

HIGH POINT THEATRE

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www.highpointtheatre.com

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The Freddy Cole Quartet In Concert Saturday, January 17, 8:00 pm

A national treasure, who has refined his art over more than a half-century of spell-binding performances, Freddy Cole comes to the High Point Theatre Saturday, January 17, for a one-night only performance that promises to be unforgettable for music lovers of all ages.

The youngest of five children, Freddy grew up to follow his elder brothers Eddie, Ike and Nat King Cole into the 20th Century's defining expression of American music, swing-era band jazz. Influenced by John Lewis, Oscar Peterson and Teddy Wilson, Cole completed his formal training at the Juilliard School of Music and the New England Conservatory of Music.



Building a successful career as a jazz crooner in Manhattan bistros and having achieved a reputation for excellence for his work in radio commercial jingles and on television, Cole heads up the quartet along with bassist Herman Burney, guitarist Gerry Byrd and drummer Curtis Boyd. Touring regularly throughout the U.S., Europe, the Far East and South America, he enraptures audiences with a raspy, smoky, jazzy voice that conjures up memories of brother Nat within a phrasing reminiscent of Frank Sinatra and Billie Holiday.

The New York Times identifies Cole as "the most maturely expressive male jazz singer of his generation, if not the best alive."

Tickets: 336.887.3001 / www.highpointtheatre.com



January 2009
Volume 8, Issue 3

Inside this issue:

- 1 *From the Director's Chair*
- 2 *Meet Our Newest Staff Member*
- 2 *In the Spotlight: Hiromi & Bellydance Superstars*
- 3 *Question & Answers*
- 3 *Thank You To Our Sponsors!*
- 3 *Upcoming Calendar of Events*
- 4 *The Freddy Cole Quartet*

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HIGH POINT THEATRE

THE STAGE DOOR

From the Director's Chair . . .



Greetings all! I cannot believe it is 2009 already - on behalf of the High Point Theatre staff, I'd like to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

As is usual, this is the time of year

I book shows for our 2009-2010 season. The bad news is that the current state of the economy makes next season a challenging one to book because my 2009-2010 budget for artist fees is reduced. The good news, however, is that statistics show that the entertainment business fares well during economic quandaries such as we are facing now, because it's one way to escape - albeit, momentarily - from the doom and gloom that accompanies such times. Don't forget to send me your ideas on what you'd like to see as part of the series next year!

I always enjoy January because it's a time for theatre staff to recover from Fall's hectic schedule - close to 100 events - and focus on maintenance and planning for the upcoming year. One plan is to convert this newsletter from a print to an electronic format this year. More information can be found inside this newsletter.

I am so pleased to report that we have received our master plan report on theatre renovations from our consultants. It has been a long and arduous journey that most of you have travelled with me - in one way or another. For all of us, here is a brief recap of our travels:

The High Point Theatre facility is over thirty years old and very little capital has been expended on facility upgrades/renovations within this time frame. Additionally, facility usage has more than doubled in the last several years to 50,000+ visitors per year. This combination of circumstances has resulted in a need to renovate the theatre facility.

In 2005, the Theatre Advisory Commission compiled a Strategic Plan for the High Point Theatre which identified renovation of the Theatre's interior and exterior areas as a priority. At this time, Council requested that the High Point Theatre hire a consultant to determine and prioritize projects that needed to happen at the Theatre.

Following City Council's request for Theatre improvements to be identified and planned through the use of an outside consulting firm, a Request For Proposal was developed by the City's Purchasing Department and issued in June 2007. The final selection of the consultant occurred in Spring of 2008 - Perkins Eastman - with the final report delivered last month. The journey is far from over however, and next steps will be reviewed in the next newsletter.

Once again, Happy New Year to all and I look forward to seeing you at your theatre soon...

Louisa Hart
Theatre Director
louisa.hart@highpointnc.gov

Meet The Theatre's New Technical Director



High Point Theatre is pleased to introduce our new staff member and technical director James Richards. James assumed his position with the Theatre on October 6th.

Born and raised in Lenoir, James graduated from Southern Caldwell High School in 1994 and started work at Rick Reynolds Productions in Hickory shortly afterwards. He soon discovered his passion was working behind the scenes and learning all the technical aspects that make a show "tick." In 1996, he was asked to take a position with the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center as a production technician. During his tenure at Broyhill, he provided set-up and ran a variety of shows, from Broadway productions to concerts.

