



220 East Commerce Street • P.O. Box 230 • High Point, NC 27261

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Louisa Hart, Theatre Director
Tel. 336.883.3627 / E-mail. louisa.hart@highpointnc.gov

High Point Theatre Announces Spectacular Slate for 2008 – 2009 Season

From rising star singer / songwriters and a national treasure from the big band to the world's only professional belly dance troupe and a soaring jazz virtuoso from Japan, the coming season brings a rich sampling of the world's best to High Point.

High Point, North Carolina, June, 10, 2008 – One of the Triad's leading venues for the performing arts, the High Point Theatre today announced the schedule for the 2008 – 2009 edition of its signature entertainment series. With a roster of musical acts representing a broad range of styles and genres, a live performance of a well-loved Holiday classic, plus this area's only appearance by the world's only full-time professional belly dance troupe, this season's program offers something for every taste and interest while giving season-ticket holders a fantastic sampling of today's finest entertainment.

"Each year, we work to bring a unique set of exciting and engaging performances to Triad area residents," says Louisa Hart, executive director of the High Point Theatre. "Creating a mix of critically acclaimed new performers; established, popular stars; and acts you just can't see anywhere else in this area, we provide our patrons with a rich selection of inspiring and spectacular entertainment."

The 2008 – 2009 season kicks off on August 7 with *Amos Lee*, a young singer/songwriter heralded as a future Grammy winner. Lee's soulful and heartfelt tunes bring a fresh voice to the great American songsmithing tradition exemplified by Bob Dylan, Paul Simon and John Prine. Next up is the already well established, well respected and Grammy winning songwriter *John Hiatt*, whose work forms part of the repertoires of such well-known stars as Eric Clapton, B. B. King and Willie Nelson. "We were lucky to get John on this year's schedule," Hart reports, "as he's very much in demand; but at the last minute we were able to sign him up for an August 12 appearance."

For the Holidays, the Theatre presents a special on-stage interpretation of the classic Frank Capra film *It's A Wonderful Life*. On December 23, this performance will take you back to the 1940s as it offers a fresh twist on this long adored Holiday tradition by presenting it as a live radio show. Acclaimed by audiences and critics alike, this production is sure to get you in the spirit of the season.

To start off the New Year right, the Theatre offers its guests a special opportunity to experience one of American music's revered national treasures. Honing his considerable skills over a 50-plus year career that harkens back to the pinnacle of the Big Band era, *Freddy Cole* has earned praise as "the most maturely expressive male jazz singer of his generation, if not the best alive," from the *New York Times*. Music lovers who appreciate the smooth vocal styling of jazz great Nat King Cole won't want to miss the time-perfected interpretations of his supremely talented younger brother, Freddy.

Soaring into town from a world away, Japan's gifted young piano virtuoso *Hiromi* will take you on a high-energy excursion to the very cutting edge of today's jazz on February 21. For an extra dash of exotic international flavor, the world's only full-time professional belly dance troupe, the *Bellydance Superstars*, creates an evening of marvel and magic with vibrant, modern interpretations of their ancient and sensuous art on March 10.

A driving force in the successful re-launch of the great jazz record label Blue Note, guitarist *Stanley Jordan* puts on a display of impeccable technique and exceptional musicality on April 4. And to close the season, one of the hottest bands of the 1970s, *Atlanta Rhythm Section*, brings their repertoire of hits, including So Into You and Imaginary Lover, up I-85 for an evening of great entertainment on May 9.

"Each of these acts offers our audience an experience they'll long remember," concludes Hart. "And I think they'll find that the intimate atmosphere of our elegant auditorium and continental-style seating makes the experience even more special." Tickets may be purchased through the High Point Theatre website – www.highpointtheatre.com or by calling the Box Office at 336-887-3001.

About High Point Theatre

Owned and operated by the City of High Point, the High Point Theatre is conveniently located within the International Home Furnishings Center at the corner of Commerce and Hamilton Streets in High Point. The Theatre features an elegant 965-seat auditorium with continental style seating and three exhibition galleries for meetings, display, or receptions.

#####