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Wilson Center Unveils Star-studded Tenth Anniversary Season

Brookfield, WI (April 25, 2011) The stage is set. In celebration of their 10th anniversary, the Wilson Center announces yet another star-studded season in 2011-12. With 24 regional, national, and international acts scheduled on two stages there surely will be something here for you.

Opening the season in the 619 seat Kuttemperoor Auditorium is the award winning, singer-songwriter **Rosanne Cash**, who is the eldest child of the legendary Johnny Cash. Her latest album, *The List*, won *Album of the Year* at the 2010 Americana Music Honors and Awards. Following Rosanne is a new immersive musical production, **The Miles Davis Experience** recapturing the sound and the historical and cultural context of this critical period of American history through the jazz music and its most iconic innovator, Miles Davis. This historic Miles Davis Experience features the Ambrose Akinmusire Quintet.

Becoming the most heralded new act in bluegrass, fans will welcome the award winning duo **Dailey and Vincent**. The group took home seven awards at the International Bluegrass Music Awards Show, including *Entertainer of the Year* and *Album of the Year* just three short years ago. Next on the Performing Arts series bill is one of pop's most compelling vocalists, singer-songwriter, **Paula Cole**. With the release of her fifth album, *Ithaca*, Paula will take the audience on an intensely emotional, yet uplifting journey - a show worth seeing.

Dance fans, mark your calendars. One of the most exciting and popular dance companies in America, **Ailey II** will grace the Jorgenson stage at the Wilson Center. Just to keep you dancing and singing along, another Performing Arts series show will be the harmonic and captivating vocal styling of the **King's**

Singers. Touted as truly a class-act with a delightfully British wit, the King's Singers are instantly recognizable for their spot-on intonation, and impeccable vocal blend.

Broadway Today! the final show in the Performing Arts series features show tunes from some of the most popular Broadway shows in history, including *Wicked*, *South Pacific*, *Mamma Mia!*, *West Side Story*, *Jersey Boys*, *The Lion King* and many more.

And just in time for the Holidays, we have two Special Appearance performances - experience Christmas in Ireland with **Danu** and the **Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra** returns with Holiday Pops.

The Center's Club Series combines the best in regional and national jazz artists, cabaret performers, and singer-songwriters. All the Club series shows will take place in the intimate Dawes Studio Theatre - an ideal setting for a club atmosphere. The performers appearing this season are: **Rick Germanson Trio**, **Christina Trulio** with special guest **Kate Markowitz**, **Beckie Menzie** and **Tom Michael**, **Eric Jacobson Quintet** with a *Tribute to Clifford Brown*, **Kate Baldwin**, **Michelle Featherstone** and **Curt Hanrahan/Jay Mollerskov Project**.

To round out the season the Center has a number of exciting Matinee and Classical Series shows including: **Dukes of Dixieland**, **Wilson Center Big Band featuring Jenny Thiel**, **Jim Van Slyke - The Sedaka Show**, **Kate Baldwin**, **Chanteur**, **Fine Arts Quartet**, **Prometheus Trio** and **Frankly Music**.

The Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary cultural arts center that offers performances by regional and touring groups, arts education, and an art gallery with changing exhibits. The Center nurtures lifelong learning through innovative programs and classes for all interests, ages, and abilities in state-of-the-art studios and classrooms. Some of Southeast Wisconsin's finest arts organizations offer professional instruction at the Wilson Center, including **Danceworks, Inc.**, **First Stage Theater Academy**, and the **Wisconsin Conservatory of Music**. Wisconsin fine artists are showcased at the **Hidden River Art Festival**, September 17-19, and in the **Ploch Art Gallery** with five exhibitions each year. **The Wilson Center for the Arts** is just minutes west of Milwaukee, nestled in **Brookfield's Mitchell Park** south of 198th & Capitol Drive. For information about the Wilson Center call **(262) 781-9470**.

2011–12 Wilson Center Performing Arts Series
Subscription prices: 7 shows for \$350-\$175; 4 shows for \$200-\$100

Rosanne Cash

The List | Saturday, September 24, 2011, 8:00 pm

Singer-songwriter Rosanne Cash is the eldest child of the legendary Johnny Cash. Rosanne has recorded fourteen albums which include 21 Top 40 country singles. Her latest album, *The List*, won *Album of the Year* at the 2010 Americana Music Honors and Awards. *The List* is a collection of 12 classic songs selected from a “list of 100 essential country songs” her father Johnny Cash gave her when she was a teenager.

