

MEDIA Release

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**The Dix Hills Center for the Performing Arts presents
a matinee concert with the three
Amazing Accordion Kings
Sept. 19 at 2 p.m.**

Angelo DiPippo, Frank Toscano and Manny Corallo, three renowned masters of the accordion, join forces to celebrate the instrument's depth and diversity

August 29, 2010, Dix Hills, New York -- The accordion is one of the music world's most versatile instruments. Its sound instantly conjures an ethnic celebration -- though the ethnicity could be Italian, Jewish, Polish, Gypsy, Brazilian, Argentinean, American or nearly any other.

What they hear in the accordion is a sweet song and its own portable chordal accompaniment. This makes accordion music much more accessible to the people, and has helped it travel to remote areas of the planet where, say, concert grand pianos may not. A large grass-roots network of accordion devotees can be found where ever one travels, but three of the best you'll find are Angelo DiPippo, Frank Toscano and Manny Corallo right here in Dix Hills on September 19.

Angelo DiPippo: Voted best accordionist in America by the readers of *Keyboard* magazine, Angelo, of Garden City, began playing accordion at eight years of age. He is a graduate of Holy Cross College with a Masters degree from C.W. Post College and an honorary Doctorate from Five Towns College.

Angelo has played on thousands of recordings for some of the music industry's most notable artists, including Peggy Lee, Billy Eckstein, James Earl Jones, Judy

Collins, Roberta Peters, The Ramones, Robert Merrill, Harry Belafonte, Debbie Reynolds, Donald O'Connor, Randy Newman, Theodore Bikel, The Four Lads, Frankie Avalon, Jimmy Roselli, Enzo Stuarti, Claudio Villa, Luciano Virgelli, Connie Haynes, Don Sebesky, Mary Duff and Gilbert Becaud.

Angelo and his Jazz Group have made appearances at the Newport Jazz Festival and many other Jazz venues, including Birdland, the Café Bohemia, and Lincoln Center in New York. His appearances include: The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson, The Today Show, The Regis Philbin Show, The New York City Ballet, Sesame Street and The New York Pops with Skitch Henderson. For seven years, he played in the Jackie Gleason Show's orchestra.

Frank Toscano: Also a player since age eight, Frank was born and raised in New York in an Italian family which valued music in the home. His father encouraged him to take accordion lessons from Emilio Chiesa, who ultimately inspired Frank to make it his life. But instead of studying accordion at an established music school, at age 21 he founded his own, the Frank Toscano Music School on Steinway Street in Queens. Now 46 years old, the successful school flourishes and has sent some of its top graduates to finishing schools such as Five Towns College.

He has performed live with (and for) many artists including Mikhail Baryshnikov and Aidan Quinn and can also be heard on many recordings of other artists. He has also performed with Joe Piscoppo and vocalist Debra Toscano. Frank has performed many steady engagements at many prominent clubs in the Tri-State area such as the Playboy Club, North Hempstead Country Club, Rockland Country Club and many more.

Frank has just finished arranging, conducting & performing on two new CD's. "Accordion To Frank," a solo CD which embraces the flavor of traditional-styled music laced with a hint of modern jazz paying homage to his accordion heritage. The second CD is entitled "The Amazing Accordion Kings," featuring all three.

Manny Corallo: Manny began his musical career even earlier. At age four, he started playing drums, but soon switched to accordion like his dad, and later studied under his father's teacher, Frank Toscano. Frank provided Manny with proper classical training, but he had a strong love for jazz and Manny developed the same love for it.

Later inspired by Angelo's accomplishments and albums, Manny found out that he too had an interest in arranging and began his career arranging for tenor Peter Colombo, and accompanied him on his Catskill Mountain tours as his piano conductor. Soon after the tours, Manny met record producer and engineer Gerry "Doc" Comito of Sonic Sound Recording Studio in Freeport, NY. Manny's next couple of projects enabled him to write for live strings - something he still loves to do. A graduate of C.W. Post College's music program, Manny started teaching piano privately, and he also started his own dance band, 'Prime Time Live', which opened in Atlantic City for comedians Sal Richards and Paula Poundstone, and at the Brookhaven Amphitheater, as the opening act for the Count Basie Orchestra. He has since branched into music composition and has scored a number of animated television series before recording with the Amazing Accordion Kings.

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. Become a fan on Facebook! (Dix Hills Performing Arts Center).

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