

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FEDERAL WAY PERFORMING ARTS & EVENT CENTER  
ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL SEASON OF TALENT, WEBSITE LAUNCH  
AND SEASON TICKET SALES**

(Federal Way, WA) – Performing Arts & Event Center Executive Director Theresa Yvonne announces the first season of touring artists and resident arts organizations. The full 2017-2018 season of performances will make up over 40 performance dates throughout the year featuring entertainment for every taste including Classical, Dance, Jazz, World Arts, and Comedy. The PAEC welcomes Grammy® award winning artists Kronos Quartet, Rosanne Cash and Branford Marsalis. The presenting season also includes Germán López, Storm Large, Celtic Nights, The TEN Tenors, Golden Dragon Acrobats and comedian Tom Papa.

“The Performing Arts and Event Center is the cornerstone of Federal Way’s new Town Center and will be a regional hub for arts and events,” said Yvonne. “The PAEC provides a much needed stage for our Resident Artists and cultural performances from around the world – a performance and event space inclusive of everyone.”

The first performance of the season will be a Gala Fundraiser for the Federal Way Performing Arts Foundation as they present from Broadway, world-renowned, *RAIN® – A Tribute to the Beatles*. All proceeds from this performance will benefit the Foundation and support performing arts in the PAEC. This year, the Foundation will be creating scholarships for over 10,000 South King County students in the ARTS 4 Youth program.

Resident Artists Federal Way Symphony and Chorale, Jet Cities and Harmony Kings Chorus, and Tacoma City Ballet will perform their season shows on the PAEC stage as part of the 2017-2018 Inaugural Season.

Mayor Jim Ferrell announced the PAEC’s Ribbon Cutting and Community Opening Day on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 11:00 AM. This free public event will provide tours of the new facility and entertainment all day from local performers and our Resident Artists.



The newly revamped PAEC website is now live. Tickets for *RAIN*<sup>®</sup> – *A Tribute to the Beatles* and season subscriptions are now on sale. Tickets are also available for purchase during Box Office business hours Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM inside City Hall. The Box Office will be moving to the PAEC following the 4<sup>th</sup> of July when the hours will extend to 6:00 PM and include Saturdays.

A full list of performances begins on the next page.

## **Performing Arts & Event Center of Federal Way 2017-18 Season**

Federal Way Performing Arts Foundation presents

### **RAIN**<sup>®</sup> - **A Tribute to the Beatles**

Saturday, September 9 - Gala Dinner & Performance, 5 PM  
Performance Only, 8 PM

RAIN<sup>®</sup> - A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES celebrates the 50th anniversary of the release of *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*! For the first time ever, RAIN will bring the historic album to life in its entirety for this psychedelic multimedia spectacular in addition to all your early favorites! This mind blowing performance takes you back in time with the legendary foursome delivering a note-for-note theatrical event that is the next best thing to seeing the Beatles. Experience the worlds' most iconic band and come celebrate 50 years of *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* with RAIN<sup>®</sup> – A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES.

### **Germán López**

Sunday, September 17 - 3 PM

Germán López is an esteemed timble player from Gran Canaria, an island off the coast of Africa, pertaining to the nation of Spain. At the age of seven he entered the Conservatory of Music of Las Palmas, acquiring a master's degree in 2001.

Since the age of ten, Germán has been performing publicly, including collaborations with the symphony orchestra of Gran Canaria, and festivals such as WOMAD, Circuits INJUVE, and Expozaragoza. As a conservatory-trained musician, Germán blends the ancient traditions of the Canary Islands with musical virtuosity.

### **Federal Way Symphony – PAEC Premier Debut**

Saturday, October 7, 7:30 PM | Sunday, October 8, 2 PM

A great symphony bringing great music to Federal Way. In Federal Way Symphony's PAEC Debut, selections include Shostakovich, *Festive Overture*; Tchaikovsky, *Piano Concerto No. 1* featuring soloist Anastasia Dedik and Beethoven, *Symphony No. 9*.

Anastasia has performed on some of the most important stages in the world, including the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, The Paganini Conservatory in Genoa, and The Palazzo Farnese in Piacenza, Teatro Communale, San Remo. The Federal Way Symphony is excited to feature this amazing pianist.



