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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



### Rialto Square Theatre Announces 2011-12 Season Broadway Musicals, Concerts, Comedy & Family Entertainment Scheduled

**TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY 6/17 9AM!**

Joliet, IL- The Rialto Square Theatre announces a thrilling 2011-12 season filled with many shows for the entire family to enjoy. The variety of shows the Rialto offers is sure to entertain everyone! Scheduled performances include Broadway musicals, family entertainment, comedy and concerts by first class musicians and bands. **Tickets go on sale Fri., June 17 at 9am!** Tickets may be purchased at the Rialto Box office located at 102 N. Chicago Street, or ordered by calling 815/726-6600 between 9am and 5pm Monday through Friday. On performance days the box office remains open until the completion of intermission. Tickets may also be purchased through all Ticketmaster outlets or online at [www.rialtosquare.com](http://www.rialtosquare.com).

See below for a complete schedule of events and pricing: (More shows to be added. Please keep checking [www.rialtosquare.com](http://www.rialtosquare.com) for updates)

### 2011-12 Season

#### Ralphie May

Tickets: \$29.50

Friday, September 30

8:00PM

Ralphie's popularity exploded from the success of NBC's hit show, "**Last Comic Standing**" making him one of the biggest comedians in the country. Ralphie May's comedy special, **RALPHIE MAY: AUSTIN-TATIOUS** was released on DVD and CD in May 2009. In 2008, May was named one of Variety's "**10 Comics to Watch**" His 2007 one-hour comedy special, **PRIME CUT** aired to higher ratings than Larry the Cable Guy or Ron White during Comedy Central's "Blue Collar Weekend."

#### Vince Gill

Tickets: AAA \$95; AA \$75; A \$65; B \$50; C \$45

Friday, November 4

8:00PM

Vince Gill has sold more than 26 million albums. He has earned 18 CMA Awards, including Entertainer of the Year in 1993 and 1994. He is tied with George Strait for having won the most CMA Male Vocalist Awards (five), and is currently second only to Brooks and Dunn for

accumulating the most CMA Awards in history. Gill is a member of the Grand Ole Opry, and has received 19 Grammy Awards to date, the most of any male Country artist. One of the most popular singers in modern country music, Gill has a love for country music, top-notch song writing and world-class guitar playing, all wrapped in a warm tenor voice and a quick and easy wit.

**Vox Lumiere- The Phantom of Opera**

*Saturday, November 5*

*Tickets: AAA \$65; AA \$55; A \$45; B \$35; C \$25*

*8:00PM*

- \* Five 1st-round Grammy Nominations
- \* Two 21st Century Filmmaker Awards
- \* Nationally Televised PBS Special

Vox Lumiere-The Phantom of the Opera is the next evolution in entertainment where rock concert comes together with classic silent film for a spellbinding live performance of modern theatrical magic. Vox Lumiere - The Phantom of the Opera the same love affair... a whole new seduction Return to the world's most famous opera house, as Vox Lumiere dares to unmask the secrets of The Phantom. Ambition, murder and the seductive allure of a dangerous secret come to life in this stirring new production The Los Angeles Times calls "*Absolutely riveting!*"

**\*\*The Christmas Music of Mannheim Steamroller By Chip Davis** *Friday, November 11*

*8:00PM*

With 20 million Christmas records sold, **Mannheim Steamroller** is right up there with eggnog and Rudolph. But the show is no quiet fireside moment. This sizzling performance mixes big sounds, brash confidence, spectacular ingenuity, lavish multi-media images, synchronized lighting and special effects. Settle into the joy of the holiday season, the luxurious lull just before Christmas, and let **The Christmas Music of Mannheim Steamroller by Chip Davis** extend your Christmas into a whole other dimension.

**The Midtown Men**

**4 Stars From The Original Cast of Jersey Boys!**

*Sunday, November 13*

*Tickets: AAA \$65, AA \$55; A \$49; B \$38; C \$28*

*3:00PM*

They took Broadway by storm in one of the biggest hits of all-time! Now they are together again, taking their sensational sound on the road. Audiences from coast-to-coast are raving about this one-of-a-kind concert experience celebrating the music of the 1960's with classic songs by The Beatles, Beach Boys, Motown, The Four Seasons and more!

