

# First Night Fort Collins 2008 Performer Descriptions

## **Abbie's Balloon Show**

Watch as Abbie creates fancy and elaborate balloon structures and then teaches the audience to make balloon constructions that you can take home with you!

## **Aire Flamenco Spanish Dance**

Lively, passionate, classic flamenco dance will spice up your evening! Colorful costumes will be interwoven with spirited performance as this Fort Collins dance troupe takes the stage.

## **Asian Puppet Stories**

This performance includes dramatic storytelling using puppets and will feature Asian trickster tales for families and young children. Nathan Kumar Scott has lived and studied puppetry in Asia and brings a wealth of experience to engage and enliven children's curiosity.

## **Be Like Houdini -puppets**

Get those creative juices flowing by learning a couple of simple but good magic tricks (including the instant magician routine). Watch as they perform a Houdini like escape trick and astound you with a marionette magician who will perform a card trick ala Houdini the King of Cards.

## **The Bella Luna Cirque**

Beet Street presents this French Cirque style show. The show will include Aerial fabric twirling, Contortion, Cube spinning, hand balancing, ribbon dancing, Fire eating, juggling, and clowning!

## **Bennett Irish Dancers**

Irish dancing for the whole family, presented by dancers of all ages. This group will display "Celtic" dance from easy to complex. Classic and modern Irish Dance in beautiful colorful costumes. Audience participation is always a part of their program, so come join in the fun.

## **Best of the TriMedia Film Festival**

Watch IndieKids Films, an international selection of films made by and about kids. Later in the evening, the award winners from this year's TriMedia Film Festival will be shown and will include the stories behind the making of the films to inspire others. Detailed programs available that night at Everyday Joe's.

### **Bruiser the Ragdog**

Is it a real dog? Bruiser will interact with the people and provide many laughs for everyone he meets. Meet Bruiser in Old Town as he wanders around First Night.

### **Canyon Concert Ballet**

Peter and the Wolf is a story of a boy searching for new and exciting things. His curiosity brings him to meet new friends and experience new things. Come enjoy this fantastic story with the Canyon Concert dancers!

### **Choice City Singers**

This energetic show will include both accompanied and a cappella arrangements of Jazz standards, big band numbers, Broadway Show Tunes, and hits from the 20's, 30's, 40's, 50's and 60's. Audiences of all ages are sure to enjoy themselves and renew their curiosity! Usher in the New Year with this engaging and fun vocal ensemble who dazzle with their intricate blend of voices and agility on complex vocal grooves.

### **Clown Box Improv**

Hilarious! Fun for everyone! This improv comedy troupe will create a funny show that is appropriate for all ages. Using all of your creative suggestions, audience participation and off the cuff thinking they will craft a show to keep you on your toes!

### **Contra Dancing/Friends of Traditional Dance**

Join in the 17th annual New Years Eve Contra Dance! Lessons 7:30 and dance until 9:00pm. This popular form of American folk dance involves long lines, a caller, and switching partners. No partner is needed. So if you can walk, count to 4, you can contra dance!

### **Cowboy Steve Music Show**

Howdy Folks! Round up the Young 'uns and the young at heart. It's time for Rootin' Tootin' Musical Cowboy Fun with COWBOY STEVE!! You'll be ridin' high with lots of guitar pickin', harmonica blowin', and fiddle sawin'-yee hawin' fun with all the little cowpokes. There will be whistlin', singin', stompn', and screamin' so that all will have a whoop dang time. Get ready to talk, sing and dance like a cowboy with COWBOY STEVE!

### **Dean Martin Sings**

Dean Martin will probably always be remembered foremost for his outstanding looks and his laid back cool attitude. Come listen to the songs that you melt to because of Dean's ability to hit those low notes.

### **Didgeridooing & More!**

Michael will be playing his Didgeridoo and Khaen along with other instruments he brings. Along with music, he will be telling stories about the places he has been and the instruments he plays. Come experience the world through these instruments and make sure not to miss this show!

