

# DEWITT

PERFORMING ARTS  
SEASON

# 2019/2020

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PERFORMING ARTS  
SEASON

Robert L. & Elizabeth S.  
**COLE**  
AUDITORIUM &  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
at Richmond Community College  
Post Office Box 1189  
1042 West Hamlet Avenue  
Hamlet, NC 28345-1189

**TUESDAY, JAN. 21** - 7:30 p.m.  
"Wonderful Wizard of Song"

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11** - 7:30 p.m.  
"Georgia on My Mind":  
Celebration of Ray Charles and his Music

**THURSDAY, MARCH 19** - 7:30 p.m.  
"An American in Paris"

**BONUS SHOW**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 2** - 7:30 p.m.  
Phil Vassar

**All shows start at 7:30pm**  
Cole Box Office (910) 410-1691

# THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF SONG

THE MUSIC OF OZ COMPOSER HAROLD ARLEN

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[www.richmondcc.edu/cole-auditorium](http://www.richmondcc.edu/cole-auditorium)



# Director's Circle

Mr. & Mrs. Ron & Sylvia Ballard  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Linda Bayless  
Mr. & Mrs. Russell & Joan Bennett  
Mr. & Mrs. Van & Melissa Billingsley  
Mr. & Mrs. Neal & Joanne Cadieu  
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Now in it's tenth year, the Director's Circle helps Richmond Community College raise local funds critical to the success of our students, including supporting the *RichmondCC Guarantee*.

Season ticket holders interested in joining the Director's Circle should contact Joey Bennett at (910) 410-1691 or RichmondCC Associate Vice President of Development Hal Shuler at (910) 410-1807.



— SINCE 1964 —

**RICHMOND**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Thank you  
Director's Circle  
Members!*



## PROGRAM

### Tony Bennett, Opening Video

OPTIMISTIC VOICES/DING DONG,  
WITCH IS DEAD  
Karon/George

GET HAPPY  
Karon/George

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE  
Karon/George

I'VE GOT THE WORLD ON A STRING  
George

### Cotton Club

THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA  
Karon/George

STORMY WEATHER  
Karon

### The Movies/Hollywood

LET'S FALL IN LOVE  
George

THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC  
Karon/George

LAST NIGHT WHEN WE WERE YOUNG  
Harold

DOWN WITH LOVE/HURRAY FOR LOVE  
Karon/George

THIS TIME THE DREAMS ON ME  
George

BLUES IN THE NIGHT  
Karon

MY SHINING HOUR

George

SALOON MEDLEY

### Broadway

IT'S ONLY A PAPER MOON  
George

COME RAIN OR COME SHINE  
Karon

### Judy Garland

THE MAN THAT GOT AWAY  
Karon

### Wizard of Oz

BEHIND THE SCENES OF OZ/HOME MOVIE MEDLEY:  
IN THE MERRY OLD LAND OF OZ/IF I ONLY HAD A  
BRAIN/WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD  
Karon/George

### Finale

SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW  
Karon/George

[www.alkahestartists.net](http://www.alkahestartists.net) | 888.728.8989 | [info@alkahestartists.net](mailto:info@alkahestartists.net)



ALKAHEST  
ARTISTS  
ATTRACTIONS

## About Harold Arlen

Born in 1905, Harold Arlen began playing with local bands, in movie houses, and with vaudeville and cabaret troupes as a teenager in his home town of Buffalo, NY. His early collaboration with Ted Koehler, beginning in 1930, led to writing such hits as “Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea” and “I’ve Got the World on a String” for the famed Cotton Club.

In 1939, he won the Oscar for Best Original Song for “Over the Rainbow” from “The Wizard of Oz” and earned eight more Academy Award nominations including “The Man That Got Away” from “A Star is Born.” Arlen was enshrined in the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1971 and passed away in 1986 at age 81. George Bugatti, Co-Founder (with Sam Arlen) of the Harold Arlen Foundation, said “If Arlen has just written “Over the Rainbow” he would be assured of his place in the Great American Songbook. Aside from being Judy Garland’s life-long signature, Rainbow was rated No. 1 by the Recording Industry



## George Bugatti ~ Biography

George Bugatti is an American singer/songwriter and pianist with three CDs in wide release. The first CD was produced by Tonight Show creator Steve Allen. The second CD was recorded live at Bellagio, Las Vegas and is on Paul Anka Productions. The third CD was produced by Nigel Wright (Executive music producer of American Idol and Warner Bros. Phantom of the Opera) and is distributed by Universal. George also made his NYC Broadway debut on December 17, 2012 in the jukebox musical “The Wonderful Wizard of Song, The Music of Harold Arlen”.

