Pre-performance cocktails & dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. $39.25++

The Fab Four — The Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles

Thursday, March 5, 2009 • 8 PM
$100 Donor • $115 Non-Donor

Sponsored by Gibraltar Private Bank & Trust

The Fab Four recreates the Beatles as no other group before them has! More than just a concert featuring former members of the Broadway show Beatlemania, this quartet is widely recognized as the best since the real thing, due to their precise attention to detail. With uncanny, note-for-note, live renditions of Beatles’ songs, the incredible stage show includes costume changes representing every era of the Beatles evolving career. This tribute has amazed audiences all over the world with record-perfect performances of such classics as Can’t Buy Me Love, Yesterday, Penny Lane, Here Comes The Sun, and Hey Jude.

Footloose the Musical

Wednesday, March 11, 2009 • 8PM
$115 Donor • $130 Non-Donor

Sponsored by Bank of America/U.S. Trust

One of the most explosive movie musicals in recent memory bursts onto the live stage with classic ’80s anthems and electrifying dance routines as city boy Ren stirs up life in a small farming town when he breaks local laws against dancing and reawakens a whole community. This tale celebrating the exuberance of youth plays out to the lively rhythm of its Oscar-nominated top 40 score, which reached number one on the Billboard charts and has sold over 15 million copies, plus additional new dynamic songs. Dancing is not a crime, to miss Footloose would be!

Vanities by Jack Heifner — The Long-running Off-Broadway Smash Hit Comedy!

Saturday, March 14, 2009 • 8PM
$100 Donor • $115 Non-Donor

Produced by Cynthia & Lou Mitchell and Kathleen & Brian Watt

Vanities is a laugh-out-loud comedy about the changing friendship of three small town women coming of age in the 1960s and ’70s. In 1963, Joanne, Kathy and Mary are aggressively vivacious cheerleaders. Five years later in their college sorority house, they confront their futures with nervous jauntiness. In 1974, they reunite in New York and find their lives have diverged. The compellingly hilarious results are deemed "a brilliant, clever play" and "unerringly funny" by the New York Post and Newsweek magazine, respectively.

Pre-performance cocktails & dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. $39.25++

For more information or reservations call 367-6300

Pre-performance cocktails & dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. $39.25++

Tempted by Motown

Photo by Carol Ellis

The Four Tops and the Temptations, both Motown-style sensations for 40 years, brought their smooth singing and energetic presentations to the Ocean Reef Cultural Center Feb. 21. Opening the show with “Baby, I Need Your Loving,” the Four Tops were dazzling in their blue sequined jackets and matching blue shirts, pants and shoes. The audience got up and danced to “I Can’t Help Myself (Sugar Pie Honey Bunch).” After intermission, the five Temptations wearing red outfits continued the fancy footwork and high energy moves with familiar pop tunes spanning four decades. Their song, “How Sweet It Is,” summed up the performance. Otis Williams, one of the original Temptations and his fellow singers posed with the show “Producers” (front row): Suzy Rice, Betty Topercer, Sally Weisleder, Dale Schuble, Mona Brewer, Christine Hoyt, Linda Blaylock and (back row): Lacy Rice, Bill Topercer, Brooke Weisleder, Dan Harding, Pam Harding, Angie Berman, Mike Berman, Harold Brewer, Robert Hoyt and Brad Blaylock.

Wounded Warriors Fund Donates Van to Disabled Marine, Seeks Help for Navy Medic

By Yurianna Mikolay
Ocean Reef Foundation Administrator

The Ocean Reef Foundation Wounded Warriors Fund recently donated a handicap accessible van to a second disabled veteran, 25 year old retired Marine John “J.T.” Doody of Tampa, through their partnership with the Operation Support Our Troops Wheels for Warriors program.

“I can’t even begin to tell you how much the van means to us,” says Doody’s mother, Christine Ott, who has moved with her husband to Tampa to care for her son fulltime. “It’s freedom, literally.”

Ott speaks on her son’s behalf because the extensive injuries he sustained in a sniper attack in Fallujah left him permanently blind and suffering from apraxia, a condition where he is fully conscious but unable to move.

Unfortunately, the family’s story is one Al Mast and Leonard Wood, co-founders of the Wounded Warriors Fund, are becoming all too familiar with as they work to fulfill the fund mission “to provide support for the men and women of the Armed Forces and their families with an emphasis on those who have been injured in the line of duty.”

Mast and Wood call on the community to join in their continuing effort to donate more “wheels for warriors.” After giving vans to disabled Army and Marine veterans, the pair is now seeking donations to provide a third van to a disabled Navy medic, PO2 Anthony Thompson, who suffered traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries in a suicide bombing in Iraq.

At present Anthony, his wife Ivonne and their toddler A.J. are waiting for the van that, in her words, will “allow our family to become more independent.” Once they get the van, Ivonne continues, “We will be able to go places as a family and we will be free to start living our new normal life.”

Contributions can be made through the Ocean Reef Foundation and must be specifically designated to benefit the Wounded Warriors Fund. For more information, please call the Foundation at 367-4707.