### FOR PRESS:

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### "TEDxHickory 2016 coming Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016"

April 16, 2016 -

TEDxHickory 2016 is fast approaching! Our fifth year anniversary will be coming to the SALT Block Auditorium Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and we're more excited than ever. This independently organized event, licensed by TED, will feature a combination of live speakers and TED Talk videos that is sure to elevate the thinking and broaden the perspective of all who participate.

This year's theme is "(un)common." But, what is (un)common? To us, it's all the similarities and differences, however big and small, that makes us who we are. It's the big ideas that have revolutionized industries. Or the tiniest idea that just leads to others. It's the seemingly small and innocuous changes that have shaped our way of life. It's the smallest variations that create uniqueness. It's how we can be so incredibly similar yet so exceptionally different. It's how, on paper, Hickory can be perceived as just another American small town – but when you look deeper, you uncover the individual and collective differences that makes us truly unique (just ask any of us what makes Hickory, well, Hickory).

The event will be held from 10am to 4pm, with presenters speaking for no more than 18 minutes each. There will be breaks in-between sessions for discussions on the topics presented.

Those wishing to attend TEDxHickory will need to purchase a ticket from the event's website (<u>www.TEDxHickory.com</u>). Early Bird tickets will be \$20.00 each (regular tickets will be \$30.00), which covers attendance for the full day and a lunch. Space is limited, so those interested are encouraged to purchase their ticket soon.

The TED Conference provides general guidance for the independent TEDx program, but individual TEDx events, including the one being held in Hickory, are self-organized. TEDxHickory has been organized by local members of the community.

For more information about TEDxHickory or to purchase a ticket for the event, visit the website at <u>www.TEDxHickory.com</u>.

About TEDx, x = independently organized event

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

# About TED

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. Started as a four-day conference in California 26 years ago, TED has grown to support those world-changing ideas with multiple initiatives. At TED, the world's leading thinkers and doers are asked to give the talk of their lives in 18 minutes. Talks are then made available, free, at <u>TED.com</u>. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Benoit Mandelbrot, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Isabel Allende and former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown. Two major TED events are held each year: The TED Conference takes place every spring in Long Beach, California (along with a parallel conference, TEDActive, in Palm Springs), and TEDGlobal is held each summer in Edinburgh, Scotland.

TED's media initiatives include <u>TED.com</u>, where new TEDTalks are posted daily; the new TED Conversations, enabling broad conversations among TED fans; and the Open Translation Project, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as the ability for any TEDTalk to be translated by volunteers worldwide.

TED has established the annual TED Prize, where exceptional individuals with a wish to change the world are given the opportunity to put their wishes into action; TEDx, which offers individuals or groups a way to host local, self-organized events around the world; and the TED Fellows program, helping world-changing innovators from around the globe to become part of the TED community and, with its help, amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.

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# ATTACHMENTS