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**Smooth Jazz Sensation Boney James to Appear at the
High Point Theatre**

*Top-selling, critically acclaimed and often-honored saxophonist set to
perform on Saturday, May 21, 2011.*

High Point, North Carolina, Monday, April 18, 2011 – In a seeming contradiction, jazzreview.com critic Sheldon T. Nunn dubbed Boney James both “smooth jazz’s ultimate provocateur” and “the ultimate funkateer.” But what is jazz, if not an exploration of those frontiers to which musical styles travel to meet, exchange ideas and trade licks? Overall, James’ sound does express the soft and supple sensibility of smooth jazz, but his soulful saxophone expressions blow breezily above energetic and sophisticated rhythms drawn from R&B, afro-pop and the brightly glowing embers of a fiery funk.

One of today's most respected and best-selling instrumental artists and performers, James’ 2009 album “Send One Your Love” earned a Grammy nomination for Best Traditional R&B Vocal Performance on the song “Don't Let Me Be Lonely Tonight.” Considering this accolade, Boney said, “It's a total blast for me to be nominated in this category. I've always felt a bit like an R&B singer trapped in a sax player's body. When I play, it really is in my mind like I'm singing and I've often referred to my music as ‘Instrumental R&B.’ So to have this recognition in the genre of music that has always been so inspirational to me is a great honor.”

James has also received two additional Grammy nominations for Best Pop Instrumental Album, a Soul Train Award for Best Jazz Album and a nomination for the NAACP’s Image Award. He has sold more than three million records, been ranked as Billboard’s #1 Hot Smooth Jazz Artist, taken the #2 spot on their Top Contemporary Jazz Artist list and the “Send One Your Love” album held down the #1 spot on Billboard’s Top Contemporary Jazz Album chart for a full 44 weeks. This commercial success led him to be named the #3 Contemporary Jazz Artist of the Decade, as well as the #8 Best-Selling Jazz Artist of the Decade.

“Judging by advance sales, Boney James has quite a following in the Triad,” says Louisa Hart, Executive Director of the High Point Theatre, “and we’re really excited to close out our 2011 season with such an inspired and influential artist.” So, if you’re ready to make a cool move into summer, set aside Saturday, May 21 for an evening filled with the smooth, soulful – and funky – sounds of this saxophonist supreme. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$45 prime orchestra, \$40 orchestra and \$35 balcony, available through www.highpointtheatre.com or the theatre box office by calling 336-887-3001 (Mon-Fri, 12 noon-5 pm).

About High Point Theatre

Owned and operated by the City of High Point, the High Point Theatre is conveniently located 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.

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