



Jam Miller’s status still unclear ahead of Alabama football vs. Georgia

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Tuscaloosa Symphony season set

Orchestra offers 7 shows for first time since pandemic

Mark Hughes Cobb
Tuscaloosa News
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra’s season launches Sept. 22 with “Ignite,” glows into an “Aurora” (Nov. 17), finds a partner for “Danzon” (Jan. 26, 2026), goes “Windswept” (March 30) and at the last, will “Rise” (April 27.)

Rounding that out are two familiar events, the long-established “Home for the Holidays,” Dec. 8, and the other invented new for 2024, and back by popular demand this year, the Oct. 31 fundraising “Bridgerton Ball.”

With March 2’s performances of children’s concert “The Composer is Dead,” brainchild of Daniel Handler, aka Lemony Snicket, featuring guest narrator Joey Lay, this TSO season goes back to seven concerts for the first time since the pandemic.

While each of the concerts has a name, the TSO’s 46th season does not, a departure from recent years. That’s per-

haps because its diversity doesn’t lead to easy encapsulation, said Natassia Perrine, executive director of the orchestra.

“It really is a bold, passionate collection of works, the way (Adam Flatt, TSO music director since 2011) programmed it,” said Perrine, starting her fourth year in the leadership role.

The range encompasses two chamber concerts; the Bridgerton masquerade; guest vocalists from soprano Laquita Mitchell to baritone Paul Houghtaling to the Christmas contributions of

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Adam Flatt has served as the Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra’s music director Adam Flatt since 2011. PROVIDED BY TUSCALOOSA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



The Alabama Museum of Natural History on the University of Alabama campus. THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS FILE

AL schools leader issues warning on Kirk posts

Mackey says ‘inappropriate’ content will spur investigation

Andrea Tinker
ALABAMA REFLECTOR

In a letter sent to school superintendents on Saturday, Alabama State Schools Superintendent Eric Mackey said that “inappropriate” social media posts will result in investigations and disciplinary action.

Mackey said the letter stemmed from what he described as three “inexcusable” social media posts by three Alabama educators about the shooting of right-wing political commentator and talk radio show host Charlie Kirk.

“Almost immediately upon arrival at home, I became aware of two inappropriate, reprehensible, and inexcusable social media posts regarding the

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‘Crikey, this is cool’

Alabama Fossil Fest features huge reptiles, more

Jasmine Hollie
Tuscaloosa News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Guests will have the opportunity to travel back in time during Alabama’s Fossil Fest.

The Alabama Fossil Fest will be held Sept. 20 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at Smith Hall, 427 Sixth Ave., on the University of Alabama campus.

The free event is hosted by the Alabama Museum of Natural History and University of Alabama Museums’ department of museum research and collections.

“This year, we’ve put together yet another very exciting and varied event,” said Adiel Klompmaker, curator of paleontology with the department of museum research and collections, in a news release.

“There are three great presentations such as a keynote talk about fossil crocodilians, the unveiling of a brand-new exhibit of a big prehistoric predator and our annual tabling event with tons of fossils,” Klompmaker said. “If you like



Guests look at displays at the University of Alabama Museum of Natural History in Smith Hall in this file photo. DUSTY COMPTON/THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS

biology, geology and/or paleontology, you do not want to miss this largest fossil event of the year in Alabama.”

UA professor emeritus Ron Buta will discuss coal-age fossils from Alabama’s Crescent Valley Mine. The keynote speaker will be David Schwimmer, a professor in the Department of Earth and Space Sciences at Columbus State

University in western Georgia.

Along with the new exhibit, the event will feature hands-on learning spanning 500 million years of Alabama’s past and the presentation of the Alabama Avocational Paleontologist Award.

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3 events to mark Hispanic Heritage Month

Jennifer Lindahl
Montgomery Advertiser
USA TODAY NETWORK

National Hispanic Heritage Month began Sept. 15, kicking off a four-week celebration of Latin American culture, history and contributions across the U.S.

Right here in Alabama, communities are marking the occasion with food, music, art and a deep sense of pride.

While the parties and performances are full of energy, Hispanic Heritage Month is about more than just celebration, it’s a chance to reflect

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