In his spare time, James notes that he is "a die-hard Carolina fan," and enjoys attending, or watching, his favorite team at basketball, football and baseball. He also likes to spend time with his family and traveling, with Las Vegas being a favorite destination.

James resides in Statesville with his wife Kathy. He has 3 young children Kaleb, Ashton and McKenzie.

In the Spotlight . . .



Hiromi

Saturday, February 21

8:00 PM

Music lovers get ready for an evening of high-energy excitement when this young piano virtuoso takes the stage. Soaring through a repertoire that embraces jazz, classical and rock, Hiromi delights audiences with her spirited interpretations and improvisational skills. "A bundle of unbridled energy..." says the New York Jazz Report

Bellydance Superstars

Tuesday, March 10

7:30 PM



Hailed as "the next big dance show phenomenon to follow Riverdance" by the Sunday Times, Daily Telegraph, and Daily Express, the Bellydance Superstars are the world's premier touring bellydance troupe, taking this ancient art form into the mainstream. Get ready for an evening of marvel and magic with the troupe's vibrant, modern interpretations of this most feminine and sensual dance art that celebrates all women.

Call 887-3001 to Get Your Tickets Now!

Give the perfect gift for any occasion . . .

High Point Theatre Gift Certificates

Available through our box office. Call 336-887-3001 to order.

The Theatre Newsletter is Going Electronic!

Starting later this year, the High Point Theatre will be switching this quarterly newsletter from print to an electronic format. If we do not currently have your email address on file, and you wish to continue to receive our quarterly newsletter, please sign up by going to our website at www.highpointtheatre.com. Scroll down the Calendar/Tickets link to "Mailing List." Simply provide your contact information, including your email address, and request we add you to our mailing list to receive the electronic newsletter - it will arrive in your inbox to be read at your convenience.

Questions & Answers

There are certain questions we get asked often. We would like to address your questions as a regular feature in our newsletter.

QUESTION: What is the Theatre's dress code?

ANSWER: The appropriate dress depends on the type of event/show you are attending, however, the best rule of thumb is business casual or Sunday best.

QUESTION: I have heard small children/infants must have a ticket...why do I need to purchase an additional ticket if I'm holding a child on my lap or in my arms?

ANSWER: The Fire Marshall requires that everyone in our facility be accounted for in the event of fire or other emergency. By ticketing every patron, regardless of age, our system provides an electronic manifest to confirm everyone has exited safely.

Calendar of Events

January 2009

- 17 Freddy Cole Quartet 8:00pm
- 18 MLK Service 2:45pm

February 2009

- 5 TAG: Art In The Bag 5:00pm
- 7 Reaching All Worlds 7:00pm
- 19 TAG Art Gallery Reception - New Exhibits 5:00pm
- 21 Hiromi 8:00pm

March 2009

- 5 HPCT-The Producers 7:30pm
- 6-7 HPCT-The Producers 8:00pm
- 8 HPCT-The Producers 2:00pm
- 10 Bellydance Superstars 7:30pm
- 13 Kid's Artistic Review TBD
- 14 Kids' Artistic Review TBD
- 15 Kids' Artistic Review TBD
- 20 BMHS-High School Musical 2 7:00pm
- 21 BMHS-High School Musical 2 7:00pm
- 29 BANFF Film Festival 7:00pm

For more information or reservations call the box office at (336) 887-3001, Monday - Friday, 12:00 - 5:00 PM. Reserve online at www.highpointtheatre.com

Note: Not all events are open to the public and programs are subject to change.

Thank You Corporate Sponsors of It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play!

A large crowd gathered at the High Point Theatre on Tuesday evening, December 23, to celebrate the Christmas holiday with the unique "live broadcast" production of the most beloved Holiday story of all time - It's A Wonderful Life.



character voices and sound effects, plus the listener's active imagination, the town of Bedford Falls was wonderfully brought back to life!

In addition to the performance, patrons were greeted by Santa Claus, who posed for photos and handed out treats to the children... a great time was had by all.



Transported to the studios of fictional WBFR Radio on Christmas Eve, 1946, guests recaptured that special experience of a bygone era, the live radio show. Using nothing more than a few great actors who provided the

A special thank you to SunTrust Bank and Ashford Suites for their generous support and sponsorship. Our thanks also to the "commercial" sponsors, Archdale Pharmacy and High Point Music.