



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 7, 2016

JAZZ TRUMPETER HARRY “SWEETS” EDISON AND ACTOR HAL WILLIAMS TO BE INDUCTED INTO THE LINCOLN THEATRE WALK OF FAME JULY 30

Jazz trumpeter Harry “Sweets” Edison and actor Hal Williams will take their place on the Lincoln Theatre Walk of Fame in an induction ceremony on Saturday, July 30, at 7 pm. Sponsored by State Auto Insurance Companies, the event is free and open to the public.

The Lincoln Theatre Walk of Fame, a monument which honors Columbus natives who have made outstanding contributions in their professional careers, will honor these two local trailblazers during a ceremony hosted by State Auto Community Relations Manager Stephanie Meredith, Lincoln Theatre General Manager Suzan Bradford, and Jack Marchbanks, Lincoln Theatre Association board member and co-host of WCBE’s “Jazz Sunday.” The program will also include the 2016 Walk of Fame Band, featuring jazz trumpeter Byron Stripling, Artistic Director of the Jazz Arts Group, and jazz organist Bobby Floyd, a 2015 inductee into the Lincoln Theatre Walk of Fame. The ceremony will then move outdoors to reveal the new stars on the Walk of Fame.

Harry “Sweets” Edison, Jazz Trumpeter

Columbus native Harry “Sweets” Edison was a cohort of orchestra leader Count Basie, a favorite of bandleader Nelson Riddle, and a noted backup artist for the most prominent vocalists of his time, including Billie Holiday. Edison, with his energetic yet reticent blowing style, bridged a gap between the early classic jazz sound of Louis Armstrong and modern bebop modes. Edison, who played equally well in both styles, had a special talent for sustaining his trumpet notes and injecting each single tone with expression and soul. This special quality of his playing earned him the nickname “Sweets” because of the sweetness of the tones.

Hal Williams, Actor

Columbus-born actor Hal Williams is best known for his recurring role as Police Officer Smith (“Smitty”) on the television sitcom “Sanford and Son” (1972-77) and Lester Jenkins on “227” (1985-90). He has also appeared in movies such as *Hardcore*, *Private Benjamin*, Clint Eastwood’s *The Rookie*, and the Bernie Mac film *Guess Who*.

www.lincoltheatre columbus.com

CALENDAR LISTING

The Lincoln Theatre Association presents the 2016 WALK OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

Saturday, July 30, 7 pm

Lincoln Theatre (769 E. Long St.)

The Lincoln Theatre Walk of Fame, a monument which honors Columbus natives who have made outstanding contributions in their professional careers, will honor two local trailblazers—jazz trumpeter Harry “Sweets” Edison and actor Hal Williams—during an induction ceremony that will include a performance from the 2016 Walk of Fame Band featuring Byron Stripling and Bobby Floyd. Doors open at 6pm. The program begins at 7pm. Admission is free.

www.LincolnTheatreColumbus.com

#

About the Lincoln Theatre

First opened in 1928, the Lincoln Theatre is a landmark in African-American and jazz history. After undergoing a \$13.5 million renovation funded by a partnership of public and private support, the Lincoln reopened in May 2009 as a multi-use, state-of-the-art performing arts and education center serving the diversity of the Columbus and central Ohio community and ten resident Columbus arts organizations. The restoration is the foundation of revitalization plans for the King-Lincoln District, providing a bustling hub of activity 365 days a year with performances, rehearsals, and classes in the performing arts, as well as a wide variety of community events such as film festivals, meetings, and receptions.

The Lincoln Theatre Association acknowledges the support of many supporters, including Franklin County. In addition, the Ohio Arts Council helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

Contact: Rolanda Copley
(614) 719-6624
rcopley@capa.com