

RUTH ECKERD HALL

RICHARD B. BAUMGARDNER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

PRESS RELEASE

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FLAVOR OF JAZZ IV
STARRING THE RIPPINGTONS FEATURING RUSS FREEMAN
AND TASTINGS FROM THE BAY AREA'S FINEST EATERIES
RETURNS TO RUTH ECKERD HALL TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 AT 6 PM

**Proceeds to benefit The Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute Jazz Program and
Clearwater Jazz Holiday Educational Programs**

Tickets go on sale this Friday, June 26 at noon

June 23, 2009, Clearwater, FL – The Fourth Annual Flavor of Jazz, featuring tastings from more than 20 of the area's finest eateries including the Belleair Wine Bar & Grill, Café Ponte, Clear Sky Beachside Café, Costco Wholesale, Delectable Gourmet Gifts, Flamestone American Grill, The Melting Pot, LUNA-Hilton Carillon Park, Ward's Seafood, Tucson's Southwest Grill, SouthBeach Grill, The Lobster Pot, Backfin Blue Cafe, Caretta on the Gulf at the Sandpearl Resort and starring The Rippingtons featuring Russ Freeman returns to Ruth Eckerd Hall on Tuesday, October 6 at 6 pm. Tickets go on sale Friday, June 26 at noon with proceeds to benefit The Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute Jazz Program at Ruth Eckerd Hall along with the Clearwater Jazz Holiday Educational Programs. The Ruth Eckerd Hall/Clearwater Jazz Holiday Youth Jazz Band will open the show.

Local eateries will offer a wide variety of delicious food from fresh seafood to decadent desserts and everything in between as they listen to legendary smooth jazz artists' The Rippingtons featuring Russ Freeman.

For more than two decades, The Rippingtons featuring Russ Freeman have given smooth jazz some of its most classic melodies and amazing catalog of #1 Contemporary Jazz chart hits. They continue to be one of smooth jazz's most commercially successful bands with hit albums such as *Black Diamond*, *Topaz* and *Life in the Tropics*.

All tickets include admission to the concert and to tastings from local eateries. Reserved tickets priced at \$48.00 and a limited number of VIP tickets priced at \$93.00 (which includes a premium seat, early admission at 5pm, complimentary beer & wine during the tasting and a meet & greet with members of The Rippingtons (featuring Russ Freeman) will be available at the Ruth Eckerd Hall Ticket Office located at 1111 McMullen Booth Road in Clearwater, by calling 727.791.7400 or by logging onto www.rutherfordhall.com. The Ruth Eckerd Hall Ticket Office is open Monday through Saturday, from noon to 6 pm and one hour prior to showtime.

Designed by the prestigious Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, Ruth Eckerd Hall is known for its 2,180-seat, acoustically perfect auditorium. Artists from America and around the world, ranging from classical, rock, opera, Broadway, jazz, pop and more are included in the stellar lineup of more than 200 performances a year. Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Ruth Eckerd Hall Foundation are 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations.

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