

Atlanta Update
July-September 2005

Atlanta Update is a quarterly listing for events, attractions and venues around the city. For a complete listing of events in Atlanta, visit the calendar of events on www.atlanta.net. Past issues of Atlanta Update are available at www.atlanta.net/pressroom.

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Most Popular

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City News

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www.atlantadowntown.com/HavingFun_FirstThursdays.asp

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www.piedmontpark.org/programs/green_market.html.

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The **Heritage Arts Festival**, the official vendors market for the National Black Arts Festival, will take place at Underground Atlanta, July 15-24. Activities include an artist market, music and dance performances. www.heritageartsfestival.com.

This year's **Downtown Atlanta Restaurant Week** occurs Aug. 15-21. This event showcases downtown restaurants with special three-course dinners for \$20.05 per person, plus tip and tax. www.atlantadowntown.com/havingfun_restaurantweek.asp.

The **Grant Park Summer Shade Festival** celebrates restoration efforts in Atlanta's oldest public park, Aug. 27-28. The two-day event includes an artist market and a music performance stage along with a 5K Run on Saturday evening and the Dog Days Cycling Criterium on Sunday. www.gpconservancy.org.

This year's **Latino Festival** at Underground Atlanta is the scene of dancing in the streets with Latin music, costumes, food and more on Sunday, Aug. 28. www.festpeachtreelatino.com.

DragonCon, held over Labor Day weekend, features science fiction and fantasy fanatics from all over the world at America's largest pop-culture conference. Meet celebrities from the worlds of animation, comic books, acting and film-making. www.dragoncon.org.

Take a bite out of what's cooking in Georgia's capital at **Taste of Atlanta**, Sept. 16-18, at Lenox Square mall in Buckhead. This festival of food features cuisine from more than 70 of the city's finest restaurants and wines from North Georgia. www.tasteofatlanta.org.

The **Atlanta Home Show** takes place at the Cobb Galleria Centre, Sept. 29-Oct. 2. Participants can explore home decorating at various vendor booths, while vendors compete to win the best display. Last year's guests included the hosts of TLC's show *While You Were Out*, Andrew Dan-Jumbo and Chayse Dacoda. www.atlantahomeshow.com.

Attractions

The world's largest interactive water play structure in a theme park debuted Memorial Day weekend at **Six Flags Over Georgia**. Spanning an area twice the size of a football field, the new *Skull Island* will sport a Caribbean pirate theme, six water slides, two giant buckets that tip 1,200 of gallons of water, a spewing volcano and numerous bridges, water wheels and spray guns. It is the first water play area for the park.

www.sixflags.com.

The **World of Coca-Cola** celebrates its 50-year partnership with Waffle House by building a virtual Waffle House museum, June 1-Aug. 31. The museum displays historical artifacts along with a life size photo background of the restaurant and its founders. www2.coca-cola.com/heritage/worldcocacola.html.

Stone Mountain Park's summer events include:

- *Lasershow Spectacular*, nightly through Aug. 14 and Aug. 19, 20, 26 and 27 at 9:30 p.m.
- *Fantastic Fourth Celebration*, including fireworks added to the regular lasershow program, July 2-4.
- Musical performances at the *Last Blast of Summer Concert* on Sept. 4.
- 37th annual *Yellow Daisy Festival*, one of Georgia's largest arts and crafts shows, Sept. 8-11.
- *JapanFest*, Sept. 24-25, a festival showcasing the discipline and practice of Japanese art, life and business including demonstrations, performances, hands-on workshops and exhibitions.
- 3rd annual *Pumpkin Festival*, Fridays-Sundays, Sept. 23-Oct 30.
- The *Vintage Vacationland at Memorial Hall Museum's* exhibit contains memorabilia of early tourist destinations around the South and can be seen through August 8.
- *Jim Fowler's Wonders of the Wild* animal show, May 31-July 17. This interactive and educational show provides an up close look at a variety of wild animals such as baby wolves, red-tailed hawks, snakes and more.

www.stonemountainpark.com.

The **High Museum of Art** displays *Ernest Withers: Memphis Blues Again* through Aug. 7. Withers gained wide recognition for his photographs depicting the Beale Street music scene, the Civil Rights Movement and the Negro Baseball Leagues. Also in August, the High will host the *Iranian Film Festival*. www.high.org.

On special display at the **Atlanta Botanical Garden's** Aquatic Plant Pond is *Locomotion in the Garden: Trains Across Georgia*. Through Oct. 31, the exhibit will include lifelike model trains ride through mock-up Georgia mountains, valleys and bridges into a 3,200 square-foot city replica of Atlanta. Also experience *Locomotion Nights*, from May to October, when the garden stays open until 9 p.m. every Tuesday evening. *SunTrust Concert in the Garden* continues July 1, 22 and 31 with performances by Dr. John, John Hiatt with the North Mississippi Allstars and Lucinda Williams.

www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org.