**ComEd Festival of Trees Opening Night Gala**

*Monday, November 21*

*Tickets: \$50*

*5:30PM-10PM*

Be the first to walk through the doors and view over sixty Christmas trees and wreaths designed by the area's finest decorators. Enjoy an evening draped in beauty and holiday splendor as you savor hors d'oeuvres and desserts from the area's finest restaurants and caterers. Business/Cocktail attire

**ComEd Festival of Trees Holiday Lunch Break**

*Tuesday, November 22*

*Tickets: Advance Tickets \$12; Day of Lunch \$15*

*11AM-2PM*

Gather your friends and family together for a lunch time treat and take a break from the hustle and bustle. Whether you're working or off preparing for the holidays, this is a great opportunity to grab a tasty bite to eat in the warmth of the Festival of Trees. Price includes Festival of Tree admission, boxed lunch and a soft drink.

**ComEd Festival of Trees Festival of the Vine- Wine Tasting**

*In Partnership with Joliet Junior College Hospitality Management Program*

*Tuesday, November 22*

*Tickets: Advance \$30; Evening of \$35*

*6PM-9PM*

Come sip the best of the vine at our wine tasting in the elegance and festive surroundings of the Festival of Trees as you sample many different styles of wine. Each tasting station will include a sommelier from the JJC hospitality management program to describe the flavors and augment your tasting experience. You can also stop by our holiday demonstrations going on throughout the evening for some wine and decorating tips. You will be able to view over 60 decorated trees and wreaths and leave with some new ideas for your own holiday decorating.

Unlimited tastings will be served. 21 or older event.

The night will also include light appetizers and cash bar.

**Joliet Area Community Hospice Lights of Love**

*Wednesday, November 23*

*5PM-7PM*

*Tickets: Complimentary through Hospice with \$10 purchase of memorial ornament*

The Festival of Trees will be shining even brighter as the Joliet Area Community Hospice holds their annual Lights of Love tree lighting ceremony. The Ceremony is a time to honor and/or remember family members and friends during this special holiday season.

**ComEd Festival of Trees Teddy Bear Tea**

*Friday, November 25*

*Tickets: Adults \$22.50; Children 12 and under \$17.50*

*9:30AM & 12PM*

Create a memory that will last forever and enjoy a special holiday brunch in a winter wonderland! Young and old alike will treasure this unique experience as you dine in the splendor of the Festival of Trees, complete with a special appearance from St. Nick himself. Children will be given a keepsake Teddy Bear to take home with them to remember this extraordinary day. So start your Christmas season off with a smile and bring your loved ones to the joyful and relaxing Teddy Bear Tea.

Each brunch has limited seating so get your tickets before they are gone!

Your ticket to Teddy Bear Tea gains you re-entry into the movies showing later that evening.

**ComEd Festival of Trees Rialto Idol**

*Saturday, November 26*

*Tickets: \$15*

*6:00PM*

This supreme singing contest will present 20 singing finalists and include a celebrity panel of judges. Come cheer for your favorite Rialto Idol contestant as your shout outs, applause and participation can help crown the Rialto Idol. Bring your excitement and bring your signs and posters to let the Idol competitors know you are rooting for them. Rialto Idol has found the best talent in the area! These performers would even put a smile on Simon's face. This IS Rialto Idol!

**Von Heidecke's Chicago Festival Ballet – The Nutcracker**

*Sunday, November 27*

*Tickets: AA, A \$38; B, C \$30; Children 12 & Under \$20.50*

*2:00PM*

The holiday tradition continues as The Nutcracker returns to the Rialto Square Theatre. This holiday favorite fairytale is perfect for the entire family. The magical production features lavish costumes, a growing Christmas tree, a battle between mice and soldiers, a journey through the land of whirling snowflakes and a joyous visit to the Kingdom of the Sugar Plum Fairy. Keep the holiday spirit alive and enjoy this breathtaking performance.

**Bing Crosby Christmas Spectacular**

*Thursday, December 8*

**A Musical Re-Creation**

*Tickets: AA, A \$55; B \$45; C \$25*

*3:00PM & 7:30PM*

Featuring a cast of 40 Performers!

