



PRESS RELEASE

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Park City Performing Arts Foundation presents
The Eccles Center's 2011-2012 Season

PARK CITY, UT – Park City Performing Arts Foundation announces its 15th season of world-class dance, music, theater and family entertainment at **The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Center for the Performing Arts**. The fresh and eclectic line-up maintains PCPAF's tradition of seeking out acts that entertain, educate and illuminate.

"It's a season that touches all ages and stages. We've got country, rockin' kids shows, athletic, graceful and mind-boggling dance. We've got international performers, top-notch theater, an environmentalist and wildlife expert, and high-octane bands. It's a thoroughly-exciting season and we can't wait to bring all of these artists to the Park City community," says PCPAF executive director Teri Orr.

The 2011-2012 Season officially kicked off Oct. 1 with the gritty, marvelous melodies of Memphis Soul – The Music of Stax Records. The soul-nurturing season continues with: **John Amos in "Halley's Comet"** (Dec. 3, 2011), **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's "A Swinging Christmas"** (Dec. 17, 2011), **Little Big Town** (New Year's Eve), **MOMIX's "Botanica"** (Jan. 14, 2012), **The Intergalactic Nemesis** (Feb. 11, 2012), **The Vagina Monologues** (February TBA, 2012), **Milkshake** (February 18, 2012), **Nellie McKay** (February 25, 2012), **AfroCubism (March 10, 2012)**, **Jeff Corwin's "Tales from the Field"** (March 24, 2012), and **Aspen Santa Fe Ballet** (April 7, 2012).

Starting off where Memphis Soul left off, **John Amos** adds a dose of theater to the mix with his one-man show, **"Halley's Comet,"** on **Dec. 3**. The Emmy-nominated actor (best known for his roles in **"Roots," "The District," "West Wing"** and **"Good Times"**) plays an 87 year-old man who recounts the changes in the world since the last time he met **Halley's Comet** as an 11 year-old boy. "A universal story (*The Los Angeles Times*)," **Amos'** show is at once funny and poignant.

Just in time for the holidays, **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** transforms wintery classics, such as “Blue Christmas” and “Jingle Bells” into rollicking and oh-so-smooth big band tunes. As *Rolling Stone* puts it, “this Los Angeles septet infuses its retro hep-cat cool with a dose of Yule spirit.” The **Dec. 17** show “A Swinging Christmas,” also includes original songs, such as “Zat You Santa Claus” and “Rock-A-Billy Christmas.” Ho, ho, ho!

Grammy-nominated **Little Big Town** brings “harmonies [that] are impeccable” (*USA Today*) to the stage for a **New Year’s Eve** performance. Seamlessly meshing Nashville style with Southern California pop-rock, this country group appeals to all music lovers (even folks that don’t necessarily dig country). They rocked the outdoor amphitheater at Deer Valley this past summer with tunes like “Little White Church” and “Boondocks.” LBT’s encore show – this time, indoors – will help country-rock the audience into 2012.

Moses Pendleton’s creative genius and the dancer-illusionists of **MOMIX** return to Park City on **Jan. 14** with a new “earthly and otherworldly (*Times Union*)” multimedia performance. Using larger-than life props, remarkable grace and athleticism, outrageous costumes, projected imagery and an eclectic score (ranging from Vivaldi to birdsong), “**Botanica**” overflows with imagination.

Zap! On **Feb. 11**, an unusual pairing of radio play and hand drawn, comic-style projections will propel audiences into a radical universe. **The Intergalactic Nemesis** (a live action graphic novel) is “a world of fun (*Austin American Statesman*).” The storyline transports audiences to the year 1933. A reporter, her intrepid assistant and a mysterious librarian, face an impending invasion of sludge monsters from the planet Zygon. Kapow!

The Vagina Monologues, Eve Ensler’s funny and heart-wrenching commentary on worldwide women's issues, returns to the stage for its seventh year. **Park City Performing Arts Foundation** will once again enlist local talent to read the individual monologues that are enraging as well as uplifting. It’s a night of laughter, tears and awareness. Benefitting the **Peace House women's shelter**, this production is part of a global activist movement to end violence against women and girls. February date to be announced.

