



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Musical theatre maven Amy Sue Hardy kicks-off 2007-2008
Thursday Night Recital Series** with songs from the 1920s and 1930s



The seventh season of the **Thursday Night Recital Series** gets off to a swinging start on Nov. 1 at 7:30 pm with an original program entitled *Amy Sue Hardy Sings Songs of the Prohibition and Depression Eras* featuring Southern Colorado's top musical theatre performer. In all five concerts will be presented in the *Louisa Performing Arts Center* at 21 Broadmoor Avenue on the campus of **The Colorado Springs School**.

Joining Amy Sue on the Louisa stage are pianist Ken Miller, Director of Entertainment at the Broadmoor Hotel, bassist Jay Hahn, and drummer Richard Clark. The program will also feature spoken reflection on the 1920s and 1930s.

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“The music is so magnificent from this time in America,” said Amy Sue. “And for me, this concert is a dream come true. I know we are in the 21st century, but my heart belongs to Cole Porter and George Gershwin – to Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, Billie Holiday, Judy Garland and Fats Waller.”

While Amy Sue captures the musical pulse of 1920s, also known as the Jazz Age and the 1930s, when the movie musical was first born, the evening will leave the audience with far more than tunes to tap their toe to. “I’ve been working with (Series Producer) David Sckolnik and (Colorado Springs School Theatre Director) Sandy Bray to take this far past a simple song recital,” said Amy Sue. “We’re going to bring these times back to life, using the music that defines these eras better than anything else could.

Sckolnik conceived the show with Amy Sue and Bray, a longtime theatre director and producer in the region, is co-writing and directing the production. Ken Miller is a musical treasure in the Pikes Peak region. After almost twenty years of bringing music to the Broadmoor’s Penrose Room restaurant, he assumed his present position in 2003 and has steadily transformed the entire entertainment program at the Hotel. Jay Hahn conducts and performs for the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center musicals and has had a 35-year professional career, 25 of those here in Colorado Springs. Richard Clark also can be heard at the FAC, is a graduate of Berklee College of Music in Boston and performs and writes music for numerous Colorado bands.

“With this much talent backing me, there is no doubt that I’ll be going ‘over the rainbow,’” said Amy Sue. Now a Colorado Springs resident, she previously had success living in Hollywood performing for Walt Disney Corporation while being a part of movie soundtracks such as *The Parent Trap*, *The Wedding Planner*, *102 Dalmatians*, and *Pokemon 2000* and touring with such artists as Britney Spears, Mandy Moore, and Christina Aguilera. Locally, she has been a featured performer for the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, the Colorado Festival of World Theatre and the Broadmoor Pops Orchestra under Ken Miller. A mainstay of the FAC’s Repertory theatre company, in 2006 the Denver Post nominated Amy Sue for Best Actress in a Musical for her portrayal of Mabel in the *Pirates of Penzance*. Her portrayal of Roxie Hart in *Chicago* for the REP earned her two honors, the Gazette’s Best Performance in a Musical Award and the Pikes Peak Arts Council’s Award for Best Actress.

This will mark the seventh season for the Thursday Night Recital Series, nominated and recipient of numerous community awards including Best Classical Musical Small Ensemble – *A Celebration of Debussy* (one of three nominees) and Best Classical Music Solo Performance – Judeth Shay Burns for *La Belle Epoque* (award-winner) at this past September’s Pike Peak Arts Council Awards (PPACS). Sponsors for this season’s series include **Springs Magazine**, **KCME-FM-887**, and **Pianos New & Used**. The Series is presented by The Colorado Springs School, a Preschool through 12th Grade day school that combines a rigorous college preparatory curriculum with experience-based teaching to create a passion for learning in students.

Tickets are \$15 and \$10 for students and senior citizens. Season tickets to all five concerts are \$60 and \$40 for students and senior citizens. To purchase or for additional information call 475-9747, ext. 510 or sallen@css.org.

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Thursday Night Recital Series 2007-2008 (additional concerts)
All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Louisa Performing Arts Center

January 10, 2008

Margaret Miller and Friends

Ms. Miller, viola; Paul Nagem, flute; Jeri Jorgensen, violin; Mark Arnest and Sara McDaniel, piano
Music by Bax, Devienne, Delius and Martinu

February 7, 2008

Le Duo Francois

CSU-Fort Collins Faculty Ronald Francois, violin and Silvana Santinelli, piano
Music by Beethoven, Ysaye and Frank

April 3, 2008

A Celebration of Aaron Copland

The ProMusica of the Rockies

Paul Nagem, flute; Mark Arnest, Gregory Adams and Joan Sawyer, piano; Jeri Jorgensen, violin, Peter Tuff, baritone; Chamber Ensemble from the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony and David Sckolnik, stage performer

June 12, 2008

Desperate Musical Housewives II!

(co-presented by the *Colorado College Summer Festival of the Arts*)

Victoria Hanson and Michele Hammerton, sopranos; . Chee-Hwa Tan and Mary Beth Shaffer, piano;
Jeri Jorgensen, violin; Jennie Yopp and Nancy Snustad cellos; and Donna Yonce, flute
Music by Kosins, Ginastera, Gershwin, Cole Porter, Menotti and Clara Schumann

CALENDAR

- Who: Musical theatre actress and vocalist **Amy Sue Hardy**, pianist **Ken Miller**, bassist **Jay Hahn** and drummer **Richard Clark**
- What: ***Amy Sue Hardy Sings Songs of the Prohibition and Depression Eras*** - first of five concerts in the **Thursday Night Recital Series 2007-2008**
- When: Thursday, Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m.
- Where: Louisa Performing Arts Center at The Colorado Springs School, 21 Broadmoor Avenue.
- Tickets: \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and senior citizens;
Season ticket for all five concerts: \$60 for adults, \$40 for students and seniors citizens
Tickets available at the concert, at 475-9747, ext, 510 or sallen@css.org

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