



The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen
2880 Mountain Road
P.O. Box 1249
Glen Allen, VA 23060
(804) 261-ARTS (2787)
www.artsglenallen.com

PRESS RELEASE

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For Publication Information:
Anita Waters
(804) 261-6213
marketing@artsglenallen.com

The Center Announces Its Fifth *Center Season*

The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen is pleased to announce the performers and performances that will comprise the fifth *Center Season*. Following the trend of past seasons, this one will continue to include dance, music, and theatre performances. Back by popular will be performances by The Capitol Steps, Chad & Jeremy, The Seldom Scene, Eleone Dance Theatre and the Richmond Divas. In addition, Theatre IV on Tour will return with a holiday performance for the entire family. Other performers and performances that round out the season will all be new to The Center's stage. The Center's president, K Alferio, expresses her thoughts on the upcoming season by saying, "We are pleased with the positive response we have received from our past Center Seasons and we are thrilled with the wide variety of performances we are offering this season that continue to provide a high level of quality entertainment in the arts. We have had four great seasons since beginning Center Season...but our upcoming one is definitely the best we have ever presented. I am looking forward to every single show!"

The *Center Season* begins in September and will continue through May 2012, offering something for everyone. Once again, The Capitol Steps open the season on Saturday, September 10. With their recent release of "Desperate Housemembers," their show will provide many new laughs as our nation copes with a budget (or not), a Republican majority, and an array of international "stars." British invasion sensation Chad & Jeremy return in December entertaining the audience with their top hits as well as holiday favorites from their new holiday CD. Playing to a standing room only theatre last January, The Seldom Scene will once again entertain the audience with their progressive bluegrass music. The Center welcomes back Eleone Dance Theatre, a contemporary dance troupe from Philadelphia, with their cutting edge works that challenge the traditional boundaries of dance. Then The Center's favorite Divas – Debra Wagoner, Cathy Motley-Fitch and Desiree Roots – return in another diva evening, "Richmond Divas, 3 for 3." For this performance, each Richmond Diva will honor a Diva Legend - Judy Garland, Julie Andrews and Ella Fitzgerald.

Music offerings will abound from the rafter raising gospel songs of "An Afternoon of Gospel" featuring Larnell Starkey and the Spiritual Seven Gospel Singers, The Richmond Boy's Choir and the One Voice Ensemble to the Canadian trio Vishtën, who will provide an evening of French Canadian music from the Acadian Islands that is infused with Celtic overtones. For country music fans plan to attend "The Legend of Johnny Cash" featuring Philip Bauer who embodies the persona and music of this country legend. For those who prefer Motown music, enjoy an evening of Motown favorites including the Temptations, the Four Tops, Stevie Wonder and more in the performance "Masters of Motown." Rock 'n roll fans will want to attend the debut of "Rock & Roll Jubilee" an original production created and presented by Craig Evans, Brad Tucker (both of The Taters), Brian Sulser, George Garrett, Jim Wark and BJ Kocen. This show takes the audience back to 1958 and the radio studio of the fictitious WJKS radio as it channels the spirits rock 'n roll icons Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Rob Orbison and more. For bluegrass fans, in addition to the return of The Seldom Scene, from the mountains of southwestern Virginia, The Dixie Bee-Liners take the stage with their music that blends blues, folk-rock, bluegrass and old-time mountain music into a unique style that has become their trademark.

In addition to The Capitol Steps other theatre performances include "The Adam Grow Comedy & Quiz Showe," "An Evening with Mark Twain," "The Queen of Bingo" and the "Mark Nizer 3D Juggling Show."

Adam Growe is currently the host of the Canadian Discovery Channel's "Cash Cab." In this unique and uproarious comedy show, audience members will have the opportunity to win money right out of Adam's pocket! Come out of the winter weather in January, and spend an evening with the "Grand Old Man of American Letters" Mark Twain as he shares his stories, speeches, and thoughts in "An Evening with Mark Twain." For "The Queen of Bingo," the audience meets "Sis" and "Babe" and learns about their world of Bingo, family ties, diet crazes and more. Join them in a game of Bingo where one lucky audience member will win a 10 lb. frozen turkey! The Center Season closes with the "Mark Nizer 3D Juggling Show" where the improbable become probable, and the impossible becomes possible in this special effects juggling performance.

The Center will host several free events for the community. Once again, The Center is partnering with the Latin Ballet of Virginia to host "El Dia de los Muertos" on October 22 from noon to 4pm. This Festive Celebration of Life features live music, dancing, arts & crafts, storytelling and sweets-and-treats. In early December, The Center in conjunction with the County of Henrico Division of Recreation and Parks will continue to host the "Annual Tree Lighting" where Ol' Saint Nick arrives via fire truck to light the tree at The Center Entrance. This is a holiday tradition for many families in the greater Richmond area. Once again, The Center will be the host site for "Illumina," a festive display of themed Christmas trees designed by Yvonne Hopkins. The official opening December 3 from 5-7, be immediately following the tree lighting when Santa and his elves will be on-site for pictures.

