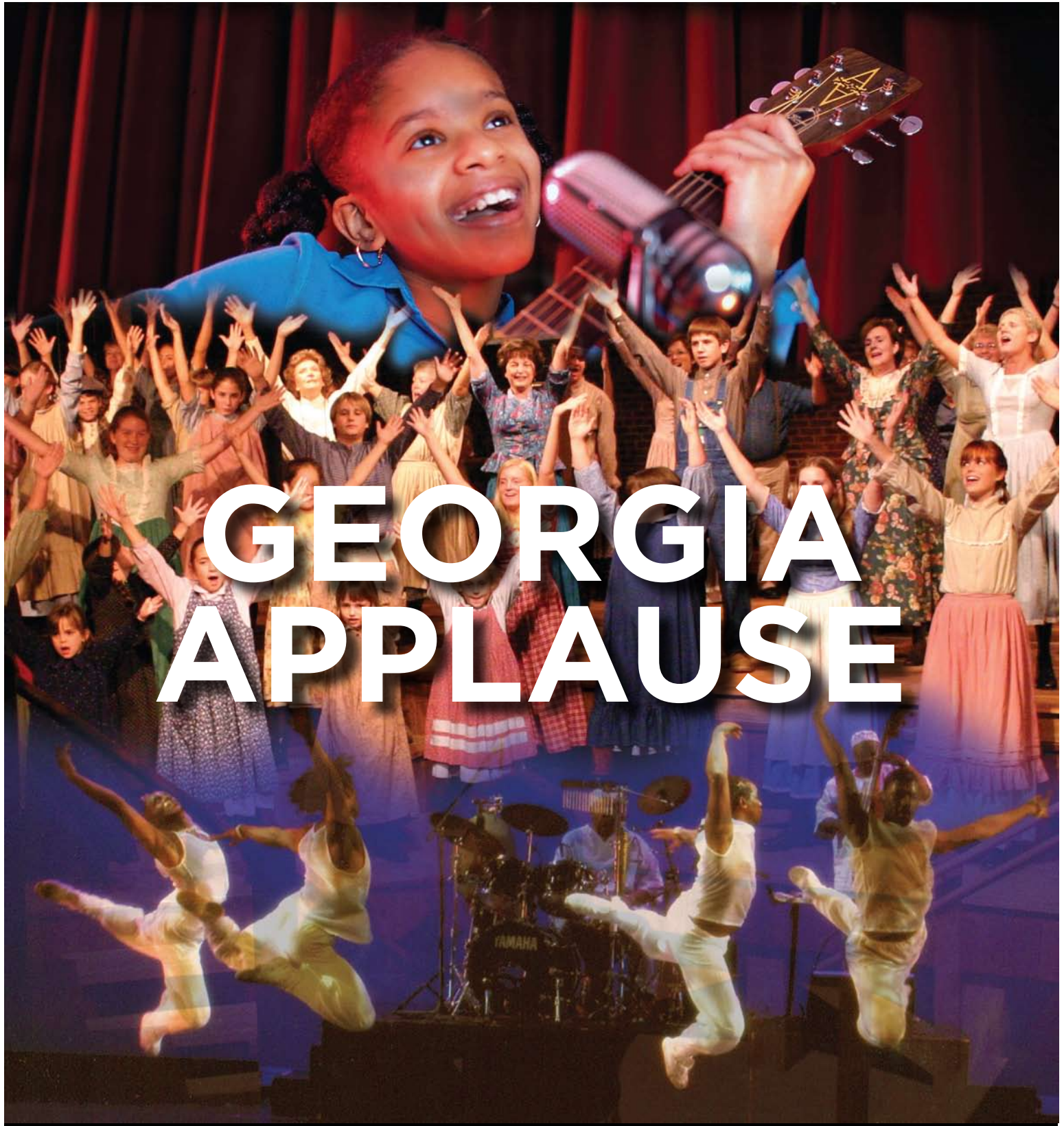


PLAYBILL



GEORGIA APPLAUSE

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Donovan Rypkema,

Principal, PlaceEconomics, Washington, D.C.

As a widely recognized industry leader in the economics of preserving historic structures for more than 25 years, Donovan Rypkema is currently principal of PlaceEconomics, a real estate and economic development consulting firm which specializes in services to public and non-profit sector clients who are dealing with downtown and neighborhood commercial district revitalization and the reuse of historic structures.

