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Office of University
Communications

October 29, 2014

Concert on Saturday, Nov. 15, to Benefit Victims of Human Trafficking

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. — Gardner-Webb University raises awareness of human trafficking with a series of events each year, and that commitment to helping spotlight the global issue will continue this month with a benefit concert featuring “American Idol” finalist and North Carolina native Majesty Rose.

Rose, who finished ninth in the most recent “Idol” competition, is set to perform in Stewart Hall in Gardner-Webb’s Tucker Student Center on Saturday, Nov. 15. All proceeds from the show will benefit Justice Ministries, a nonprofit organization based in Charlotte (N.C.) that works to remove people from human trafficking situations and restore their lives.

The concert is sponsored by Release, a GWU human trafficking awareness club, and the GWU Office of Student Activities. “It is important to remember those who have been exploited or enslaved because, as fellow humans and believers, we are called to take a stand against injustice in the world,” said Caroline Nethery, a senior psychology major who serves as president of Release. “We are given resources and a passion for others, and it would be wrong for us not to use the freedom we possess to help others in any way we can. Freedom is a basic human right that should be open to all people, and we are willing to fight for it.”

Gardner-Webb hosts a Human Trafficking Awareness Week during the spring semester each year to educate the campus and community about the issue of human trade and slavery. The upcoming concert will further promote that mission of helping people who suffer because of those crimes.

The 22-year-old Rose has served multiple churches and volunteered for a variety of community outreach projects, before and after her appearance on “American Idol.” She worked as a YMCA teacher before singing on the FOX television show, and she taught herself most of the musical skills she exhibits.

Admission to her GWU concert is \$2 for students and \$10 for the public. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the show starts at 7 p.m. For more information on the concert, contact Nethery at mnethery@gardner-webb.edu.

Release is an active club at Gardner-Webb University whose goal is to educate, inform, and spread awareness to students, faculty members, and the community about the global issue involving human trafficking.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University offers a comprehensive academic experience that introduces students to the diverse world of ideas and to the people who think them, preparing them for professional success and for productive citizenship.