

For immediate release

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**The Community Theatre of Greensboro (CTG) presents
TRIAD IDOL 2009 Final Event on May 31**

Competition is a talent-finder and a fundraiser for CTG

Talent search yields 42 finalists from 12 counties and will culminate with the crowning of three "Triad Idols" on May 31 at the Carolina Theatre in Greensboro

Greensboro, NC, May 19, 2009 – The TRIAD IDOL 2009 semi-final events were held May 15-16, and culminated with 14 finalists moving forward in each of three age groups. A total of 42 finalists will be vying for the 2009 TRIAD IDOL crowns at 3 pm on Sunday, May 31, at the Carolina Theatre in downtown Greensboro:

- Fourteen contestants ages 8-12 will compete;
- Fourteen contestants ages 13-18 will compete; and
- Fourteen contestants ages 19 and older (no upper age limit) will compete.

The Community Theatre of Greensboro will announce the TRIAD IDOL and two runners-up in each age group at the conclusion of the Final Event on May 31.

Thirty-two of the 2009 TRIAD IDOL finalists live in Guilford, Forsyth, Randolph, Rockingham, Davidson, and Davie counties, while all but one of the others come from Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Johnston, and Pitt counties. One finalist is traveling from Dalton, Georgia. *(See the attached for a list of all finalists and their hometowns.)*

Some finalists have a great deal of performance experience, while others have never before sung in public. "All the finalists are incredibly talented," said Mitchel Sommers, CTG's Executive Director. "And they're each performing a musical genre – from R&B, gospel, and rock to pop, Broadway, and even opera – that best highlights their unique talents. We're confident that each finalist will give an amazing performance at the Final Event."

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Judges will be evaluating each finalist on singing ability, vocal style, and stage presence. In addition to the four onstage judges, whose critiques will account for 80% of each contestant's score, audience support will account for 20% of each contestant's score. Audience members may show their support for individual finalists by casting votes (\$1/vote) during the intermission following a contestant's performance.

The TRIAD IDOL in each age group will receive a prize package including \$1,000 cash; the opportunity to perform as the opening act at an upcoming CTG production; paid performance contracts with the Barn Dinner Theatre and Castle McCulloch's Christmas Castle; a professional headshot photograph from Mike Micciche Photography; and other prizes.

Tickets for the TRIAD IDOL Final Event may be purchased ahead of time by calling the Carolina Theatre Box Office at (336) 333-2605 or visiting www.carolinatheatre.com. Tickets may also be purchased at the door the day of the show. Tickets are \$10, or \$5 with a coupon that may be downloaded at www.triadidol.org. All tickets are subject to a \$1.50 Carolina Theatre Restoration Fee.

For more information on TRIAD IDOL, please visit www.triadidol.org or call the Community Theatre of Greensboro at (336) 333-7470, x204.

About the Community Theatre of Greensboro (www.ctgso.org)

Founded in 1949, the Community Theatre of Greensboro is the oldest arts organization in Guilford County. In these uncertain economic times – when other arts groups are struggling across the country – CTG is growing stronger by reaching out to a wider segment of our community and focusing on our mission: *Bringing our diverse community together to learn about, experience, and celebrate the joys of theatre.* CTG stages a variety of productions each season – from dramas to musicals to the annual production of *The Wizard of Oz* (now entering its 15th hit year). CTG believes that TRIAD IDOL fills an important need in our community: giving children, teens, and adults the opportunity to develop their performance skills through an exciting series of events.

(Finalist list attached)

2009 TRIAD IDOL Finalists

Kids (8-12)

Brandi Alden, 8, Cornelius
Ke' Avia Artis, 8, McLeansville
Jordan Beaver, 11, Shelby
Chloe Durham, 11, Concord
Zachary Graham, 9, Greensboro
Jacob Hammill, 12, Gold Hill
Abby Hayes, 11, Asheboro
CiCi Jansen, 12, Cornelius
Liston Kidd, 10, High Point
William Peterson, 9, Summerfield
Carissa Puppo, 9, Greensboro
Julia Solomon, 12, Greensboro
Logan Welborn, 9, Lewisville
Jacob Vaughan, 9, Reidsville

Teens (13-18)

Will Allen, 16, Kernersville
Adam Barrett, 13, Pfafftown
Dionna Daniel, 14, Rural Hall
Priscilla Gray, 16, Sophia
Jimmie "JJ" Jeter, 15, Rural Hall
Gray Kidd, 17, High Point
James Liebmann, 18, Greensboro
Andria Lowman, 18, Eden
Ashley Lowry, 15, Kernersville
Anna Belle Lusk, 15, Cornelius
Brenna Martin, 16, Dalton, Georgia
Curtis Moore-Tate, 16, Greensboro
Mackenzie Roberts, 16, Greenville
Clayton Stephenson, 14, Charlotte

Adults (19 and older)

Marielou Apilat, Kernersville
Jennifer Browne, Smithfield
Quinton Bynum, Greensboro
Ashley Davis, High Point
Marlon Gaskins, Lexington
Grady Kidd, High Point
Katelyn Marks, Winston-Salem
LaShawn Millner, Greensboro
Shantel Norman, Lexington
Justin Oliver, Jamestown
Bobby Pittman, Greensboro
Nicole Rapisardi, Advance
Chrissy Simpson, Greensboro
Nicole Stephens, High Point