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## Feast on the arts in Aiken

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In what town can you find Mickey Mouse, murder and mayhem alongside antiques and fine arts? Look no farther than Aiken, SC, where cultural, performing and visual arts have long flourished. And Aikenites have a number of premier venues that feature drama, comedy and international troupes.

**Washington Center for the Performing Arts** 

is home to the Aiken Community Playhouse and the Aiken Performing Arts Group, groups that offer drama, murder mysteries, light comedy and hit musicals throughout the year. Tickets are moderately priced for students and adults. 803-648-1438 / aikencommunityplayhouse.com or aikenperformingartsgroup.org

On the campus of the University of South Carolina at Aiken, the Etherredge Center for Fine and Performing Arts offers shows that range from opera and the symphony to ballet and band. With past performances that have included international groups such as the Male Choir of St. Petersburg and the Russian National Ballet, the season is sure to offer crowd-pleasers. 803-648-6851 / usca.edu/ec

If you missed Mickey Mouse and friends at the **USC Aiken Convocation Center**, don't fret. In addition to Pacer basketball games, the center offers a full slate of concerts and special events. Visit the website for a complete lineup of performances. Box Office: 803-643-6900 or 866-722-8877 / uscatix.com

Art of a different kind is found during a three-day weekend of Antiques in the Heart

of Aiken Show and Sale held each winter at the Aiken Center for the Arts. With more than 20 dealers from New York to Texas, the popular event features a variety of fine English furniture and silver, Chinese porcelain, rare books, prints and Essex crystal sporting jewelry. Honored by the Southeast Tourism Society as one of the Top 20 Events in South Carolina. 803-641-9094 / aikencenterforthearts.org/index.html



