



Cornell University

Student and Campus Life

Joseph S. Scaffido

Director of Campus Activities

Campus & Community Engagement

523 Willard Straight Hall

Ithaca, New York 14853

t. 607.255.4169

f. 607.255.1116

e. jss44@cornell.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joe Scaffido, Director of Campus Activities (jss44@cornell.edu)

Amanda McCarthy to Headline 2017 Emerging Artist Concert

Singer/Songwriter Amanda McCarthy will perform in the Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room on Monday, November 27 at 7:00 pm as the recipient of the 2017 Lauren Pickard '90 Emerging Artist Series. The performance is free, and will mark the 16th annual concert sponsored by the family of Lauren Pickard '90, the Willard Straight Hall Student Union Board (WSH SUB), and Campus Activities.

Amanda McCarthy is a storyteller compelled to speak the truth. She doesn't fit in a box and she doesn't like rules. Blending many influences, her music is undeniably pop, but brings along an alternative rock twist, a dash of Nashville, and the heart of an old soul. Essentially, the love child of Taylor Swift, Paramore and Adele. She records and performs as a solo artist as well as with her backing band at a variety of venues and events.

Growing up in the Boston music scene from a young age, she's never been a stranger to the stage, but things started gearing up for her in 2016. She partnered with a team of mentors who aided in the development of household names like Christina Aguilera, Jonas Brothers, and Red Hot Chili Peppers. Not long after, she was landing opening slots and side stage bookings for headliners like Steven Tyler (of Aerosmith), Hunter Hayes, Styx, Train, Natasha Bedingfield, Jason Lancaster (of Mayday Parade), SayWeCanFly, Hawthorne Heights and more, including a performance for NASCAR at the NH Motor Speedway and for Royal Caribbean's Allure of the Seas International Cruise. In October 2016, the acoustic versions of her original songs "Elephant in the Room" and "Bad News" made it to the nomination ballot for the 59th Annual Grammy

Awards in the category of Best American Roots Performance. She will be releasing new music in 2018.

In addition to this honor, McCarthy has had original songs earn recognition from the Southern New England Music Expo and Limelight Magazine. She was also named Limelight Magazine's Singer/Songwriter of the Year in 2013. Her song "Sticks and Stones" was placed in the national anti-bullying documentary "Bullied to Silence" in 2012.

The Lauren Pickard '90 Emerging Artist Series was created in memory of a 1990 Cornell graduate who died suddenly after suffering a seizure while living and working in Paris. At Cornell, Pickard was an active student employee and volunteer at Willard Straight Hall. She loved the student union's weekly coffeehouse series and was a poet and an activist. The series was created through an endowment established by Pickard's mother, and it sponsors one or two programs each academic year at Cornell featuring bright young artists.

McCarthy is the 16th recipient of the award, and will be recognized during the concert. For more information, please contact Campus Activities at 607-255-4169, or email activities@cornell.edu.