Fernbank Museum of Natural History summer schedule includes:

- Nancy Lowe's *Hidden Wonders of the Appalachians: The Watercolors* exhibit, through July 4. Her illustrations include portraits of landscapes from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
- *Grossology...The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body* exhibition engages visitors to explain why our bodies do the gross things they do. Through Aug. 21, Grossology features more than 20 interactive displays and games, including a human skin wall, burp machine, gas attack pinball and a 30-foot, 3-D slide through the digestive system.
- Special gallery exhibitions include *Southern Wildlands*, Kathryn Kolb's abstract collection of color photographs, July 9-Sept. 18 and *Dunes*, Francis Tack's photography collection of the world's deserts through sand dunes, July 30-Sept. 18.

www.fernbank.edu/museum.

The **Aliya Gallery** continues its summer season with the exhibit *Introductions[05]*, July 15-Aug. 5. Their 7th annual summer landscape exhibition occurs Aug. 20-Sept. 9, with this year's artists including James Randall Chumbley, Gerard Erley, Scott Hill, R. John Ichter, Margaret Keller and Stephan Wolverine. www.aliyagallery.com.

The **William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum** presents *The Superhero: The Golden Age of Comic Books, 1938-1950*, through Aug. 31. The exhibition contains original comic book art from major collectors representing the most well-known superheroes. Also on display are objects belonging to the first comic book creators and publishers, a Batmobile for the kids and superhero memorabilia. www.thebreman.org.

The **Atlanta History Center** presents *V for Victory: Georgia Remembers World War II*, through Jan. 2006. The exhibit examines the individual stories and experiences of Georgians and others who experienced the war from 1941-1945. www.atlantahistorycenter.com.

Imagine It! The Children's Museum of Atlanta starts its summer season with *The Shoes We Use* exhibit. These interactive demonstrations encourage young children to think about an everyday item in a new light and explore the ways in which shoes tell us about people and the world around us. It shows through Sept. 17. www.imagineit-cma.org.

The **Michael C. Carlos Museum's** special exhibit *Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, University College London* runs through Nov. 27. It includes more than 200 objects from the London Museum, including one of the world's earliest surviving Egyptian dresses. www.carlos.emory.edu.

Performing Arts

The Fox Theatre hosts a number of classic performances this summer including *Peter Pan*, July 11-16; *The Music Man*, July 26-31; *Evita*, Aug. 2-7; *My Fair Lady*, Aug. 16-

21; and *The Phantom of the Opera*, Sept. 1-25 (excluding Mondays). The Fox continues its 2005 *Coca-Cola Summer Film Festival*. It offers a mix of classic and current films on the biggest screen in Atlanta, as well as a pre-show, organ, sing-a-longs and a vintage cartoon. The schedule includes *The Shining*, July 7 (25th Anniversary); *West Side Story*, July 10; *Sahara*, July 18 and *Sin City*, July 21. Films for Aug. 8 and 10 have not been announced. www.foxtheatre.org.

Atlanta Lyric Theatre presents *Summer Spotlight Series* every Thursday at 8 p.m., through Aug. 18. The performances feature a variety of cabaret shows, from Broadway and jazz to operettas, held in the theater's courtyard. www.atlantalyrictheatre.com.

tick, tick...BOOM! debuts at the **Alliance Theatre**, Sept. 7-Oct. 2. From the creator of the play *Rent*, this musical explores the dilemma of a struggling composer who must choose between his dreams of fame and the reality of waiting tables, prosperous friends and an impatient girlfriend. www.alliancetheatre.org.

The New American Shakespeare Tavern summer season includes *As You Like It*, June 3-July 3, and continues with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Aug. 5 - 7, 13, 19, 22 and 28; *Macbeth*, Aug. 8, 12, 21 and 27; and *The Tempest*, Aug. 14, 15, 20, 26 and 29. www.shakespearetavern.com.

Six performances debut at the **Center for Puppetry Arts** this summer including three family shows, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, June 21-July 10; *Hansel and Gretel*, July 12-31; and *The Little Rabbit and other South American Tales*, Aug. 23-Sept. 18; and two adult shows, *Captain Wimwan!'s Buffoonicus Spectacular*, July 30; and *Avanti, Da Vinci! The Secret Adventures of Leonardo Da Vinci*, June 22-July 3. *Ancient Arts, Modern Masters*, Aug. 3-7, is a show for all ages. www.puppet.org.

Menopause the Musical (the Hilarious Celebration of Women and the Change), a humorous tale about four women who have nothing in common except being the same age, shows at **14th Street Playhouse** through July 31. www.menopausethemusical.com.

Theater-goers can see the play *Blue*, a story about an African-American-owned funeral home in the early 1900s, July 8-Aug. 7, or the musical, *The Big Bang*, Sept. 9-Oct 23, at **Horizon Theatre Company** this summer.

