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Winthrop University

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Billy McLaughlin is Back on Stage at Winthrop on Oct. 2

ROCK HILL, S.C. – When a debilitating neuromuscular disorder prevented world-class musician Billy McLaughlin from playing the guitar with his right hand, he learned to play the instrument again...with his left hand.

The Minnesota native will bring “Billy McLaughlin: Back on Stage at Winthrop University” to the campus on Sunday, Oct. 2.

The 7 p.m. event, scheduled for Plowden Auditorium in the Withers/W.T.S. Building, is hosted by the Council for Exceptional Children.

McLaughlin astounded audiences for 20 years with his complex and rhythmic music. After disappearing from stage due to health problems, he was diagnosed in 2001 with Focal Dystonia. He staged a comeback in 2006 and is astounding audiences once again with his story and his music.

Now serving as Ambassador for Awareness for the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, McLaughlin is the winner of the 2010 Public Leadership in Neurology Award (American Academy of Neurology). Previous winners include Paul Allen, Julie Andrews, Leon Fleischer, Michael J. Fox and Cuba Gooding, Jr.

The cost for Winthrop students is $2 and for the public $10. Proceeds from this event will go to support the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.