

# Milsap to kick off Wartmann Artist Series

Submitted by EPAC Co-ordinator Paul Tropp

The William and Joyce Wartmann Edgerton Endowment for the Performing Arts Center announces its 2017-18 Wartmann Artist Series in late May.

The series, now in its 14th year, will open its star-studded season on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., with country music legend Ronnie Milsap. A Grammy Award winner, Milsap is one of the most influential voices in country music's storied history.

Born in Robbinsville, N.C. at the edge of the Smoky Mountains, he was enveloped in his early years by country. The region was crucial to such history-makers as Jimmie Rodgers, Chet Atkins and Dolly Parton. Milsap subsequently received classical training at the Governor Morehead School for the Blind in Raleigh, though he notoriously frustrated his teachers by banging out Jerry Lee Lewis and Little Richard Rock & Roll on the keyboard when he was supposed to be practicing

Mozart and Beethoven.

On Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., the Artist Series will light up the EPAC stage with a high energy performance from Barrage 8.

Barrage 8 is a musical spectacle that will touch every one of your senses. It's impossible not to be moved by this virtuosic, high-energy show that craftily reveals a wide range of musical styles. Dancing to Uptown Funk, getting off your feet to join the Conga, stomping along to 70's rock, jazz, classical, blues, Barrage 8 originals and much more, you'll find your favorite playlist here. Barrage 8 is also scheduled for four outreach performances with Edgerton School District students.

The Performing Arts Center will be filled with the iconic sounds of the band Chicago on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018, at 7:30 p.m., when Transit Authority takes to the stage. Transit Authority has become known throughout the U.S. as the premiere tribute band to the iconic group Chicago. Based out



**Grammy Award-winner Ronnie Milsap will kick off the 2017-18 Wartmann Artist Series in October. (Submitted photo)**

of St. Paul, Minn., this eight-member ensemble creates an accurate musical salute to the greatest horn-driven rock band to ever hit the stage. Transit Authority's mission is to recreate the excitement of the original Chicago sound with every performance. Transit Authority will also conduct outreach performances with Edgerton School District students.

Cantus will close the season on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. The "intellectually, emotionally and musically rich" (Star Tribune) men's vocal ensemble Cantus is known for its trademark warmth and blend, innovative programming and engaging performances of music ranging from the Renaissance to the 21st

Century. Cantus performs as chamber musicians, each contributing to the entirety of the artistic process. Cantus performs more than 60 concerts each year, nationally, internationally and in its home of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.

Cantus has released 17 albums on its self-titled label. It will also conduct outreach performances with Edgerton School District students.

Series Tickets are \$150 and include one ticket for each of the four concerts. Call 608-561-6093 or request by mail at: Edgerton School District, Attention: WEpac Tickets, 200 Elm High Dr., Edgerton, Wis. 53534. For more information go to [www.edgerton.k12.wi.us/epac](http://www.edgerton.k12.wi.us/epac).

# Gazebo Musikk is back

Submitted by Nancy Hoffman

Are you looking for free, fun, family-friendly events to attend in Stoughton this summer?

Gazebo Musikk will be back for its fourth season starting June 1. The City of Stoughton will offer the 13-week series of free outdoor concerts in Stoughton Rotary Park every Thursday evening from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

From Americana to Midwestern Soul, everyone is sure to get a lesson in "music appreciation" without even knowing it, as attendees are exposed to a wide array of music genres. Each week, the audience will be enter-

tained by a different group of musicians. The various music styles will include Jazz, Rock, Country, Blues, Pop, Funk, Bluegrass, Country, Saxophone Rock, Americana, Midwestern Soul, and Contemporary.

Local non-profit groups offer food and beverages for purchase. Coolers, wine and beer are allowed, but no glass containers.

Bring your own lawn chairs or blanket and relax while listening to music under the shadow of the renowned Stoughton Opera House as the sun sets.

Visit [www.facebook.com/gazebomusikk](http://www.facebook.com/gazebomusikk) for more information.



All Wartmann Artist Series performances take place at the Edgerton Performing Arts Center. (File photo)

## Gazebo Musikk schedule

- June 1 Craig Mason Combo (Jazz)
- June 8 The Broken Wheel Band (Rock/Country)
- June 15 The Old Tin Can String Band (Bluegrass)
- June 22 The Dirty Groove Band (Pop/Funk/Blues)
- June 29 Katie Scullin Band (Rock/Pop/Melodic)
- July 13 Adam Bartels Band (Country)
- July 20 The Rotation (Sax Rock)
- July 27 Blue Spruce (Classic Acoustic Rock)
- Aug. 3 The Happy Fun-time Jam (Classic Rock)
- Aug.10 Distant Cuzins (Garage Band)
- Aug. 17 The Lowdown (Rock/Alt-Rock/Indie)
- Aug. 24 The Lower 5th (Americana, Midwest Soul)
- Aug. 31 Blythe Gamble and the Rollin' Dice (Blues/Rock/Singer/Songwriter)

**All shows 6-7:30 p.m. in Stoughton Rotary Park, 381 E. Main St.**

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