



GREEN
MUSIC
CENTER

WEILL HALL
SCHROEDER HALL

NEWS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GREEN MUSIC CENTER TO CELEBRATE 2014-15 SEASON
AT GALA CONCERT WITH MICHAEL FEINSTEIN, "THE SINATRA PROJECT"
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT 3:00 P.M., IN WEILL HALL
Concert To Honor Legendary Career of Frank Sinatra**

**Opening Concerts of 2014-15 Season To Feature An Evening with
Chris Thile and Edgar Meyer on Friday, September 19, 2014
and Performance with Ramsey Lewis and Cécile McLorin Salvant
on Saturday, September 20, 2014**

**2014-15 MASTERCARD PERFORMANCE SERIES IN WEILL HALL
TO SHOWCASE 32 MUSICAL EVENTS
FEATURING ARTISTS FROM FIVE CONTINENTS**

(Sonoma County, CA, August 28, 2014) — Weill Hall at Sonoma State University's Green Music Center (GMC) will celebrate the 2014-15 season with a gala on Sunday, September 28, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. featuring a performance by entertainer [Michael Feinstein](#) in a salute to Frank Sinatra. The concert celebrates the start of the 2014-15 MasterCard Performance Series, and the first season programmed by recently appointed Co-Executive Director Zarin Mehta.

Michael Feinstein is a multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy Award-nominated entertainer. Dubbed "The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook," he is considered one of the premier interpreters of American standards. His 200-plus shows a year have included performances at Carnegie Hall, Sydney Opera House and the Hollywood Bowl as well as the White House and Buckingham Palace. Feinstein has received national recognition for his commitment to celebrating America's popular song and preserving its legacy for the next generation.

The 2014-15 season opens Friday, September 19, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. with the bluegrass-meets-classical duo of mandolinist/composer [Chris Thile](#) and bassist/ composer [Edgar Meyer](#).

The lineup continues on Saturday, September 20 at 7:30 p.m. with three-time Grammy Award winner [Ramsey Lewis](#) and rising jazz vocalist [Cécile McLorin Salvant](#), performing in respective sets.

Gala Dinner

The concert will be followed by a 1940's nightclub-themed [cocktail reception and dinner](#), featuring a plated dinner by [Chef Holly Peterson](#) from Flourish. Event décor will be overseen by [Thierry Chantrel](#) of San Francisco's La Follia, who has designed numerous special events for the Green Music Center. Proceeds from this event will support performances and educational activities at the GMC.

The 2014-15 Gala Committee is co-chaired by Joan Weill and Alice Chiang, with additional representation from GMC board members Anisya Fritz, Carol Miller, Debby Hopkins, Marne Olson, Cherie Hughes, Judy Vadasz, Janet Lamkin and Sharon Winslow.

Lead gala sponsors include Joan and Sandy Weill and The Weill Family Foundation, Sharon and Clark Winslow, Bank of America, Henry Beaumont and Margaret Gokey, Sakurato and William Fisher, Hansel BMW of Santa Rosa, Norma Person, Sutter Health, Judy and Les Vadasz, and Barbara and Steve Vermut.

Wine sponsors include Dolc Del'Obac from Priorat, Foley Family Wines, Hughes Family Vineyards, Iron Horse Vineyards, Saintsbury (courtesy of Sarah and Darius Anderson), Silver Oak & Twomey Cellars, and the Wallis Family Estate.

For more information on the gala dinner, contact Caroline Ammann at 707.664.3517, or email ammannc@sonoma.edu.

About the Artist

Dubbed "The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook," [Michael Feinstein](#) is a multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy Award-nominated entertainer who has recorded more than thirty albums of American jazz and pop standards, including *The Sinatra Project* (2008) which reached #3 on the Billboard Jazz chart and earned him a fifth Grammy Award nomination.

Feinstein's musical celebration of "Ol' Blue Eyes" continued in 2011 with the release of *The Sinatra Project, Vol. II: The Good Life* and with the premiere of the Emmy-nominated television special, *Michael Feinstein – The Sinatra Legacy*.

In 2007, he founded the Michael Feinstein Great American Songbook Initiative, dedicated to celebrating the art form and preserving it through educational programs, master classes, scholarships and prizes to students across the country. Feinstein serves on the Library of Congress' National Recording Preservation Board, an organization dedicated to ensuring the survival, conservation and increased public availability of America's sound recording heritage.

He was named Principal Pops Conductor for the Pasadena POPS in 2012 and made his conducting debut in June 2013 to celebrated critical acclaim. He also serves as Artistic Director of the Palladium Center for the Performing Arts, a \$170 million, three-theatre venue in Carmel, Indiana, which opened in January 2011. For more information, visit MichaelFeinstein.com.

About the Green Music Center

Nestled in the picturesque foothills of Northern California's esteemed wine country, the Green Music Center (GMC) is a focal point for arts in the region, with its spectacular 1400-seat Weill Hall and the recently opened 250-seat Schroeder Hall. A program of Sonoma State University, the GMC presents year-round programming of top classical, contemporary, jazz, and world music artists through the MasterCard Performance Series and is home to the Santa Rosa Symphony, in addition to hosting concerts by the San Francisco Symphony and providing an annual residency for young professional musicians in partnership with Carnegie Hall.

About Sonoma State University

Sonoma State University is a public liberal arts college located in California's premier wine country, one hour north of San Francisco. Nestled at the base of the idyllic Sonoma Mountains, the campus is home to more than 9,000 undergraduate students and is among the most popular campuses in the California State University system. Named a "Most Wired" campus by The Princeton Review and a "Best Regional University" by U.S. News & World Report, SSU was first in the country to offer an undergraduate degree in Wine Business.

About MasterCard

MasterCard is the series presenting sponsor for Weill Hall at Sonoma State University's Green Music Center. MasterCard's generous contributions support the annual MasterCard Performance Series. MasterCard is the preferred card of the Green Music Center and its venues.

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Single tickets for this performance begin at \$65. All single tickets for the 2014–15 season are now available online at gmc.sonoma.edu or by calling 1.866.955.6040. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Sonoma State University Box Office, located on the first floor of the Student Center at 1801 E. Cotati Avenue in Rohnert Park. Box Office hours are Monday-Friday from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.

For more information on the gala dinner, contact Caroline Ammann at 707.664.4122, or email ammannc@sonoma.edu.

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MICHAEL FEINSTEIN, "THE SINATRA PROJECT" MasterCard Performance Series

Weill Hall, Green Music Center

Sunday, September 28, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

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