

Grits Books Come Alive at the Cole

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Girls raised in the South – now often referred to as GRITS – are considered a special breed of women. Some of these ladies are notably recognized in a book by Deborah Ford. Its success led Ford to write several other books that have inspired numerous t-shirts and bumper stickers.

One of her follow-up books, “Friends Are Forevah,” became the inspiration for a new play entitled “Grits: The Musical.” The show is written by and stars someone familiar to this area and to the Cole stage: Erica McGee. Erica is the daughter-in-law of Wingate University President and Richmond County native Jerry McGee, and performed at the Cole Auditorium in 2008 with her show “Decade Diva: Hits of the 50s, 60s, & 70s.”

McGee portrays one of the four characters in the musical. Each actress is an individual storyteller and vocalist whose stories incorporate songs. All of the stories bring back many memories: some happy, some sad, and some laugh-out-loud funny.

The show will be presented Thursday, September 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. at the Cole Auditorium as part of the 2010 Cole Community Series. The series and this show are open to the general public. Tickets for the show are \$20.00 each in advance or \$25.00 on the day of the performance.

“This musical is a journey that takes the audience to and through the heart of the South. The characters range from young women in their twenties to mature women in their fifties and sixties. With original songs like ‘I Hope that Dolly Parton Lives Forever’ and ‘Sweet Tea,’ this show is sure to be popular. It will be the perfect event for a girls’ night out, but the guys will also enjoy this humorous look at the fairer sex,” said Cole Auditorium Director Joey Bennett.

Preview the performance at www.gritsthemusical.com.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Cole Auditorium Box Office at (910) 410-1691 or by visiting the Cole Auditorium on the RCC campus at 1042 W. Hamlet Ave, Hamlet N.C. Cash, check and VISA and MasterCard are accepted.

This is the fourth season of the Cole Community Series at Cole Auditorium. The series has featured a wide variety of performances including children’s shows, classical performers, and country musicians.

To get our most up-to-date information, visit www.richmondcc.edu and use the Cole Auditorium link, follow us on Facebook, or register for the e-mail program on the website.