### **Discovery Science Center Planetarium Shows**

(Presented by LSI) Discover the Stars! Families with children of elementary age or older will enjoy this unique experience exploring features of the night sky in the comfort of an inflatable planetarium. (Come early to get tickets for seating, seating is very limited.)

### **Elvis is in the Building!**

Come listen to "The King" in this amazing show, "The Shadow of Elvis! He will be rockin' and rollin' through all of his top tunes and even a few "B-sides". Whether you remember Elvis in his young days or enjoy him as a Vegas tradition, you will surely enjoy this show. Don't miss this incredibly talented tribute artist; so close in looks and sounds, you will be mesmerized!

### **Exquisite Brass Music**

A "Renaissance Fair" with costumes, guest royalty from the audience, and even the slaying of a dragon! Music from the Renaissance will bring this program alive!

### **Face Painting**

Make sure to adorn your face with the perfect First Night treat! Face Painting! Magical creatures, fairy designs, and much more are available tonight! Make one of the beautiful and lightning fast face paintings of Smilen' Faces your on First Night.

### **Fale - African Dancing/Drumming**

High Energy, spirited, colorful traditional West African dance and drumming creates a joyous village atmosphere for all ages. This show will celebrate African storytellers and community. Fale (which means "bridge" in the SuSu language of Guinea) invites you to join this jubilant community celebration!

### **Father Time**

See if you can spot Father Time wandering around Old Town - you can't miss him, he's 9 feet tall! He will also be the tallest person at the fireworks show!

### **Fireworks - Old Town Square**

Enjoy the finale of First Night at the Old Town Square fireworks show. The sparks will be flying and the bagpipes will be playing! Ring in 2007 with a bang! Come down on the bus or walk over and enjoy this wonderful show beginning at 10:30pm. (An additional show will also be at Midnight in Old Town Sq.)

### **Fort Collins Pipe Band**

A favorite of First Night attendees! The Fort Collins Pipe Band features Scottish bagpipe and drum music, Highland dance, and education in Scottish culture, the instruments, dance, and music. Look for them in Old Town Square before the fireworks at 10:20pm.

### **Grupo Aztlan Latin Music**

Lively authentic Latin music including boleros, cumbias, corridos, rancheras, bossanovas, polkas and other popular Latin sounds! Audiences will be invited to participate in Latin Music Cultural Bingo. You can experience some Latin culture through music with Grupo Aztlan, a Fort Collins' treasure not to be missed.

### **Historical Downtown Tours**

Come discover Fort Collins and her history. Downtown is rich in wild tales, colorful characters and neat old buildings. The history will come alive with your guide Lynda Lloyd as she leads you through Downtown Fort Collins. These walking tours last about forty-five minutes and meet at the Opera Galleria.

### **I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change (PG-13)**

The Nonesuch Theater presents selected scenes from this off-Broadway hit. It is a hilarious musical revue that takes on the truths and myths of "relationships" as it explores the journey from dating and waiting to love and marriage.

### **Ice Skating**

Enjoy the holidays like they did in the olden days, with a beautiful skate outside in the town plaza. The Old Town Ice Skating Rink is only \$1 to skate with your First Night button. (Rentals are not included, but are available for \$1/person) Rink is located on the north end of Old Town Square and rentals available at the Downtown Information Center. So come enjoy the outdoor rink and take a skate for old times sake!

### **Is it Magic or Science?**

Come discover how magic and science can be one in the same. Join Professor Lala and Dr. Erina as we ask questions and discover the answers with a magic show that is not slight of hand by reactions, attractions and compounds.

### **Istari - Drumming for all!**

Enjoy a rhythmic world journey led by musicians Ed Contreras and Chad Johnson that begins in Africa and takes us to the Caribbean, Brazil and the Americas. Learn about the origins of percussion instruments including a djeme, doumbek, caxixi, cajon, the bongos and more!

### **John Gates Yo-Yo Show**

Come watch John Gates a solo master Yo-Yo and current 2007 National spin top champion. He has traveled all across the world and United States spreading the joy of Yo-Yoing. Audience participation will include loaner Yo-Yo's to learn the tricks!