The season is as follows:

September

Saturday, September 10, 5pm and 8pm. **Capitol Steps** - Hilarious political comedy.

October

Saturday, October 15, 7pm. **Vistèn** – French Canadian music infused with Celtic overtones for good measure.

Saturday, October 22, noon-4pm. **El Dias de Los Muertos** - The Center and Latin Ballet of Virginia invite area residents to don a Halloween costume for this festive event featuring live music, dancing, arts & craft, storytelling, sweets-and-treats and various art exhibits.

Friday, October 28, 7pm. **The Dixie Bee-Liners** – Bluegrass and old-time mountain music infused with blues and folk-rock creating a sound which is "steeped in tradition, but with tones and rhythms that are very 21st century."

November

Friday, November 11, 7pm. **The Adam Growe Comedy & Quiz Showe** – Adam is one of Canada's most accomplished stand-up comedians an host of the Canadian Discovery Channel's "Cash Cab." He brings his quizzing antics to The Center!

Saturday, November 19, 7pm. **The Legend of Johnny Cash** – Philip Bauer recreated the music and persona of this top country music legend.

December

Thursday, December 1-Tuesday, January 3, 2012. **Illumina** – A festive display of themed Christmas trees fill the lobby of The Center. Opening festivities, Saturday, December 3, 5-7pm. Santa and his elves will be on-site for visits with the children.

Saturday, December 3, 4:30-5:45pm. **Thirteenth Annual Tree Lighting** – In conjunction with the County of Henrico Division of Recreation and Parks, The Center invites the community to join in the tradition of carols, a bonfire and the lighting of our 60 ft. cedar tree along with a visit by Ol' St. Nick.

Wednesday, December 14, 7pm. **Chad & Jeremy** – As part of British Invasion, this duo has produced 37 albums and have had eleven top forty hits.

Saturday, December 17, 10am and 11:30am. **Theatre IV** on Tour presents *A Christmas Carol* – An area-exclusive musical of this classic holiday story that is suitable for all ages.

January

Saturday, January 21, 7pm. **An Evening with Mark Twain** – See the many facets of Twain in an insightful and hilarious evening that includes excerpts from his published and unpublished novels, short stories, journal notes autobiographies and speeches.

Saturday, January 28, 7pm. **The Seldom Scene** – Back by popular demand! This D.C. based quintet has long been regarded as one of the most progressive band to play bluegrass music.

February

Thursday, February 2, 7pm. **Masters of Motown** – Celebrate the artists, music and styles that contributed to the rise of MOTOWN. Hear the music of Gladys Knight & the Pips, the Temptations, Marvin Gaye & Tammy Terrell, the Four Tops and more!

March

Saturday, March 3, 7pm. **Rock & Roll Jubilee** – Journey back to 1958 and be a part of the studio audience for the live broadcast of a fictitious radio station as they channel the spirits of Elvis, Buddy Holly, Ricky Nelson and more!

Friday, March 9 and Saturday, March 10, 7pm. **The Queen of Bingo** – Howl with laughter as two zany guys play two crazy gals in this comedy hit. “Sis” and “Babe” explore the world of Bingo, family ties, diet crazes and more! Before the night is over, audience members will play a game of Bingo for the big prize of a 10lb. frozen turkey!

Sunday, March 11, 2pm. **An Afternoon of Gospel** – The rafters will rise with the gospel music of Larnell Starkey and the Spiritual Seven Gospel Singers, The Richmond Boys Choir and Richmond’s One Voice Ensemble.

April

Wednesday, April 4, 7pm. **Eleone Dance Theatre** – Cutting edge dance that challenges the traditional boundaries of dance.

Thursday, April 5, 10am. **Eleone Dance Theatre** – Matinee performance for school age students exploring the art of contemporary urban dance.

Wednesday, April 25, 7pm. **Richmond Divas, 3 for 3** – The Richmond Divas return in a performance paying tribute to Diva Legends - Judy Garland, Julie Andrews and Ella Fitzgerald.

May

Saturday, May 5, 2pm. **Mark Nizer 3D Juggling Show** – Experience the 3D special effects of Mark Nizer in a family show that combines comedy, juggling and music. The improbable becomes probable and the impossible becomes possible. 3D glasses provided!

Subscription packages are available starting with as few as three performances. Discounts increase based on the number of performances purchased. The discounts range from 10% to 20% off a performance. Information on the subscription packages is available on The Center website: www.artsglenallen.com or by calling the box office at (804)261-ARTS (2787). Individual ticket sales begin July 5.

The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen is dedicated to inspiring creativity and stimulating the senses through music, dance, art and theatre. The Center is a private, non-profit organization, managed and maintained by The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen Foundation and Board of Directors. For more information, call 804-261-ARTS (2787) or visit the Center at 2880 Mountain Road, Glen Allen 23060, just off I-295 at the Woodman Road south exit.

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