Co-Starring:

Peter Marshall (host of Hollywood Squares) \* The Nelson Riddle Orchestra with Strings \*

The Broadway Singers \* The Holiday Choir and Ice Dancers \* Bob Mackie- Hollywood's Award Winning Wardrobe Design \* Bing Crosby Film- Clip Highlights \* Elaborate Holiday Themed Scenery

**Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood of "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"**

*Saturday, December 10*

*Tickets: AAA \$53; AA, A \$43; B \$33; C \$23*

*8:00PM*

Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood, stars of the Emmy nominated Whose Line Is It Anyway? have teamed up to present an evening of extraordinary improvisational comedy. Using their quick wit, Colin and Brad take contributions from the audience to create hilarious and original scenes - just like a live version of 'Whose Line!' Throughout the evening, the show becomes truly interactive as audience members are called to the stage to participate in the fun. Don't miss the most exciting comedy event of the year!

**It's A Wonderful Life- Live Radio Broadcast**

*Friday, December 16*

*Tickets: AA, A, B, C \$10*

*7:00PM*

*Sponsored by Star 96.7; 1340 WJOL; 98.3 WCCQ; 100.7 WRXQ*

Be taken back in time as NextMedia presents a live radio broadcast and theatre performance of It's A Wonderful Life. Tickets will benefit the Rialto Square Theatre's major endowment fund. Take the kids and grandkids to this multi-generational nostalgic performance. Experience first-hand how live radio broadcasts used to be made, while watching one of your favorite Christmas classics come to life on stage. The performance will be broadcast live on 1340 WJOL.

**Larry The Cable Guy**

*Saturday, December 17*

*Tickets: \$43.75*

*8:00PM*

With his signature catchphrase, "Git-R-Done", Larry the Cable Guy is selling out theatres and arenas across the United States. Larry's latest TV show *Only in America with Larry the Cable Guy* premiered in February on the History Channel. In each episode, Larry visits various sites across the country revealing bits of real history while immersing himself in new and different lifestyles, jobs and hobbies that celebrate the American experience. The result: an informative new approach to history that will be as memorable as it is quirky.

**Sesame Street Live- Elmo Makes Music**

*December 27- 7:00PM*

*December 28-10:30AM*

*December 28- 3:00PM*

*December 28- 7:00PM*

**Tickets: \$55 (Sunny Seats)**

**New Sunny Seats Package at all shows! Includes Front Row Seats and Pre-Show Meet & Greet with 2 Sesame Street Live Friends!**

**Sunny Seats Package only available at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) or calling 800-745-3000**

**AA \$30 (Gold Circle); A \$20; B \$16; C \$13**

**(Seating chart has been modified from typical seating map)**

Jenny, an enthusiastic new music teacher, arrives on Sesame Street only to discover that her instruments are missing. Jenny's new Muppet friends quickly come to the rescue and discover 'instruments' they never knew existed...rubber duckies, trash can lids and even cookie jars. Elmo and friends teach children that everyone can make and enjoy beautiful music together

**\*\*Young Frankenstein**

Wednesday, January 11  
8:00PM

The classic Mel Brooks movie is ALIVE...and it's headed here! You'll have a monstrously good time at this spectacular new production, winner of the 2008 Outer Critics Circle Award and the Broadway.com Audience Award for BEST MUSICAL!

Don't miss the sensational cast delivering all your favorite moments from the classic film, plus brand-new show-stopping numbers for the stage, including "Transylvania Mania," "He Vas My Boyfriend" and "Puttin' on the Ritz."

This wickedly inspired re-imagining of the Frankenstein legend follows bright young Dr. Frankenstein (that's Fronkensteen) as he attempts to create a monster--but not without scary and hilarious complications. The brains behind the laughter is mad genius and three-time Tony(r) winner Mel Brooks himself--who wrote the music and lyrics and co-wrote the book- along with his record-breaking team from *The Producers*: five-time Tony-winning director and choreographer Susan Stroman and three-time Tony-winning writer, Thomas Meehan.

