NEWS RELEASE

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Jasper Community Arts Commission

ANNOUNCES ITS 2016-2017 Performing Arts Season

JASPER, IN… Jasper Community Arts announced today its schedule for the 2016-2017 Season. Four diverse series of performing arts events will showcase twelve extraordinary artists. Performers Series – Traditional and New Directions, Backstage and Family Fun Series shows will be held at the Jasper Arts Center this October 2016 through April 2017.

Past series subscribers should renew tickets by July 22, 2016 for same seat guarantee. If they do not renew by the cutoff date, their seats may be given away. This applies to either the Traditional Series or the New Directions Series. Same seat guarantee only applies for the series patrons already have.

New patrons who wish to order series tickets may do so through Friday, August 26, 2016. Patrons should contact the box office now. Orders are filled on a first come, first served basis.

Single tickets for all performances will be filled after August 26, 2016 depending upon availability. You do not need to buy an entire series to order tickets but we do recommend that you purchase your tickets in advance due to past patron demand. Single tickets are filled on a first come, first served basis so interested patrons need to order single tickets now.

Tickets can be purchased four easy ways. In person - stop by the JCA office at 951 College Avenue, Jasper (Office hours are 9 am-5 pm, Monday-Friday), by mail – use the order form inside the season guide and mail to the above address, by fax – credit card orders for Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted to our fax number (812) 634-6997, and by phone – call the JCA box office at (812) 482-3070 to place a credit card order or for additional information and a season guide. More information is available on the JCA website, www.jasperarts.org.

The JCA offers patrons several packages from which to choose, which works out to savings of up to 30% over single ticket prices! Buy all four series of twelve great performances for a Grand Package for only $225 for adults, $210 seniors, and $150 student/child. Or buy any single series – Performers, Backstage, Family Fun, or bring a group of friends of 20 or more for a 15% group discount. Of course, single tickets are available in any combination.

**The upcoming Performers Series- TRADITIONAL is as follows:**

The **PERFORMERS SERIES-TRADITIONAL** will feature three artists for the main stage performances. Our traditional series events seek to appeal to a broad range of art lovers. The season opens with **The Texas Tenors – Holiday Show** on December 10th. **The Russian National Ballet** returns on January 22nd to perform **Cinderella.** The year rounds off with an evening of nostalgia with **Live in Central Park – The Simon and Garfunkel Concert** on April 2nd. Season tickets for this incredible series of three events are priced at $85 per person for adults, $77 for seniors and $68 for students/children.

**The Texas Tenors – Holiday Show**

Saturday, December 10, 2016 7:30 p.m.

The highest ranking vocal group in the history of *America’s Got Talent¸* John Hagen, Marcus Collins and JC Fisher bring their unique blend of Country, Gospel, Classical and Broadway to the stage. With breathtaking vocals, humor and cowboy charm, The Texas Tenors have traveled and performed around the globe. [www.thetexastenors.com](http://www.thetexastenors.com)

**Russian National Ballet - Cinderella**

Sunday, January 22, 2017 7:30 p.m.

Founded in Moscow during the transitional period of *Perestroika* in the 1980s, The Russian National Ballet returns to Jasper. With over 50 dancers of international renown, they will be presenting a full-length presentation of Prokofiev’s *Cinderella* in five acts. Join us for this timeless tale of romance, angst and triumph. [www.cami.com/?webid=418](http://www.cami.com/?webid=418)

**Live in Central Park – The Simon and Garfunkel Concert**

Sunday, April 2, 2017 7:30 p.m.

In 1981, over 500,000 music fans gathered in Central Park to witness the now legendary reunion of folk duo Simon & Garfunkel. Award-winning recording artists Lee Lessack and pianist Johnny Rodgers recreate that magical night with dulcet vocals harmonizing over lilting guitar. You’ll hear all the beloved poetic masterpieces that made Simon & Garfunkel famous, recreated from the original music set lists. [www.lmlmusicpresents.com/show/simon-garfunkel/](http://www.lmlmusicpresents.com/show/simon-garfunkel/)

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**The upcoming Performers Series- NEW DIRECTIONS is as follows:**

The **PERFORMERS SERIES-NEW DIRECTIONS** will feature three artists for main stage performances. In this newest series, designed for the young and young at heart, events may be a little different and off-beat, but they will still meet our standards for quality entertainment. The season opens with a Ratskeller-type jazz program, **The Hot Sardines** on October 22nd. Something totally different is **Black Violin** performing on February 19th. Round out the season with **The Willis Clan** on March 5th. Season tickets for this incredible series of three events are priced at $85 per person for adults, $77 for seniors and $68 for students/children.

**The Hot Sardines**

Saturday, October 22, 2016 7:30 p.m.

Recently named *one of the best jazz bands in New York today* by Forbes magazine, the Hot Sardines band is born of a unique musical recipe: take hot jazz and sultry standards from the 1920s, 30s, and 40s, sprinkle in the rich Dixieland sounds of New Orleans, add a dash of wartime Paris flavor, and infuse a wealth of vibrant musical surprises that hold audiences captive long after the show ends. Don’t miss it! [www.hotsardines.com](http://www.hotsardines.com)

**Black Violin**

Sunday, February 19, 2017 7:30 p.m.

