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The O'Jays, The Four Tops & The Stylistics Come Together for Special Night at the Mann

R&B Legends Play Motown, Jazz Hits of '50s, '60s & '70s Tickets On Sale Now

PHILADELPHIA (August 2, 2011) – Join The O'Jays, The Four Tops and The Stylistics at the Mann Center for the Performing Arts on Wednesday evening, August 24 for a lineup of R&B hits from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. These iconic performers are joining forces for this one special night to celebrate America's greatest R&B, jazz, soul and Motown music – hits that transformed the music industry.

"These Motown hit makers will take us back in time to when Philadelphia soul and Motown music ruled the airways," said Catherine M. Cahill, President and CEO of the Mann. "We're thrilled to welcome these living legends to The Mann."

Since 1958, **The O'Jays** have produced 24 top 10 smashes and 59 total charted songs. Original band members Eddie Levert, Sr., and Walter Williams, Sr., joined by current member Eric Nolan Grant, are known for their energetic and dynamic live shows, Olympian vocals, and their social and political impact on generations and nations. After more than 40 years making such international hits as "Back Stabbers," "For The Love Of Money," "Darlin' Darlin' Baby," "Love Train," "I Love Music," "Use Ta Be My Girl" and "Have You Had Your Love Today," The O'Jays are still going strong and get even better with time.

The Four Tops made their first single in 1956 and spent seven years on the road, singing pop, blues, Broadway and four-part harmony jazz. Their first Motown hit, "Baby I Need Your Loving" in 1964, made them stars. Their songs, soulful and bittersweet, were across-the-board successes. "I Can't Help Myself (Sugar Pie, Honey Bunch)," a number one R&B and Pop smash in 1965, is one of Motown's longest-running chart toppers and was quickly followed by a longtime favorite, "It's The Same Old Song."

Joining these two groups is Philadelphia's own legendary soul group, **The Stylistics**. Formed in 1966, The Stylistics had 12 consecutive R&B top 10 ballad hits in the early 1970s including "You're a Big Girl Now," "Stop, Look, Listen (To Your Heart)", "You Are Everything", "Betcha by Golly, Wow", "I'm Stone in Love with You", "Break Up to Make Up", and "You Make Me Feel Brand New." Herbert Murrell and Airrion Love are the remaining original members of The Stylistics.

Tickets are available now at <u>www.manncenter.org</u> and range from \$29.50 to \$59.50. Showtime is 8 p.m. with doors opening at 6 p.m.

For more information on the Mann's 2011 season or to purchase tickets, please visit www.manncenter.org.

ABOUT THE MANN

Accessible, attractive, festive and fun, the Mann Center for the Performing Arts presents diverse, world-class entertainment in a casually elegant and relaxing setting at affordable prices. Concerts and programs encompass all musical genres from pop, jazz, R&B, rock and contemporary, to dance theater, opera and classical. The summer home of the Philadelphia Orchestra since the 1930s, the Mann is located in Philadelphia's beautiful Fairmount Park. More than 170,000 visitors annually enjoy its rich tradition as the Philadelphia region's premier outdoor cultural arts center. Dine under the stars in our tented restaurant or picnic on the lawn, overlooking the spectacular Philadelphia skyline.

For more information, visit <u>www.manncenter.org</u>.

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