Carper.

NAVY BAND SOUTHEAST

Presented by Atlanta Postal Credit Union & AARP

7:00 pm

Wesleyan College Porter Auditorium 4760 Forsyth Rd Macon, GA 31210

Don't miss this free military tribute concert at Wesleyan College's Porter Auditorium. Enjoy the music of the U.S. Navy as we celebrate & thank the men and women who serve our country! For more information visit www.cherryblossom.com.

FREE CONCERT!

ROCK OUT WITH SOUTHERN OUTLAWS BAND

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

7:00-9:00 pm: Southern Outlaws Band is a six piece country and southern rock band based out of Central Georgia. Their roots stem from rock to outlaw country, to form a very unique sound and stage presence. **FREE CONCERT!**

ORGAN AND BRASS

Presented by Riverside United Methodist Church

7:30 pm

Riverside United Methodist Church, 735 Pierce Avenue, Macon, GA 31204

The Colony IV Brass Quintet was formed in May of 1992 on the campus of Mercer University. Since then the ensemble has performed at numerous events and venues including the annual Cherry Blossom Festival, Georgia Public Radio, Georgia Music Educators Association, and in various concerts, church services, and weddings. The quintet has the distinction of performing a wide repertoire from classical composers such as Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven to the jazz and blues standards of New Orleans and Memphis. For more information call 478-746-9688. **FREE!**

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

CENTRAL CITY PARK

10:00 am-10:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

See pages 8-9 for more information.

THIRD STREET PARK FESTIVITIES

Presented by Atlanta Postal Credit Union, SCANA Energy & Lighthouse Nursing Agency

11:30 am-1:30 pm

Third Street, Macon, GA

FREE!

2017 CHERRY BLOSSOM ORGAN CONCERT

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

719 Mulberry Street Macon, GA 31201

Noon

Come enjoy an afternoon with Caitlin Dowling.

DOWNTOWN ABBEY TEA

730 College Street, Macon, GA 31201

2:00-4:00 pm

\$12.00 per person/ \$6.00 12 and under

Celebrate your love of Downton Abbey with tea and savories at the historic Neel House, headquarters of the Federated Garden Clubs of Macon, Inc. 730 College St. The tea will be held A Downton Abbey merchandise store will be open and vintage era clothing will be on display. Hats, gloves and attire from the era is optional but highly encouraged! Seating is limited. Call 478-742-0921 for reservations.

CHERRY BLOSSOM TEA

Presented by The Mentors Project

2:00-3:30 pm

195 Holt Ave Macon, GA 31208

The Mentors Project hosts the Cherry Blossom Tea at the historic American Red Cross on Holt Avenue as a free event for our guests from our community and from around the world. For more information call 478-954-4346. **FREE!**

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE CONCERT BAND AND SINGING SERGEANTS

7:00-9:00 pm

Grand Opera House 651 Mulberry St Macon, GA 31201

The United States Air Force Band is the premier musical organization of the Air Force. The excellence demonstrated by the Band's Airmen musicians is a reflection of the excellence carried out 24 hours a day by Airmen stationed around the globe. Each member is proud to represent all Airmen, whose selfless service and sacrifices ensure the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America. Since its formation in 1941, this world-class organization has inspired billions of listeners through its exhilarating music, engaging concerts and masterful recordings and continues to positively impact the global community. To reserve your seat call 478-301-5470. **FREE CONCERT!**

**YOUR FAVORITE MOTOWN HITS FEATURING
AFTER HOURS AFTER 6**

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

7:00-9:00 pm: After Hours After 6 are seasoned musicians who have a genuine passion for live performances. From Top 40 to Beach and back around to the Oldies but Goldies, After Hours After 6 Band will give you the performance of a lifetime! **FREE CONCERT!**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

CENTRAL CITY PARK

Noon- 9:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!
See pages 8-9 for more information.

THIRD STREET PARK FESTIVITIES

Presented by Atlanta Postal Credit Union, SCANA Energy & Lighthouse Nursing Agency

11:30 am- 1:30 pm

Third Street Macon, GA

FREE!

2017 CHERRY BLOSSOM ORGAN CONCERT

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

719 Mulberry Street Macon, GA 31201

Noon

Come enjoy an afternoon with Pat Graham Crowe.

