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JAZZ, CABARET, ROCK AND MORE THIS SPRING SEASON AT SAMMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Concert Schedule Features Diverse Music Styles Beginning February 6

DALLAS/January 10, 2019 — Home to 14 performing arts groups, including five choral and orchestral organizations, the Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines at Oak Lawn, is also known for presenting its own concert series. Sammons Jazz, which marks its 30th year of showcasing local jazz artists, kicks off the spring concert season on Wednesday, February 6. The Carson Series of Sammons Cabaret returns Thursday, February 21, and Sammons Discovery, the Center's newest series, resumes on Friday, February 15. Admission to all Sammons concerts includes beverages, appetizers or a light dinner, and valet parking. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Sammons Center at (214) 520-7788 or visiting www.sammonsartcenter.org.

"Our concerts have proven to be a wonderful introduction to the Sammons Center," said Executive Director Joanna St. Angelo. "Patrons hear an exceptional performance by a local artist and are then eager to learn about the Center's other programs that have positive impact on the local arts scene."

The spring 2019 concert schedule, which includes the Sammons Jazz program under the guidance of Artistic Director and Steinway Artist Arlington Jones, includes:

Wednesday, February 6, 7:30 p.m. — *Sammons Jazz: Swinging Sticks.* The classic sound of jazz clarinet takes center stage when the Chris McGuire Band opens the with a tribute to legends like Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw. In the second set, drummers Andrew Griffith and Jaelun Washington lead Drum Off in a set reminiscent of the drum battles mounted by Elvin Jones and Max Roach.

Friday, February 15, 8:00 p.m. — *Sammons Discovery: Andy Timmons.* Guitarist Andy Timmons has earned a worldwide fan base, thanks to his incredible talent and versatility. He and guitarist Nick Knirk join for a history lesson, with music from Django Reinhardt and The Ventures to Jeff Beck and Queen. Andy goes solo in the second set for his rendition of the Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*.

Thursday, February 21, 8:00 p.m. — *Sammons Cabaret: Goga.* Influenced by American artists Buddy Guy, Marvin Gaye and Barry White, Goga adds his Eastern European roots to put a new spin on an extensive repertoire of 2,000 songs encompassing jazz, blues, R&B, soul, pop and international favorites. The popular singer has shared the stage with artists like Cyndi Lauper and Earth, Wind and Fire.

Wednesday, March 6, 7:30 p.m. — Leigh Tomlinson Memorial Concert. A timeless set by acclaimed vocalists Carolyn Lee Jones, Sandra Kaye, Heather Paterson and Tony Hakim opens this annual tribute to beloved jazz singer and Sammons Jazz volunteer Leigh Tomlinson. The all-star concert continues with a collaboration featuring innovative vocalists Garry Williams, Tatiana Mayfield, Candace “Mahogany” Miller and Damon K. Clark.

Friday, March 15, 8:00 p.m. — Sammons Discovery: Rhett Butler Returns. Although best known for playing two guitars at the same time, Rhett Butler’s true gift is his mastery of multiple styles. Now a third-year medical student, he has played alongside artists such as Eric Johnson and Joe Satriani, delivering passionate performances that led to his induction into the *Buddy Magazine* Texas Tornado Hall of Fame.

Thursday, March 21, 8:00 p.m. — Sammons Cabaret: Sheran Goodspeed Keyton. Sheran Goodspeed Keyton is a force of nature who sings, acts, directs and choreographs. Winning awards for her portrayals of blues singer Bessie Smith and gospel legend Mahalia Jackson, her role as Etta James so impressed one critic that she was tapped as “one of Dallas’ reigning musical theater divas.”

Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. — Jazz Springs Eternal. Renowned jazz harpist Cindy Horstman fronts 2tone and the Dallas Jazz Harp Ensemble in this pleasing two-for-one opening set where strings of all kinds rule. Pianist and composer Dave Zoller and his group, Evidence, share their deep appreciation of Thelonious Monk with selections from their recordings of the jazz giant’s works.

Thursday, April 18, 8:00 p.m. — Sammons Cabaret: Diana Sheehan. Respected for her expansive stage work off-Broadway, on national tours and in numerous regional theaters, Diana Sheehan’s cabaret shows have been produced in New York, Boston and San Francisco. Her breathtaking vocals and skilled interpretations are on full display when she performs “Liner Notes: A Life in Song” at Sammons Cabaret.

Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. — Sammons Jazz Artistic Director’s Concert. To celebrate the 30th anniversary of Sammons Jazz, Arlington Jones & The Brethren honor the series’ past artistic directors: Vicho Vicencio (1989-1996), Roger Boykin (1996-1999) and James Gilyard (1999-2011). The concert also marks the release of the “Sammons Jazz Directors Cut” CD/DVD.

Thursday, May 16, 8:00 p.m. — Sammons Cabaret: Terry Loftis. The suave and urbane Terry Loftis is well-known for taking his audiences on a musical trip to the great cabaret shows of Bobbie Short, Nina Simone and other great nightclub singers. His cabaret show features tunes like “Satin Doll”, “Laura” and “Someone to Light Up My Life” and so many other great standards.

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., National Endowment for the Arts, TACA and the Texas Commission on the Arts with additional support from Goody Goody, Bart Marantz/Eye-BM-Photography, I-DEE Productions, 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 several years of renovation, the Sammons Center opened March 1, 1988. A 501(c)(3) organization, the Sammons Center is home to 14 performing arts groups representing dance, theater, orchestral music and choral music. It provides low-cost office, rehearsal, audition, meeting, workshop and performance space as well as administrative, operational and educational resources to its resident groups and more than 90 other nonprofit cultural organizations. For more information, call (214) 520-7788 or visit www.sammonsartcenter.org.

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