

**MCCOY'S GRAND**  
EST. 1927  
**BACKSTAGE**  
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HARDY COUNTY'S PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

MARCH 2025

**MCCOY'S GRAND**  
EST. 1927  
**Concert Series**



**JOE CRITES IN CONCERT COMING TO MCCOY'S MARCH 15!**

MCCOY'S GRAND SPRING CONCERT SERIES continues the month of March with local favorite - JOE CRITES. The show begins at 7pm with doors opening at 6:30pm. Tickets are now on sale on our website at [mccoysgrand.org](http://mccoysgrand.org). Forget the winter blues with a rockin' night at McCoy's Grand! Country rock comes to McCoy's as we welcome Joe Crites to the stage! A country artist from Petersburg, West Virginia, Joe brings music rooted in traditional country that branches out into the future of country music. He also composes his own songs as well to give you a whole spectrum of country.

**WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO WRITE SONGS?**

Because music is the closest thing to magic that we have on this earth and I feel like I have things to say that people will connect with.

**DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE ARTIST? AND WHY?**

I'm gonna say Switchfoot, a rock n roll band from San Diego California because listening to their music makes me want to be a better person.

**WHAT MAKES YOU CONNECT TO COUNTRY MUSIC?**

Country music is a collision of many diverse cultures from around the world all stirred together (like a pot of chili) to create sounds and songs we can all relate to. And as a bonus there are a lot more guitar solos in country music than many other genres.

**WHAT CAN MCCOY'S AUDIENCES EXPECT FROM YOUR CONCERT?**

Well... stepping into McCoy's Grand is like stepping back in time to the world a century ago. Back then I imagine there were folks driving their Ford Model T's and Amelia Earhart was flying airplanes. That was quite a long time ago and with a historical place like McCoy's Grand Theatre ...what I'm saying is that you might see real ghosts walking around. So be ready.

But besides that, you can expect to hear my original music about West Virginia and some really great, enthusiastic guitar pickin' by Colton Watts. Also, I've been helping a local, creative gal, Khloe Haslacker, record her original music and she is going to play an opening set. And Caroline Auville is going to be a special guest for the evening and sing a couple songs with me.

So...full band, pretty lights, talented locals-- that about sums it up.

[JOE CRITES TICKETS](#)

**MCCOY'S GRAND**  
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**SPRING CONCERT SERIES**

**JANUARY 25 RICH FOLLETT**  
Rich performs easy-on-the-ears acoustic folk music. Original and covers with something for everyone.

**FEBRUARY 8 JIMMY LEE**  
Jimmy Lee covers three decades of music & multiple genres. It's a little bit of everything!

**MARCH 15 JOE CRITES**  
Country rock comes to McCoy's as we welcome Joe to the stage!

**APRIL 5 RAW COUNTRY**  
It's old-time fiddle music and classic country!

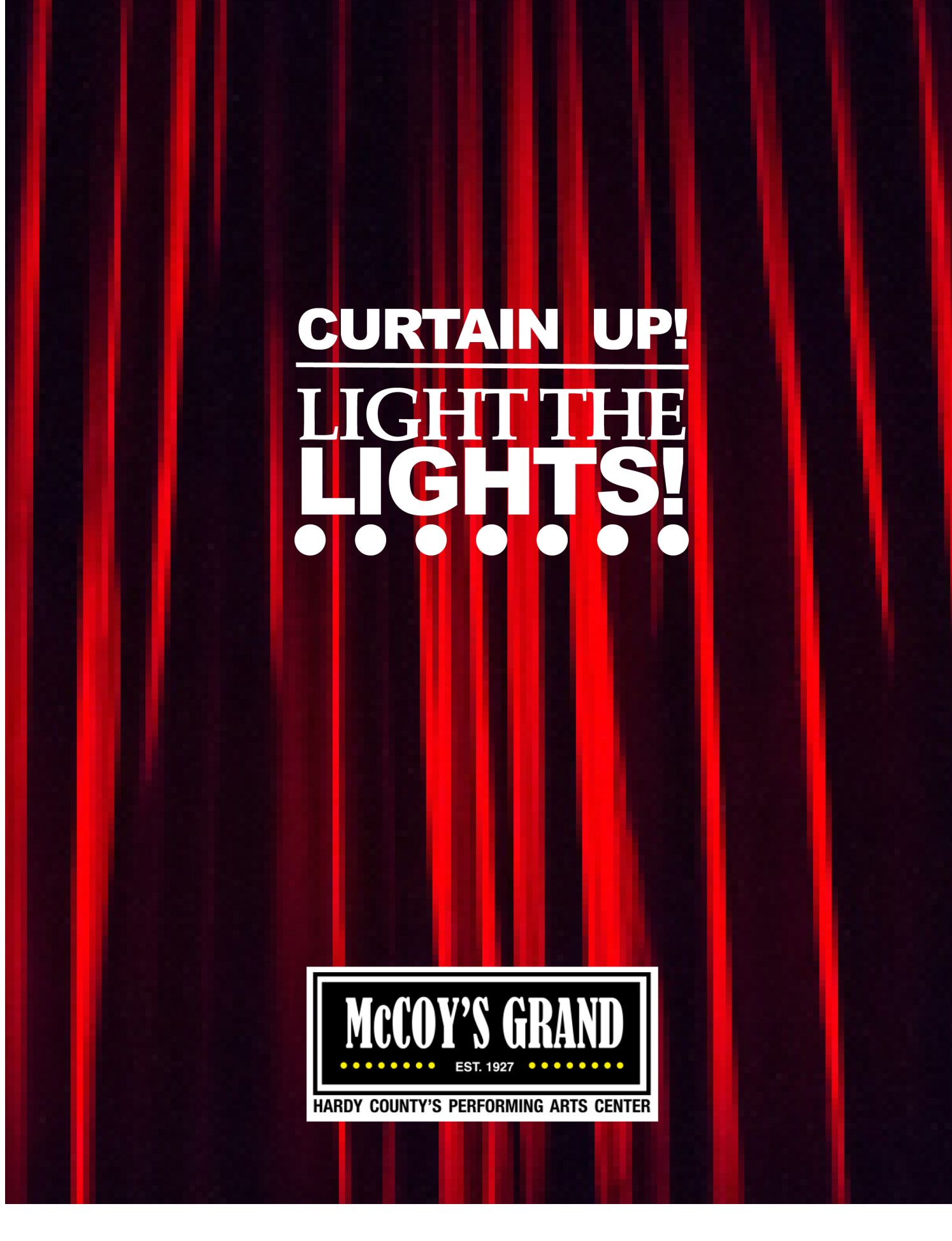
**APRIL 12 JACOB TOLLIVER**  
Direct from Nashville & Broadway, Jacob tickles the keys and will have you dancing in the aisles!