DOWNTOWN ABBEY TEA

730 College Street, Macon, GA 31201

2:00-4:00 pm

\$12.00 per person/ \$6.00 12 and under

Celebrate your love of Downton Abbey with tea and savories at the historic Neel House, headquarters of the Federated Garden Clubs of Macon, Inc. 730 College St. The tea will be held A Downton Abbey merchandise store will be open and

vintage era clothing will be on display. Hats, gloves and attire from the era is optional but highly encouraged! Seating is limited. Call 478-742-0921 for reservations.

AN EVENING OF SOUL WITH JUST FRIENDS AND AJ THE DJ

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

6:00-9:00 pm: Just Friends and AJ the DJ will come together to bring you a night of soul music that will have you dancing the night away. **FREE CONCERT!**

FINDING FAVOUR IN CONCERT

Presented by Riverside United Methodist Church

Riverside Methodist Church

7:00-9:00 pm

735 Pierce Avenue, Macon, GA 31204

Admission: \$10 per person

To purchase tickets visit cherryblossom.com

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

CENTRAL CITY PARK

Noon-9:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

See pages 8-9 for more information.

CHERRY BLOSSOM FASHION SHOW BY MARK BALLARD

Presented by Capital City Bank, Carlyle Place, Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete and McNair Mclemore Middlebrooks & Co., LLC

11:00 am-1:00 pm

Anderson Conference Center, 5171 Eisenhower Pkwy, Macon, GA 31206

\$40 per person

Reservations Required

To purchase tickets contact Mercer Tickets sales at 478-301- 5470.

For the fashionista in you! Don't miss this posh annual favorite of the Cherry Blossom Festival. The fashion show features the emerging trends of spring. Enjoy brunch while we rock the runway with celebrity guest models, local Macon fashionistas, Cherry Blossom royalty, and many more surprises coordinated by Mark Ballard.

THIRD STREET PARK FESTIVITIES

Presented by Atlanta Postal Credit Union, SCANA Energy & Lighthouse Nursing Agency

11:30 am- 1:30 pm

Third Street Macon, GA **FREE!**

2017 CHERRY BLOSSOM ORGAN CONCERT

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

719 Mulberry Street Macon, GA 31201

Noon

Come enjoy an afternoon with Elizabeth Morgan.

SUNSET JAZZ CONCERT

Presented by SunTrust

6:00-8:00 pm

Coleman Hill- 285 Spring St, Macon, GA 31201

Come enjoy live Jazz music provided by the Jazz Association of Macon.

Picnics and lawn chairs are welcome.

For additional information visit cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

MUSIC OF NATIONS

Presented by Infinity Network Solutions

6:30 pm

Porter auditorium at Wesleyan College, 4760 Forsyth Road, Macon, GA 31210

Some of Middle Georgia's finest musicians will be performing their "Music of Nations" concert at Wesleyan College's Porter Auditorium.

JAM OUT IN THE PARK FEATURING THE CHARLIE FOG BAND

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

7:00- 10:00 pm: Charlie Fog Band will be Performing the music of the Grateful Dead and Jerry Garcia. Of course as a result, territories of country (Cash, Haggard) and blues (Howlin Wolf), and folk (Dylan, Dobson, Phillips) are all explored. Searching for the sound of what it truly felt like to be at a Dead show!

FREE CONCERT!

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

CENTRAL CITY PARK

Noon- 10:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

See pages 8-9 for more information.

THIRD STREET PARK FESTIVITIES

Presented by Atlanta Postal Credit Union and Lighthouse Nursing Agency

11:30 am- 1:30 pm

Third Street Macon, GA

FREE!

2017 CHERRY BLOSSOM ORGAN CONCERT

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

719 Mulberry Street Macon, GA 31201

Noon

Come enjoy an afternoon with Joseph O'Berry.

LATINO NIGHT FEATURING EL KARTEL & MORE

Presented by ¿QUE'PASA?

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage Presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

7:00-10:00 pm: El Kartel & More- Come and have some fun with us on Latino Night!

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

PINK PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Presented by Macon-Bibb County Fire Department

7:00-10:30 am

Central City Park - United Building

\$5 per person/ 5 and under-\$2 per person

CHERRY BLOSSOM EXPLOSION

Event produced by: Macon-Bibb Parks & Recreation

Weigh-In: 9:00 am | Matches: 1:00 pm

General Admission: \$10 | Kids 5 & under FREE!