The Miles Davis Experience: 1949–1959 | Saturday, October 8, 2011, 8:00 pm

A collaboration with Blue Note records featuring the Ambrose Akinmusire Quintet

A new immersive musical production, *The Miles Davis Experience* recaptures the sound and the historical and cultural context of this critical period of American history through the lens of jazz music and its most iconic innovator, Miles Davis. The Ambrose Akinmusire Quintet will stay close to Davis' sound and feel, culminating in his masterpiece and commercial breakout *Kind of Blue*. Historical images of performances, recording sessions, and candid photos of Miles will be used as integral backdrops at the concert.

Dailey & Vincent | Saturday, October 29, 2011, 8:00 pm

Jamie Dailey and Darrin Vincent have become the most heralded new act in bluegrass, as their debut album *Dailey & Vincent* in 2008 will attest. That same year, the group took home seven awards at the International Bluegrass Music Awards Show, including *Entertainer of the Year* and *Album of the Year*, which continued for three consecutive years. Today, the accolades continue with seven 2011 Bluegrass Music Awards and a 2011 GRAMMY® Award nomination for *Best Country Performance by a Duo or Group*. Dailey & Vincent have found the closest thing to brotherhood—a true musical partnership.

Paula Cole | Friday, November 18, 2011, 8:00 pm

Singer-songwriter Paula Cole just released her fifth album, *Ithaca*—a welcome return by one of pop's most compelling vocalists, who has enthralled audiences with her soaring, agile soprano. In 1996, Cole's self-produced *This Fire* spawned the smash hits "Where Have All the Cowboys Gone?" and "I Don't Want to Wait". *Ithaca* is a touching tour-de-force of emotions showcasing Cole's sharp and poignant songwriting and her moving voice. The album represents the difficult yet healing journey we all go through to try to find the beautiful things in life.

Ailey II | Saturday, February 11, 2012, 8:00 pm

Ailey II is an exceptional company that merges the spirit and energy of the country's best young dance talent with the passion and creative vision of today's most outstanding emerging choreographers. Started in 1974 as the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, Ailey II embodies Mr. Ailey's pioneering mission to establish an extended cultural community that provides dance performances, training, and community programs for all people. Today, it has become one of the most popular dance companies in the United States.

The King's Singers | Friday, March 16, 2012, 8:00 pm

Championing the work of young and established composers, The King's Singers remain consummate entertainers—a class-act with a delightfully British wit. From traditional spirituals and Americana music, to Billy Joel and Michael Bublé, they are instantly recognizable for their spot-on intonation, impeccable vocal blend, flawless articulation, and incisive timing.

Broadway Today! | Saturday, MAY 19, 2012, 8:00 pm

For the first time, relive all the top Broadway show tunes in one crowd-pleasing performance. *Broadway Today!* allows audiences to experience the music, laughs, and thrills performed by some of the leading talent in New York today. Featuring Broadway veterans Lisa Howard, Julia Murney, Jason Graae, and David Burnham, these remarkable artists perform the hits from such recent and current productions as *Wicked*, *South Pacific*, *Mamma Mia!*, *West Side Story*, *Jersey Boys*, and *The Lion King*.

2011-12 Wilson Center Special Appearance
Tickets \$50–\$25 with subscription purchase

Danú *Christmas in Ireland: An Nollaig in Éirín* | Saturday, December 10, 2011, 8:00 pm
Hailing from historic County Waterford, Danú is one of the leading traditional Irish ensembles of today. Their standing room only concerts throughout Ireland are true events featuring high-energy performances and a glorious mix of ancient Irish music and new repertoire. For over a decade, Danú has taken its audiences on a musical journey to their native Ireland, offering a moving and memorable concert experience. In their previous appearance at the Wilson Center, Danú sold out two St. Patrick's Day performances.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra *Holiday Pops* | Sunday, December 11, 2011, 2:00 pm
Join Wisconsin's largest arts organization and only full-time orchestra as they perform holiday favorites, beloved carols, and a holiday sing-a-long to festive Yuletide tunes in a Sunday matinee setting at the Wilson Center.

