

# NORRIS CENTER

FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
27570 Crossfield Drive, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **WHAT A GLORIOUS FEELING! 'SINGIN' IN THE RAIN' MAKES A SPLASH AT NORRIS THEATRE Season opener has 3 week engagement Sept. 24 – Oct. 10**

*Rolling Hills Estates, CA* (August 15, 2010) -- The Norris Center for the Performing Arts kicks off their 28<sup>th</sup> season on September 24 with the most famous and beloved musical of all time - "Singin' in the Rain." The MGM classic has been faithfully adapted for the stage, preserving every unforgettable scene, song and dance, including Gene Kelly's show-stopping title number - complete with a live rain shower on stage. The show will run for nine performances through October 10.

"Singin' in the Rain" brings to life all the glitz and glamour of Hollywood's golden age in this zany, light-hearted romantic comedy. Set in the early days of sound film, the story revolves around a movie studio which is forced to scramble to salvage the career of its chipmunk-voiced silent picture star. The illustrious score includes such classic songs as "Good Mornin'," "Make'Em Laugh," "Moses Supposes" and of course the legendary signature song – all set to dazzling choreography.

"What I love about 'Singin' in the Rain' is that it captures the extravagance of the great old movie musicals and combines it with the excitement that only live theatre can deliver," said James Gruessing, the Norris Center's artistic director. "The show is an exuberant spectacle of song and dance, and is the biggest and most lavish production in the history of the Norris Theatre. We've even recreated multimedia sequences of silent and talking movies, which will be projected alongside the live action to remain true to the film version of the show. And yes, it will really rain on the Norris stage!"

"Singin' in the Rain" was adapted from the original award winning-screenplay by Betty Comden and Aldolph Green, with lyrics by Arthur Freed and music by Nacio-Herb Brown. After bursting onto the silver screen in 1952 with stars Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds and Donald O'Connor, "Singin' in the Rain" quickly became the gold standard

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for musicals. It won numerous honors, including several Academy Awards, and in 2006, was named the number one movie musical of all time by the American Film Institute.

Principal cast member in the Norris production of “Singin’ in the rain include Wesley Alvin (Don Lockwood), Sam Cavanaugh (Cosmo Brown), Savannah Ackerman (Kathy Selden), Ann Myers (Lina Lamont), Jeff Canter (Roscoe Dexter), Bruce Schechter (RF Simpson) and Jeannine Barba (Dora Bailey).

The creative team for the Norris production of “Singin’ in the Rain” includes director James Gruessing, choreographer Ann Myers and musical director Daniel Thomas. The production is generously sponsored by Morgan’s Jewelers, Frascati Ristorante and Re/Max Palos Verdes Realty.

Performance dates for “Singin’ in the Rain” are September 24-26, October 1-3 and 8-10 at 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. Tickets are \$42 adult and \$25 youth, and discounted group sales tickets are available at ext. 256. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 310-544-0403 or visit [www.norriscenter.com](http://www.norriscenter.com). Free, covered parking is available behind the theatre. The facility is wheelchair accessible and assisted listening devices are provided upon request. The Norris Theatre is located at 27570 Crossfield Drive in Rolling Hills Estates.

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### **About Norris Center for the Performing Arts**

The Norris Center for the Performing Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Center is comprised of two facilities, the 450-seat Norris Theatre and the Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, a performing and special event venue, and the home for the Norris education department, the Negri Learning Center. These facilities have become cornerstones for the performing arts on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and the entire South Bay area of Los Angeles. Website: <http://www.norriscenter.com>