

**For immediate release**

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## **The Community Theatre of Greensboro Kicks Off TRIAD IDOL 2009**

*Triad-wide talent search will culminate with the crowning of "Triad Idols" in three age groups on May 31 at the Carolina Theatre in downtown Greensboro*

Greensboro, NC, April 15, 2009 – Building on the excitement of the first four seasons – when over 3,000 singers from the ages of 8 to 72 auditioned – the Community Theatre of Greensboro (CTG) is kicking off the fifth edition of TRIAD IDOL. Once again, the singing contest is open to people in three age groups: 8-12 years old, 13-18 years old, and 19 and older.

This year, preliminary auditions will be held in Greensboro (April 24-26 at Four Seasons Town Centre) and Winston-Salem (April 25-26 at Hanes Mall). Singers from across the region are invited to share their talents in this exciting contest.

"Who will be crowned the 2009 Triad Idols?" wondered CTG Executive Director Mitchel Sommers. "I've been amazed every year at the incredible talent we have in the Triad. Kids as young as 8...high school and college students...young working people...parents...and grandparents have simply wowed our judges and our audiences. Surprisingly, some of the most talented singers have never before performed anywhere but in the shower! With TRIAD IDOL, CTG gives these people a chance to share their gifts with a large and appreciative audience. In fact, many TRIAD IDOL contestants have gone on to perform in CTG main-stage productions and professional (paying) productions across the Triad."

After participating in TRIAD IDOL, some contestants have become more engaged in the arts as well as in the larger community. "Many contestants don't realize how vibrant the Triad arts scene is," Sommers explained. "After spending time with members of the CTG family – and visiting the Cultural Arts Center – they begin to take part in other arts-focused events."

In order to be crowned the 2009 Triad Idols, contestants will go through four rounds of auditions:

- Preliminaries: April 24-26, 2009
- Greensboro (Four Seasons Town Centre)
  - Friday, April 24: 5 - 8 pm
  - Saturday, April 25: 11 am - 4 pm
  - Sunday, April 26: 1 - 5 pm
- Winston-Salem (Hanes Mall):
  - Saturday, April 25: 11 am - 4 pm
  - Sunday, April 26: 1 - 5 pm
- Quarter-Finals: May 2-3, 2009, at the Greensboro Masonic Temple (426 West Market Street, Downtown Greensboro)
  - Saturday, May 2: 10 am - 1 pm
  - Sunday, May 3: 12 - 2pm
- Semi-Finals: May 16-17, 2009, at the Greensboro Masonic Temple (426 West Market Street, Downtown Greensboro)
  - Ages 8-12: Saturday, May 16, at 1:15 pm
  - Ages 13-18: Saturday, May 16, at 6:15 pm
  - Ages 19 and older: Sunday, May 17, at 1:15 pm
- Final Event: 3 pm, May 31, 2009, at the Carolina Theatre, 310 South Greene Street, Downtown Greensboro

The winner in each category will receive a prize package including \$1,000 cash; the opportunity to perform as the opening act at an upcoming CTG production; a paid contract to perform at Castle McCulloch's Christmas Castle; and gift certificates and prizes from local businesses. The 2008 Triad Idols—Gayle Brooks of Greensboro (who won in the 19-and-older category), Daniel Reed of Greensboro (who won in the 13-18-year-old category), and Callan Loflin of Denton (who won in the 8-12-year-old category)—enjoyed similar prize packages.

TRIAD IDOL information, registration forms, and contest rules may be downloaded at [www.triadidol.org](http://www.triadidol.org) or picked up at CTG's office at 200 North Davie Street, Greensboro.

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**About the Community Theatre of Greensboro ([www.ctgso.org](http://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.