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## **VOICES Concert Receives Standing Ovation**

by Forrest Schultz, Coweta Arts Tidbits

By now everyone who is au courant with the Southside arts scene has heard about the greatness of VOICES and the launching of its 2008-2009 season with a Fall Benefit Concert at The Wadsworth in Newnan on Saturday. Those who attended this important musical event expressed their appreciation by giving VOICES a well-deserved standing ovation at the conclusion of the Concert.

The program consisted of a medley of various kinds of song, all of which were performed to perfection. The most moving was Zaphyra's singing of various pieces from The Phantom of the Opera, which evoked the poignancy of that tragic tale. The most striking was The Southern Nights Chorale's unusual rendition of Georgia On My Mind.

The post-concert "Meet and Greet" event in The Wadsworth lobby was skillfully catered by its sponsor, the Ten East Washington restaurant in downtown Newnan. The aesthetics of the cranberry punch fountain and drinking cups and the hors d'oeuvres serving trays was impressive and quite apropos for the conclusion of an important arts event and for providing a great atmosphere in which to meet the performers. The Concert program booklet was also noteworthy for its beautiful design, another appropriate feature for a great performing arts event. And the wardrobes of the performers were very impressive.

Cowetans are grateful to VOICES for this Concert and to its Artistic Director, Maria Pia Ugarte, for honoring Coweta County by selecting a Coweta venue to launch this season. Cowetans can heartily recommend to others in the Southside that they attend the VOICES concerts which will be held in their counties! Information about VOICES is available on their website, [www.voicesonline.org](http://www.voicesonline.org).

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