Macon-Bibb United Boxing Club will host our 2nd Quarter boxing show. Some of Georgia's best and brightest young amateur boxers will be showcased at ranging from ages 8 and older. For more information contact James Hand (478) 751-9248 or email jhand@maconbibb.us.

MACON MUD RUN

Presented by Hephzibah Children's Home

9:00 am-12:45 pm Mini Mud 1k starts at approximately 2:30 pm

6601 Zebulon Rd Macon, GA 31220

1/1-1/31: \$60 for 7k, \$50 for 5k

2/1-2/28: \$70 for 7k, \$60 for 5k

3/1-3/31: \$80 for 7k, \$70 for 5k

4/1 (race day): \$90 for 7k, \$80 for 5k

Mini Mud Run: \$20 until race day (then goes up to \$30)

5th Annual Adventure Race with over 100 pits and obstacles. Race as a family, compete as a team. All proceeds benefit the Children at Hephzibah Children's Home. For more information visit maconmudrun.com.

FOOD TRUCK FRENZY

Presented by Spherion Staffing

10:00 am- 7:00 pm

Third Street Macon, GA

Gourmet food trucks from around the South featuring the latest trends in culinary culture gather on the last weekend of the 35th Cherry Blossom Festival to provide Macon with a taste of the food truck mania sweeping the country.

Purchase delicious food while enjoying

music and on-site beer sales! For more information visit cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

CENTRAL CITY PARK

10:00 am- 10:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

See pages 8-9 for more information.

MULBERRY STREET ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL

10:00 am-6:00 pm

Mulberry Street

In the Spring, when the cherry blossom trees are blooming and Downtown Macon comes alive - the Middle Georgia Art Association presents the oldest arts & crafts festival in Middle Georgia. Thousands of visitors and hundreds of vendors from across the country congregate on Mulberry Street to celebrate this exciting festival! For more information visit www.middlegeorgiaart.org. **FREE!**

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL STREET PARTY

Presented by Yuengling, Navicent Health, YKK, Central Georgia Technical College, Infinity Network Solution,

Knight Foundation & We Care Heating and Air
Supported by Pig N Whistle and Apparel Authority
Gates open: 3:00 pm

Downtown Macon on Cotton and Poplar

\$20 advanced \$25 day of event.

Tickets on cherryblossom.com or day of at gates. Rain or shine event.

One of Macon's favorite past times is back and better than ever featuring:

George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic-Recording both as Parliament and Funkadelic, George Clinton revolutionized R&B during the '70s, twisting soul music into funk by adding influences from several late-'60s acid heroes: Jimi Hendrix, Frank Zappa, and Sly Stone. The Parliament/Funkadelic machine ruled black music during the '70s, capturing over 40 R&B hit singles (including three number ones) and recording three platinum albums.

Mavis Staples-Mavis Staples is an alchemist of American music, having continuously crossed genre. Weaving herself into the very fabric of gospel, soul, folk, pop, R&B, blues, rock, and hip hop over the last 60 years.

Chuck Leavell and the Randall Bramblett Band- Chuck Leavell has been pleasing the ears of music fans for more than 40 years now. His piano and keyboard work has been heard on the works of Eric Clapton, The Rolling Stones, John Mayer, The Black Crowes, George Harrison, The Allman Brothers Band, The Indigo Girls, Blues Traveler, Train, Montgomery-Gentry, Lee Ann Womack and many, many more.

JD McPherson- McPherson's first album, 2012's Signs & Signifiers, was hailed as "an utterly irresistible, slicked-back triumph" by Mojo and "a rockin', bluesy, forward-thinking gold mine that subtly breaks the conventions of most vintage rock projects" by All Music Guide. Let the Good Times Roll, his second album, is a stranger, and more personal affair than its Fats Domino-redolent title might at first suggest, but the name isn't exactly ironic, either. If you, too, brake for pleasure, you'll screech to a halt at the enrapturing sound of these Good Times.