Agatha's - A Taste of Mystery theater presents spin-offs of the movies *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* and Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest* with *My Big Fat Greek Murder*, through July 20, and *Alfred Hitchhike's South by Southwest*, July 21-Nov 2. www.agathas.com.

A Piece of My Heart debuts this fall at **Theatre in the Square**, Aug. 17-Sept. 25. This drama is about five Army nurses and a country-western singer who entertain troops during the Vietnam War. www.theatreinthesqaure.com.

The Computer Wore Flat-Soled Pumas is a coming-of-age, techno-thriller play about a dorky kid who befriends a super intelligent sentient computer. It debuts at **Dad's Garage Theatre**, July 14-23. www.dadsgarage.com

The **Robert Ferst Center for the Arts** hosts *Horatio Sanz and his sketch comedy troupe*, Aug. 26 and five-time Grammy award nominee, *Nnenna Freelon*, Sept. 24. www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu.

Ansley Park Playhouse continues its production of *Peachtree Battle*, through Aug. 28. This comedy about a Buckhead family wedding is the longest running production in Atlanta history. www.ansleyparkplayhouse.com.

Capitol City Opera Company's summer schedule includes *Dinner with a Diva*, July 19, August 16 and September 20, at 6:30 p.m. At these events, local singers perform while attendees enjoy a three-course meal at Petite Auberge Restaurant located in the Virginia Highlands. *On the Light Side* celebrates the works of George and Ira Gershwin with performances by a jazz trio and opera singers, July 15-17. The company's final performance of the summer is *Così fan tutte*, a two-act, opera comedy written by Mozart. It debuts September 16 at the Conant Center at Oglethorpe University. www.ccityopera.com.

The play *Bug* tells the tale of a pair of star-crossed lovers facing a bug invasion in an Oklahoma City motel and debuts at **Actor's Express**, Sept. 15-Oct. 29. www.actors-express.com/cgi-bin/MySQLdb?VIEW=/view.txt.

Sports

The **Atlanta Braves** continue their 2005 season this summer at Turner Field. The team will try to clinch a 14th consecutive division title in their newly renovated, state-of-the-art stadium. www.atlantabraves.com.

The annual **Peachtree Road Race** continues this year on July 4. Each year, 50,000 contestants run 6.2 miles along one of the city's most popular streets, making it the largest 10K race in the world. www.atlantatrackclub.org.

The annual **Atlanta Football Classic** occurs Sept. 24 at the Georgia Dome and is sponsored by Bank of America. The event is played by two historically black university football teams, Florida A&M and Tennessee State. www.theatlantafootballclassic.com.

The **International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Championships 2005** takes place at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum, July 22-24. This competition includes three days of swimming, water polo, diving and synchronized swimming. www.igla2005.org.

The **Atlanta Falcons** kick off their regular 2005-2006 season against the Philadelphia Eagles in the Georgia Dome, Sept. 12. www.atlantafalcons.com.

Shopping/Retail

Jimmy Choo shoes and accessories opened its seventh store in the nation at Phipps Plaza this past April. The mall also opened **April Cornell**, the **Landau Collection** and **Sole Mio** the same month. **MaxStudio.com**, **Anne Fontaine**, **Rangoni Firenze Shoes**, **Oilily**, **Coldwater Creek**, **A Pea in the Pod**, **Sigrid Olsen**, **The Limited Too**, **Elie Tahari** and **Gap Maternity** all plan to open this summer. **Barney's New York CO-OP** and **Nordstrom** opened at Phipps this past March. **Saks Fifth Avenue Inc.** announced March 11 that their Phipps Plaza location will undergo renovation in the next couple of months. www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=210

Kenneth Cole, the American designer known for his fashion-forward men's and women's shoes, accessories and apparel moved from its upstairs location at Lenox Square mall to a 4,740 square-foot space on the main level in mid-April. The mall is now home to the fourth **DASS Salon and Spa** location which opened in early April. The store occupies two levels and offers the finest in massages, hair coloring and hair cuts. Lenox also plans to open **French Connection**, **bebe** and **Hollister Co.** later this summer. www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=207

Hotels

The Westin Atlanta Airport launched a new service for guests that provides off-site baggage check and airline check-in services for \$10. Travelers can check their baggage as early as 12 hours before departure or as late as two and a half hours. www.westin.com/atlantaairport.

A 3,000-square-foot renovation of **The Ritz-Carlton, Buckhead's** The Bar will be completed Sept. 1. The new area, renamed The Gallery, allows the hotel to host smaller, more intimate events with 200 to 300 attendees and will feature 20-foot bay windows. http://www.ritzcarlton.com/hotels/atlanta_buckhead/

Restaurants/Nightlife

Chinese cuisine restaurant **Sampan** has opened off of Howell Mill Road. The interior consists of black lacquer tables and dark woods. www.sampanrestaurant.com.

