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GROOVE THIS FALL AT THE SAMMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Center Continues 30th Anniversary Celebration with Jazz, Cabaret and A New Event

DALLAS/July 26, 2018 — The Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines at Oak Lawn, continues its 30th anniversary of growing the arts in Dallas with an outstanding lineup of music events from August through December, including the Astrid Merriman Cabaret & Cabernet Fete, Sammons Jazz, the Carson Series of Sammons Cabaret and a new event, Brews, Bites & Beats. Admission for all events includes beverages, appetizers or a light dinner, and valet parking. Except for the sold-out Cabaret & Cabernet Fete, tickets go on sale August 13. For more information, call the Sammons Center at (214) 520-7788 or visit www.sammonsartcenter.org.

“Our jazz and cabaret concerts are often the first way people learn about the Sammons Center,” said Sammons Enterprises Executive Director Joanna St. Angelo. “Once patrons experience the quality performances by our area’s artists, they are excited to learn the other ways the Sammons Center benefits the local performing arts scene. And we are pleased to offer a new event, Brews, Bites & Beats, to introduce the Sammons Center to more of our neighbors.”

The fall 2018 schedule, which includes the Sammons Jazz program under the guidance of Artistic Director and Steinway Artist Arlington Jones, features:

Friday, August 24, 7:30 p.m. — *Astrid Merriman Cabaret & Cabernet Fete (SOLD OUT)*. Beginning with a wine tasting, this sold-out event is highlighted by a cabaret singer showcase with more than ten of the DFW area’s top vocalists. The slate of singers includes Sheran Goodspeed Keyton, Tony Hakim, Keron Jackson, Carolyn Lee Jones, Janelle Lutz, Angie McWhirter, Jason Mosher, Linda Petty, Truy Tran, Jodi Crawford Wright and Lori Yeary. Each singer performs one song with several accompanied by the popular Larry Petty Combo.

Wednesday, September 5, 7:00 p.m. — *Sammons Jazz: Satchmo & New Orleans*. Wycliffe Gordon, one of the top trombonists of his generation, opens the fall season of Sammons Jazz with a two-set tribute to The Big Easy and two of its best-known native sons: trumpet players Louis Armstrong and Wynton Marsalis. Wycliffe starts the concert with a nod to Satchmo by trading his trombone for the trumpet. In the second set, he recalls his early career playing with the Wynton Marsalis Septet.

Friday, September 14, 7:00 p.m. — *Brews, Bites & Beats*. The Sammons Center’s first-ever craft beer event features samples of brews from around Texas, samples from local eateries such as Ascension and Meddlesome Moth and the amazing sounds of area favorite, The Funky Knuckles. Patrons are also

provided tours of the historic Turtle Creek Pump Station, which was renovated in the early 1980s and re-opened in 1988 as the Sammons Center.

Thursday, September 20, 7:30 p.m. — *Sammons Cabaret: Corey Breedlove.* Singer/songwriter Corey Breedlove creates a sophisticated yet genial sound that blends jazz, country, blues, and rock. A local favorite of all age groups, Corey demonstrates a fondness for the Great American Songbook, a style born out of his purchase of a Frank Sinatra CD for \$1. Corey returns to Sammons Cabaret where his smooth vocals and charming stage presence completely wowed the audience in 2016.

Wednesday, October 3, 7:00 p.m. — *Sammons Jazz: Swing, Swing, Swing.* Led by guitarist Steve Curry, The Texas Gypsies take the first set with their vintage jazzy swing, a mix of the hep cat sounds of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, Western Swing, Gypsy Jazz and Retro Deco. Brian Piper, who has played piano with everyone from Cab Calloway and Kirk Whalum to Willie Nelson and Eric Clapton, leads his A-list quartet in a second set of jazz classics and innovative original music.

Thursday, October 18, 7:30 p.m. — *Sammons Cabaret: Shelley Kenneavy.* The vivacious Shelley Kenneavy presents “The Best of the Worst, Songs from Broadway Flops Part II,” another endearing show of songs from Broadway productions that didn’t win the hearts of audiences or critics, much less long runs and Tony Awards. Shelley gives these seldom-heard songs new life, thanks to her inimitable delivery that has won applause in the DFW area and New York.

Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 p.m. — *Sammons Jazz: Ladies Jazz Night.* Saxophonist Rachella Parks-Washington blows her trademark uplifting jazz sounds in the opening set. Since 2001, when she was diagnosed with sarcoidosis, Rachella has concentrated on the power of music as a healing element. Two outstanding vocalists, Andrea Wallace and Simone Jackson, are backed by fellow Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing & Visual Arts alumni when they soar into a second set that pays tribute to the collaboration of Carmen McRae and Betty Carter.

Thursday, November 15, 7:30 p.m. — *Sammons Cabaret: Tony Hakim.* Whether as a brilliant singer/guitarist or as the affable owner of The Kitchen Café, Tony Hakim is a positive force in North Texas. His mellow guitar playing and winsome vocals make him the ideal performer to pay tribute to another beloved singer/guitarist, the late Glen Campbell. Along with an extensive repertoire that echoes Campbell’s, Tony delivers a show of heartfelt music and stories about the music legend.

Wednesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m. — *Sammons Jazz: O.P. to King Cole: My Favorite Trios.* Sammons Jazz Artistic Director and Steinway Artist Arlington Jones salutes his two favorite trios, the legendary Oscar Peterson Trio and the Nat King Cole Trio. His love for these groups grew from the tremendous piano playing they exhibited and their feel-good swinging music. Arlington plays Oscar Peterson, who was called O.P. by his friends, in the first set and Nat King Cole in an unforgettable second set.

Thursday, December 20, 7:30 p.m. — *Sammons Cabaret: Jodi Crawford Wright.* Lucky theater-goers know Jodi Crawford Wright from local productions such as “Nunsense,” “Boy from Oz” and “The Sound of Music,” while opera fans have enjoyed her performances in “Die Fledermaus,” “Suor Angelica,” and “Masque of Angels.” Jodi has bewitched cabaret audiences across North Texas and thrilled audiences in surrounding states with her expansive vocal range and commanding stage presence.

Season sponsors are Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Judy and Royal Carson, City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, Corporate Business Solutions, Dallas Door Designs, Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District, Ben E. Keith Co., Astrid Merriman, National Endowment for the Arts, North Coast Brewing Co., TACA, and the Texas Commission on the Arts with additional support from Goody Goody, The Kitchen Café and Preferred Parking.

For more information, complete lineups and tickets, call the Sammons Center at (214) 520-7788 or visit www.sammonsartcenter.org.

All artists and programs subject to change.

About the Sammons Center for the Arts

The Sammons Center for the Arts was founded in 1981 to renovate the historic Turtle Creek Pump Station, built in 1909 at 3630 Harry Hines Boulevard, and operate it as a multipurpose arts center. After two years of renovation, the Sammons Center opened March 1, 1988. A 501(c)(3) organization, the Sammons Center provides low-cost office, rehearsal, performance and meeting space as well as administrative resources to arts organizations representing every discipline. It is home to 14 performing arts organizations and serves more than 50 other arts and community organizations. For more information, call (214) 520-7788 or visit www.sammonsartcenter.org.

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