

Social activist, folk musician returns to State College



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Dar Williams will bring her style of popular folk music to the State Theatre tonight.

By Kathleen Loughran COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It's been three years since her last State College performance, but Dar Williams still remembers how nice and accommodating the State Theatre was to her.

Williams will perform with special guest Sara Watkins at 8 tonight at the theater, 130 W. College Ave.

State Theatre Executive Director Mike Negra said he remembers the last performance Williams gave there.

'She was here a couple years ago, and it really was one of our best shows we had," he said. "She connects to a lot of different audiences, and I thought it would be a good summertime show artist who appeals to all ages."

Williams said she is excited to come back to State College and perform.

"State College is great," she said. "I don't know what it is about the state of Pennsylvania in general. There's never been a part of the state that I haven't wanted to play in, whereas a

If you go

What: Dar Williams with special guest star Sara Watkins Where: The State Theatre When: 8 tonight

Details: Tickets cost \$27, show is open to all ages

lot of states there's a zone that you want to stick to."

Williams said "fun" and "smart" audiences are the best to have — she's experienced that type of crowd when she's played in State College.

The State Theatre has been an "excellent" venue for her, she added.

"Musicians definitely notice the theaters that take care of them and that do a great job," she said. "Every show that I've done there has been really mentalist. I think they complement fun, and the people that work there are each other well for the show." really cool to work with."

This concert is a little different than

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> Mike Negra State Theatre Executive Director

past Williams tours because she will not be performing alone. Sara Watkins of the band Nickel Creek will perform a solo act, and Williams said she is working on having Watkins come onstage with her at some point during her set.

State Theatre Marketing Director Kristy Cyone said she thinks having the two artists perform will create a good concert.

"They have a lot in common to make for a great show that will really appeal to a lot of different audiences," she said. "Both are singer-songwriters. but Sara is a little bit more of an instru-

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