Bob Amick, owner of ONE. midtown kitchen and TWO Urban Licks, opened a third restaurant called **Piebar**, located off of Monroe Drive, in late June. The menu features pizzas, small plates and other dishes for sharing, along with house-made gelato. A renovated teller window provides drive-through access for grabbing orders to go. A covered patio is available year round, and there is a private room for parties.

Owners of Buckhead favorite Eclipse di Luna have opened a European café serving breakfast, lunch and dinner located in the Highland Inn, called **Eclipse di Sol**. The restaurant seats 98 indoors and 50 in the outdoor patio. 404.724.0711.

Taking over a historic fire station in Midtown Atlanta, Derek Lawford Pubs will open **The Spotted Dog**. Near the corner of Peachtree Street and North Avenue, the pub will feature a meeting room with its own banquet kitchen upstairs and a traditional pub on the main floor.

The Oceanaire Seafood Room recently opened in the 1100 Peachtree building in midtown Atlanta. The new restaurant offers fresh seafood flown in daily from around the world and includes a separate oyster bar area. The atmosphere is reminiscent of the 1930s and 1940s with its timeless architecture that is contemporary and comfortable. It seats 275 patrons and offers a semi-private dining room that can accommodate 60. www.theoceanaire.com.

Gary Mennie, the executive chef who helped launch the restaurant Canoe opened an American cuisine restaurant June 20, called **Taurus**. Located in the Brookwood Place development on Peachtree Street, the 9,000 square-foot restaurant seats more than 240 in booths and banquettes, with a chef's table for up to 12 guests and a private dining room that can seat 40. The space has a three-story open atrium and a patio that wraps the perimeter of the restaurant.

The Real Chow Baby opened in April off of Howell Mill Road with create-your-own Asian and American stir-fries. Guests choose from more than 70 selections for their customized dishes including vegetables, rice noodles, 17 different sauces, spices, meats and seafood. www.therealchowbaby.com.

JOËL received the AAA 4-Diamond and *Wine Enthusiast's* Award of Unique Distinction in its selection of America's Best Wine-Driven Restaurants on Feb 21. Chef Joel Antunes also recently won the James Beard Foundation Award for best chef in the Southeast. www.joelrestaurant.com.

Here to Serve Restaurants group, which brought Prime, noche, Goldfish, Peri-Peri Chicken, Twist and Shout to Atlanta, are planning a steak and sushi concept restaurant that will open in October at Atlantic Station. The restaurant will measure about 10,000 square feet and have a semi-casual atmosphere. www.heretoserverestaurants.com.

Marlow's Tavern opened a second location in Vinings on April 25. It serves American tavern favorites in a modern atmosphere. 770.432.2526.

M!X lounge, bar and restaurant, a new concept featuring modern design, opens this summer. Italian entrees meant to be shared include a selection of 30-40 small plates ranging from classic antipasti, artisan salads and oven-fired pizzas to small pasta bowls and special meats and fish. www.mixrestaurant.com.

Agave restaurant, which blends Southwestern cooking with an extensive wine list and tequila bar, opened a new 50-seat covered patio complete with a Kiva Fireplace and a new menu. www.agaverestaurant.com.

Restaurateur Kevin Rathbun opened **KROG BAR** next to his award-winning restaurant Rathbun's in June. It features Mediterranean-inspired cold plates, international wines, as well as gelatos and coffee. The restaurant seats 40 and contains five communal tables, a walk-up bar and a patio with four tables overlooking Krog Street in Inman Park. www.krogbar.com.

Little Five Corner Tavern, sister restaurant of The East Point Corner Tavern, has opened in Little Five Points. The restaurant serves seafood, sandwiches and vegetarian dishes and has a poolroom. www.l5p.com.

Aria, South City Kitchen and **The Food Studio** were awarded the Distinguished Restaurants of North America (DiRôNA) Award. This is Aria's second consecutive year receiving the honor.

The Globe bistro restaurant opened May 23 in Georgia Tech's Technology Square in Midtown. With seafood, duck and chicken on the menu, the restaurant seats approximately 120 patrons. The restaurant features a 31-square-foot bar and a 26-square-foot banquette. www.globeatlanta.com.

Established in 1913, the ACVB is a private, nonprofit organization created exclusively to market metro Atlanta and Georgia as premier conventions, meetings and leisure destinations in the regional, national and international marketplace and to favorably impact the Atlanta economy through conventions and tourism.

