



NEWS FOR RELEASE

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Greet the New Year 2010 with *Forbidden Broadway* *Philharmonic tickets selling stronger amid sluggish economy*

While the news about holiday sales has been lukewarm, the Long Island Philharmonic's 18th annual New Year's Eve concert, *Forbidden Broadway*, has just about sold out. People interested in last minute tickets should hurry to avoid the disappointment of being left ticketless. Concertgoers will have the opportunity watch the Philharmonic's own New Year's Eve ball drop at the close of the concert, which will be held at the 2,100-seat Tilles Center for the Performing Arts in Greenvale, starting at 7:30 p.m. and ending at approximately 9:30 p.m., in time for the audience to greet the New Year with loved ones and friends.

The award-winning *Forbidden Broadway*, the satirical revue that has been making audiences laugh since 1982, was originally created and written by Gerard Alessandrini. The show spoofs songs, characters and plots of Broadway musicals. This version, featuring the beloved Long Island Philharmonic, will showcase the "Greatest Hits" of *Forbidden Broadway*, compiling the most popular parodies of shows current and past.

According to Philharmonic Executive Director Stephen Belth, "Our New Year's Eve concert will sellout even faster and earlier this year than in the past. We are extremely thrilled that our Long Island audience has chosen to greet 2010 with us. It shows that whether times are prosperous or challenging, music is important."

The Orchestra, led by Maestro David Stewart Wiley, will be joined by four of musical theater's brightest stars: Actors Craig Laurie and Kevin B. McGlynn, two National Tour veterans; actress Kristen Mengelkoch, a vocal powerhouse and comedienne; and Tony Award-winning actress Jeanne Montano.

The *LA Times* raved, "It's a pleasure to watch seasoned performers hit their marks with such ease and command. Smart, irreverent...What's not to love about *Forbidden Broadway*?" "...it made me feel very happy indeed; it really is a delightful night out for theatre fans," said *nytheatre.com*.

All concert-goers will be invited to toast the New Year prior to the start of the concert and again at intermission with a glass of free champagne.

For complete information about the New Year's Eve program or to buy tickets, call 631.293.2222, or visit online at www.liphilharmonic.org.

Long Island Philharmonic programs are made possible, in part, through public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency; support from the New York State Office of Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation; Nassau County Office of Cultural Development; Suffolk County under the auspices of the Office of Cultural Affairs, Steve Levy, County Executive; and the Huntington Arts Council. The Philharmonic offers special thanks to its corporate sponsors: BAE Systems, Capital One Bank, David Lerner Associates, Emblem Health, Frank & Camille's, Henry Schein, Inc., mindSHIFT, Long Island Pulse, Newsday, Roslyn Savings Foundation, UBS Financial Services and the WE'RE Group.

Thursday, December 31, 2009 · 7:30 p.m. at Tilles Center for the Performing Arts

New Year's Eve Spectacular: *FORBIDDEN BROADWAY*

Long Island Philharmonic

David Stewart Wiley, conductor

Craig Laurie

Kevin B. McGlynn

Kristen Mengelkoch

Jeanne Montano

Catherine Stornetta, musical director

Ticket Information

Prices: \$85, \$70, \$55

Tickets may be purchased by phone or in person at the Philharmonic Box Office 631.293.2222, 1 Huntington Quadrangle, Suite 2C21, Melville, NY 11747 or online at www.liphilharmonic.org.

A \$2 per ticket handling charge will be applied to all individual tickets ordered through the Box Office or website.

For complete information about the Philharmonic's season, call 631.293.2223, or visit online at www.liphilharmonic.org.

About the Long Island Philharmonic

The Long Island Philharmonic, currently in its 31st season, is the largest performing arts organization and the only professional orchestra in the region. Founded in 1979 by folk singer Harry Chapin and a group of local business leaders, the Orchestra was conceived as an artistic institution that would serve as the cornerstone of Long Island's cultural life. Today, the Philharmonic continues to provide cultural and educational programming of the highest level to the residents of Long Island. Considered one of the nation's most honored and respected regional orchestras, the Long Island Philharmonic was designated a "Primary Arts Organization" by the State of New York. The Philharmonic is the resident orchestra of Tilles Center for the Performing Arts and an inaugural inductee of the Long Island Music Hall of Fame.

The Long Island Philharmonic is noted for excellent artistic leadership beginning with founding Music Director Christopher Keene (1979-1990), followed by Marin Alsop (1990-1996), David Lockington (1996-2000), and current Music Director David Stewart Wiley who has led the Orchestra since 2001.

More than 30,000 lives are enriched each year by the Philharmonic's extensive Arts-In-Education and Community Engagement Programs, presented in schools, concert halls, libraries, hospitals, museums and community centers. Among these are Youth Concerts, the Annual Young Artist Competition, the Master Class Series, numerous In-School Programs, Orchestra at Work and Kids at Concerts.

