

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Note: Photos available at <http://mccallumtheatre.com/index.php/media>

The City of Rancho Mirage Presents  
**Palm Springs Legends V**  
**McCallum Theatre**  
**Wednesday – January 15 – 8:00pm**

Palm Desert, CA – The McCallum Theatre and the City of Rancho Mirage present “Palm Springs Legends V” on Wednesday, January 15, at 8:00pm. This show is back by popular demand, as the legendary stars who made Palm Springs *the* place to be all gather on the McCallum Theatre stage. Yes, they’re tribute artists, but they sure do seem like the real thing—and they’re backed by a swingin’ 13-piece band.

**Lynn Roberts as Jack Benny**

Impersonator, singer, multi-instrumentalist and band leader Lynn “Win” Roberts has been performing professionally since the age of 14. He majored in music at the University of Nebraska and went on to perform with many name bands, including Russ Carlyle, Wayne King, Ted Weems, Guy Lombardo, Jimmy Dorsey and Peter Palmer. In 1964, Lynn started developing his musical variety act—playing more than a dozen instruments and singing. He would hear from time to time that he sounded or looked like certain stars, so that lead to impersonations. Lynn’s favorites include Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Red Skelton, Jimmy Durante, W.C. Fields, and Frank Fontaine as Crazy Guggenheim. His TV appearances include *PM Magazine*, *The Gong Show*, *The John Davidson Show*, *America’s Funniest People*, *30 Seconds to Fame*, and many local and regional shows.

**Peter Salzer as George Burns**

Peter Salzer, a resident of Delray Beach, Fla., returned to acting after a successful career as a sales and marketing executive for major technology corporations, and for the past 25 years, he has performed in television, film and commercials. As a voice actor, he has been heard in a variety of commercials and industrial programs. When Salzer walks onstage, audiences see George Burns come back to life. About two decades ago, Peter parlayed a part as George Burns in a musical into a George Burns tribute act which he has performed around the country. Peter received the 2016 Sunburst Convention Sunny Award for his performance as George Burns. Salzer’s TV and film credits include *Lullaby*, *Doubt* and *The Sopranos*.

**Nicky Ciampoli as Carol Channing**

Nicky is a native of Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla., and became active in music and theater while still in grade school. Nicky was a proficient pianist and had routines by high school graduation, including one where Nicky impersonated Liberace. Nicky was able to meet the late Carol Channing and build a personal and professional relationship with the

Broadway legend. This is a special evening for Nicky, as it marks the one-year anniversary of Channing's passing. Nicky is well-known for the spot-on impersonation of Channing. He had a head start in adopting her persona and knowing her mannerisms—because for several years, Nicky was Ms. Channing's personal assistant and lived with her. Nicky has used shows as Channing to attract audiences to many charity events and worthy causes, both in Palm Springs and nationwide, including the Desert AIDS Project, La Quinta Hearts for the Arts, Angel View, and Toys for Tots.

### **Art Vargas as Bobby Darin**

Art Vargas, a native of Detroit, Mich., began his career as a young entertainer in nightclubs and television. Vargas' popularity on the Las Vegas Strip began more than 25 years ago when he joined the cast of the original *Legends in Concert* show and performed a lead role as Bobby Darin. With old-school style and class, Vargas has performed across the United States and abroad. His swinging band and live show are reminiscent of the golden age of vintage Vegas. Vargas' dynamic Bobby Darin tribute has been hailed as the best there is, and has been honored and approved by Bobby's conductor Bob Rozario, as well old showbiz friends such as Tony Orlando and Dick Clark. Vargas' passion for the music and legendary performers of the 1950s and 1960s, along with his commanding stage presence, bring the excitement, charm, and personality of Bobby Darin to life on stage.