### **Jet Cities Chorus**

Saturday, October 28, 2 PM & 7 PM

Jet Cities Chorus sings four-part A Capella harmony, barbershop-style, and is directed by Ken Potter. The chapter is part of Sweet Adelines International, one of the world's largest singing organizations for women. Jet Cities has been rehearsing in Federal Way for over 30 years.

The Jet Cities Fall Show, features GQ Quartet, a female barbershop and contemporary A Capella quartet based in Baltimore, MD. They have been featured on "A Prairie Home Companion" twice, have recorded multiple CDs and have made waves on YouTube with over 8 million hits.

### **Kronos Quartet**

Saturday, November 4, 8 PM

For more than 40 years, the Kronos Quartet – David Harrington (violin), John Sherba (violin), Hank Dutt (viola), and Sunny Yang (cello) – has pursued a singular artistic vision, combining a spirit of fearless exploration with a commitment to continually re-imagining the string quartet experience. In the process, Kronos has become one of the world's most celebrated and influential ensembles, performing thousands of concerts, releasing more than 60 recordings, and commissioning over 900 works for string quartet. They have won over 40 awards, including a Grammy®.

### **Federal Way Symphony – Handel's Messiah**

Sunday, November 19, 2 PM A great way to kick off the holiday season with Handel's classic featuring the Federal Way Chorale & Symphony Singers. Enjoy the exultant "Hallelujah" chorus in the new Performing Arts & Event Center.

### **Federal Way Symphony – Holiday Pops**

Saturday, December 2, 7:30 PM | Sunday, December 3, 2 PM

A program for the young and not-so-young. Enjoy a Holiday Pops Extravaganza with a brilliant young emerging artist, Young Park, and a program of modern Pops with Michael "The Wanz" Wansley, Grammy® award-winning pop singer and Macklemore collaborator.

Michael Wansley developed an affinity for music at an early age. As a part of Central Washington University's Jazz Choir 1, Wanz was soon sharing the stage with artists like Joe Williams, Bobby McFerrin, and Dizzy Gillespie, eventually moving to Seattle in 1986. Macklemore & Ryan Lewis recruited Wanz for the unforgettable hook on their hit song "Thrift Shop".

### **Strom Large**

Friday, December 1, 8 PM

Musician, actor, playwright, author, awesome. Storm Large shot to national prominence in 2006 as a finalist on the CBS show *Rock Star: Supernova*.



In 2007, Storm starred in Portland Center Stage's production of *Cabaret* with Wade McCollum. The show was a smash hit, earning Large glowing reviews. Her next endeavor, the autobiographical musical memoir, *Crazy Enough*, played to packed houses in 2009 during its unprecedented 21-week sold out run in Portland. Storm went on to perform a cabaret version of the show to critical acclaim at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Adelaide Festival in Australia, and Joe's Pub in New York.

Storm & her new band *Le Bonheur* released a record in 2014 designed to capture their sublime and subversive interpretations of the American Songbook.

### **Federal Way Chorale Winter Performance**

Saturday, December 9, 7:30 PM

Our winter performance will present the beautiful sounds of the Christmas season. You will hear many Christmas pieces such as those in Bass' *Feast of Carols* and Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and a few lesser known compositions, including Nelhybel's *Estampie Natalis*, whose inspiring harmonies will make anyone smile. The dramatic backing of our orchestra will bring the season to life. The choral arrangements are breath-taking pieces of harmony and movement. What a great way to start the Christmas season!

### **Tacoma City Ballet**

#### **The Nutcracker & The Tale of The Hard Nut**

Friday, December 15, 7:30 PM | Saturday, December 16, 7:30 PM | Sunday, December 17, 3 PM  
Thursday, December 21, 7:30 PM | Friday, December 22, 7:30 PM | Saturday, December 23, 3 PM

IN ORDER TO RESTORE PRINCESS PIRLIPAT'S BEAUTY... and break the "Curse of Ugliness" the Mouse Queen's evil spell had cast upon her, the Princess must eat the kernel of the Magical Krakatuk Nut. Christian Elias Drosselmeyer, as ordered by the King, must find both the Magical Krakatuk Nut and the young man who is fated to crack it open...