**Bridal Expo 2012 at the Rialto Square Theatre Featuring David Tutera, Wedding Expert and host of the reality TV Series, My Fair Wedding.**

Sunday, January 22

Tickets: VIP Seats AAA \$50 (includes Meet & Greet); AA, A \$40; B, C \$35  
Bridal Expo Only Tickets \$15

Bridal Expo 11:00 AM-2PM  
David Tutera – Up Close & Personal- 3PM

This is the **ONLY** Bridal Expo you will need to attend! Bridal Expo at the Rialto brings the area's BEST wedding professionals all under one roof where you will FIND new ideas; SAVE time and money and DISCOVER all your options. Even better, you can meet and talk with DAVID TUTERA, wedding planner to the stars and host of the reality TV Series, My Fair Wedding, on WEtv. Wedding expert David Tutera, will share tips on planning an unforgettable, personalized wedding, give a behind-the-scenes look at the most popular wedding show on TV and offer insider advice on the wedding planning industry. David will also answer questions from the audience. There is so much to see and do at Bridal Expo 2012 at the Rialto Square Theatre, you could literally plan your entire wedding in one day.

**The State Ballet Theatre of Russia**

**P. Tchaikovsky Swan Lake**

Wednesday, January 25

Tickets AA \$48; A \$38; B, C \$28 Children 12 & Under \$23

7:30PM

The State Ballet Theatre of Russia, from the city of Voronezh, bring the world's most beloved ballet to glorious life! This company of distinguished dancers has showcased the unparalleled art of Russian ballet to countries throughout the world.

**One Night of Queen- Performed by Gary Mullen and The Works**

Friday, March 16

Tickets: AAA \$65; AA, A \$45; B \$38; C \$28

8:00PM

The UK's hottest and most successful rock show "One Night Of Queen" celebrates the music of Freddie Mercury and Queen. One Night of Queen is a stunning live concert recreating and celebrating the music of Queen. Since winning ITV's "Stars In Their Eyes" Gary Mullen has been recognized world-wide as the closest thing to Freddie. His voice, persona, and portrayal sends a shiver down your spine and leaves your hairs standing on end. The band and production recreate the excitement and atmosphere of a live Queen concert to unmatched perfection.

**\*\*Cats**

*Monday, March 19  
8:00PM*

There's no better way to introduce your family to the wonders of live theater than with the magic, the mystery, the memory of CATS. What began as a musical about cats after Andrew Lloyd Webber picked up a book of poems in an airport bookshop has become one of the longest running shows in Broadway's history. Winner of seven Tony Awards including Best Musical, CATS features 20 of Andrew Lloyd Webber's timeless melodies, including the hit song, "Memory."

**\*\*Damn Yankees**

*Tuesday, April 3  
8:00PM*

Faust, fly balls, and devilishly good fun all meet at the home plate of the 7 Tony Award winning Broadway musical, DAMN YANKEES. This is the story of a 1950s middle-aged baseball fanatic who trades his soul to the Devil for a chance to lead his favorite team in the pennant race against The New York Yankees only to realize the true worth of the life (and wife) he's left behind. Filled with hit songs like "Whatever Lola Wants" and "You Gotta Have Heart", this show is a musical comedy home run!

**Organ Extravaganza XVI – Battle of the Big Bands**

*Saturday, April 28*

*Featuring the John Burnett Orchestra*

*Tickets: AA, A, B, C \$30*

*7:00PM*

Big band music will fill the stage once again as Organ Extravaganza XVI returns to the Rialto Square Theatre featuring the sounds of the John Burnett Orchestra and world renowned theatre organists. This year the Orchestra will present a battle of the big band music highlighting the famous songs of that era. Vocalist Freida Lee and our keyboard artists will bring the theatre alive with more of the wonderful sounds of big band and big band jazz music.

**Bobby Vinton**

*Saturday, May 5*

*Tickets: AAA \$69; AA, A \$52; B \$42; C \$32*

*8:00PM*

Treat yourself to a magical night with Bobby Vinton. A multi-talented musician, singer and actor, Bobby Vinton has sold more than 75 million albums during his career. "Blue Velvet," "Roses are Red" and "Mr. Lonely" are just a few of the songs that has Billboard Magazine calling him, the all-time most successful love singer of the "rock era." Also known as the "Total Entertainer," Vinton pulls out all the stops in this full-stage musical gala. It's a dazzling concert event that showcases one of music's most beloved artists.

**\*\* Indicates Shows May Only Be Purchased As Subscription Packages**