

For immediate release

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**The Community Theatre of Greensboro (CTG) crowns
2009 Triad Idols in three age groups!**

*Winners, runners-up, and audience favorites live across the state—in Guilford,
Forsyth, Mecklenburg, Cleveland, Pitt, and Rockingham counties*

Greensboro, NC, May 31, 2009 – The three winners of TRIAD IDOL 2009 were announced this evening at the conclusion of the TRIAD IDOL Final Event, which was held at the Carolina Theatre in downtown Greensboro:

- **Jordan Beaver**, 11, of Shelby, was crowned the Triad Idol in the 8-12-year-old age group. She is a fifth-grader at Union Elementary School. Jordan sang, “*O Mio Babbino Caro*,” (“Oh my dear papa”) from Puccini’s opera, *Gianni Schicchi*.
- **Anna Belle Lusk**, 15, of Cornelius, was crowned the Triad Idol in the 13-18-year-old age group. She is a ninth-grade home-schooler. Anna Belle sang, “*Somewhere Over the Rainbow*,” from *The Wizard of Oz*.
- **Nicole Stephens** of High Point was crowned the Triad Idol in the 19-and-older age group. She works at Dental Works in Winston-Salem and worships and serves as choir director at Cornerstone of Faith Church. Nicole sang, “*I Believe in You and Me*.”

Each Triad Idol received a prize package including \$1,000 cash; a paid contract to perform at Castle McCulloch’s Christmas Castle; a paid contract to perform with the Barn Dinner Theatre; and a professional headshot photograph from Micciche Photography.

The runners-up and audience favorites included:

- **CiCi Jansen**, 12, of Cornelius: First runner-up (8-12-year-old age group)
- **Logan Welborn**, 9, of Lewisville: Second runner-up (8-12-year-old age group)
- **Julia Solomon**, 12, of Greensboro: Audience favorite (8-12-year-old age group)
- **Mackenzie Roberts**, 16, of Greenville: First runner-up (13-18-year-old age group)

- **Dionna Daniel**, 14, of Rural Hall: Second runner-up (13-18-year-old age group)
- **Andria Lowman**, 18, of Eden: Audience favorite (13-18-year-old age group)
- **Chrissy Simpson** of Greensboro: First runner-up (19-and-older age group)
- **LaShawn Millner** of Greensboro: Second runner-up (19-and-older age group)
- **Bobby Pittman** of Greensboro: Audience favorite (19-and-older age group)

A panel of highly qualified judges evaluated all 42 finalists on singing ability, vocal style, and stage presence. The audience served as the “fifth judge,” with audience support accounting for 20% of each contestant’s score.

“The judges – including our audience members – had the most difficult job today,” said Mitchel Sommers, Executive Director of the Community Theatre of Greensboro, which has presented TRIAD IDOL annually since 2005. “Without question, today’s finalists were the strongest group we’ve ever seen. In fact, every single one of them was talented enough to place in the competition. I really hope that we see all the winners, runners-up, audience favorites, and finalists at auditions for upcoming CTG shows and at TRIAD IDOL 2010.”

TRIAD IDOL is CTG’s annual talent-finder and fundraiser. For more information, visit www.triaidol.org.

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, 9, 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
Niccole Stephens, High Point