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Earl Klugh, Dave Koz and Friends, July 13; *India Arie, Anthony David and Chrisette Michele*, July 16; *Carole King*, July 20; *Donna Summer*, July 27; *Lyle Lovett and his Large Band*, July 29; *Wynona*, July 30; *Foreigner*, Aug. 3; *Doobie Brothers*, Aug. 5; *Celtic Woman*, Aug. 6; *Dave Brubeck Quartet and Ramsey Lewis Trio*, Aug. 10; *Sister Hazel*, Aug. 12; *Hootie and the Blowfish*, Aug. 13; *LeAnn Rimes*, Aug. 17; *Chaka Kahn*, Aug. 19; *Chick Corea and Bobby McFerrin*, Aug. 20; *Huey Lewis and the News and Paul Thorn*, Aug. 24; *Cheap Trick and Alice Cooper and B.B. King 80th Birthday Celebration*, Aug. 27. www.classicchastain.org.

Atlanta Bike Fest, July 14-17, celebrates the many aspects of motorcycle culture at Lakewood Fairgrounds. An event that attracts hundreds of people each year includes a vendor market, a celebrity car and bike show, professional stunt shows, an amateur stunt competition, Ms. Atlanta Bike Fest Pageant and more. www.atlantabikefest.com.

The **Heritage Arts Festival**, the official vendors market for the National Black Arts Festival, will take place at Underground Atlanta, July 15-24. Activities include an artist market, music and dance performances. www.heritageartsfestival.com.

This year's **Downtown Atlanta Restaurant Week** occurs Aug. 15-21. This event showcases downtown restaurants with special three-course dinners for \$20.05 per person, plus tip and tax. www.atlantadowntown.com/havingfun_restaurantweek.asp.

The **Grant Park Summer Shade Festival** celebrates restoration efforts in Atlanta's oldest public park, Aug. 27-28. The two-day event includes an artist market and a music performance stage along with a 5K Run on Saturday evening and the Dog Days Cycling Criterium on Sunday. www.gpconservancy.org.

This year's **Latino Festival** at Underground Atlanta is the scene of dancing in the streets with Latin music, costumes, food and more on Sunday, Aug. 28. www.festpeachtreelatino.com.

DragonCon, held over Labor Day weekend, features science fiction and fantasy fanatics from all over the world at America's largest pop-culture conference. Meet celebrities from the worlds of animation, comic books, acting and film-making. www.dragoncon.org.

Take a bite out of what's cooking in Georgia's capital at **Taste of Atlanta**, Sept. 16-18, at Lenox Square mall in Buckhead. This festival of food features cuisine from more than 70 of the city's finest restaurants and wines from North Georgia. www.tasteofatlanta.org.

The **Atlanta Home Show** takes place at the Cobb Galleria Centre, Sept. 29-Oct. 2. Participants can explore home decorating at various vendor booths, while vendors compete to win the best display. Last year's guests included the hosts of TLC's show *While You Were Out*, Andrew Dan-Jumbo and Chayse Dacoda. www.atlantahomeshow.com.

Attractions

The world's largest interactive water play structure in a theme park debuted Memorial Day weekend at **Six Flags Over Georgia**. Spanning an area twice the size of a football field, the new *Skull Island* will sport a Caribbean pirate theme, six water slides, two giant buckets that tip 1,200 of gallons of water, a spewing volcano and numerous bridges, water wheels and spray guns. It is the first water play area for the park.

www.sixflags.com.

The **World of Coca-Cola** celebrates its 50-year partnership with Waffle House by building a virtual Waffle House museum, June 1-Aug. 31. The museum displays historical artifacts along with a life size photo background of the restaurant and its founders. www2.coca-cola.com/heritage/worldcocacola.html.

Stone Mountain Park's summer events include:

- *Lasershow Spectacular*, nightly through Aug. 14 and Aug. 19, 20, 26 and 27 at 9:30 p.m.
- *Fantastic Fourth Celebration*, including fireworks added to the regular lasershow program, July 2-4.
- Musical performances at the *Last Blast of Summer Concert* on Sept. 4.
- 37th annual *Yellow Daisy Festival*, one of Georgia's largest arts and crafts shows, Sept. 8-11.
- *JapanFest*, Sept. 24-25, a festival showcasing the discipline and practice of Japanese art, life and business including demonstrations, performances, hands-on workshops and exhibitions.
- 3rd annual *Pumpkin Festival*, Fridays-Sundays, Sept. 23-Oct 30.
- The *Vintage Vacationland at Memorial Hall Museum's* exhibit contains memorabilia of early tourist destinations around the South and can be seen through August 8.
- *Jim Fowler's Wonders of the Wild* animal show, May 31-July 17. This interactive and educational show provides an up close look at a variety of wild animals such as baby wolves, red-tailed hawks, snakes and more.

www.stonemountainpark.com.

The **High Museum of Art** displays *Ernest Withers: Memphis Blues Again* through Aug. 7. Withers gained wide recognition for his photographs depicting the Beale Street music scene, the Civil Rights Movement and the Negro Baseball Leagues. Also in August, the High will host the *Iranian Film Festival*. www.high.org.