### **Kids' Countdown**

(Presented by LSI) This event kicks off the whole evening at 5:00pm. Confetti will go flying, and the talented Beth Epley will lead the children in song, tell stories, and play interactive music with the children on the museum steps. There will be instruments for the children to play, adding to the festivities and of course the New Years Eve March and Madness, a procession through the Museum courtyard.

### **Long Ago & Far Away**

Bas Bleu presents spellbinders oral storytellers. Tales told by imaginative storytellers who have been trained and volunteer to tell stories in our local schools. They will tell the stories from long ago and far away...

### **Maravilla Ballet Folklorico**

Mexico is filled with many distinctive dance styles; come enjoy this colorful, multigenerational display of Mexican folk dance as they perform some of these styles. Classic dances like La Raspa, the Mexican Hat Dance and more will be enjoyed by all!

### **Mr. Shine Kids Show**

Join us for musical fun with children's songwriter, Mr. Shine! Discover the child in you as Mr. Shine takes us on a musical journey to far away places and fun topics along with his puppet friends T-Rex, J.J. the shark, and Roary the lion! He'll even spark your curiosity with a little magic, too, in this fun-filled music adventure.

### **Museum Exhibits & Museum Treasure Hunts**

Go on a self guided treasure hunt of the Fort Collins' Museum with all of its' exhibits, interactive art, and history. Ask for information at the main desk. Guided tours of all exhibits are also available.

### **New Years Eve Crafts**

Come write your own resolution or create your own New Years craft project. Enjoy the Fort Collins Museum, warm your toes, and surround yourself with creativity. Just a "drop-in" event, no schedule restrictions.

### **Old Town Puppet Co.**

Grimm's fairytales will come to life with the Old Town Puppet Show. Kids and adults will laugh, smile and discover the fantasy and fun of an old-fashioned puppet show.

### **Peter and the Wolf (play)**

Peter will dance and tell the story of "Peter and the Wolf" while including a few children from the audience to play small parts to play in the performance. Enjoy this fun and interactive portrayal of this beloved story.

### **Pickin' Southern Folk Music**

Have you ever been curious about where those children's songs that we all know by heart come from? The origins almost always lie in American and British folk songs and folk tales. Johnny Johnson will apply his "hot fingerpickin' slide guitar and down home vocals" to an entertaining program of children's songs. This program will provide opportunities for all ages to participate and sing a long.

### **Presto Digitators Magic Show**

The Curious Nature of Magic! There is magic for all with these First Night favorites. Enjoy magic like that of old while learning about the fascinating history of each trick and great magicians in history! The show will also feature NEW feats of conjuring, prestidigitation, illusion and fun of the likes that is seldom seen in Fort Collins!

### **Quetzalcoatl Mayan Dance**

The ancient Mayan culture comes alive as Grupo Quetzalcoatl performs spiritual dances in feathered headdresses and traditional Mayan clothing. Also included in the performance will be portrayals of traditional Mexican polkas, dances of Jalisco and daring dances with machetes.

### **S'mores in the courtyard!**

Come create your very own New Years s'more at the fire. Some graham crackers, chocolate, a toasted marshmallow and lots of gooey fun! S'more making will be outside in the Fort Collins Museum Courtyard where volunteers will help you assemble your tasty First Night s'more.

### **Statues**

These live statues, located at the Lincoln Center lobby and the Opera Galleria, are a wonderful addition to this whimsical First Night evening. Watch to see if you see them change positions or look at you. Not your average statues!

### **Windsor Jazz Combo**

A wide variety of styles within the jazz idiom will be performed including Swing, Blues, Funk, Dixieland, Broadway Tunes and a touch of Holiday flair. This music is for all ages and interests!

### **Zany Reptile Comedy Show**

The entire family will enjoy this show. Reptiles, comedy, song and more come alive in this show. Don't miss the jokes, the juggling, the laughs and the occasional stray animal in this wild production. Explore the curious world of reptiles!