

# Legendary soul, gospel singer to perform at Wingate

Mavis Staples, a soul and gospel legend, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and civil rights icon, will appear in concert at Wingate University's Battie Center on Friday, Jan. 30 at 8 p.m. in the McGee Theatre.

From the delta-inflected gospel sound she helped create in the 1950s ("Uncloudy Day"), to the engaged protest of the civil rights era ("Freedom Highway"), to her 1970s pop radio chart hits ("I'll Take You There," "Respect Yourself," "Let's Do It Again"), the music of Mavis Staples has been a cornerstone of American music.

Staples often marched and performed with Dr. Martin Luther King. As part of the family gospel group The Staples Singers, she became the voice of the Civil Rights movement through message songs like "Why am I Treated So Bad." Throughout her 40-year music career, Staples has continued her message of equality and respect in her music. "We sing about what's happening in the world today, and whatever's wrong we try to fix it through a song," Staples recalled her father explaining. "We're living in dark times, troubled times; we

wanted to spread a ray of light on the world."

Staples is a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award winner and a National Heritage Fellowship Award recipient. VH1 named her one of the 100 Greatest Women of Rock and Roll, and Rolling Stone listed her as one of the 100 Greatest Singers of All Time. Her album, "You Are Not Alone," produced by Jeff Tweedy, won the Grammy Award for Best Americana Album in 2011.

Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased online at [battecenter.org](http://battecenter.org) or by calling the Battie Center Box Office at 704-233-8300 or Carolina Tix at 704-372-1000.

To learn more about Mavis Staples, visit [www.battecenter.org](http://www.battecenter.org).



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Soul and gospel great Mavis Staples will perform Friday at Wingate.