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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Ulrich Museum of Art announces lineup for Art For Your Ears

Free Outdoor Summer Concert Series at Wichita State will feature singer-songwriters Darden Smith, Ellis Paul, and The Cherokee Maidens

Wichita, Kan. May 8, 2014 — Expand your artistic experience with the Ulrich Museum of Art's annual free outdoor summer concert series at Wichita State University, *Art For Your Ears*. Featuring acoustic music and singer-songwriters locally grown and from around the country, *Art For Your Ears* begins Thursday, June 5, 2014 with Texas songwriter Darden Smith, founder of [SongwritingWith:Soldiers](#), a songwriting retreat program for active duty soldiers and veterans.

Performances are free and open to the public, and begin at 7 p.m. on the McKnight Outdoor Plaza, between the Ulrich Museum and the School of Art and Design at WSU. Museum galleries are open until 8:30 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, and refreshments will be provided.

ART FOR YOUR EARS LINEUP:



THURSDAY, JUNE 5 | 7-9 P.M.

[Darden Smith](#)

Darden Smith weaves together folk and Americana influences with rock, pop, and the musical roots of his home state of Texas, to create a sound that is uniquely his own. He has recorded fourteen critically acclaimed albums and is likened to songwriters such as Nick Drake, John Hiatt, Leonard Cohen and Elvis Costello. Recognizing the

plight of veterans suffering from PTSD and other injuries, Smith started [SongwritingWithSoldiers](#) in 2012, bringing together some of America's best songwriters with active duty soldiers and veterans in a retreat setting to craft songs about personal experiences in combat.



THURSDAY, JULY 10 | 7-9 P.M.

[Ellis Paul](#)

Ellis Paul is one of the leading voices in American songwriting and one of the top songwriters to emerge out of the fertile Boston folk scene. A songwriter for more than 20 years, his urban, folk rock style bridges the gulf between the modern folk sound and the populist traditions of Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger. In recent years, he has

also departed from his solo career to tour and record with longtime friend and 2013 *Art For Ears* alum Vance Gilbert.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 7 | 7-9 P.M.

The Cherokee Maidens

The Cherokee Maidens are the tight harmony trio of local legend Robin Macy, Monica Taylor and Jennifer Pettersen. Singing in a traditional style reminiscent of the McKinney Sisters and Bob Wills, they cover old western swing, jazz, and original tunes. In addition to their harmonic convergence, they all share Cherokee Indian heritage and

Great Plains roots. The Cherokee Maidens are accompanied by Sycamore Swing, a group of veteran, talented musicians with multi-instrumentalist Kentucky White, fiddler Rob Loren, Jordan Bollig on bass, and percussionist Kirk Russell.

For more information about *Art For Your Ears*, visit www.ulrich.wichita.edu/artforyouears.

About the Ulrich Museum of Art

The Ulrich Museum of Art at Wichita State University serves as the area's premier venue for new work by emerging and established artists of national and international reputation. The Ulrich Museum is home to the renowned 76-piece Martin H. Bush Outdoor Sculpture Collection—rated one of the top collections of its kind by *Public Art Review*—and a permanent collection of more than 6,600 works of

modern and contemporary art. Established in 1974, the mission of the Ulrich is to expand human experience through encounters with the art of our time. To learn more about the dynamic public programs, events and exhibitions at the Ulrich, visit www.ulrich.wichita.edu and follow the Ulrich on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). The galleries are open Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m.–5 p.m., and weekends 11–5 p.m. The Outdoor Sculpture Collection is always open. Admission, parking, and group tours are free.

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