Me and Molly-Songwriting duo Me and Molly was formed in Nashville, TN in 2015 by Molly Stevens and Declan McGarry. Despite having spent a few years writing and playing together across the US and Canada as solo artists sharing a bill, it wasn't until Grammy winning producer Neal Cappallino (Alison Krauss) suggested they try performing as a duo that the idea crossed their minds. "We have a really unique sound together and a natural chemistry in our writing and performing," says McGarry. "It just made sense. We had the songs, our voices blended great and we were good friends."

THE 1ST QUARTER OF THE GLOW RIDE

**Presented by Southern Wheelworks, Cycles & Change Macon
& Georgia Wellness & Fitness Festival**

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm with the bike ride starting at 6:30

Location: TBD

This is a casual ride. Please bring your own bike and safety gear. The route is TBD but will be no more than 10 miles, no less than 5. THIS IS NOT A RACE! This is a social bike event. Glow bracelets, glow in the dark apparel and fluorescent pieces are encouraged. Free glow in the dark bracelets are provided while supplies last.

A NIGHT OF RHYTHM AND BLUES FEATURING JOEY BEANZ LITTLE, TYRUS TURNER, & HAROLD E. THOMAS & DANGER ZONE

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage Presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

6:00pm-7:30pm Harold E. Thomas & Danger Zone is a musical group possessing a unique style tailored by Harold E.

Thomas and mastered by each musician and vocalist. Their style covers every genre from Jazz, Top-40, Beach, R&B, Reggae, Rap, Oldies and even Country. The group is based in Macon, Ga., but travels the world.

8:00pm-9:00pm Tyrus Turner is a Pop/R&b Artist that has opened for Kici&Jojo, Ginuwine, Dru Hill, Silk, and Tony Toni Tone. He was BET Apollo Live season 1 and 2 runner up.

9:00pm-10:00pm Joey Beanz Little is an American singer-songwriter, record producer, actor, fashion designer and American entrepreneur most known as lead singer of the internationally known group The Rude Boys most known for 1991 Billboard R&B Song of the year "Written All Over Your Face." **FREE CONCERT!**

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

FOOD TRUCK FRENZY

Presented by Spherion Staffing

10:00 am-5:00 pm

Third Street

Gourmet food trucks from around the South featuring the latest trends in culinary culture gather on the last weekend of the 35th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival to

provide Macon with a taste of the food truck mania sweeping the country. Purchase delicious food while enjoying music and on-site beer sales!

For more information visit cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

CENTRAL CITY PARK

Noon-9:00 pm

Central City Park

Exciting shows, concerts, fair food, amusement rides, vendors, exhibits, and more!

See pages 8-9 for more information.

MULBERRY STREET ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Presented by Middle Georgia Art Association

Mulberry Street

10:00am-6:00pm

FREE!

TEA IN THE GARDEN

Presented by Centenary Community Ministries Incorporated

3:00 pm

1290 College Street Macon, Georgia 31201

\$20/individual or \$150/table

"Tea in the Garden" is an annual benefit for Centenary Community Ministries. Centenary Community Ministries, Inc.(CCMI) is a 501(c)3 that works in partnership with Centenary Church to find solutions to specific needs that arise from within our community. CCMI runs a transitional house for men getting out of homelessness and working on self-sufficiency. Outside of the transitional house, CCMI works with partners in our community through the Macon Coalition to End Homelessness to address the high amount of homelessness in Macon-Bibb. CCMI believes that no individual is beyond God's grasp and that transformation is always possible. CCMI walks alongside individuals from all walks of life. Part of CCMI's commitment to the environment involves making sure our weekly breakfast is as green as possible. We also work with the Beall's Hill community on their shalom zone and share a community garden with them

that is worked by members of the church and members of the community. For more information call 478-742-8926.

GRAND FINALE

Presented by Burgess Pigment, Butler Automotive, Cox Communications

Supported by One South Bank, Zaxbys, Infinity Network Solution, Edward Jones,

**Atlanta Gas Light, Coliseum Health System, Freudenberg Partners, Barefoot Tavern,
and Tic Toc Room**

**Park and Ride locations: Museum of Arts and Sciences and the Kroger on Forsyth Road with shuttles provided by
Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority**

4:00 pm – Fireworks at dusk

Wesleyan College, 4760 Forsyth Road Macon, GA 31204

Grab a lawn chair and come celebrate the final day of our 35th Cherry Blossom Festival! Join us for an afternoon of family fun with live music featuring Mother's Finest and Vintage Vixens as well as tethered hot air balloon rides! There will be vending on site or you can bring a cooler for snacks and soft drinks. Let's end this year's Festival with a bang! For more information visit cherryblossom.com. **FREE!**

Mother's Finest- You know them, love them and still groove to the classics like "Baby Love" and "Mickey's Monkey". Touring the world full time, their new material brings the fire that fans have come to expect and they never disappoint. Their live performance is an energetic event with an incredible sound track, not to be missed, and not soon forgotten.

