

# First Night Fort Collins 2009 Performer Descriptions

## **1940s Holiday Radio Show**

Join us at Bas Bleu Theatre for a 25-minute portion of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, the radio way: A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol. Taken from the live 1943 Christmas broadcast from WOV radio in Newark, New Jersey this fun, musical holiday family experience features announcer Clifton Feddington, William St. Claire as Scrooge, sound effects man Buzz Crenshaw, and all of the Feddington Players. Come experience this classic theatre performance!

## **Abbie's Starlight The Clown**

Discover "Starlight the Clown"—whether she is a star in the sky, a star on the stage or a star in your heart, she is a clown and oh so happy. Join Starlight on a journey of self discovery as she performs magical feats, creates balloon sculpture and even conducts a Symphony a la Mood using volunteers from the audience!

## **Alien Adventure Reptile Comedy Show**

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

## **Alien Space Princess**

Sure to delight those from this galaxy and the next, the Alien Space Princess will be teaching Dances of the Future, playing Games of the Future and she even has fun space prizes! Children and adults alike will be entertained by her interactive mix of excitement, dancing and trivia.

## **Be Like Houdini**

Get those creative juices flowing by learning a couple of simple, but good magic tricks using items already available in your home! After the magic see Buzz the world's smartest bird as he gives a demonstration of his new paper invention!

## **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 winning films and great shorts from past years' TriMedia Film Festivals will be shown and will include the stories behind the making of the films to inspire others.

## **Bruiser the Ragdog (wandering)**

Bruiser the Ragdog meets the people around Old Town Square—Bruiser walks in that mysterious world of the imagination beyond reality and the stars. Is it a real dog? You decide...

### **Canciones de las Estrellas-Grupo Aztlan**

Enjoy lively authentic Latin music including boleros, cumbias, corridos, rancheras, boss novas, polkas and other popular Latin sounds with "Songs of the Stars"! You can experience some Latin culture through music with Grupo Aztlan, a Fort Collins' treasure not to be missed. Enjoy songs like "Cielito Lindo," "Un Rinquincito", "El Sol Que Tu Eres," "Una Estrellito" and many others.

### **Canyon Concert Dance Ensemble**

Featuring members ages 6-17, this year the Ensemble will be bringing their production of "I Dreamed I Was a Ballerina," inspired by the paintings of Edgar Degas and the book "I Dreamed I Was a Ballerina," by Anna Pavlova, to the Masonic Events Center. This ballet is a journey through the eyes of a young dancer as she brings images of the Paris Opera Ballet to life and is sure to delight audiences young and old.

### **Capitan Kirk and Spock's Game Show**

Board the Enterprise and be a contestant in the Capitan Kirk and Spock Space Trivia Game Show. Teams compete for prizes as they answer questions about space, Star Trek, space movies, music and more. Come watch this hilarious spoof, you might even learn something!

### **Chinese Dragon Dance (wandering)**

This year we are happy to partner with Colorado State University's Chinese Club to bring you a traditional Chinese New Year Celebration. Come to Old Town Square and witness the amazing Dragon Dance and let it bring you good luck into the New Year.

### **Choice City Singers**

This energetic show will include 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 with song and fun skits! 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 18th 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**

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!*

### **Didgeridoo Musical Experience**

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**

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.)

### **Empty Pockets Celtic Music**

The musically dynamic trio that is "Empty Pockets" blends traditional sounds of Irish and Celtic and Spanish music with slightly more contemporary rhythms that compliment, but not over shadow the beautiful nuances of their music. Come get your Irish on at this foot stompin' show!

### **Eric West Musical Adventure**

Eric West is a classically trained bass player and former teacher who has entertained children since 1982. Accompanied by an antique trunkful of unusual instruments and puppets, complimented by guitar and banjo, Eric has entertained thousands of children and their families. His songs, both original and traditional, are imaginative and incorporate a lot of audience participation.

### **E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial**

New this year at First Night, come to the Lincoln Center for a big screen showing of this classic film. A being from outer space is accidentally stranded on Earth. In his search for refuge, E.T. wanders into a backyard where he is discovered by ten-year-old Elliott. Elliott assumes responsibility for E.T.'s safety while searching, in a race against time, for a way to reunite E.T. with his own kind in this heartwarming story of friendship and discovery. Winner of 3 Academy Awards®, directed by Steven Spielberg and starring a young Drew Barrymore.

### **Exquisite Brass Music**

What lies "beyond the stars"? Let's ask Luke Skywalker and Capitan Kirk! Join the Exquisite Brass as they present a concert of music from all six Star Wars Movies as well as music from 5 of the shows from the Star Trek Empire. This performance is perfect for young and old, human and alien—so stop by the Northern Hotel to relive these wonderful memories beyond the stars.

### **Face Painting**

Make sure to adorn your face with the perfect First Night treat, face painting! Magical creatures, aliens, fairy designs, and much more are available tonight. Make one of the beautiful and lightning fast face paintings of Smilen' Faces yours on First Night at the Fort Collins' Library Lobby and at

the Aztlan Center Classrooms. Or head to the Masonic Events Center for wonderful faces by Best Face Painter!

### **Fale - West African Drum & Dance**

High Energy, spirited, colorful traditional West African dance and drumming creates a joyous village atmosphere for all ages. This show follows one African woman as she looks to the stars and her ancestors for guidance and features audience participation. Fale (which means "bridge" in the SuSu language of Guinea) invites you to join this jubilant community celebration!

