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# Alumnus Luke Bryan to perform at Super Bowl LI

**JANUARY 31, 2017**

Luke Bryan ('99), Georgia Southern alumnus and award-winning country music artist, has been selected to perform the national anthem at the 51st Super Bowl, making him the first male performer to sing the anthem in 10 years and the first country artist to perform it since 2010.

Now one of the most popular stars in country music, the Leesburg, Georgia, native was perfecting his talents in front of audiences in Statesboro establishments as a student at Georgia Southern. While pursuing a degree in business management, the Sigma Chi fraternity brother wrote music and played with his band on weekends.

Bryan has come a long way from his time in Statesboro and at Georgia Southern, where he also met his wife, Caroline Boyer. He has achieved numerous awards including Entertainer of the Year by the Country Music Association and twice by the Academy of Country Music. Since the release of his first hit single "All My Friends Say," he has celebrated seven No. 1 singles, several platinum and gold singles and a platinum album for his newest record "Kill the Lights." In 2014, he achieved the best touring year of his career with 1.7 million fans attending his concerts, and in early 2015, he played his first-ever shows in Europe.

Bryan is also known for his generosity, having provided proceeds to Georgia Southern for scholarships from his past Farm Tour stops in the Statesboro area. Most recently, he has announced he will team up with fellow Eagle Cole Swindell and Georgia-native Phillip Phillips to perform a benefit concert for those in South Georgia affected by the recent storms.

At Super Bowl LI on Feb. 5, Bryan will join the ranks of country performers like the Dixie Chicks, Carrie Underwood, Garth Brooks and Faith Hill who have all sung the national anthem at past Super Bowls.

Georgia Southern alumni and students are accomplishing amazing things! Don't miss Luke Bryan's performance on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 6:30 p.m.

# Annual Feed the Mosasaur event to take place this March

JANUARY 31, 2017



The Georgia Southern Museum's 11th annual "Feed the Mosasaur" gourmet event will take place on Saturday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center Ballroom. Reservations must be made by Feb. 17.

"Providing unique events such as our Feed the Mosasaur Dinner and Dance Gala not only help enrich our cultural community and offer an enjoyable venue in which to experience Georgia Southern University, but it concurrently serves to help us raise much-needed funds to help support the Museum, as well as showcase not only what the Museum has to offer the community, but what our fabulous sponsors/partners have to offer the community," said Debbie Gleason, assistant director of the Museum.

The Feed the Mosasaur event, named after the Museum's first artifact, the Mosasaur, is the Museum's premier culinary event of the year, hosting a multi-course gourmet meal and signature cocktail. Executive Chef of Blue Tie Catering, Thomas Sweatt, will demonstrate the preparation for the meal and leave guests with a recipe for each dish as well as a commemorative menu from the evening. This year's theme is "Gourmet Flavors Made Easy!"

Professor emeritus of music Michael Braz, Ph.D., will start the evening's entertainment on the piano, and ballroom dance teacher Tony Phillips of the Averitt Center for the Arts will conduct a swing-dance lesson for guests after dinner. The floor will then be open for free-style dancing immediately following with DJ music provided by Pladd Dot Music until midnight.

"One hundred percent of the Feed the Mosasaur proceeds go back into the Museum's budget to help support the exhibits and educational programming we offer," said Gleason. "While we are most grateful for the support the University's state funds are able to provide us, we must supplement those funds to maintain our operations. Last year this event provided almost 60 percent of our earned educational programming revenues necessary to support the Museum. That is why this event is so very important as it helps ensure we can continue to bring these excellent exhibits and educational programs to our community."

In years past, the event has been nearly full to capacity, with just under 200 guests in attendance last year. To ensure a seat, purchase tickets soon.

Tickets are \$75 per person or \$400 for a reserved table of six. Reservations may be made through Debbie Gleason at (912) 478-0148 or by email at [debgleason@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:debgleason@georgiasouthern.edu).

This event is sponsored in part by Sea Island Bank and Dabbs, Hickman, Hill & Cannon, LLP.

For more information on the event and to view a full menu, visit [georgiasouthern.edu/museum](http://georgiasouthern.edu/museum).

*Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 125 degree programs serving 20,674 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered and hands-on approach to education. Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).*