Wil Baptiste (viola) and Kev Marcus (violin) are a string duo from Florida with equal footing in the worlds’ of classical music and hip-hop. *Our mantra has always been to engage the audience to look at things from a different perspective*. The pair has created a distinctive, peerless sound. *A hard-hitting beat with lush string sounds,…something you can listen to if you don’t listen to hip-hop, or if you don’t listen to classical music – we bridge that gap.* Breaking all stereotypes, this award-winning duo has worked with Norah Jones, Wynton Marsalis and Elvis Costello. [www.blackviolin.net](http://www.blackviolin.net)

**The Willis Clan**

Sunday, March 5, 2017 7:30 p.m.

The Willis Clan is a family of amazing musicians, dancers, athletes, writers and artists. Living near Nashville, Tennessee, they merge their Irish roots with other music and dance genres to create a unique blend of the old and new. This family of twelve children, plus mom and dad, currently appear on *TLC* line up. [www.thewillisclan.com](http://www.thewillisclan.com)

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The **BACKSTAGE SERIES**, a separate series of three events, features a unique and intimate seating arrangement with audience members most often on stage with the artist for a house concert feel. The season opener will be Bloomington musician, **Carrie Newcomer** on October 14th. Get an international flavor with **Women of the World** who will perform on February 26th.The season will round off with some cool jazz by **Allan Harris** on March 17th. Series subscription prices are $58 for adults, $55 for seniors and $36 for students/children.

## The BACKSTAGE SERIES includes:

**Carrie Newcomer**

Friday, October 14, 2016 7:30 p.m.

Carrie Newcomer is a songwriter, recording artist, performer and educator. She has been called a *prairie mystic* with *a voice as rich as Godiva chocolate.* Carrie has toured with Alison Kraus. Nickel Creek recorded her song *I Should’ve Known Better.* An Indiana artist, she currently lives outside Bloomington with her husband and two shaggy rescue dogs. [www.carrienewcomer.com](http://www.carrienewcomer.com)

**Women of the World**

Sunday, February 26, 2017 7:30 p.m.

Women of the World is an award-winning international a cappella quartet that performs original and traditional folk music with a contemporary twist, in 29 languages. The four singers represent Japan, Italy, India and the USA. Despite differences in their upbringing, language, religion, ethnicity, food and music, they are bound by one unique desire: to explore sounds, rhythms and musical vocabulary from all over the world. [www.womenoftheworldmusic.com](http://www.womenoftheworldmusic.com)

**Allan Harris**

Friday, March 17, 2017 7:30 p.m.

Ever since he burst on the jazz scene in the later part of the twentieth century, the Brooklyn-born Harlem-based vocalist/guitarist/bandleader/composer Allan Harris has reigned supreme as one of the most accomplished singers and musicians of his generation. Known for his smoky baritone, Harris is inspired by jazz, R&B, soul, country and Latin sounds. He will be accompanied by his jazz group for this intimate performance. [www.allanharris.com](http://www.allanharris.com)

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The **FAMILY FUN SERIES** is a three-event series that features rollicking family entertainment for the young and young at heart. Our first program will feature **Bill Blagg** on October 2nd. Audiences will be treated to a delightful Christmas show called **A Very Electric Christmas** on November 5th. The season will round out with a family-friendly production by **Rob Torres** on March 11th. To ensure participation by the entire family, series tickets for all three events are very reasonably priced at $40 for adults and seniors, and $20 for children aged 18 and under.

**The following events make up the FAMILY FUN SERIES:**

**Bill Blagg**

Sunday, October 2, 2016 3:30 p.m.

Bill Blagg is widely regarded for his unconventional style of magic which doesn’t involve cliché tricks with playing cards or rabbits. Instead Bill prefers to thrill his audiences with his incredible illusions such as squishing his body to just 5” tall and flying through the air on the world’s only Hoverboard! You have to see it to believe it! Bill combines his magical talents with his quick wit and off-the-cuff personality which creates an incredible experience for all ages! [www.billblagg.com](http://www.billblagg.com)

**A Very Electric Christmas**

Saturday, November 5, 2016 3:30 p.m.

When a young bird named Max gets separated from his parents while flying south for the winter, his holiday adventure begins as he attempts to be reunited with his parents and make it home in time to celebrate Christmas. This captivating and magical tale of adventure, by Lightwire Theatre, is performed in complete darkness with light-up costumes and props. Audiences of all ages will enjoy this holiday performance treat! [www.lightwiretheater.com](http://www.lightwiretheater.com) This presentation is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Indiana Arts Commission and the Crane Group.

**Rob Torres**

Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:30 p.m.

From the moment he walks on stage, Rob steps into the hearts of his audience and keeps them laughing long after he’s gone. For the past two decades Rob Torres has traveled to over 45 countries performing in theatres, circuses, varieties, galas, TV and film. Rob masterfully blends his formal training in theatre, circus arts and pantomime together to create a genuinely fun and memorable performance. [www.rob-torres.com](http://www.rob-torres.com)

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All events on each Performers Series, the Backstage Series and the Family Fun Series are held at the Jasper Arts Center, 951 College Avenue, off Third Avenue on Jasper’s southeast side. Artists and dates are subject to change. For more information on programs offered by the Jasper Community Arts Commission, call (812) 482-3070 or visit [www.jasperarts.org](http://www.jasperarts.org). The Jasper Community Arts Commission is a department of the City of Jasper. This 41st season is made possible with support from Friends of the Arts, Inc., Arts Midwest, the Indiana Arts Commission, Vanderburgh Community Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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