On special display at the **Atlanta Botanical Garden's** Aquatic Plant Pond is *Locomotion in the Garden: Trains Across Georgia*. Through Oct. 31, the exhibit will include lifelike model trains ride through mock-up Georgia mountains, valleys and bridges into a 3,200 square-foot city replica of Atlanta. Also experience *Locomotion Nights*, from May to October, when the garden stays open until 9 p.m. every Tuesday evening. *SunTrust Concert in the Garden* continues July 1, 22 and 31 with performances by Dr. John, John Hiatt with the North Mississippi Allstars and Lucinda Williams.

www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org.

Fernbank Museum of Natural History summer schedule includes:

- Nancy Lowe's *Hidden Wonders of the Appalachians: The Watercolors* exhibit, through July 4. Her illustrations include portraits of landscapes from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
- *Grossology...The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body* exhibition engages visitors to explain why our bodies do the gross things they do. Through Aug. 21, Grossology features more than 20 interactive displays and games, including a human skin wall, burp machine, gas attack pinball and a 30-foot, 3-D slide through the digestive system.
- Special gallery exhibitions include *Southern Wildlands*, Kathryn Kolb's abstract collection of color photographs, July 9-Sept. 18 and *Dunes*, Francis Tack's photography collection of the world's deserts through sand dunes, July 30-Sept. 18.

www.fernbank.edu/museum.

The **Aliya Gallery** continues its summer season with the exhibit *Introductions[05]*, July 15-Aug. 5. Their 7th annual summer landscape exhibition occurs Aug. 20-Sept. 9, with this year's artists including James Randall Chumbley, Gerard Erley, Scott Hill, R. John Ichter, Margaret Keller and Stephan Wolverine. www.aliyagallery.com.

The **William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum** presents *The Superhero: The Golden Age of Comic Books, 1938-1950*, through Aug. 31. The exhibition contains original comic book art from major collectors representing the most well-known superheroes. Also on display are objects belonging to the first comic book creators and publishers, a Batmobile for the kids and superhero memorabilia. www.thebreman.org.

The **Atlanta History Center** presents *V for Victory: Georgia Remembers World War II*, through Jan. 2006. The exhibit examines the individual stories and experiences of Georgians and others who experienced the war from 1941-1945. www.atlantahistorycenter.com.

Imagine It! The Children's Museum of Atlanta starts its summer season with *The Shoes We Use* exhibit. These interactive demonstrations encourage young children to think about an everyday item in a new light and explore the ways in which shoes tell us about people and the world around us. It shows through Sept. 17. www.imagineit-cma.org.

The **Michael C. Carlos Museum's** special exhibit *Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, University College London* runs through Nov. 27. It includes more than 200 objects from the London Museum, including one of the world's earliest surviving Egyptian dresses. www.carlos.emory.edu.

Performing Arts

The Fox Theatre hosts a number of classic performances this summer including *Peter Pan*, July 11-16; *The Music Man*, July 26-31; *Evita*, Aug. 2-7; *My Fair Lady*, Aug. 16-

21; and *The Phantom of the Opera*, Sept. 1-25 (excluding Mondays). The Fox continues its 2005 *Coca-Cola Summer Film Festival*. It offers a mix of classic and current films on the biggest screen in Atlanta, as well as a pre-show, organ, sing-a-longs and a vintage cartoon. The schedule includes *The Shining*, July 7 (25th Anniversary); *West Side Story*, July 10; *Sahara*, July 18 and *Sin City*, July 21. Films for Aug. 8 and 10 have not been announced. www.foxtheatre.org.

Atlanta Lyric Theatre presents *Summer Spotlight Series* every Thursday at 8 p.m., through Aug. 18. The performances feature a variety of cabaret shows, from Broadway and jazz to operettas, held in the theater's courtyard. www.atlantalyrictheatre.com.

tick, tick...BOOM! debuts at the **Alliance Theatre**, Sept. 7-Oct. 2. From the creator of the play *Rent*, this musical explores the dilemma of a struggling composer who must choose between his dreams of fame and the reality of waiting tables, prosperous friends and an impatient girlfriend. www.alliancetheatre.org.

The New American Shakespeare Tavern summer season includes *As You Like It*, June 3-July 3, and continues with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Aug. 5 - 7, 13, 19, 22 and 28; *Macbeth*, Aug. 8, 12, 21 and 27; and *The Tempest*, Aug. 14, 15, 20, 26 and 29. www.shakespearetavern.com.

Six performances debut at the **Center for Puppetry Arts** this summer including three family shows, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, June 21-July 10; *Hansel and Gretel*, July 12-31; and *The Little Rabbit and other South American Tales*, Aug. 23-Sept. 18; and two adult shows, *Captain Wimwan!'s Buffoonicus Spectacular*, July 30; and *Avanti, Da Vinci! The Secret Adventures of Leonardo Da Vinci*, June 22-July 3. *Ancient Arts, Modern Masters*, Aug. 3-7, is a show for all ages. www.puppet.org.