### **Father Time (wandering)**

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 2009 with a bang! Come down on the bus or walk over and enjoy this wonderful show beginning at 10:30pm.

### **Forever Plaid**

One of Nonesuch Theater's most popular productions, this deliciously goofy revue centers on four young, eager male singers killed in a car crash in the 1950s on the way to their first big concert, and now miraculously revived for the posthumous chance to fulfill their dreams and perform the show that never was. Forever Plaid is fun for all ages will have you rolling in the aisles when you're not humming along to some of the great nostalgic pop hits of the '50s!

### **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.

### **Funny Night with the Stars**

Featuring Erin and Laura! Come join Little Groucho and Harpo for a fabulously funny night of the Stars. Everyone will enjoy the zany antics of these two chuckleheads as they perform comedy, magic and of course slapstick for children of all ages.

### **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 time's sake!

### **Kids' Countdown**

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.

### **The Last Starfighter**

Check out this cult movie favorite about Alex Rogan, a small-time teenager with big-time dreams! But tonight, when a mysterious stranger calls on Alex, he finds himself propelled into a dream beyond his imagination when he is called upon to be THE LAST STARFIGHTER, the only hope of the Star League in their last-ditch efforts to save the universe. A special effects marvel for all ages!

### **Mad Science-Up Up & Away!**

Experiments with air are truly a gas! In this fun and interactive presentation, the Mad Scientist leads young participants into an investigation of the incredible pressure under which we all live -- AIR PRESSURE! Hot air balloons, vortex generators, and the "Mad Science Hovercraft" are all used to demonstrate the amazing effects of air pressure. This show will blow you up... up... and away!

### **Make Your Own S'mores**

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.

### **Masonic Lodge Events Center**

This year for the first time we very pleased to be able to partner with the Fort Collins Masons in the use of their Masonic Event Center. Be sure to visit their Museum where you can learn ancient secrets of the Masons; they will be offering a free ChildID program as well. Also at the Masonic Event Center this year, face painting by Best Face Painter, Mad Science-Up Up and Away and the Science Matters Chemistry Show.

### **Mr. Shine's Musical Trek**

Join children's songwriter, Mr. Shine for a magical, mystical and musical program to ring in the New Year right! The stars will be shining bright with special appearances by DOT the Little Red Planet, The Dancing Martian and the Elvis Rock Band, where you get to be the "STAR"! Lots of fun, laughs, participation and a little magic, too in this action-packed show for all ages!

### **Museum Tours & Treasure Hunts**

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

## **New Year's 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.

## **Opera Fort Collins Apprentice Artists**

The members of the Opera Fort Collins Apprentice Artist Program and singers at Colorado State Opera Theatre will perform various "Beyond the Stars" themed arias and art songs accompanied by piano. Come experience the uplifting quality of live opera!

## **Presto-Digitators Magic Show**

"Today's science is yesterday's magic and today's magic is tomorrow's science,"—Anonymous. There is magic for all with these First Night favorites as they explore the relationship between magic and science. The show will also feature NEW feats of conjuring, prestidigitation, illusion and fun of the likes that is seldom seen in Fort Collins!

## **Science Matters Chemistry Show**

Join us for an interactive, high energy science demonstration to kick off the New Year. You'll meet a *Genie* as it snakes its way from its bottle or get shot by the Vortex Cannon or maybe take a shower without getting wet! It's SCIENCE FUN for everyone!

## **Star Wars Characters (wandering)**

As a special treat for Jedis young and old, The Mountain Garrison of the 501st Stormtrooper legion will be wandering around Old Town and Library Park area for this year's festivities. The 501st Legion is the premier Star Wars costuming group in the world, spanning all 50 U.S. States and over 21 countries worldwide. The Legion's mission is to contribute to the local community through charity and volunteer work and we are very glad to have them this year.

## **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!

## **Discover Downtown**

### **Cache Gallery of Photography**

Representing award-winning & established photographic artists from the US and abroad, the Cache Gallery of Photography offers award winning photography, giclée printing and art reproduction services.

### **The Collective Fine Art Gallery**

Come experience art in a comfortable, relaxed setting. The Collective features original artwork, giclée prints and photography created by local and national artists.

### **Everyday Joe's Coffee House**

Everyday Joe's is a non-profit coffee house, where fantastic coffee and great live music are simply excuses to connect with people. Come hear headliner *Josh Dyland* with local acts *The Rifleman* and *Paean* to open. The show starts at 7:00 pm and there is a suggested donation at the door.

### **Illustrated Light Gallery of Fine Art Photography**

The Illustrated Light Gallery of Fine Art Photography features the photography of award winning nature photographer David Clack as well as fine art nature photography from several other states.

### **Indigo Gallery**

Serving the art industry for the past ten years, Indigo Gallery ~ The Fine Art Company excels in meeting the art and framing needs of corporations, interior designers, galleries, showrooms, and retail clients. This year the Gallery will be featuring a Pastry Picasso Contest, a poster coloring contest and they will be giving out gift bags.

### **Trimble Court Artisans Co-Op**

At Trimble Court Artisans Co-op, exceptional arts and crafts of the region are offered for sale to people who value handcrafted items of the highest quality. Be sure to visit this uniquely Fort Collins gallery in its historical location - home since 1971.