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The Mann Center Presents an Evening with Tony Bennett

Celebrating 75 Years of Live Music in the Park: August 28 Promises an Evening of Timeless Classics with the Incomparable Master of Song

PHILADELPHIA – August 6, 2010 – The Mann Center for the Performing Arts proudly welcomes Tony Bennett for an evening of timeless classics under the stars Saturday, August 28. A true American icon, Tony Bennett continues to charm and beguile fans of all ages as he performs classic selections that tell the story of his career.

Tony Bennett

Frank Sinatra called Tony Bennett "the best singer in the business." He is not just the singer's singer, but an international treasure, honored by the United Nations with its Citizen of the World award. Bennett's interpretation of musical style attracts new generations of fans and has inspired performers such as Michael Bublé and Harry Connick, Jr.

With worldwide record sales in the millions and dozens of platinum and gold albums to his credit, Bennett has received 15 Grammy Awards including the prestigious Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. The MTV generation first embraced Bennett during his appearance with the Red Hot Chili Peppers on the 1993 MTV Video Awards. He appeared on *MTV Unplugged* and the resulting recording of the same name garnered him the top Grammy Award for Album of the Year. "Tony Bennett has not just bridged the generation gap," observed *The New York Times*, "he has demolished it. He has solidly connected with a younger crowd weaned on rock. And there have been no compromises." Bennett credits his eldest son and manager, Danny, for his success in capturing a whole new generation of listeners. His most recent CD release was the holiday recording, "Tony Bennett: A Swingin' Christmas Featuring the Count Basie Orchestra," that is destined to become a seasonal favorite. In 2009, he re-signed to Columbia Records,

continuing his status as the artist signed for the greatest period of time in the label's history.

Tony Bennett became a Kennedy Center Honoree in 2005 and was named an NEA Jazz Master in January of 2006 and was also named the recipient of *Billboard* magazine's elite Century Award, in honor of his outstanding contributions to music.

As the world's most boyish octogenarian, a vital musical artist at the peak of his powers, Tony Bennett is living proof that, to steal a line from Sinatra, fairy tales can come true if you're young at heart.

Tickets for this event are \$90 or \$75

This performance begins at 8:00 PM.

For detailed ticket information, call 215.893.1999, visit the Mann Center box office at 52nd and Parkside Avenue in Fairmount Park, or buy online: <u>www.manncenter.org</u>, <u>www.ticketphiladelphia.org</u> or <u>www.aeglive.com</u>.

Editor's Note: Photos of the artist are available at <u>http://www.manncenter.org/news/pressroom</u> and upon request.

ABOUT THE MANN CENTER

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. The venue underwent extensive renovations in 2007, enhancing the uniquely wonderful Mann Center experience for its 173,000 visitors annually.

The summer home of the Philadelphia Orchestra since the 1930's, The Mann Center for the Performing Arts, located in Philadelphia's beautiful Fairmount Park, continues its rich tradition as Delaware Valley's premiere outdoor cultural arts center. Concerts and programs encompass all musical genres from pop, jazz, r & b, rock and contemporary, to dance theater, opera and classical. Dine under the stars at Stephen Starr's Crescendo, our tented restaurant overlooking the spectacular Philadelphia skyline, or spread out a picnic blanket on the lush lawn of The Mann. There are several bars and concession stands for food and beverages as well as an Encore booth for concert keepsakes.

Reservations at Crescendo Restaurant: 267.886.1475.

Group Sales: 215.670.2309

TICKETS: 215.893.1999 or manncenter.org

2010 Summer Season at The Mann

8/07 Keane with Ingrid Michaelson & Fran Healy from Travis

8/11	Silk Road Ensemble with Yo-Yo Ma
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- 8/13 Herbie Hancock's The Imagine Project
- 8/15 MGMT with Violens
- 8/28 Tony Bennett
- 8/29 YO GABBA GABBA! LIVE! with special guest Biz Markie
- 9/15 CAKE
- 9/17 Pavement with special guest Kurt Vile
- 9/22 The New York Pops with Mark Nadler Fireworks
- 9/25 The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia with Fireworks
- ** For more shows and the most up to date listing of Mann events, visit <u>www.manncenter.org</u>
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