Menopause the Musical (the Hilarious Celebration of Women and the Change), a humorous tale about four women who have nothing in common except being the same age, shows at **14th Street Playhouse** through July 31. www.menopausethemusical.com.

Theater-goers can see the play *Blue*, a story about an African-American-owned funeral home in the early 1900s, July 8-Aug. 7, or the musical, *The Big Bang*, Sept. 9-Oct 23, at **Horizon Theatre Company** this summer.

Agatha's - A Taste of Mystery theater presents spin-offs of the movies *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* and Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest* with *My Big Fat Greek Murder*, through July 20, and *Alfred Hitchhike's South by Southwest*, July 21-Nov 2. www.agathas.com.

A Piece of My Heart debuts this fall at **Theatre in the Square**, Aug. 17-Sept. 25. This drama is about five Army nurses and a country-western singer who entertain troops during the Vietnam War. www.theatreinthesqaure.com.

The Computer Wore Flat-Soled Pumas is a coming-of-age, techno-thriller play about a dorky kid who befriends a super intelligent sentient computer. It debuts at **Dad's Garage Theatre**, July 14-23. www.dadsgarage.com

The **Robert Ferst Center for the Arts** hosts *Horatio Sanz and his sketch comedy troupe*, Aug. 26 and five-time Grammy award nominee, *Nnenna Freelon*, Sept. 24. www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu.

Ansley Park Playhouse continues its production of *Peachtree Battle*, through Aug. 28. This comedy about a Buckhead family wedding is the longest running production in Atlanta history. www.ansleyparkplayhouse.com.

Capitol City Opera Company's summer schedule includes *Dinner with a Diva*, July 19, August 16 and September 20, at 6:30 p.m. At these events, local singers perform while attendees enjoy a three-course meal at Petite Auberge Restaurant located in the Virginia Highlands. *On the Light Side* celebrates the works of George and Ira Gershwin with performances by a jazz trio and opera singers, July 15-17. The company's final performance of the summer is *Così fan tutte*, a two-act, opera comedy written by Mozart. It debuts September 16 at the Conant Center at Oglethorpe University. www.ccityopera.com.

The play *Bug* tells the tale of a pair of star-crossed lovers facing a bug invasion in an Oklahoma City motel and debuts at **Actor's Express**, Sept. 15-Oct. 29. www.actors-express.com/cgi-bin/MySQLdb?VIEW=/view.txt.

Sports

The **Atlanta Braves** continue their 2005 season this summer at Turner Field. The team will try to clinch a 14th consecutive division title in their newly renovated, state-of-the-art stadium. www.atlantabraves.com.

The annual **Peachtree Road Race** continues this year on July 4. Each year, 50,000 contestants run 6.2 miles along one of the city's most popular streets, making it the largest 10K race in the world. www.atlantatrackclub.org.

The annual **Atlanta Football Classic** occurs Sept. 24 at the Georgia Dome and is sponsored by Bank of America. The event is played by two historically black university football teams, Florida A&M and Tennessee State. www.theatlantafootballclassic.com.

The **International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Championships 2005** takes place at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum, July 22-24. This competition includes three days of swimming, water polo, diving and synchronized swimming. www.igla2005.org.

The **Atlanta Falcons** kick off their regular 2005-2006 season against the Philadelphia Eagles in the Georgia Dome, Sept. 12. www.atlantafalcons.com.

Shopping/Retail

Jimmy Choo shoes and accessories opened its seventh store in the nation at Phipps Plaza this past April. The mall also opened **April Cornell**, the **Landau Collection** and **Sole Mio** the same month. **MaxStudio.com**, **Anne Fontaine**, **Rangoni Firenze Shoes**, **Oilily**, **Coldwater Creek**, **A Pea in the Pod**, **Sigrid Olsen**, **The Limited Too**, **Elie Tahari** and **Gap Maternity** all plan to open this summer. **Barney's New York CO-OP** and **Nordstrom** opened at Phipps this past March. **Saks Fifth Avenue Inc.** announced March 11 that their Phipps Plaza location will undergo renovation in the next couple of months. www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=210

Kenneth Cole, the American designer known for his fashion-forward men's and women's shoes, accessories and apparel moved from its upstairs location at Lenox Square mall to a 4,740 square-foot space on the main level in mid-April. The mall is now home to the fourth **DASS Salon and Spa** location which opened in early April. The store occupies two levels and offers the finest in massages, hair coloring and hair cuts. Lenox also plans to open **French Connection**, **bebe** and **Hollister Co.** later this summer. www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=207

Hotels

The Westin Atlanta Airport launched a new service for guests that provides off-site baggage check and airline check-in services for \$10. Travelers can check their baggage as early as 12 hours before departure or as late as two and a half hours. www.westin.com/atlantaairport.

