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High Point Theatre Announces New Season of Eclectricity

2011 – 2012 show schedule offers laughs, thrills, fond memories and a brilliant array of accomplished jazz and blues artists.

High Point, North Carolina, July 20, 2011 – An intimate venue with exceptional acoustics, conveniently located in downtown High Point, the High Point Theatre has made itself one of the Triad’s premier entertainment destinations by offering an artful array of performers across a broad spectrum of genres. Building on two seasons of smashing success, the High Point Theatre’s Eclectricity series returns this year with a distinctive jazz and blues flavor, spiced with warm-hearted comedy, one of the country’s best-selling Americana bands, a traditional holiday favorite and a thrilling troupe of gravity-defying acrobats.

The season kicks off on Saturday, October 8 with *The Wonder Bread Years*, a fast-paced, hilarious salute to the Boomer generation that gracefully walks the line between stand-up comedy and theater. Then, just five nights later, on Thursday, October 13, Boomers and Americana music lovers of all ages will enjoy a real treat as the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, famed chart-toppers of the early 1970s, best known for their iconic hit “Mr. Bojangles,” comes to town for a night of great American roots music.

With an intriguing sound born of a masterful blending of contemporary jazz, R&B and neo-soul, award-winning saxophonist Najee arrives on Saturday, November 5, to take Triad music lovers on a tour of his uniquely conceived, highly sophisticated and expertly crafted soundscapes. In December, as our thoughts turn to well-loved holiday traditions, “It’s a Wonderful Life: Live From WVL Radio Theatre” returns to delight audiences with a warm-hearted retelling of the classic Christmas tale of George Bailey, the man who finds out that the life that never met his expectations means more than he ever imagined.

The hot sounds of Dixieland jazz warm up the depths of winter on Friday, January 27, as the Southern Fried Jazz Band puts a new spin on old classics and carries the audience on joyful journey to a Dixieland state of mind. Another of the south’s great gifts to American culture – gospel music – takes the stage on Saturday, February 18, when Mike Farris & The Roseland Rhythm Review work out their salvation in song, telling a redemptive story of healing grace.

March leaps in with a dazzling display by the The Peking Acrobats. Defying gravity, possibility and the limitations of the human body, this amazing troupe of artists is sure to inspire awe with its incredible feats of contortion, flexibility, balance and control. And to close the month, British blues legend John Mayall leads his band in an equally dazzling display of musical virtuosity.

With spring in full swing, saxophonist Kim Waters teams up with velvet-toned vocalist Maysa for a night of smooth and sultry jazz on Saturday, April 28. And bringing this spectacular season of Eclectricity to a close on Saturday, May 12, Grammy-nominated guitarist Russ Freeman teams with The Rippingtons to explore new frontiers in contemporary smooth jazz.

“Eclectricty is about treating Triad audiences to excellent entertainment across a broad range of genres,” says High Point Theatre Director David Briggs. “Presenting artists that defined earlier eras and acts that evoke the best of our past, gifted comedians, stage shows that embody excellence and some of today’s top jazz masters, we explore excellence in American and global culture. This year, following the requests of our regular patrons, we’re focusing a bit more intently on jazz and the blues, while still finding a place for humor, drama and spectacle. Enjoyed in the High Point Theatre’s uniquely amicable confines, each of these acts offers an evening of exceptional entertainment. Taken together, they provide a full year of unparalleled delight.” Ticket prices vary by show; call the theatre box office at (336) 887-3001 or visit www.highpointtheatre.com for details and availability.

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 Avenue and Hamilton Street 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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