

M E D I A   R e l e a s e

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fContact: Sandy Hinden  
Phone: 631-656-3126  
E-mail: [shinden@ftc.edu](mailto:shinden@ftc.edu)  
Website: [www.DHPAC.org](http://www.DHPAC.org)  
[www.FTC.edu](http://www.FTC.edu)

The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center presents  
**An Evening of “Mostly Barbershop”**  
**A-Capella singing**

Five Towns College vocal ensembles will be joined by some of Long Islands top vocal choruses for an evening that will send you home whistling

**April 7, 2010, Dix Hills, NY –** The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center will present Mostly Barbershop: A Capella, directed by FTC professor Wayne Grimmer. The evening will feature the Five Towns College *A Capella* (unaccompanied vocal) ensembles, the Island Hills Chorus and the Long Island Sound chorus, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.



Lovers of Barbershop, Harmony and Doo Wop of all kinds should come hear some of Long Island’s most outstanding vocalists perform intricate four-part harmonies “a capella” – or ‘without the cover’ of instrumental accompaniment.

The student portion of the program, under the direction of FTC Professor Wayne Grimmer, will include the college’s Men’s and Women’s Ensemble Choruses comprised of Five Towns students. While many major in instrument performance, they will be performing here without the usual cover of instruments. The choirs will play a wide variety of music ranging from traditional to surprisingly contemporary pieces.

Professor Grimmer, who also directs the Long Island Sound Men’s Chorus, and will supplement its annual Five Towns performance, is himself a founding member of the noted Around Midnight Quartet, yet teaches students to play eight different instruments on the college level.

“Singing really gets musicians in touch with their souls,” said Grimmer. “Your eyes see the written music, your brain understands it, and your voice sings it. There’s no intermediary physical action as there is with an instrument.” He

explained that students majoring in instrumental performance are thus required to participate in one of the school's for-credit chorus programs, and that he often has instrumental students first sing a difficult passage to better comprehend it before attempting it on their chosen instrument.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the Island Hills Chorus, the Huntington contingent of Sweet Adeline's International, a global organization of more than 30,000 A Capella singers. The organization is named for the most famous barbershop quartet song, "You're the Flower of My Heart, Sweet Adeline," written in 1903 by Richard Gerard and Harry Armstong, and sung by barbershop quartets worldwide in four part A Capella harmony for more than a century. The Marx Brothers sang the song in the legendary 1931 film, Monkey Business, and, interestingly, alternative rock group Phish has been known to sing it on tour.

### **The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center**

*The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center is located at Five Towns College, 305 North Service Road, Dix Hills, New York, 11746-5857. For more information and ticket sales, please contact the Dix Hills Performing Arts Center box office at (631) 656-2148 or visit online at [www.DHPAC.org](http://www.DHPAC.org). Become a fan on Facebook! (Dix Hills Performing Arts Center).*

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