About the Music Director

David Stewart Wiley has proven to be a strong, innovative, and inspiring young American music director, leading orchestras to artistic success, especially in challenging times. Wiley serves concurrently as Music Director & Conductor of our Long Island Philharmonic and Virginia's Roanoke Symphony Orchestra. Prior to these positions, he served as Assistant Conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Active as a guest conductor, pianist, lecturer, and composer, Wiley conducts professional orchestras throughout the U.S. and abroad. He has guest conducted in nearly all U.S. states, including the symphonies of San Francisco, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Minnesota, Saint Louis, Atlanta, Oregon, Honolulu, Utah, and Buffalo. Wiley's growing career has taken him to dozens of countries in Europe, Asia, and Africa -- most recently to Italy, Germany, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. From 1999 until the summer of 2006, Wiley was the Artistic Director & Conductor of the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival in Virginia.

David Stewart Wiley became the fourth Music Director of our Long Island Philharmonic in 2001. Wiley is credited with bringing significant artistic growth, energy, and excitement to the Long Island Philharmonic and Chorus, with double-digit ticket sales increases each year over the past few seasons.

David Stewart Wiley won the prestigious Aspen Conducting Prize, which led to his engagement as Assistant Conductor for the 1994 Aspen Music Festival. In 1995, after being invited to conduct the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Symphony Hall, he was awarded a Conducting Fellowship at Tanglewood, where he conducted several performances. Wiley holds a Doctor of Music in Conducting from Indiana University, where he had also received his Master of Music degree, a degree in Piano Performance with honors from the New England Conservatory of Music, and a degree in Religion, summa cum laude, from Tufts University, where he co-founded the Tufts Amalgamates. Wiley was honored this season by the Roanoke branch of the NAACP as "2009 Citizen of the Year" in the arts category – a testament to Wiley's deep and lasting involvement with the African-American community.

As a solo pianist, Wiley has performed with numerous major orchestras throughout the United States including Minnesota, Indianapolis, Oregon, Honolulu, Wheeling, and at the Aspen, Garth Newel, Wintergreen, and Prince Albert (Hawaii) summer festivals. He has also appeared as a jazz pianist in Boston's Symphony Hall and in recital appearances throughout the U.S., as well as in China, Russia, Romania, Germany, the Czech Republic, Italy, and Bulgaria.

Wiley's CDs include an album of French cello concerti with Zuill Bailey on Delos International, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 "Choral", American Piano Concertos with Norman Krieger on Artistic 4, "David Wiley & Friends: Classical Jazz", with Wiley at the piano, "American Trumpet Concertos" with the Slovak Radio Symphony and Paul Neebe, and a recording of American contemporary music with the IU New Music Ensemble.

David and his wife Leah have a son and a daughter. Together, they enjoy travelling, hiking and mountain biking, and family music time. Wiley's website is www.DavidStewartWiley.com.

About the Artists

Craig Laurie (Performer) has performed extensively with *Forbidden* appearing across the country as well as the Off-Broadway production in NY. Craig recently completed nearly 1000 performances in the mega smash hit musical *Jersey Boys* where he originated the role of Bob Crewe in the Chicago production. New York/National Tour: *Forbidden Broadway*, *Miss Saigon*, *Chicago* and *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*. Regional: Florida Studio Theatre, Barrington Stage, Stages St. Louis. Trained at NY's High School for the Performing Arts and Wagner College. www.craiglaurie.com

Kevin B. McGlynn (Performer) A native of Medford, MA and a graduate of the Boston Conservatory, Kevin is delighted to return to *Forbidden*. National Tours: *Kiss Me Kate*, *All Shook Up*, and *Forbidden Broadway*. Regional: Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Thomas Andrews in *Titanic*, Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*, Benny Southstreet in *Guys & Dolls*, Georges in *La Cage aux Folles*. Many thanks to family and friends for their CONSTANT love and support, especially Mom and Dad.

Kristen Mengelkoch (Performer) resides in New York City & made her Off-Broadway debut in *FB: Special Victims Unit*, and has since worked on *FB: The Roast of Utopia*, *FB: Rude Awakening*, *FB: Dances With The Stars* and most recently *FB: Goes to Rehab*. San Diego credits include *The Most Happy Fella*, *Pete 'n' Keely*, *The Nerd*, *Tomfoolery*, *Gypsy & Nunsense*. As a founding core company member of Southern Colorado Repertory Theatre, she appeared in *The Last Five Years*, *Sylvia*, *Chapter Two & A Flea in Her Ear*. Television: *Veronica Mars*. Kristen is a graduate of San Diego State University's Master of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre program. Following graduation, Kristen taught for two years as a part-time professor with the same university. A native of Wichita, KS, she holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from Emporia State University. She is the enthusiastic co-founder of the Manhattan based non-profit Ampersand Theatre Company. www.kristenmengelkoch.com

Jeanne Montano (Performer) Broadway/Off Broadway - *Forbidden Broadway* - (Tony Award for Excellence in the Theatre and Drama Desk Award) *Forbidden Broadway: Rude Awakening* - Recording Broadway and Tour: *Cats* (Jellylorum/Griddlebone) Broadway & National Tour, Regional - *The Most Happy Fella* (Cleo), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), *Funny Girl* (Fanny), *Joseph...* (Narrator), *Falsettos* (Cordelia) and *Nunsense* (Sister Mary Amnesia) with "Superior Mothers" Alice Ghostly, Pat Carroll and Lainie Kazan. She currently does background and lead vocals for the NYC Rock Band - CHUM. Jeanne is a happy newlywed - married to Robert Giannetta, NYPD.

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