**MAY 17 ASTORIA II**  
The Rock Band makes a triumphant return.

**ALL SHOWS AT 7PM. ALL SEATS ONLY \$15.**  
[mccoysgrand.org](http://mccoysgrand.org)

**THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL** JULY 18-20 & JULY 25-27, 2025

Start preparing for Auditions for **THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL!**  
**AUDITIONS - Friday, April 11 at 6:00pm;**  
**Saturday, April 12 at 10:00am and Sunday April 13 at 2:00pm.**  
Next month, we'll give you all the inside scoop! We hope to see you there!



**MCCOY'S GRAND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

McCoy's Grand has embarked on a new capital campaign - CURTAIN UP! LIGHT THE LIGHTS! to replace the existing lighting and sound equipment in the theatre. The current lighting instruments are over 30 years old and we can't even find replacement bulbs. The sound equipment is over 25 years old as well. The new campaign is underway with plans to make the new upgrades in August 2025. Working with Pittsburgh Stage, the new lighting and sound will be state of the art LED technology that will help increase productions as well as technical times at the theatre. McCoy's recently was awarded a \$50,000.00 check from the **Burke & Herbert Foundation** toward our \$250,000.00 goal. We've raised \$120,000.00 so far toward our goal and look forward to completing the project in September. To learn more about the campaign email - [mccoysgrand@icloud.com](mailto:mccoysgrand@icloud.com).



Members of the Burke and Herbert Foundation along with Board Members of McCoy's Grand celebrate the \$50,000.00 grant.

**Moorefield Examiner**  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025

**Burke & Herbert lights it up with \$50,000 gift to McCoy's Grand**

Light & sound representatives from Burke & Herbert present McCoy's Grand with a check for \$50,000. Photo by Cheryl Buring.

Following the completion of their recent Officer Angie Zick said community organizations in an energy with Bonnie Stearns, she bank is committed to being. "Strengthening and empow- ering the local community is our top priority in every city in which we have a presence. McCoy's Grand is a vital part of the local community and we are pleased to support it." Burke & Herbert bank will continue to partner with McCoy's Grand as a central element of our company's dedication to em- powering local communities by addressing immediate needs and supporting growth projects. These include initiatives that address specific needs, encour-

You can read the entire article in the February 12th Edition of the Moorefield Examiner.

**2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!**

The McCoy Theater Board of Directors is committed to doing its part in bringing culture to and supporting the arts within our community. We encourage the involvement of our youth in all aspects of the performing arts whether it be on stage or behind the scenes. The McCoy's Grand Theatre Scholarship is designed to recognize the talent and potential of area youth in theatrical arts by helping students financially with post-secondary education. Based on the board's discretion, a yearly scholarship application may or may not be awarded.

The scholarship application is available below for 2025. The deadline for submission is April 1, 2025. Scholarship guidelines and application forms will also be available from guidance counselors at Moorefield and East Hardy high schools.

[Scholarship Application](#)



**MEET THE BOARD - DANYL FREEMAN**

Meet **Danyl Freeman** who serves of the Board of Directors. She first appeared on our stage in 2004 and has been involved with McCoy's ever since. Danyl serves on the Finance Committee on the Board overseeing the financials and audit. We look forward to seeing her on our stage real soon!

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED WITH MCCOY'S?**

I began with McCoy's on stage in the production of *Godspell* in 2004. I owe it to Larry Curtis who encouraged me to tryout. I have always loved making people laugh but other than high school I had never acted before --- being on McCoy's stage unleashes something inside me that I can't truly express in words.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY OF MCCOY'S?**

It is so hard to pick a favorite because I have so many amazing memories. I will say playing Miss Hannigan in *Annie* was an amazing time for me. To pass people outside of the theater in my normal life and they would stare trying to decide if I was Miss Hannigan or not --- they at times were embarrassed to ask if I was Miss Hannigan.

**DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE SHOW AND WHY?**

My favorite show --- wow a tough one. My favorites are *Annie* and *Arsenic and Old Lace* with close seconds being *Fiddler on the Roof* & *Beauty & the Beast*. My favorite one that not enough people saw --- *Rumors*. It was also my last show I've done --- hopefully I will return to the stage later this year --- Lord willing.

**WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT MCCOY'S FUTURE?**

What I look forward to for McCoy's future -- our upcoming 100 year anniversary celebration and continuing to display the arts and history...and being back on stage!

TO SIGN-UP FOR THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO [mccoysgrand@icloud.com](mailto:mccoysgrand@icloud.com)