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SAMMONS JAZZ RACKS UP ANOTHER SOLD OUT SEASON

Few Tickets Remain for Other Sammons Center Concerts This Spring

DALLAS/January 28, 2020 — Jazz may not be the dominant genre in Dallas although Sammons Jazz begins its spring series on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 with another season of sold out concerts. Introduced as a pilot program in 1989 by the nonprofit Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Boulevard, the concerts are renowned for featuring local artists, legends and rising stars alike. The success of Sammons Jazz is complemented by the equally popular Carson Series of Sammons Cabaret and Sammons Discovery concerts, which also present top talent based in North Texas.

“Our concerts provide an entry point for people to learn about the Sammons Center,” said Executive Director Joanna St. Angelo. “After patrons experience a great performance, they are eager to learn about the many ways we have supported the local arts community since 1988.”

To be placed on the wait list for Sammons Jazz or to buy tickets to Sammons Cabaret and Discovery, call the Sammons Center at (214) 520-7788. Tickets may be purchased online at www.sammonsartcenter.org. Admission to all Sammons concerts includes beverages, appetizers or a light dinner, and valet parking. The spring 2020 concert schedule includes:

Wednesday, February 5, 7:30 p.m. — Sammons Jazz: Jazz of the Cool. The Rodney Booth Quartet opens the concert with an homage to the smooth sounds of jazz legends Chet Baker and Gerry Mulligan. The second set features the Shelley Carrol Quartet in a spectacular tribute to Texas Tenor (and Carrol’s mentor) Arnett Cobb.

Thursday, February 20, 8 p.m. — Sammons Cabaret: Peggy Lauren Lohr. Bestowing Hollywood glamor on Sammons Cabaret, the marvelous Peggy Lauren Lohr presents “Songs from the Red Carpet” in honor of the OSCARS.® She and her husband, the accomplished pianist Bill Lohr, are no strangers to that glittering event, having performed at five Academy Awards® Governors’ Balls.

Wednesday, March 4, 7:30 p.m. — Sammons Jazz: Leigh Tomlinson Memorial Concert. Vocalist Audra Scott and the Curtis Bradshaw Octet recall the classic Mahalia Jackson/Duke Ellington and Ella Fitzgerald/Count Basie Orchestra collaborations to begin this special concert honoring the memory of the beloved jazz singer and Sammons volunteer. The second set features Rebecca Cordes and Friends — vocalists Rosana Eckert, Tatiana Mayfield, and Heather Paterson — in “Sophisticated Ladies: The Hits of Broadway, Jazz Style.”

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Thursday, March 19, 8 p.m. — Sammons Cabaret: Angie McWhirter. The multi-talented Angie McWhirter (her Twitter profile lists mother, wife, singer, crafter, childcare trainer, and jack-of-all-trades) is also a sought-after cabaret performer. Her gifts of song, humor and positive spirit are matched by her mastery of multiple genres, which she demonstrates with her show, “Little Bit Country, Little Bit Cabaret.”

Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 p.m. — Sammons Jazz: Jazz Vignettes. Guitarist Todd Parsnow, who was a member of Roy Hargrove’s RH Factor, and his quartet open with a set reminiscent of Joe Pass and Herb Ellis. The Ron and the Rowdies Dixieland Band, led by drummer Ron Fink, recapture the sounds of early New Orleans-born jazz in the second set.

Thursday, April 16, 8 p.m. — Sammons Cabaret: Christopher Deaton. Actor/singer Christopher Deaton has earned enthusiastic applause for his performances across North Texas and at the last two Sammons Cabaret & Cabernet events. Currently general manager of the acclaimed Lyric Stage, Deaton’s talent prompted one critic to declare “Deaton’s name and voice deserve to be all over the city.”

Wednesday, May 6, 7:30 p.m. — Sammons Jazz: Artistic Director’s Concert. Sammons Jazz Artistic Director and Steinway Artist Arlington Jones opens with “Soul Unity Suite,” his jazz composition for piano, cello and drum set in seven movements. In the second set, Jones performs excerpts from his jazz opera work-in-progress, giving audience members a special preview before the premiere.

Thursday, May 21, 8 p.m. — Sammons Cabaret: David Slater. Singer, songwriter, pianist and the male vocalist champion of TV’s *Star Search*, David Slater had several Capitol Records projects reach the charts. He has worked with entertainers like Dolly Parton, Garth Brooks, and Wayne Newton. Today, he indulges his love of “the old stuff” in “Perfectly Frank: Celebrating the Songs of Sinatra.”

Friday, May 29, 7:30 p.m. — Sammons Discovery: Impending Bloom. Five exceptional musicians form the world music group Impending Bloom. Percussionists Craig Shropshire and Martin McCall, guitarists Don Vitsentzos and Adam Sage Johnson, and multi-instrumentalist Cornell Kinderknecht use a vast array of unique music instruments — ocarina, sitar, tabla and dombek, to name a few — to create world music that is both soothing and uplifting.

Season sponsors are Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Judy and Royal Carson, City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, Corporate Business Solutions, Dallas Door Designs, Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District, Ben E. Keith Co., National Endowment for the Arts, TACA – The Arts Community Alliance 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.