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Celebrate the holidays at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts featuring a diverse range of award-winning entertainers and shows

SANTA ROSA, CA (October 30, 2014) –As an integral part of Sonoma County’s community and a premiere performing arts venue in the Bay Area, **Wells Fargo Center for the Arts** (50 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa) features a wide range of culturally-diverse entertainment for everyone this holiday season. Tickets and information for all Center shows are available through Wells Fargo Center for the Arts online at wellsfargocenterarts.org, by calling 707-546-3600, or in person at the ticket office at 50 Mark West Springs Road in Santa Rosa (open daily, noon to 6pm).

The holidays get off to a rousing start **Sunday, November 30 at 7:00 p.m.** with **The 9th Annual Chris-MIX** night of acoustic music starring American Authors, Uncle Kracker, The Voice 2013 Runner Up Jacquie Lee and more. Not just a night of music, but in the true spirit of the holidays, this performance is a fundraiser to fight cancer with a special on site silent auction for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Tickets are \$30 and \$20.

Seasonal festivities continue **Saturday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m.** with the acclaimed **San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus** performance of **Home for the Holidays!** The performance, billed as an extravaganza, features traditional favorites along with some new works including a stunning world premiere, by Ola Gjeilo, one of the America’s most prominent contemporary composers. Add to the music appearances by Santa, his elves and reindeer, a 1980s nativity scene and an ugly sweater parade for a wild evening. Tickets are \$50, \$40 and \$25.

More images of home are evoked on **Tuesday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m.**, when the Center rings with the celestial voices of multi-platinum Irish singing sensation **Celtic Woman** as they present **Home for Christmas-The Symphony Tour**. The festive performance features music from the renowned all-female music ensemble’s second Christmas album, *Home For Christmas*, including holiday favorites “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” and “Silent Night.” Tickets are \$85, \$75 and \$59.

This is the 10th anniversary season of the Symphony Pops Series, as the Santa Rosa Symphony and Wells Fargo Center for the Arts present one of the most popular musical series in Sonoma County. **Sunday, December 14 at 3 p.m.**, brings the beloved **Symphony Pops: A Very Merry Holiday Pops featuring Five By Design** concert to the community. This year the Symphony and Principal Pops Conductor Michael Berkowitz will be joined by renowned vocal quintet *Five by Design* for an afternoon of inspiring and

multi-cultural holiday music ranging from traditional to swing to rock. The theater will reverberate from the novel pairing of the Symphony with Five by Design's distinctive sound embracing unforgettable melodies, lush harmonies and swinging rhythms. Tickets are \$80, \$61, \$50, and \$37.

On **Friday, December 19, at 7 p.m.**, the Center presents one of its signature annual events: **Posada Navideña**. For the eighth consecutive year, Wells Fargo Center for the Arts celebrates the diversity of Sonoma County with this presentation featuring traditional Mexican folkloric dance and music. Part of the Rodney Strong Vineyards Dance Series, this replication of the authentic Posada celebrations in Mexico, is performed by dancers and musicians from Sacramento's renowned **Ballet Folklórico de Sacramento** portraying the "Pastorella" (pilgrimage) made by Joseph and Mary before the birth of Christ. Tickets for the Posada are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. The ticket price includes family-friendly arts and crafts starting one hour prior to the show, a post-show Posada celebration that includes food, music, and the traditional Posada procession.

It wouldn't be holiday time without a Nutcracker performance and the Center has a special show for the whole family with **Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker** returning on **Saturday, December 20 for two shows at 3:00 pm and 7:00 p.m.** Forty world-class Russian artists, giant puppets, life-sized Matrushka Dolls and a growing Christmas tree, reinvigorate the cherished Tchaikovsky ballet. Tickets are \$74, \$54, \$43.50 and \$33.50; Platinum package is \$181 and VIP tickets are \$108

An enduring show that marks the season is **The Blind Boys of Alabama Christmas Show** which plays the Center **Sunday, December 21 at 8:00 p.m.** Making their debut in Santa Rosa, these multi-Grammy Award winners are recognized worldwide as living legends of gospel music. This performance features selections from their upcoming Christmas album along with Christmas classics and other highlights from a 70 plus year career. Tickets are \$ 35 and \$28.

Festive times abound at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts throughout the month of December with a varied mix of other entertainment options including **An Evening with Garrison Keillor** (Dec. 3), **A Night with Chrissie Hynde** (Dec. 4), **Brian Regan Live Comedy Tour** (two shows Dec. 5), **Mike Birbiglia: Thank God for Jokes** (Dec. 11), and American Idol's **Phillip Phillips** in concert (Dec. 12).

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PRINT QUALITY IMAGES AVAILABLE:

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About Wells Fargo Center for the Arts

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Wells Fargo Center for the Arts is home to world-class performances, nationally recognized education programs, contemporary sculpture, and many popular events. The Arts Center is located in the heart of the Sonoma wine country and ranked among California's top performing arts presenters. Together with its resident companies, the Center presents more than 100 performances in music, dance, theater, renowned speakers, and comedy; provides education programs serving 30,000 children and adults; and hosts more than 1,000 community events a year. Owned and operated by the Luther Burbank Memorial Foundation, the Center relies on charitable community donations to achieve its mission – to enrich, educate, and entertain.

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