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YOUR CHARLOTTE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES PREMIERE ARTIST SERIES 2015-2016

Charlotte, MI, July 13, 2015– Your Charlotte Performing Arts Center is excited to announce our amazing return to presenting professional artists to the greater Mid-Michigan area and beyond with our new Premiere Artist Series of events.

The Premiere Artist Series is just what the title says. Premiere is both the best of and a first look at professional artists. This year's series themed Old Favorites and New Faces brings about our new focus to presenting local, State of Michigan and Midwest Regional artists. Two of the most popular acts to visit your Charlotte Performing Arts Center in the past decade, ***Riders in the Sky*** and ***Three Men and a Tenor***, will be making their returns. Some of the new faces include Waterford, MI comedian ***Matt Jernigan*** and the Bay City, MI area group ***Steve Armstrong and the 25 Cent Beer Band***. Kids will also enjoy this year's line-up with the Auto-Owners Insurance Family Series featuring ***The Berenstain Bears*** and musical group ***Hot Peas 'N Butter***.

Along with our new focus, you will notice some other changes in our Premiere Artist Series of events.

The first of these is our new zoned pricing – this will make sure that you can select the seats that best fit your desire and budget. Our goal is that everyone who wants to see a show, can do so affordably.

Next, our Auto-Owners Insurance Family Series shows will offer you the option of valuable savings of 17% with the availability of a Family Four Pack of tickets.

In the interests of providing you with the most entertainment for your dollar, your Charlotte Performing Arts Center is also including local and area artists as opening acts for our featured performers.

Finally, check out our new VIP Experiences that offer premium seating and a variety of opportunities to interact with the Premiere Artists themselves – from afterglow parties to meet and greets – get up close and personal! Each show offers only 49 of these exclusive seating options.

Enjoy an entire evening out with Dinner and as Show Packages. We have partnered with other local favorites to provide you everything you need to have a wonderful night out on the town. Or add on an afterglow experience to some of our other shows and extend your evening later into the night.

Your Charlotte Performing Arts Center will kick off our Premiere Artist Series on Friday, October 16, 2015 at 7:30pm with the finals of the **Charlotte's Idol** contest. Sixteen of the most amazing vocalists from Charlotte and the surrounding areas will compete to win the title of Charlotte's Idol and a contract to perform as the opening act for **Three Men and a Tenor**. This evening the audience helps determine the winner! The Charlotte's Idol contest is open to any individual who submits and audition video. More information on how to enter the Charlotte's Idol contest will be available in August.

Join **Riders in the Sky** when they visit your Charlotte Performing Arts Center on Saturday, November 20, 2015 at 7:30pm. **Riders in the Sky** will be taking a thrilling ride to yesteryear as they salute iconic western movie, music and television star Roy Rogers, undisputed "King of the Cowboys." Film clips of Roy's greatest moments on screen with Trigger, Dale Evans and the Sons of the Pioneers are featured, as well as a film montage tribute to "The Greatest Sidekick of 'Em All: Gabby Hayes!" Ranger Doug, preeminent singing cowboy historian, provides fun facts about Roy's life, from humble beginnings as Leonard Slye from Duck Run, OH, to one of Hollywood's most beloved stars, and his influence on a generation of musicians and western entertainers. Opening act for the night will be the Michigan female country western group **Stella**.

Kick off your family's holiday season right and make a special holiday memory at your Charlotte Performing Arts Center with **Three Men and a Tenor Ha-Ha-Holidays** sponsored by Hayes Green Beach. Great pop vocal music with quick witted humor and overall likeability give **Three Men and a Tenor** a unique style of engaging performance that cannot be matched. The group has performed on stages with Jay Leno, The Beach Boys, Lee Greenwood, Chuck Berry and Dionne Warwick, and were featured in a national PBS-TV special. Twice voted "The Best Entertainment in Michigan" **Three Men and a Tenor** with their holiday music will be sure to bring your family together with a delightful evening of fun and memories for this holiday season.

Kids and adults alike will be flocking to your Charlotte Performing Arts Center on Saturday, January 23, 2016, for two performances as Auto-Owners Insurance Family Series presents **The Berenstain Bears Live! in Family Matters the Musical** sponsored by Independent Bank. Everyone's favorite bear family comes to life in a thrilling theatrical experience that kids, parents, and grandparents will treasure for many years to come. As always, Bear Country is not without its complications: Brother Bear's grades are slipping, Sister Bear still has a few things to learn about making new friends, and Papa

Bear just can't stop eating junk food. Thankfully, we can always depend on Mama Bear and her loving patience to help set things right.

Your Charlotte Performing Arts Center will be the place to be on Saturday, February 27, 2016, to see some of the most astonishing variety acts from Charlotte and surrounding areas will compete to win the title **Charlotte's Most Entertaining** and a contract to open for **Matt Jernigan**. A combination of awe inspiring feats of magic, laugh-a-minute comedians, jugglers, tumblers, dancers and other specialty artists, each in pursuit of **your** vote, as this evening the audience helps to determine our winners! This contest is open to anyone who submits a video audition and more details on this process will be available in December.

Seen on Comedy Central and NBC and regularly heard on SiriusXM radio's Laugh USA, comedian **Matt Jernigan** from Waterford, MI, will be featured at your Charlotte Performing Arts Center. Matt performs a 100% clean comedy show with a humorous combination of song parodies and celebrity impressions. Matt hilariously spoofs popular rock, R&B, hip hop, country and pop stars. With just his guitar and incredible talent, he brings everyone from Elvis Presley to Snoop Dog to the stage. Matt guarantees something for everyone – kids, teens, college students, adults and seniors alike!

The kids will be singing and dancing in the aisles of your Charlotte Performing Arts Center for two show on Saturday, May 21, 2016, as the Nickelodeon/Noggin TV favorites **Hot Peas 'N Butter** bring their "hot and mellow multicultural groove" to stage. By combining an interactive, invigorating approach to performance, the group has been the proud recipients of the 2006, 2008, 2009, and 2012 *Parent's Choice Awards*.

Your Charlotte Performing Arts Center 2015-2016 Premiere Artist Series will wrap up on Friday, June 24, 2106 as one of the hottest rising groups in country music, the Michigan group **Steve Armstrong and the 25 Cent Beer Band** takes the stage! The band won Review Magazine's fan voted #1 Country Music Band a history making four years in a row! They are regulars at Toby Keith's I Love This Bar in Detroit, Chicago and Cincinnati.

You may pre-order tickets now by contacting your Charlotte Performing Arts Center and requesting a ticket order form. There are a number of cost saving options for purchasing complete series multiple show tickets available.

Additionally, we still have space available for your business to sponsor a show – it's a great way to reward employees and show your support for the arts in the greater Mid-Michigan region! For more information, please contact Jeff Hayes directly at 517-541-5691.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Jeffrey Hayes at 517-541-5691 or email at HayesJ@charlottenet.org.