Discovered while performing at the Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills by Steve Allen, Bugatti was quickly singled out to be the prolific comedian’s protégé. Shortly after recording his first CD with Steve Allen, Bugatti made his concert debut in Los Angeles with the legendary singer Tony Bennett. In an unprecedented gesture, Bennett invited Bugatti to perform with him at the Thousand Oaks Civic Auditorium.

Bugatti started studying music at the age of 5, and attended the prestigious High School of the Performing Arts in New York. He continued his education at the highly competitive Julliard College, where he honed his skills as a classical pianist before tragedy befell the young artist.

In an accident, the median nerve of his right hand was severed, causing the almost complete loss of all movement and sensitivity in his right hand. He was told he would never play again. It was then that he discovered his voice.

Bugatti performed for seven years at the famous Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills, from the Grand opening in 1991 to 1998. Meeting and playing for countless guests, celebrities and dignitaries, it was there that George first met Steve Allen. Allen produced Bugatti’s first CD, “Oh, What A Night For Love” and then invited him to appear in the stage version of the original “Tonight Show” with cast members Jonathan Winters, Louie Nye, and Bill Dana at venues like the House of Blues in Los Angeles and Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts.

During his record breaking run at The Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills Los Angeles Magazine dubbed George “Hollywood’s Hippest Crooner”.

After two years as a featured performer at Bellagio, Bugatti recorded "Bugatti Live on the Strip" which was released in 2000 on Paul Anka Productions.

Bugatti's next move was to headline with his big band at The Sands, Atlantic City in 2001.

After headlining with his big band in The Copa Room at The Sands, Atlantic City, Chuck Darrow of the New Jersey Courier-Post said, "Bugatti's warm satiny voice is complimented by some of the best phrasing The Sands has heard since Sinatra last played there".

After years of rehabilitation of his hand and an unwillingness to accept the doctors' diagnosis, in 2002, against all odds, George received critical acclaim for his NYC debut at Carnegie Hall. On December 12th and again on May 14th, 2003, he not only vocalized but also performed on piano a suite of his favorite works arranged by Peter Nero.

His 3rd Album, "A Night for Romance", distributed by Universal is in stores and on radio play lists nationwide and was produced by Nigel Wright, former music producer of the FOX TV show American Idol. The CD features a single written by U2 front man Bono, who gave George the song originally intended for Frank Sinatra.

Most recently, George wrote and starred in "The Wonderful Wizard Of Song, The Music of Harold Arlen", a project which he co-created with the composer's son, Sam Arlen. The show made its New York City debut in December, 2012 and ran for a year and a half at the St. Luke's Theater on 46th and 8th in the heart of Manhattan's theater district.

It is the only Broadway Musical ever created and work-shopped in Las Vegas! In October 2014, "The Wonderful Wizard of Song" came home for a 3 date run at the prestigious Smith Center, Las Vegas.

In October 2015 Bugatti joined friend and fellow musician/conductor Vincent Falcone as they recreated for the first time in a LIVE performance, the recordings of Tony Bennett and Bill Evans at the Smith Center, Las Vegas.

In January 2016, "The Wonderful Wizard of Song" made its U.K. Cabaret Debut at the Crazy Coqs theater in London, U.K.

In addition to singing Jazz and Broadway standards, George also enjoys great standards from the 50's, 60's and 70's. He has opened for comedy legend Don Rickles and Emmy winning television actor and comedian Brad Garrett.

## Sam Arlen ~ Biography

Sam Arlen is a music publisher and Saxophonist. As the son of the legendary American composer Harold Arlen, Sam promotes his father's over 500 compositions through his publishing company, S.A. Music LLC.

Although Sam has particular interest in the Harold Arlen catalog and songs from the American Songbook, he performs all styles of music. He has performed at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and many Performing Arts Centers in the United States and throughout the world.

Sam has been playing the saxophone for over forty years and has performed with his own bands as well as being a guest artist for many popular performers and bands, combining the musical styles of the past with classic modern sounds.

In 2005, for his father's Centennial Celebration Sam recorded a tribute CD to his father entitled Arlen Plays Arlen which is available in wide release.