A 3,000-square-foot renovation of **The Ritz-Carlton, Buckhead's** The Bar will be completed Sept. 1. The new area, renamed The Gallery, allows the hotel to host smaller, more intimate events with 200 to 300 attendees and will feature 20-foot bay windows. http://www.ritzcarlton.com/hotels/atlanta_buckhead/

Restaurants/Nightlife

Chinese cuisine restaurant **Sampan** has opened off of Howell Mill Road. The interior consists of black lacquer tables and dark woods. www.sampanrestaurant.com.

Bob Amick, owner of ONE. midtown kitchen and TWO Urban Licks, opened a third restaurant called **Piebar**, located off of Monroe Drive, in late June. The menu features pizzas, small plates and other dishes for sharing, along with house-made gelato. A renovated teller window provides drive-through access for grabbing orders to go. A covered patio is available year round, and there is a private room for parties.

Owners of Buckhead favorite Eclipse di Luna have opened a European café serving breakfast, lunch and dinner located in the Highland Inn, called **Eclipse di Sol**. The restaurant seats 98 indoors and 50 in the outdoor patio. 404.724.0711.

Taking over a historic fire station in Midtown Atlanta, Derek Lawford Pubs will open **The Spotted Dog**. Near the corner of Peachtree Street and North Avenue, the pub will feature a meeting room with its own banquet kitchen upstairs and a traditional pub on the main floor.

The Oceanaire Seafood Room recently opened in the 1100 Peachtree building in midtown Atlanta. The new restaurant offers fresh seafood flown in daily from around the world and includes a separate oyster bar area. The atmosphere is reminiscent of the 1930s and 1940s with its timeless architecture that is contemporary and comfortable. It seats 275 patrons and offers a semi-private dining room that can accommodate 60. www.theoceanaire.com.

Gary Mennie, the executive chef who helped launch the restaurant Canoe opened an American cuisine restaurant June 20, called **Taurus**. Located in the Brookwood Place development on Peachtree Street, the 9,000 square-foot restaurant seats more than 240 in booths and banquettes, with a chef's table for up to 12 guests and a private dining room that can seat 40. The space has a three-story open atrium and a patio that wraps the perimeter of the restaurant.

The Real Chow Baby opened in April off of Howell Mill Road with create-your-own Asian and American stir-fries. Guests choose from more than 70 selections for their customized dishes including vegetables, rice noodles, 17 different sauces, spices, meats and seafood. www.therealchowbaby.com.

JOËL received the AAA 4-Diamond and *Wine Enthusiast's* Award of Unique Distinction in its selection of America's Best Wine-Driven Restaurants on Feb 21. Chef Joel Antunes also recently won the James Beard Foundation Award for best chef in the Southeast. www.joelrestaurant.com.

Here to Serve Restaurants group, which brought Prime, noche, Goldfish, Peri-Peri Chicken, Twist and Shout to Atlanta, are planning a steak and sushi concept restaurant that will open in October at Atlantic Station. The restaurant will measure about 10,000 square feet and have a semi-casual atmosphere. www.heretoserverestaurants.com.

Marlow's Tavern opened a second location in Vinings on April 25. It serves American tavern favorites in a modern atmosphere. 770.432.2526.

M!X lounge, bar and restaurant, a new concept featuring modern design, opens this summer. Italian entrees meant to be shared include a selection of 30-40 small plates ranging from classic antipasti, artisan salads and oven-fired pizzas to small pasta bowls and special meats and fish. www.mixrestaurant.com.

Agave restaurant, which blends Southwestern cooking with an extensive wine list and tequila bar, opened a new 50-seat covered patio complete with a Kiva Fireplace and a new menu. www.agaverestaurant.com.

Restaurateur Kevin Rathbun opened **KROG BAR** next to his award-winning restaurant Rathbun's in June. It features Mediterranean-inspired cold plates, international wines, as well as gelatos and coffee. The restaurant seats 40 and contains five communal tables, a walk-up bar and a patio with four tables overlooking Krog Street in Inman Park. www.krogbar.com.

Little Five Corner Tavern, sister restaurant of The East Point Corner Tavern, has opened in Little Five Points. The restaurant serves seafood, sandwiches and vegetarian dishes and has a poolroom. www.l5p.com.

Aria, South City Kitchen and **The Food Studio** were awarded the Distinguished Restaurants of North America (DiRôNA) Award. This is Aria's second consecutive year receiving the honor.

The Globe bistro restaurant opened May 23 in Georgia Tech's Technology Square in Midtown. With seafood, duck and chicken on the menu, the restaurant seats approximately 120 patrons. The restaurant features a 31-square-foot bar and a 26-square-foot banquette. www.globeatlanta.com.

Established in 1913, the ACVB is a private, nonprofit organization created exclusively to market metro Atlanta and Georgia as premier conventions, meetings and leisure destinations in the regional, national and international marketplace and to favorably impact the Atlanta economy through conventions and tourism.

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