

Media Contact: Peggy Lyle
Daytime Phone: (970) 484-6500

For Immediate Release



First Night® Fort Collins 2010

“An explosion of art and curiosity!”

Fort Collins, CO Looking for the ultimate night of entertainment on New Year’s Eve? Want to celebrate the arts along with the New Year? Then make plans to be in Downtown Fort Collins on December 31, 2009 from 6:00pm to 10:45pm for the **14th Annual First Night® Fort Collins: Legends in the Night**.

A non-alcoholic, arts-based celebration, First Night® Fort Collins offers cultural experiences, family entertainment and children’s interactive activities through 100 performances of theater, dance, art, song, comedy, storytelling, magic, puppetry, and visual arts. This event, produced by the Downtown Business Association, hosts artists and performers from the Northern Colorado area and beyond. Fort Collins audiences will be able to see the Handsome Little Devils Vaudevillian Variety Show (*As seen on The Tonight Show*), Top Hogs performing pigs (*as see on Animal Planet, David Letterman*), The Best of the TriMedia Film Festival, Beet Street’s Young Performer Academy and over 100 shows in one evening! Enjoy original local theater, be amazed by magicians or learn the legends of the past through storytelling?

Music fans can experience an exciting global musical tour by attending some of the acts sponsored by First Night’s music sponsor, Bohemian Foundation. This year the music program offers a diverse selection including Choice City Singers, Australian Didgeridoo and instruments from the most remote parts of the world, African drumming, instrumental brass performances of Sergei Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf, Latin songs about legends and romantic nights, and a kid’s musical experience with Eric West.

Date: Thursday, December 31, 2009

Time: 6:00pm – 10:45pm (5:00pm Kids’ Countdown at the Fort Collins Museum)

Location: Downtown Fort Collins

Tickets/Buttons: \$10 (children 6 & under are free when accompanied by a ticketed adult)

Purchase: Lincoln Center box office, Fort Collins/Loveland/Windsor King Soopers and Ben & Jerry’s in Old Town Sq.

Info: www.DowntownFortCollins.com or 970-484-6500

The evening’s revelry will kick off with confetti and song at 5pm with the Kids’ Countdown at the Fort Collins Museum and conclude with a festive display of fireworks in Old Town Square at 10:30pm. This year’s theme, **“Legends in the Night,”** brings Fort Collins, Front Range, Denver and national performers together to create a unique experience filled with a wide variety of performance styles. First Night® 2010 will renew Fort Collins’ sense of curiosity by showcasing local arts and performance groups including Canyon Concert Ballet, Bas Bleu Theatre, Fale- African Drum and Dance Collective, Nonesuch Theater, Exquisite Brass and the Presto-Digitators. This year, attendees will be able to have their children be a part of the interactive Beet Street Young Performer School. In a fun and nurturing environment kids can learn how to juggle, perform magic tricks, clown around, get their face painted and experience everything a young street performer needs to know to put on a show. Once they are through learning, they will receive their very own diploma and then the Master of Ceremonies, Reid Belstock will perform a juggling and unicycle show in true street style.

Admission to First Night® Fort Collins requires the purchase of a \$10 button, with children 6 and under free when accompanied by a paying adult. There are a limited number of buttons on sale this year; only 3,500 will be sold for First Night® Fort Collins 2010. **Buttons go on sale December 18th** at all Fort Collins, Windsor and Loveland King Soopers, Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream (Old Town Square) and the Lincoln Center box office.

Detailed information about the event, performances and times can be found online at www.DowntownFortCollins.com, on the official button card (with button purchase) and in the official First Night® Fort Collins program published on December 26th in **Fort Collins Coloradoan**. (More recommended entertainment highlights are available upon request.)

We would like to thank our sponsors who help make this community event possible- Music Sponsor: Bohemian Foundation. Presenting Sponsors: The Downtown Business Association, Dellenbach Subaru, Clear Channel Communications, Beet Street, Coco-Cola and The Fort Collins Coloradoan. Contributing Sponsors: Transfort and Burt’s Shirts.

###