



RAGTIME

★ THE MUSICAL ★

**OVER ONE HUNDRED SINGERS
AND FULL ORCHESTRA ON STAGE
AT THE AXELROD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

Cabaret for Life joins forces with Monmouth Civic Chorus, the community's most accomplished choral group, to present *Ragtime The Musical* in concert at the beautiful Axelrod Performing Arts Center on October 17 at 8 p.m. and 18th at 2 p.m., 2009. The concerts will feature a full orchestra and over one hundred voices and will be conducted by Dr. Mark Shapiro, the artistic director of MCC. Far and away, this is the largest and most exciting fund-raiser ever mounted by Cabaret for Life, and we're delighted to be sharing the stage with MCC.

The Tony award-winning musical that originally opened on Broadway in 1998 is the musical retelling of E.L. Doctorow's best-selling novel *Ragtime* by the song-writing team of Stephen Flaherty and Neptune Township native Lynn Ahrens, both long-time friends of CFL. The book was written by Pulitzer Prize finalist Terrance

McNally. The show is being presented with special permission by the authors and Music Theatre International.

The concerts are a joint benefit for three scholarship foundations, all of which support young people pursuing the arts, the MCC Scholarship, the John C. Rodriguez Scholarship, and the JCC's Youth Rising Star Scholarship, as well as the K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital at Jersey Shore Medical Center.

In the role of Coalhouse Walker, Jr. is Edward C. Smith (Toms River) and the heavenly Sarah is Lauren Stefanakis (Oceanport), herself a winner of the MCC Scholarship. Christina Ryan (Berkeley Heights) portrays Mother, alongside Paul Chalakani (Brick) as Father, Kevin Bianchi (Howell) as Younger Brother, and Jack Newsome (Rumson) as the Little Boy. The role of the Jewish immigrant Tateh is played by long-

time CFL and MCC favorite Ken Wasser (West Long Branch) and the Little Girl is played by Eden Garbi (Oakhurst). Kristen Butcher (Red Bank) creates the role of Evelyn Nesbitt, "the girl on the swing," and Gina Scherzo (Brick) will portray the radical anarchist Emma Goldman. Matt Walsh (Freehold) will play Houdini, Peter J. Hellman (Princeton) will play Henry Ford, and Rachel Brown will play Sarah's Friend.

The show is being directed by CFL President Andrew De Prisco, who serves as Executive Producer, assisted by Producers Fred Mayo and Felix Truex. Robert A. Sammond serves as musical director and Nicole DeVincenzo as choreographer. Sound design is by James Schroeder and James Lyle of Light Scenes is the lighting designer. Tickets for *Ragtime* are \$25. each and can be purchased directly from CFL by calling 1-877-CFL-TKTS (235-8587) or online at <http://www.axelrodartscenter.com/>.

7 Fabulous Evenings at McLoone's Supper Club

If you have yet to visit the "new" Asbury Park, you simply do not know what you're missing! And the hottest night spot for cabaret aficionados is McLoone's Supper Club on Ocean Avenue. The view is gorgeous, the room is first-class Manhattan, and the food is delish!

At the end of September, CFL completes its first "Last Wednesday" series of mostly sold-out performances for 2009 with Cindy Buck *Daydream Believer*, accompanied by her musical director Felix Truex and percussionist John Gronert.

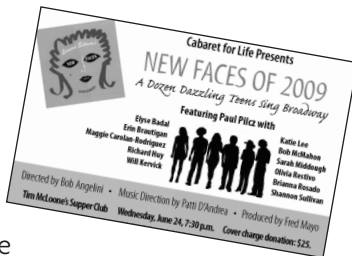
Beginning in March with Kelly Owens and her hot Baltimore band, followed by our own Felix Truex in mid May, the season got off to a promising jazzy start. Ten amazing CFL singers, accompanied by Karen Ann Feeney, made *Children Will Listen: The Musical Legacy of Oscar Hammerstein II and Stephen Sondheim* a magical evening to remember. Thanks



to our singers Andrea Best, Heather Brown-Varley, Kristen Butcher, Jared Eberlein, Corey

Mosello, Suzanne Ramsey-Restivo, John Ricroft, Kelly Ross, Rutledge Varley, and Ken Wasser.

A new tradition began with the sixteen gleaming smiles of *New Faces of 2009*, as this cast of promising teenagers took the



CFL stage on June 24. They were 2008 Rodriguez Scholarship winner Paul Pilcz, currently on Broadway in the revival of *Bye, Bye Birdie*, along with Elyse Badal, Kevin Bianchi, Erin Brautigan, Maggie Carolan-Rodriguez, Richard Huy, Will Kervick, Katie Lee, Bob McMahon, Zach Miller, Byrnn Mosello, Neal Rabinowitz, Olivia Jean Restivo, Brianna Rosado, Jake Shatsky, and Shannon Sullivan. The accompanist was Patti D'Andrea.

In July, CFL came out with *Gay and Be Glitter!*, starring Brett Colby and a remarkably entertaining (if somewhat naughty) cast, including Bob Bader, Kristen Butcher, Will Kervick, Jason Lotz, Zach Miller, Corey Mosello, Peter Oliff, Neal Rabinowitz, Kelly Ross, Steven Russell, Degn Schubert, Jarrod Scott,



Jake Shatsky, Felix Truex, Miss Angelina Villapiano, and Jonathan Waterfield. Musical direction was provided by Jeff Unger.

