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MEDIA RELEASE

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Sandy Hackett's Rat Pack Show

David DeCosta, Tony Basile, Doug Starks

Sandy Hackett, Lisa Dawn Miller

with

Joey Singer, Music Director/Piano

Fred Forney & Tom Miles, Trumpet; Bill Foy, Trombone

Hugh Lovelady & Jerry Donato, Saxophone; Ryan Rose, Drums

Tom Williams, Bass

Monday, January 31 at 7:30 p.m.

Scottsdale First Assembly

28700 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale AZ 85266

Tickets: \$40; Premium Seating \$55; Student (K-College) \$5

Call (480) 488-0806, toll free (866) 488-0806 or visit www.azmusicfest.org for tickets.

Complimentary valet parking is available.

Hello Again (Hello Detroit)

My Kind of Town

Volare (Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu)

That's Amore

That Old Black Magic

What Kind of Fool Am I?

Sam's Song

Stormy Monday

Will I Still Be Me?

Mr. Bojangles

continued

Berry Gordon & Willie Hutch

Sammy Cahn & Jimmy Van Heusen

Domenico Modugno & Franco Migliacci
English lyrics by Mitchell Parish

Jack Brooks & Henry Warren

Johnny Mercer & Harold Arlen

Anthony Newley & Leslie Bricusse

Jack Elliot & Lew Quadling

T-Bone Walker

Ron Miller & Ken Hirsch

J. Jeff Walker

Intermission

Get Me To The Church	Alan Jay Lerner & Frederick Loewe
You Make Me Feel So Young	Mack Gordon & Josef Myrow
For Once In My Life	Ron Miller & Orlando Murden
Wasn't I A Good Time?	Ron Miller & Ken Hirsch
Me and My Shadow	Billy Rose, Al Jolson & Dave Dreyer
Luck Be A Lady	Frank Loesser
A Foggy Day	Ira Gershwin & George Gershwin
Mack The Knife	Bertolt Brecht & Kurt Weill
My Way	Paul Anka, Claude François & Jacques Revaux
New York, New York!	Fred Ebb & John Kander
Birth of the Blues	Buddy DeSylva, Lew Brown & Ray Henderson

With a stellar cast, *Sandy Hackett's Rat Pack Show* has been hailed as the next best thing to seeing the Frank, Dino, Sammy and Joey live. Created by the son of comedian Buddy Hackett, the show recreates the legendary month of performances by the original Rat Pack at The Sands Hotel in early 1960 while filming *Ocean's Eleven*. This is their first appearance at *Arizona Musicfest*.

If you're on the fence about reincarnation, **David DeCosta** as **Frank Sinatra** might just make you a believer! This dynamic and seasoned entertainer has honed his portrayal of the late great Chairman down to the last detail. He captivates audiences with his charismatic stage presence, his provocative Frank-like vocal prowess, and of course, those dreamy blue eyes!

Raised in Detroit, David comes from a musical family, including his dad, two brothers and cousin, jazz prodigy Steve Richko, whom he credits for inspiring him to sing. And sing he did – all the way to Chicago, where he chose to hang his hat as Frank during his regular stint at Jilly's.

David later moved to Las Vegas where he perfected his spot-on portrayal. Speaking about his "live portrait," he once observed, "The way I approach Frank is more as an actor than an impersonator because, before I started doing Frank, I basically sang as myself. I was doing straight-ahead jazz, and that included Sinatra because he recorded every standard."

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Starring as **Dean Martin**, new discovery **Tony Basile** was born in Toronto, Canada, to southern Italian parents. Growing up in a multicultural neighborhood, he was exposed to all genres of music from Beatles to Glenn Miller, and from classical to jazz. He began playing musical instruments at eight and was a natural on drums and saxophone. Tony's talents as instrumentalist and song stylist earned widespread recognition and numerous prestigious awards.

In his earlier years, Tony also became adept in comedy, including everything from vaudeville and slapstick to improv. His comedic roots were put to good use some six years ago, when he started appearing as Dean Martin. Since then, he has delighted audience internationally, delivering Dino's trademark smooth singing and zany style.

The multi-talented **Doug Starks** conquers audiences with his remarkably haunting impersonation of the original Mr. Entertainer, **Sammy Davis, Jr.** Even at a young age, Starks knew he was born for the stage; at seven, he found his true calling. After seeing Sammy Davis, Jr. perform live, Starks knew that one day, he would entertain audiences just like his idol.

Desiring to do "all things Sammy," he immersed himself in classes, including tap dancing, gun twirling and acting, excelling in every area. Starks soon found himself performing widely, from New York's Radio City Music Hall to the MGM Grand in Las Vegas; He also opened for many top entertainers, including Julio Iglesias, Natalie Cole, Whitney Houston and Ray Charles.

He now resides in Las Vegas, where his dead-on performance and remarkable physical resemblance to his friend and mentor, Sammy Davis, Jr., continue to captivate audiences.

Sandy Hackett encompasses the charm and unique comedic style of family friend and a man he long admired, **Joey Bishop**. Son of the late comedian Buddy Hackett, Sandy attended the University of Nevada Las Vegas, earning a degree in Hotel Management, then promptly launched himself into the world of stand-up comedy. Before long, he was working the Playboy and Comedy Club circuit nationally.

Sandy has entertained audiences as comedian and dramatic actor in just about every venue imaginable, from TV, film, and showrooms in Las Vegas and Atlantic City to theaters throughout the US, Canada, Mexico and even New Zealand.

In 1988, he got a chance to work with Bishop, who handpicked him to help develop a TV game show, *Joey Bishop's Punchline*. It's no surprise to learn that Joey once remarked, "Sandy Hackett is my first choice to play me. Honestly, I wish I had been that good!"

Legendary comedian, **Buddy Hackett** (1924-2003) paved the way for every comedian today. For over 60 years, Hackett entertained audiences all over the world. In addition to starring as a funnyman in some of the most successful movies of his time (*The Music Man, It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World*), he also excelled on television, playing both comedic and dramatic roles. His versatile talent brought him from the Catskills to the theaters of Broadway, to Hollywood, and everywhere in between.

A lifelong friend of Frank, Dean and Sammy, he worked steadily with the members of the Rat Pack throughout their careers, even performing with them at Carnegie Hall in 1961. Buddy was a man dearly loved for his gift of making people laugh. In tonight's show, his recorded words are heard as **The Voice of God/Inspiration**.

continued

Frank's One Love is a mystery. A case could be made that Frank Sinatra's greatest love was Ava Gardner, but in adding *Wasn't I a Good Time?*, a timeless song written by the late, legendary Ron Miller, and sung by **Lisa Dawn Miller**, the show lets audience members decide for themselves.

A fresh sparkle in the music industry, Lisa was blessed with the voice of an angel and comes from the finest musical lineage. Her songwriting style is reminiscent of her father Ron, who died in 2007: rich, sweet and passionate.

After spending the first part of her life as a successful executive in the financial business, Lisa returned to her first love as a singer, songwriter and producer. She has recorded and performs many of her father's hits, as well as original songs co-written with him. Her debut CD, *Fly Away*, received wonderful reviews. A major passion – in addition to her two talented young children – is preserving her father's legacy for the generations to come. Her dream is that they will be inspired by his songs, his genius, and above all, his hope for a brighter tomorrow.

*Tonight's salute to the legendary Rat Pack is sponsored
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We sincerely appreciate your continuing generous support.*