Vintage Vixens- When a career booking agent with a love of the great sounds of the 60s picks up a bass guitar and learns to play all her favorites, what happens? She surrounds herself with talented, like-minded, ladies and—voilà—the Vintage Vixens are born! Rockin' that retro sound, the all-female Vintage Vixens include Jean and Amy on guitar/vocals, Heidi on keyboards, Carol on drums, Tish on lead vocals and Linda on bass. The Vintage Vixen playlist includes covers of the biggest 60s hits and 70s favorites too. It's a happy 60s hit fest of good time, sing along music! Peace, Love, and Vintage Vixens!

PARTY IN THE PARK FEATURING THE FABULOUS BOOMERS BAND

Central City Park

Entertainment Stage presented by Coca-Cola & Miller Lite

7:00-9:00 pm: The Fabulous Boomer Band play music that takes you back in time to your special place. From 50's and 60's classics all the way to today's hits.

FREE CONCERT!

OTHER EVENTS

MONDAY, APRIL 3

THINK PINK YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

8:00 am

Presented by the Think Pink Committee

Deadline to enter is April 3. Visit thinkpinkmacon.com for more information or download and entry form.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

MAGNOLIA SOAP BOX DERBY

Presented by Magnolia Soap Box Derby

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Magnolia Street Macon, GA 31201

Magnolia Soap Box Derby, established in 2009 by a rag-tag group of Maconites and speed enthusiasts, is only a continuation of Macon's longstanding tradition of Soap Box Racing, which goes all the way back to the 1930s! Every second Saturday in April, we host three types of races: Professional (the super-fast ones), Shadetree (communally built cars, not necessarily speed-focused), and as of 2015, the Gravity Racing Challenge (for High School Students). So come on down and cheer on your friends, enjoy some food and music, and watch some soap box cars go really, really fast. For more information contact magnoliaderby.com. **FREE!**

KEIKO & YURI PIANO DUO CONCERT

Presented by Keiko Tanaka

Forest Hills UMC 1217 Forest Hill Rd Macon, GA 31210

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Piano Duo Concert featuring Keiko Tanaka and Yuri Smith

For more information please call 478-973-9859. **FREE!**

2017 CHERRY BLOSSOM PIN

Presented by Robins Federal Credit Union

The inspiration for Mark Ballard's design was based on the theme of "Love, Beauty and International Friendship." He wanted to showcase both the cherry blossom and the heart in a unifying design to reiterate the love and beauty of the festival. The "35 in gold and bold" showcases the accomplishment of the 35th anniversary. The leaves represent the span of the festival, with the bottom leaf showing the founding year of 1982 and the top leaf representing the new growth and upward progression to 2017. Pins are \$5 each and include the following discount coupons:

- 25% off one item purchased at the Cherry Blossom Festival Gift Shop.
- 10% off a one-time purchase at the Museum Store at The Allman Brothers Band Museum at The Big House
- Free Adult Admission to The Georgia Sports Hall of Fame
- \$1 off Adult Admission to the Museum of Arts and Sciences Macon
- \$1 off Adult Admission to the Tubman Museum
- \$1 off with the purchase of \$7.59 or more at S&S Cafeterias
- 10% off one-time purchase in the Jet Fuel Java & Aviation Gifts at the Museum of Aviation.
- A chance to win an EZ-GO Golf Cart or \$500

2017 PIN ARTIST

Mark Ballard, a Macon native, is well-known as an artist/designer, chef, writer as well as a television and internet personality. He has been involved with the Cherry Blossom Festival in various ways since its beginning. Mark has a BFF from the Atlanta College of Art and his paintings hang in public and private collections across the United States. Learn more about Mark at markballard.com