For many years, Mr. Rypkema was involved in the direct development and management of residential, office, retail and National Register properties. He completed appraisals of over 1500 properties including residences, office and apartment buildings, farms, ranches and athletic fields. In recent years, he has conducted statewide studies of the economic impact of historic preservation in Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Indiana, New York and Maryland and a citywide study in Philadelphia. He has worked with such groups as the Urban Land Institute, the Mayors' Institute on City Design, the American Planning Association, the International Downtown Association, International Town and City Center Conference, the World Monuments Fund, the Center for Livable Communities and hundreds of other international, national, statewide and local organizations.

He teaches a graduate course in preservation economics at the University of Pennsylvania and holds a Masters of Science Degree in Historic Preservation from Columbia University. An updated edition of Rypkema's widely used book, *The Economics of Historic Preservation: A Community Leader's Guide*, was published by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 2005 and in 2006, the Russian Center for Heritage Trusteeship translated and published a Russian edition of the book.

Leslie Gordon

Director, Rialto Center for the Arts, Atlanta, GA

Leslie left Savannah as Artistic Director of the Savannah Community Theatre housed in the historic Savannah Building in 1992 to become a Producer: Humanities and Special Programs for the Cultural Program of the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. She produced "100 Years of World Cinema" at the High Museum, "An Olympic Gathering: Nobel Laureates of Literature at the Carter Center," "Southern Crossroads" with the Smithsonian featuring 3 stages open daily from noon to midnight featuring the best of Southern music, culture, crafts and demonstrations. She later joined the National Black Arts Festival and the Atlanta Arts Festival. She joined the Rialto Center in 2003. Leslie was named a Lexus Leader of the Arts by Public Broadcasting Atlanta and received the 2006 Martin Luther King, Jr. Torch of Peace Award from Georgia State University for her work with multi-cultural programming and audiences.

Enoch C. Morris, Jr.

Executive Director, RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, Columbus, GA

Enoch has spent 28 years managing performing arts centers and has been actively involved in the theatre activities for over 32 years. Prior to joining RiverCenter in 2005, Enoch was Executive Director (16 years) of the 2200 seat Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts in Springfield, MO and prior to that, facilities manager at the Givens Performing Arts Center in Pembroke, NC. He is a tenured Associate Professor teaching all theatre courses and developed the Arts Management program at Pembroke State University in North Carolina. Enoch and his wife, Debbie, have two daughters and one new grandchild.

Tim Chapman

Executive Director, Averitt Center for the Performing Arts, Statesboro, GA

Tim has worked in the public, private and non-profit sectors with a background ranging from program/facility management, health and fitness to higher education. As Executive Director of the Averitt Center, he serves as liaison to the City and County Governments and community arts organizations. He has developed the organizational structure for the operation of the center and developed 10 volunteer committees for the implementation of programs. He manages rentals, maintenance, improvements, all contracted labor and serves as the purchasing agent as well as developing all publications and promotions for the center. He coordinated the development of the First Friday Downtown Program which includes gallery crawls and local performances. Prior to joining the Averitt, Tim was Executive Director of VSA Arts Alabama handling all aspects of the statewide program. Tim has served on numerous professional board and affiliations.

Susan Weiner

Georgia Council for the Art

Susan S. Weiner, executive Director of Georgia Council for the Arts, has degrees in Theatre Arts and Education and has worked as a professional stage actress regionally and internationally. She is an entrepreneur whose management consulting company, Weiner Associates, has worked with clients such as the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, General Electric and the state of New York on training, strategic planning, fundraising, and partnership development. Her career also includes serving as mayor of the city of Savannah from 1992-1995 and as a counselor for the Small Business Development Center at the University of Georgia.

Tina Lilly

Tina Lilly serves as Arts Services Manager for Georgia Council for the Arts. In this position she manages grants and programs for single-discipline arts organizations as well as the Touring Artist Roster. Previously, she was Executive Director of the Madison-Morgan Cultural Center and Administrative Director for 7 Stages Theatre. Tina holds an MFA in Directing from The Theatre School at DePaul (formerly the Goodman School of Drama) and worked as an adjunct professor at The Theatre School as well as a free-lance director while in Chicago.

