

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Sarah Nesbit
972-744-4612 or 214-793-9596
sarah.nesbit@cor.gov

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND — EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS
“A RIDE WITH BOB” THE BOB WILLS MUSICAL WITH RAY BENSON
AND ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL FOR FIVE SHOWS JULY 15-18, 2010

RICHARDSON, TX – Before there was Elvis, before there was Hank, there was a fiddler from West Texas by the name of Bob Wills – and he was The King. *Eisemann Center Presents* the musical production ***A Ride With Bob*** - the first-ever play about the life and music of Bob Wills Thur., Jul. 15th at 8:00 pm; Fri., Jul. 16th at 8:00 pm; Sat., Jul. 17th at 2:00 and 8:00 pm and Sun., Jul. 18th at 2:00 pm. This musical biography, written by Ray Benson and Anne Rapp, includes the live performance of 15 of Wills’ most popular songs in a plot that interweaves Ray Benson’s present day with various stages in Wills’ storied career. ***A Ride With Bob*** played at the Eisemann Center for one performance in February 2009 and was completely sold out.

Called “the most entertaining night in Texas” by Liz Smith of *The New York Post*, ***A Ride With Bob*** is the hit musical about the life and legacy of Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys. The production stars the nine-time Grammy-Award winner **Ray Benson** and the famous band **Asleep at the Wheel**. Featuring an all-star cast of actors and musicians including **The Quebe Sisters Band** (in every performance except Thur., Jul. 15th), this show will take you on a trip through the life of the founder of western music – Bob Wills. The performance focuses on a conversation between Benson and Wills about the trials and tribulations of being a working musician.

In 1973 after the release of the band’s first album, Benson was invited to Dallas to meet Wills – his “idol.” Upon his arrival, he learned that Wills was not feeling well and the meeting was postponed. That same night, Wills had a stroke and subsequently died. In this production, Benson finally gets his conversation with “the Spirit of Bob” who visits him on *Asleep at the Wheel*’s bus late one night. ***A Ride With Bob*** presents a fascinating – and sometimes outrageous – account of Wills’ career, his contribution to American music, and his “raucous” personal life. Audiences can look forward to an incredible evening of entertainment highlighted by such favorites as “*San Antonio Rose*”, “*Faded Love*”, “*Cherokee Maiden*”, and “*Take Me Back to Tulsa*.”

“Part memory play, part loving homage, part country concert, this Ride is so peppy and irresistible: Waylon Jennings was right: Bob Wills is still the king,” says *The Dallas Morning News*.

Tickets for the July 15th-18th performances range from \$20-\$60 and will be available online Monday, April 5th at www.eisemanncenter.com, by phone at 972-744-4650 or in person at Eisemann Center Ticket Office. Ticket Office hours are 10:00 am until 6:00 pm Monday through Saturday and one hour before performances. Group discounts are available for 10 or more by calling 972-744-4657.

The Charles W. Eisemann Center is located in the Galatyn Park Urban Center at 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas. The Eisemann Center is easily accessible from Highway 75 North taking the Galatyn Parkway/Renner Road exit going north and the Galatyn Parkway/Campbell Road exit going south or from the DART light rail station at Galatyn Park. Sponsors for the 2009-2010 Season include *The Dallas Morning News*, WFAA-TV and ticket sponsor PegasusNews.com.

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