Sam started his first music publishing company in 1986 to promote and license the music of his father. He handles licensing for recordings, movies, television, Broadway musicals and is the co-creator of the long running Off Broadway musical; The Wonderful Wizard of Song, The Music of Harold Arlen". Sam has taught various music and music history classes from grade school level through advanced PhD programs. For more information, please go to [www.haroldarlen.com](http://www.haroldarlen.com) and [www.samarlen.com](http://www.samarlen.com)



## Karon Kate Blackwell ~ Biography

Karon Kate Blackwell is a talented vocalist, musician and song writer. She was born and raised near Ellisville Mississippi, where she grew up singing every chance she got. As a vocalist, she can glide effortlessly from country to rhythm and blues and gospel, to a ballad by Irving Berlin or the Gershwins. As a musician, she can pound out a rock 'n' roll song on the piano Jerry Lee Lewis-style or take an old-fashioned ragtime tune and really make it swing. Many of the songs she sings are her own compositions.

Opening for the likes of Wayne Newton in Las Vegas and Burl Ives in Reno, Karon's career began in nightclubs and showrooms throughout the country. National television credits include The Tonight Show, The Regis Philbin Show, and Hour Magazine. Additionally, Karon has the honor of being the original 'Wet and Wild Girl' for the 7Up Your Thirst Away commercials that aired in the 1960s. In 1994, one of Karon's singles entitled, I Can't Laugh was a Cashbox "pick-of-the-week" selection.

Today, Karon and legendary comedian husband of 32 years — Marty Allen — perform all over the country to sold out audiences. Mixing Marty's humor with Karon's singing and boogie-woogie piano, brings down the house every time. Karon sings a lot of old favorites, but she also includes a few of her own compositions such as Wedding Vows, a song she wrote for Marty on their wedding day. In addition to singing and playing piano, Karon is Marty's straight man. If you ask Karon, she'll tell you it doesn't get much better than that!



Call Cole Box Office (910) 410-1691 for tickets!

**SISTER  
HAZEL**  
Feb. 29



## Upcoming Opportunities:

### Skills Enhancement Opportunities

- **Forklift Operator Training** - Feb. 20 or June 20
- **Sign Language** - Jan. 27
- **Auto CAD I** - Jan. 27
- **Solid Works** - Jan. 27
- **HED Technology Awareness**  
Hermit Campus - March 2 & Laurinburg Campus - Jan. 26
- **Notary Public** - March 4 or May 9

### Career Advancement Opportunities

- **Electric Lineman** - April 27 or Aug. 17
- **Banking Fundamentals** - Jan. 27
- **Medical Office Administrative Assistant** - Feb. 3
- **Basic Law Enforcement Training** - Feb. 3
- **Phlebotomy** - Feb. 4
- **EMT Basic** - Feb. 10
- **Vehicle Safety Inspection** - June 23 & 24
- **Medical Billing & Coding** - July 13
- **Small Engine Repair** - Feb. 10
- **Income Maintenance Caseworker** - Richmond & Scotland County  
Phase 1 - Jan. 14 - March 4 & Phase 2 - March 17 - May 7 (Richmond County)  
Phase 1 - Jan. 13 - March 7 & Phase 2 - March 14 - May 11 (Scotland County)



— 1887 1987 —  
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For more information, call (910) 410-1700 or visit  
<http://richmondcc.edu/about-us/workforce-development>

# Richmond Community College Spring Semester 2020

## Spring Programs that begin March 2:

- Accounting & Finance
- Business Administration
- Computer Engineering Technician
- Criminal Justice Technology
- Early Childhood Education
- Healthcare Manager
- Human Services Technology
- Marketing
- Substance Abuse Specialist
- University Transfer



We offer Traditional, Online and Hybrid Courses

Call today to sign up for Spring Semester Classes that start March 2!

(910) 410-1700 or [www.richmondcc.edu](http://www.richmondcc.edu)

## You Are Invited

- Feb. 20: College Transfer Fair at the Cole Auditorium - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Feb. 27: RichmondCC Open House at the Cole Auditorium - 5:30 to 7 p.m.
- March 3: Skills Trade Fair at the Scotland County Campus - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- March 10: Career Fair at the Cole Auditorium - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- March 26: Power the World Career Fair and Hiring Event - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- April 7: Lineman Exhibition and Hiring Event - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Besides these events, you are welcome to tour our Hamlet and Laurinburg Campuses anytime!

Please contact Assistant Director of Marketing  
Kacie Hamby, (910) 410-1839 or email [khamby@richmondcc.edu](mailto:khamby@richmondcc.edu)



—SINCE 1884—  
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Our State supports the North Carolina Presenters Consortium (NCPC) with a monthly listing in the magazine of exciting professional arts and entertainment events.