Kid-friendly rock rolls into town with **Milkshake** on **Feb. 18**. Bringing their “Bottle of Sunshine” back to Park City, this fun and talented group performs tuneful, memorable songs that evoke influences ranging from Rodgers and Hammerstein to Lennon-McCartney. It’s a unique blend of music appealing to both kids *and* their parents.

On **Feb. 25**, the always unpredictable **Nellie McKay** applies her staggering musical talents to a new project entitled “I Want to Live.” This musical biography, chronicles the story of scheming, fun-gal Barbara Graham, a convicted murderer who was the third woman to die in the gas chamber in California at San Quentin in 1955. *The New York Times* calls McKay’s performance “brilliant, zany.”

World music takes center stage with **AfroCubism** on **Mar. 10**. “A cross-cultural tour-de-force by the maestros” (*The Financial Times*), this 13-piece world music ensemble

sizzles. Comprised of all-star musicians from Mali and Cuba, this fusion of African-Cuban sounds was meant to take place in 1996. When the Malians couldn't gain entry to Havana, the producers turned to their Plan B jam session, resulting in the acclaimed "Buena Vista Social Club." Fourteen years later, the Mali-Cuba connection –including "Buena Vista's" Eliades Ochoa and Malian musical prodigy Toumani Diabaté – is what *The New Yorker* calls "a collaboration well worth the wait."

Celebrity conservationist/environmental journalist (best known for his Emmy Award-winning shows on *Animal Planet* and *Discovery*) **Jeff Corwin** combines humor and adventure in his "**Tales from the Field**" show on **Mar. 24**. Guest appearances by animals help illustrate the earth-friendly messages in a fabulously fun expedition that doesn't require leaving the theater.

Wrapping up the season with a gorgeous, mixed repertory performance, **Aspen Santa Fe Ballet** returns to Park City on **Apr. 7**. This remarkable troupe blends classical and contemporary dance while consistently exploring edgy works that charm and dazzle audiences. *The New York Times* calls ASFB "a breath of fresh air" and *The News and Observer* touts the company's "exciting vibrancy and striking precision." With twelve stunning, athletic dancers, ASFB returns as a more seasoned, yet still hip and innovative, "class act (*The New York Post*)."

Tickets are currently on sale for all of the upcoming performances. All shows take place at **The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Center for the Performing Arts**, 1750 Kearns Blvd., Park City, Utah.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Individual tickets range from \$18 to \$65* for regular season performances (children's shows, benefits and New Year's Eve have different pricing); Season punch cards are also available.**

Tickets may be purchased by calling 435-655-3114, online at www.EcclesCenter.org or at the box office, which is located within The Eccles Center. Box Office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday; the Box Office is open from noon through show time on the day of a performance.

Show time: The majority of PCPAF Main Stage performances begin at 7:30 p.m. The exceptions are: **Little Big Town** at 8 p.m.; **Milkshake** (two shows) at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.; and **Jeff Corwin** at 7 p.m.

*Discounts are available for children (12 and under), seniors and Summit County students (K-12).

**Season punch cards of 10 (redeemable for all regular season shows, but not eligible for Special Events, including New Year's Eve) are available for \$250 (bronze) \$350 (silver), \$450 (gold) and \$550 (platinum).

*** Please contact Kirsta Albert for interview requests, review tickets and press information, 435-655-8252.**

*Park City Performing Arts Foundation is a non-profit organization, dedicated to bringing world-class performances to the community. Now in its 15th season of presenting acclaimed artists at **The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Center for the Performing Arts** (a joint-use facility with the Park City School District), the organization continues to entertain, educate and illuminate. In addition to Eccles Center events, PCPAF presents the **“Big Stars, Bright Nights”** season of concerts at **Deer Valley Resort every summer**. PCPAF is dedicated to introducing young people to the arts through free **student outreach workshops, shows and demonstrations**. The non-profit also runs the **Mega Genius Supply Store** and **IQ HQ** - an **after school literacy program** and very thinky retail store located on Swede Alley.*

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