August brought *Pardon My Southern Accent*, Suzanne Ramsey-Restivo's first fabulous solo show, accompanied by musical director Alla Axelrod, along with percussionist John Gronert, bassist Bob Marriner, guitarist Doug Clarke, and special guest, Fr. Scott Shaffer on saxophones.



2009 Scholarship Winners

Over the past five years, the John C. Rodriguez has awarded more than \$20,000 in scholarships to fifteen distinguished high school students. All of these students continued their education in the Fine or Performing Arts at places such as NYU, Boston Conservatory, Montclair State and Emerson College. This year's John C. Rodriguez Scholarship winners were Corey Mosello, Brianna Rosado, and Shannon Sullivan. Corey is now a freshman at the Boston Conservatory of Music studying musical theatre. Brianna and Shannon are both attending Montclair State to study musical theatre and acting, respectively.

Donations to the John C. Rodriguez Scholarship Fund are greatly appreciated; checks can be written directly to CFL with "Scholarship" noted in memo line. Many thanks to all of the generous donors who supported the fund's biannual benefit that raised over \$7000. on August 22 at the Manasquan Elks Club.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Cabaret for Life, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for service organizations that help people who are coping with life-threatening diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, through the production of musical theater. Cabaret for Life is a completely volunteer organization. While the raising of funds is our principal goal, we strive to be more than a theater company: with the support of the community, Cabaret for Life endeavors to bring talented, caring people together to help other people who are in need.



Journey On!

Setting Sail for a New Year of Giving

Thanks to the generosity of our Members and the many audience members who have supported our events this year, Cabaret for Life has been enjoying a record-breaking year. Our mission of helping pediatric cancer and AIDS patients in Monmouth and Ocean Counties continues as we set sail into a new fiscal year. At this year's Member Event at McLoone's Supper Club, Sunday, September 20th, the Board of Trustees presents checks for five thousand dollars to both The Center in Asbury Park and the Jersey Shore Children's Hospital. CFL patrons can renew their annual membership at this time. The levels for Members for 2009-2010 are

Bronze—\$125 per person or couple
Silver—\$250 per person or couple
Gold—\$500 per person or couple
Diamond—\$1000 per person or couple

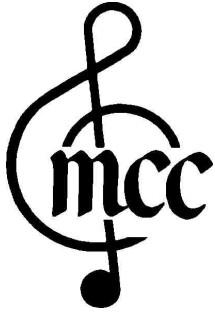
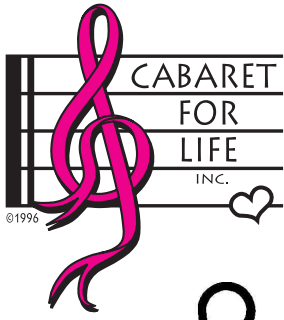
The benefits of Membership include early announcements for all CFL events, preferred seating at all dinner shows, invitations to the annual Member reception and more. Donations can be sent directly to CFL at PO Box 121, Ocean Grove NJ 07756.



Presenting The Fa-la La-la-la Follies! CHRISTMAS VAUDEVILLE TO BE CFL'S FIFTEENTH HOLIDAY SHOW

Holiday traditions are sacred, and Cabaret's annual Christmas show at The Mill in Spring Lake has been one of the area's favorite events for the past decade and a half. *The Fa-la La-la-la Follies* marks CFL's fifteenth annual Christmas show, and it promises to be a fun-filled, fast-paced, semi-sentimental trip down Christmas Lane. Imagine an old-fashioned stage show being put on by the citizens of the North Pole—a bus and truck company including comedic elves, dancing reindeer, snowbound carolers, cranky UPS drivers, and Mr. Claus as the Master of Ceremonies. Traditional holiday tunes abound, plus irresistible toe-tappers by the likes of Irving Berlin, Jules Styne, Marvin Hamlisch, and Jerry Herman. This year's show will be directed by Mr. Scrooge himself, Paul Chalakani with choreography by Lawrence Edwards of the Movement Dance Academy. The show will feature two dozen singers and dancers, costumed by Fred Mayo, with lighting by Jim Lyle and sound design by Jim Schroeder. The show takes place on Monday, December 14 and Tuesday, December 15, at 7:30 p.m. at The Mill in Spring Lake. The donation is \$65, which includes the cabaret show and a three-course dinner. Please call 1-877-CFL-TKTS (235-8587) to make reservations. Don't miss it—it's not Christmas without CFL and the Follies!

Don't Miss The Fa-La La-La-La Follies at The Mill—December 14 & 15th



Ragtime is presented by special permission of Music Theatre International

CFL and MCC Present

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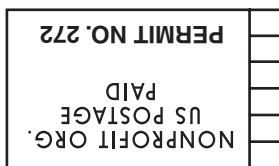
October 17th at 8 p.m.
and
October 18th at 2 p.m.
at the Axelrod Performing Arts Center
at the JCC (100 Grant Ave., Deal)

Call: 1-877-CFL-TKTS for Reservations

www.cabaretforlife.org



ORDER RAGTIME
TICKETS TODAY!



P O Box 121, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756