### **Bill Johnson as Bob Hope**

With a career spanning more than 30 years, Bill has forged his niche on stage, screen, and television as a dependable character actor. Bill's tribute to Bob Hope was showcased in New Orleans at "Experience the Victory," the grand opening of the National WWII Museum's expansion project. Bill also appeared recently in the WWII Museum's "Thanks for the Memories: Bob Hope and His All-Star Pacific Tour." Additional highlights include the National Infantry Museum's fundraiser "A Tribute to Vietnam Veterans" at Ft. Benning. Bill has appeared around the world as Bob Hope for the USO in locations such as the USO Ft. Hood (appearing with Wayne Newton), USO Puget Sound Area in Seattle, USO Guam, and USO Tokyo. Other appearances include tribute shows for Honor Flight South Carolina, the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, the U.S. Army Ball, and the annual 1940s Ball in Boulder, Colo. As an actor, Bill has appeared on *CSI*, *High Roller: The Stu Unger Story*, *Ocean's 11*, *Scare Tactics*, *True Beauty*, *Larry the Cable Guy's Christmas Spectacular*, and *Three Days to Vegas* starring Peter Falk.

### **Mary Lou Metzger as Mary Martin**

As effervescent and bubbly as champagne music itself, Mary Lou Metzger was the "pet" of Lawrence Welk's musical family—and was Welk's favorite dancing partner. Mary Lou was born in Pittsburgh; her family soon moved to Philadelphia. Music early became a part of her life, thanks to her pianist mother, and her violinist dad, an oil executive. She majored in music and drama for two years at Temple University. In March 1970, she auditioned at Temple for Arthur Godfrey's *All American College Show*, and passed with honors, but was told to wait two months, because the show was completely booked until then. Three days later, a rush call notified her a hole in the show had occurred, and she

flew out to Los Angeles to fill in. A family friend—a former schoolmate of Myron Floren, Welk’s assistant band conductor—suggested she try to audition for Lawrence Welk while there, and wired Floren to try to introduce her to the maestro. The rest, as they say, is history. Mary Lou appeared in the film *Cycad*, with Gary Merrill and Sammy Davis, Jr., and onstage with the national company of *Music Man*.

### **Raymond Michael as Elvis Presley**

When Raymond Michael was a freshman operatic voice major and football player at California Lutheran University, he was asked to represent the football team on a panel during a campus hypnotist show. The hypnotist asked Raymond to perform as Elvis; he did; he received a standing ovation; and he has been performing as Elvis ever since. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of Elvis Presley; he embarked on a tour, performing in the same venues Presley did during his last concert tour. Raymond has performed at numerous theme parks; in main showrooms in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe and Reno; and on numerous TV shows and concert tours. He was featured in the "Where's Your Moustache?" milk print advertisement. He owns more than 30 jumpsuits that are exact replicas of Elvis Presley's, most of them made by Gene Doucette, the man who designed all of Elvis' jumpsuits.

### **Dave Dean as Andy Williams**

Dave Dean was born in Hertfordshire, in Southern England, and music has always been a big part of his life. He cites a wide variety of legends, ranging from The Beatles to Bruno Mars and Michael Bublé, and from Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder to Ed Sheeran. In 2000, Dave made his first appearance as the legendary Andy Williams on British TV show *Stars in Their Eyes*. A year later, the network invited him back to appear again as Andy Williams, singing “Let It Snow,” for a Christmas special. Ever since, Dave has continued to perform his “Andy Williams Show,” a tribute to the TV series of the same name—and all of the classic hits performed on the show. Before Williams’ death in 2012, he congratulated Dave on his uncanny portrayal and sound-alike voice.

*Artists subject to change.*

Tickets for this performance are priced at \$90, \$70 and \$40; Rancho Mirage residents get \$5 off each ticket (with ID). Tickets are available at the Theatre’s website at [www.mccallumtheatre.com](http://www.mccallumtheatre.com) or by calling the McCallum Theatre Box Office at (760) 340-2787. The McCallum Theatre, located at 73000 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert CA 92260, accepts payment by cash, personal check, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express.

*The McCallum Theatre Box Office, its phone center and website, are the **only** authorized outlets for tickets to performances presented at the Theatre. Tickets purchased from any other sources, such as brokers or secondary market websites, are purchased at consumer’s own risk and cannot be guaranteed as valid.*

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