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**Appalachian Theatre Rings in the Holidays with Darin & Brooke Aldridge
Husband and Wife Bluegrass Duo to Host Holiday Concert**

Boone, NC - The Appalachian Theatre of the High Country (ATHC) will initiate their holiday programming starting December 5, with the musical stylings of husband and wife Bluegrass duo, Darin and Brooke Aldridge. This couple are inspired by the traditions of their native North Carolina, the savvy of a young, gifted band and their own dedication to ingenuity. With roots in the High Country (Avery County, in fact,) this husband-and-wife team promise inspired bluegrass just in time for the holidays. This live and in-person concert is sponsored by Mast General Store.

The Aldridge duo has placed several tracks at the top of the charts on Roots, SiriusXM, Bluegrass and Gospel charts. They have received multiple nominations from the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) and Inspirational Country Music (ICM). Their music videos "Wildflower" and "Tennessee Flat Top Box" and most recently "Every Time You Leave" were heavily featured on outlets including CMT, CMT Edge, GAC, Bluegrass Ridge TV and The Bluegrass Situation. TV appearances include PBS, Great American Gospel, The Bluegrass Road, RFD-TV, Blue Highways TV, Songs of the Mountain, Woodsongs, Larry's Country Diner and Music City Roots.

Both highly acclaimed vocalists in their own right (Brooke is the 4-time reigning IBMA Female Vocalist of the Year), Darin and Brooke combine rich harmonies with impeccable musicianship to create the unmistakable sound that has made them one of the hottest young acts in acoustic music and they've surrounded themselves with a band of equally amazing pickers. Darin spent 6 years as a member of the acclaimed County Gentleman and is a highly sought-after multi-instrumentalist. Brooke has been lauded for having one of the most powerful voices in music of any genre. Darin was

named the IBMA's Momentum Mentor of the Year in 2017 for his efforts at teaching and mentoring youth on guitar and mandolin and for giving unselfishly of his time and talents at public events at places like the Earl Scruggs Center in Shelby, N.C.

Brooke Aldridge has been performing from a young age, singing at church and family functions before competing and eventually becoming a finalist in the 'Nashville Star' competition. Brooke Aldridge is also an alumna of Appalachian State University. She in fact developed her love for bluegrass while in college, eventually leading her to cross paths with her now husband.

Darin Aldridge also comes from musical beginnings, surrounded by a talented family devoted to the traditional music of western North Carolina. He was raised in Cherryville, N.C., but according to him, "Both of my parents and 98 percent of my family are from Avery County, in the Crossnore and Newland area." As a youth, he learned to play piano, guitar, mandolin and banjo.

One of their more inventive and recent projects has been brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. "The Carolina Sessions" is a weekly video podcast one can find on Youtube where the Aldridges converse with Bluegrass artists from all around the Carolinas. Darin Aldridge says, "For us, there's never been a period of time that music hasn't shaped our lives in some way. Here in North Carolina alone, it seems there's music to be heard around every corner. There's always a story to be told."

Their holiday concert, "Christmas with Darin & Brooke Aldridge," will be Sunday, December 5 at 3 P.M. Tickets are \$25 each, and available for purchase online via ATHC's touchless ticketing portal on the theatre's website, www.apptheatre.org.

The App Theatre is committed to the safety and wellbeing of its community and will continue to follow the guidance of health and governmental officials in the development and implementation of COVID related policies.

For more information on the Malpass Brothers, or to join the theatre's eblast list, get tickets, or purchase memberships, please visit the ATHC website at www.apptheatre.org.

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About the Appalachian Theatre

The mission of the Appalachian Theatre of the High Country is to revitalize and sustain this historic community touchstone as a quality home for diverse artists and audiences with a special focus on programs that celebrate our distinctive Appalachian heritage and enhance our capacity to serve as an economic catalyst for Boone and the High Country. Once a gorgeous 999-seat Art Deco movie house, the building closed in 2007 and sat empty and gutted for years. On October 14, 2019, the Appalachian Theatre reopened its doors after a \$10 million renovation that brought the distinctive Art Deco details back to this historic theatre and created a new 629-seat, state-of-the-art, acoustically fabulous venue for live concerts, films, plays, and dance performances. The historic Appalachian Theatre has entertained regional audiences in the heart of downtown Boone, North Carolina since 1938. www.apptheatre.org