Lisa Cesnik

Founder and Producing Artistic Director, Rose of Athens Theatre

Lisa has been working professionally in the theatre since the age of 17, directing, acting, teaching, writing and producing for the theatre and has worked and performed at theatres in Chicago, Atlanta, Minneapolis, Richmond, VA, Indianapolis, Columbus, GA, and Highlands, NC. She has been a college instructor since 1998 at University of Georgia, Columbus State University and Piedmont College. In 2002, she received "Critics Choice" from the Chicago Reader for her direction of *My Dirty Little Secret*.

(Cast line up continued on back page)

GEORGIA APPLAUSE SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday March 11
Statesboro, Georgia

8:00	Overture Registration	Coffee and Danish
8:30	ACT I Opening Session	Welcome Gilda Watters - <i>Director, Georgia Tourism Foundation</i>
9:00	Scene 1: Plenary Session	Art, Theater and Downtowns Donovan Rypkema- <i>Principal, PlaceEconomics</i>
10:00		Intermission
10:15	Scene 2: Presenting 101	Leslie Gordon- <i>Executive Director-Rialto Theater, Atlanta</i> Enoch Morris- <i>Executive Director-RiverCenter, Columbus</i>
11:00	Scene 3: Booking Artists Scene 4: Grants for Presenters	Tina Lilly- <i>Arts Services Manager-Georgia Council for the Arts</i> Susan Weiner- <i>Executive Director-Georgia Council for the Arts</i>
11:45	Tour of Downtown Galleries	West Main Street Area
12:15	Act I Finale: Lunch	Chops Restaurant
1:15 - 2:15	ACT II Packaging Group Tours	Katie Baasen- <i>Senior Sales Manager,</i> <i>GA Department of Economic Development</i>
2:15		Intermission
2:30 - 3:30	Scene 1: Partnerships for Progress	Averitt Center for the Arts-Tim Chapman- <i>Executive Director</i> Statesboro Tourism-Jaime Riggs- <i>Executive Director</i> Statesboro Main Street-Heath Seymour- <i>Main Street Manager</i> Rose and Morton Theaters-Athens-Lisa Cesnik- <i>Artistic Director</i>
	Scene 2: Marketing	Georgia Applause Website Jim Robertson- <i>Interactive Project Manager</i> <i>GA Department of Economic Development</i>
	ACT III	
3:30 - 5:00	Finale: Closing Session	Georgia Applause Network Upcoming Georgia Theater Events Resource Table Visitation
5:00-7:00		Welcome reception for the Main Street Institute Gallery 33 West on Main St

GEORGIA APPLAUSE SYMPOSIUM

Jamie Riggs

Executive Director, Statesboro Convention and Visitors Bureau
Jaime Riggs is charged with promoting tourism in Statesboro and Bulloch County, which includes attracting leisure travelers, meetings and convention attendees, and newcomers to the community. Riggs is dedicated to increasing community awareness of economic development and the impact of the hospitality industry in Statesboro.

A native of Pine Mountain, Georgia, Riggs attended Georgia Southern University and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation and Hospitality. She also holds a networking diploma from Ogeechee Technical College and is a Certified Tourism Marketing Professional. She often says, "Hospitality flows through (her) blood," because she is one of the few who has planted her feet in this ever-growing industry for over 16 years. Riggs has worked at the Statesboro Convention and Visitor's Bureau since 2002 and was recently promoted to Executive Director. The National Association of Professional Women of Excellence recently named her as a Professional Woman of Excellence and the Georgia Motorcoach Operators Association named her the Associate of the year. Jaime enjoys swimming and reading southern literature. She and her husband, Tyler Riggs, a native of Dublin, live in Statesboro with their two-year-old son, Haden.

Gilda Watters

Director, Georgia Tourism Foundation
Gilda Watters is the director of the Georgia Tourism Foundation, a public-private entity and non-profit organization that leverages investments and forges partnerships to strengthen the state's tourism marketing. The foundation works to bring corporate citizens to the table with tourism industry members, aligning their goals to promote tourism across the state of Georgia.

A public servant for more than 28 years, Ms. Watters has held senior level positions in public relations and communications with three state agencies and under seven different administrations. She most recently directed GDECD's Marketing and Communications division, and prior to that was director of the agency's Small Business and Innovation team within the Global Commerce division and served as the first director of the Governor's Small Business Center, established in 1999. She has been recognized several times, including 2008 as one of the Atlanta Business League's 100 most influential African American Women.

Ms. Watters is a graduate of the UGA Grady School of Journalism.



Donovan Rypkema



Leslie Gordon



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Jaime Riggs



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