This season, Tacoma City Ballet celebrates its very first production of *The Nutcracker & The Tale of The Hard Nut* at the Federal Way Performing Arts & Event Center. This timeless holiday classic, now told in its entirety, *The Tale of The Hard Nut* is presented alongside the traditional Russian *The Nutcracker* creating a glorious production filled with dancing, music, grand scenery and lavish costumes. Under the artistic direction of Erin M. Ceragioli, with the Tacoma City Ballet Orchestra, under the direction of Maestro Bernard Kwiram, *The Nutcracker & Tale of the Hard Nut* promises to enchant your entire family this holiday season.

### **Golden Dragon Acrobats**

Friday, January 12, 8 PM

One of China's most prestigious circus troupes, the Golden Dragon Acrobats Circus have been touring America for over 30 years. In fact, they've played all 50 states, and perform around 200 shows annually. They've also conquered Broadway, and have two Drama Desk Award nominations to their name. It's easy to see where their success lies. The Golden Dragon Acrobats is a dizzying mix of acrobats, gymnasts and trapezists, and the whole spectacular id dress in lush



traditional Chinese costumes. It's a great show for all the family, and is guaranteed to amaze all ages! Catch the tour when it hits Federal Way!

### **Rosanne Cash with John Leventhal**

Saturday, January 27, 8 PM

Beloved singer-songwriter Rosanne Cash and her collaborator, musical director, guitarist and husband John Leventhal present an acoustic evening celebrating her prolific and deeply-rooted catalog of music. In **BLACK LIST RIVER** Rosanne Cash offers a sweeping song cycle culled from her award-winning southern and soul trilogy of works *Black Cadillac* (2006), *The List* (2009) and *The River and The Thread* (2014). **BLACK LIST RIVER** celebrates the American experience and what is at the heart of Rosanne's journey as a songwriter and singer, and her devotion to her southern roots and family lineage.

### **Federal Way Symphony – From Vienna With Love**

Sunday, January 28, 2 PM

An intimate performance with the audience on the PAEC stage! Music from Mozart, Duo for Violin and Viola in G Major; Mahler, Quartet for Piano & Strings in A Minor; Schubert, Piano Trio No. 2 in E Flat Major. Featuring Ilkka Talvi, Marjorie Kransberg-Talvi, Mara Finkelstein, & William Chapman Nyaho.

### **Tom Papa**

Saturday, February 17, 8 PM

With more than 20 years as a stand-up comedian, Tom Papa is one of the top comedic voices in the country finding success in film, television and radio as well as on the live stage.

Tom is host of the hit podcast and SiriusXM show, *Come to Papa*, a weekly, hour-long show featuring Tom exploring the funny side of life, occasionally with guests like Mel Brooks, Ray Romano, Carl Reiner and Jerry Seinfeld.

### **Tiempo Libre**

Friday, February 23, 8 PM

The Performing Arts & Event Center proudly welcomes three-time Grammy®-nominated Afro-Caribbean music group TIEMPO LIBRE, one of the hottest Latin bands today. Equally at home in concert halls, jazz clubs, festival stages and dance venues, Tiempo Libre is celebrated for its sophisticated tropical music featuring an irresistible, exhilarating mix of jazz harmonies, contemporary sonorities and seductive Latin rhythms.



## **Direct from Ireland**

### **Celtic Nights Oceans of Hope**

Sunday, February 25, 3 PM

This new production of Celtic Nights Oceans of Hope captures the very essence of who we are, where we came from, the dreams of a better place, liberty, Freedom and above all...family. It's the story of America, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. It's the story of people moving across oceans to find a better place.

This is their epic story told through song, music, dance and narration. The tale of who we are and the great journeys of our ancestors will leave you knowing that the stories of their grandparents, great grandparents and beyond, should be passed down through the generations.

Oceans of Hope is not only about the past, it's about now and the future. You will be taken on a memorable journey and warmly welcomed into the Celtic Nights family.

### **Federal Way Symphony – Flavor of New Orleans**

Saturday, March 3, 7:30 PM

Taste Creole Jazz with special guest Matt Lemmler, a New Orleans Jazz Piano Professor, Steinway Artist and musical director for The New Orleans Jazz Revival Band. Matt continues in the legacy of great New Orleans pianists from Storyville era, Jelly Roll Morton to his Ninth-Ward neighbor and Rhythm and Blues Legend Antoine "Fats" Domino, modern jazz master Ellis Marsalis and his childhood piano rival Harry Connick, Jr.