2011–12 Wilson Center Classical Series
Subscription prices: 3 shows \$66

Fine Arts Quartet | Sunday, October 16, 2011, 2:00 pm
Celebrating its 65th anniversary, The Fine Arts Quartet is one of the most distinguished ensembles in chamber music today. Founded in Chicago in 1946, and based at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee since 1963, the Quartet is one of the few chamber ensembles to have recorded and toured internationally for over half a century, with concerts in such musical centers as New York, London, Paris, Berlin, Rome, Madrid, Moscow, Tokyo, Beijing, Istanbul, Jerusalem, Mexico City, and Toronto.

Prometheus Trio | Sunday, January 29, 2012, 2:00 pm
Comprised of Timothy Klabunde on violin, Stefanie Jacob on piano, and Scott Tisdell on cello, this resident trio from The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music is celebrating their 11th anniversary season. They continue a tradition of presenting masterworks by composers including Beethoven, Schumann, and Mozart, along with lesser known, but equally masterful, works by Alfred Schnittke, Bohuslav Martinů, and Maurice Ravel.

Frankly Music *A Night of Tango* | Monday, May 21, 2012, 7:00 pm
Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra's concertmaster Frank Almond returns to the Wilson Center with chamber music featuring his informative and often humorous descriptions of composers and their works. Bayan virtuoso Stas Venglevski brings his brilliant artistry to the performance when he joins Frank on stage.

2011–12 Wilson Center Matinee Series
Subscription prices: 5 shows for \$90–\$70

Dukes of Dixieland | Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 1:00 pm
Blowing traditional jazz and Dixieland into the 21st Century, the Dukes of Dixieland weave strands of pop, gospel, and country with authentic New Orleans sounds. More than 37 years of tradition stand behind today's Dukes as they step forward with a sound that is durable and flexible, as jazz is meant to be. The Dukes of Dixieland—strong tradition, new ground, great sounds.

Wilson Center Big Band featuring Jenny Thiel | Wednesday, December 7, 2011, 1:00 pm
The holidays are important to celebrate, so following two years of sold out performances of their Christmas show, the Big Band returns with rising star, vocalist Jenny Thiel. In 2008, Jenny was voted Best Jazz Artist by the Shepherd Express. Holiday favorites such as "O Come All Ye Faithful", "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing", "The Christmas Song", "Silent Night", "Santa Baby", "Jingle Bells", and many more are on the menu for this musical holiday feast.

Jim Van Slyke *The Sedaka Show* | Wednesday, February 8, 2012, 1:00 pm
Jim Van Slyke has headlined celebrated appearances on concert stages around the globe. The critically acclaimed success of Jim's latest showcase, *The Sedaka Show*, has taken him to a new plateau in his career. Neil Sedaka himself has highly endorsed the tribute, and has joined Jim on stage in Hollywood, San Francisco, and New York.

Kate Baldwin | Wednesday, March 21, 2012, 1:00 pm

Shorewood native Kate Baldwin is clearly becoming one of Broadway's leading ladies. She has performed in *Finian's Rainbow* to critical acclaim, as well as productions such as *Wonderful Town*, *The Full Monty*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. In November 2010, she took part in a concert tribute to Stephen Sondheim with the New York Pops.

Chanteur | Wednesday, May 2, 2012, 1:00 pm

Award-winning recording artist Lee Lessack performs his newest concert, *Chanteur*. *Chanteur* is an homage to the Great French Songbook—from an American perspective: from Johnny Mercer to Jacques Brel, from the Broadway stage to the streets of Paris, from Frank Sinatra to Aznavour, from Leonard Cohen to Michel Legrand, from the Great White Way to the Champs-Élysées!

2011–12 Wilson Center Club Series
Subscription price: 7 shows for \$175

Rick Germanson Trio | Friday, September 30, 2011, 8:00 pm

Rick Germanson has been a highly in-demand pianist on the New York City jazz scene for over a decade now. His recent accomplishments have garnered much adoration from the media and led him to be chosen as *Best of New Talent* in 2004 by All About Jazz NYC.

Christina Trulio Trio with special guest Kate Markowitz | Friday, November 4, 2011, 8:00 pm

Platinum selling singer-songwriter Christina Trulio brings a deceptively simple sophistication and emotional intimacy to the stage using folk, jazz, and country influences to tell her stories. Kate Markowitz, best known as long-time back-up vocalist to James Taylor, will accompany Christina with a unique, accessible style.

