



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 1/30/2018

Ashley H Pollock, Public Relations & Information Coordinator
College of Performing and Visual Arts
Southern Utah University

Office: (435) 865-8667
Cell: (435) 590-0961
pollocka@suu.edu

Travel Through the Ages with the Music of Johnny Mercer

Written by Ashley H Pollock

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: The *Great American Songbook Series* moves headfirst into the Spring semester with their third concert on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, in the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) at 7:30 p.m. Students and faculty from SUU's Department of Music will perform the songs of American legend Johnny Mercer. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

Carol Ann Modesitt, Professor of Music at SUU and the creator of the *Great American Songbook Series*, said, "Johnny Mercer collaborated with so many composers such as Hoagy Carmichael, Henry Mancini, Harold Arlen, Harry Warren, and Duke Ellington. He won four Academy Awards and was nominated numerous times. He wrote so many enchanting songs that are still considered to be pop classics. You'll certainly recognize many of his hits such as "Moon River", "Skylark", "You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby". The list goes on and on."

Johnny Mercer, born in 1909, was introduced to Broadway in the 1930's. Not only was he a lyricist, but he also composed and performed pop hits as well. He served as founding president of the National Academy of Popular Music (now Songwriters Hall of Fame). His work continued through the 1970's until his death in 1976.

Dr. Lawrence Johnson, Chair of the Department of Music at SUU, said, "The *Great American Songbook Series* has been a welcome addition to the concert season of the SUU Department of Music. Students have gained a new appreciation for American composers and lyricists, and audiences have the opportunity to hear so many of their favorite hits from the Golden Age of song! The Department of Music is extremely grateful for all the donations which support the students in the department through these concerts. So be sure to add us to your musical arts calendar and we hope to see you joining us in celebrating our rich history of American songs!"

Travel through the ages with the music of Johnny Mercer. For more information about the Department of Music at Southern Utah University, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/music.

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited programs in Art & Design, Music, and Dance. The College also offers programs in Theatre Arts, graduate programs in Arts Administration and Music, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 26 academic programs, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine

Arts in art and theatre degrees; and Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Music Education and Master of Music in Music Technology graduate degrees. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 600 majors in the College. The College presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival and SUU's Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

For Calendar Editors: Travel Through the Ages with the Music of Johnny Mercer

- What:** The *Great American Songbook Series* moves headfirst into the Spring semester with their third concert on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, in the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) at 7:30 p.m. Students and faculty from SUU's Department of Music will perform the songs of American legend Johnny Mercer. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.
- Who:** Students and faculty, Department of Music, Southern Utah University
- When:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018
- Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- Where:** Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), 13 S 300 W, Cedar City, Utah 84720
- Tickets:** Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students
- Info:** For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/music.

###