### **The TEN Tenors**

Saturday, March 24, 8 PM

Fresh off the success of their 20th Anniversary World Tour, The TEN Tenors return with their new show Wish You Were Here, a celebration of musical legends lost before their time. In this heartfelt tribute, Australia's "vocal wonder from down under" (Broadway World) will take you on a feel-good journey through some of the world's greatest hits of all time, including some of the group's own fan favorites, classic rock anthems, current day chart toppers, even soaring arias of Verdi and other traditional favorites.

### **Federal Way Symphony – Season Finale**

Saturday, April 7, 7:30 PM | Sunday, April 8, 2 PM

The Federal Way Symphony presents its Season Finale featuring Marjorie Kransberg-Talvi. A Concertmaster and violinist, Marjorie began studies at the age of five at the New England Conservatory of Music. She has appeared as a soloist with Boston Symphony, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and Kennedy Center Orchestra to name a few. Ms. Kransberg-Talvi has been Concertmaster and soloist for Pacific Northwest Ballet for two decades.



### **An Evening With Branford Marsalis Quartet**

Friday April 13, 8 PM

NEA Jazz Master, Grammy® Award-winning saxophonist and Tony Award® nominee Branford Marsalis is one of the most revered instrumentalists of his time. Leader of one of the finest jazz quartets today, Marsalis' most current recording is *Four MFs Playin' Tunes*. Effortlessly playing complex original tunes that are thoroughly modern while referencing past jazz masters, The Branford Marsalis Quartet is one of the most innovative and forward-thinking jazz ensembles around today!

### **Tacoma City Ballet – Cinderella**

Saturday, April 28, 7:30 PM | Sunday, April 29, 2:00 PM

Saturday, May 5, 7:30 PM | Sunday, May 6, 2:00 PM

ONCE UPON A TIME...THERE LIVED A GIRL NAMED CINDERELLA. Since the death of her beloved Mother and her Father's re-marriage to the evil Widow of a Wealthy Tax Collector, poor Cinderella's life has been miserable...UNTIL her Fairy Godmother appears. Under the artistic direction of Erin M. Ceragioli, with the Tacoma City Ballet Orchestra, under the direction of Maestro Bernard Kwiram, Tacoma City Ballet presents Cinderella in grand classical style. The opulent scenery and costumes of this familiar fairytale ballet are certain to delight. Cinderella has it all: Comedy, Magic, and Romance!

Don't miss this magical and magnificent production of one of your favorite Fairy Tales.

### **Federal Way Chorale**

Friday, May 18, 7:30 PM

Our Spring concert will explore the exciting contributions to American music which black composers have provided. The rich harmonies, stirring lyrics and captivating rhythms are sure to keep you on the edge of your seat. Compositions include the works of Moses Hogan, Undine Smith Moore, Hall Johnson and William Dawson. Many of these pieces will be recognized and well-loved by our audience. Selections from Porgy and Bess will round out the concert. This performance will have you singing for days afterward!

### **Harmony Kings – 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Show**

Saturday, May 19, 1:34 PM

For over 56 years, men of all ages in Federal Way Harmony Kings have been performing tight four-part harmony throughout the South Puget Sound area. From civic events to birthdays, sporting events to singing valentines, you can always count on the Harmony Kings to provide a quality and fun musical experience.

The 57th Annual Show: Harmony Kings are searching for something unique to the Pacific Northwest; something we collectively share, something everybody talks about. Discover what we've discovered. We think it will be a BIG splash.



## **Ambiguous Dance Company**

Friday, June 8, 8 PM

In every person's life, there exists a personal rhythm, though one might not feel it. RHYTHM OF HUMANS expresses the modern Korean man, who seeks his own rhythm within society. Each individual courageously strives to seek his own rhythm.

Ambiguous Dance Company was founded by choreographer Kim Bo-ram and dancer Jang Kyeong-min in 2008. The name describes the "undefinable and ambiguous" characteristics in terms of style, aesthetics, genres, and preconceptions. The group expresses what is in their hearts through bodily movement and music.

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