Beckie Menzie & Tom Michael

Home for the Holidays | Friday, December 2, 2011, 8:00 pm

One of cabaret's most engaging duos, Beckie Menzie and Tom Michael offer an imaginative musical twist on jazz favorites, standards, contemporary pop, Broadway show tunes, and film gems.

Eric Jacobson Quintet *Tribute to Clifford Brown* | Friday, January 27, 2012, 8:00 pm

Jazz trumpeter Eric Jacobson is currently on faculty at The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and teaches regularly at the Wilson Center. Eric freelances in Milwaukee and Chicago, playing in groups such as The Luis Diaz Quintet, Nabori, and De La Buena. Performing with Eric in *Tribute to Clifford Brown* are Dave Bayles on drums, Charles Ledvina on bass, Mark Davis on piano, and Mark O'Connor on saxophone.

Kate Baldwin | Friday, March 23, 2012, 8:00 pm

Shorewood native Kate Baldwin is clearly becoming one of Broadway's leading ladies, performing in such renowned venues as Feinstein's at the Regency. She will bring her signature soprano voice and star power to the intimate Dawes Studio Theater for this cabaret performance.

Michelle Featherstone | Friday, April 20, 2012, 8:00 pm

Michelle Featherstone's music has been featured on every major U.S. network and has served to enhance the drama on such shows as *Grey's Anatomy*, *Las Vegas*, and *One Tree Hill*, as well as MTV's *The Hills* and *The City*. Michelle will perform songs from her debut album *Fallen Down* and the newly-released *Blue Bike*.

Curt Hanrahan / Jay Mollerskov Project | Friday, May 18, 2012, 8:00 pm

Saxophonist Curt Hanrahan performs regularly throughout Milwaukee with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Skylight Opera Theater, and the Wilson Center Big Band. He has also worked with such artists as Tony Bennett, Rosemary Clooney, the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, and Harry Connick, Jr. Racine native Jay Mollerskov has been composing and playing jazz guitar since the early 90s. He has performed with a wide variety of musicians in Chicago and Milwaukee.

Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts 2011-12 Season-at-a Glance

Month/Dates	Series	Performance/Artist	
24-Jun	6:30pm	Starry Nights	Madisalsa
1-Jul	6:30pm	Starry Nights	Cream City Concert Band
8-Jul	6:30pm	Starry Nights	Liam Ford Band
15-Jul	6:30pm	Starry Nights	Derek Byrne/Paddygrass
24-Jul	6:30pm	Starry Nights	Jenny Thiel
29-Jul	6:30pm	Starry Nights	Wilson Center Big Band
24-Sep	8:00pm	Performing Arts Series	Rosanne Cash
30-Sep	8:00pm	Club Series	Rick Germanson Trio
8-Oct	8:00pm	Performing Arts Series	The Miles Davis Experience
12-Oct	1:00pm	Matinee Series	Dukes of Dixieland
16-Oct	2:00pm	Classical Series	Fine Arts Quartet
29-Oct	8:00pm	Performing Arts Series	Dailey & Vincent
4-Nov	8:00pm	Club Series	Christina Trulio/Kate Markowitz
18-Nov	8:00pm	Performing Arts Series	Paula Cole
2-Dec	8:00pm	Club Series	Beckie Menzie/Tom Michael
7-Dec	1:00pm	Matinee Series	Wilson Center Big Band
10-Dec	8:00pm	Special Appearance	Danu
11-Dec	2:00pm	Special Appearance	Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
27-Jan	8:00pm	Club Series	Eric Jacobson Quintet
29-Jan	2:00pm	Classical Series	Prometheus Trio
8-Feb	1:00pm	Matinee Series	Jim Van Slyke
11-Feb	8:00pm	Performing Arts Series	Ailey II
16-Mar	8:00pm	Performing Arts Series	The King's Singers
21-Mar	1:00pm	Matinee Series	Kate Baldwin
23-Mar	8:00pm	Club Series	Kate Baldwin
20-Apr	8:00pm	Club Series	Michelle Featherstone
2-May	1:00pm	Matinee Series	Chanteur
18-May	8:00pm	Club Series	Curt Hanrahan/Jay Mollerskov
19-May	8:00pm	Performing Arts Series	Broadway Today!
21-May	7:00pm	Classical Series	Frankly Music

*Does not include Ploch Art Gallery, Special Events, or Festivals

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