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For Immediate Release

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**PERFORMING ARTS FORT WORTH ANNOUNCES 2025-2026
IRWIN STEEL POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT SERIES LINEUP
*TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY, JUNE 6***

FORT WORTH, Texas (June 2, 2025) – Performing Arts Fort Worth, the non-profit owner and operator of Bass Performance Hall, announced today six new shows coming to Fort Worth as part of the **Irwin Steel Popular Entertainment Series**. This lineup sees the return of many Fort Worth favorites with a variety of musical genres, plus an evening of drama and comedy.

At Bass Hall, **Lyle Lovett** kicks off the series, returning for one night only, October 17. Then, classical depth meets hip-hop's pulse when **Black Violin** brings their **Full Circle Tour** on November 4. After making their Bass Hall debut last fall, **Mariachi Herencia de México** is back with **A Mariachi Christmas**, a celebration of holiday classics blended with Mexican music and culture, on December 2. Finally, after gracing the Bass Hall stage as Atticus Finch in the national tour of *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Richard Thomas returns in Hal Holbrook's classic one-man show **Mark Twain Tonight!** on January 27.

At McDavid Studio, UNT's Grammy®-nominated jazz ensemble, the **One O'Clock Lab Band**, returns twice, once for yuletide merriment at their annual **Holiday** concert on December 5, then again for their year-end **Spring Showcase** next May 1.

"We are thrilled to continue our partnership with Irwin Steel as the title sponsor for the Popular Entertainment Series," said Performing Arts Fort Worth President & CEO Dione Kennedy. "This year's series lineup brings back so many Bass Hall staples, whether in new productions or with fresh elements to their shows. It is a privilege to have such a distinct group of artists that represent the vibrant and growing population we serve. We are so grateful to all of our sponsors, patrons and community for their continued support."

Individual tickets to these newly announced shows can be purchased online at www.basshall.com and by phone at 817-212-4280. The Performing Arts Fort Worth box office hours are Monday-Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm and Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm. For group sales discounts please visit www.basshall.com/groups. Additional show information is available at www.basshall.com/popularentertainment.

AN EVENING WITH LYLE LOVETT

(October 17, 2025, at Bass Performance Hall)

A singer, composer and actor, **Lyle Lovett** has broadened the definition of American music in a career that spans 14 albums. Coupled with his gift for storytelling, the Texas-based musician fuses elements of Americana, swing, jazz, folk, gospel and blues in a convention-defying manner that breaks down barriers.

Whether touring as a 'Duo' or with his 'Acoustic Group' or 'The Large Band', Lovett's live performances show not only the breadth of this Texas legend's deep talents, but also the diversity of his influences, making him one of the most infectious and fascinating musicians in popular music.

Since his self-titled debut in 1986, Lyle Lovett has evolved into one of music's most vibrant and iconic performers. Among his many accolades, besides the four Grammy Awards®, he was given the Americana Music Association's inaugural Trailblazer Award, and was named Texas State Musician.

His works, rich and eclectic, are some of the most beloved of any artist working today.

BLACK VIOLIN: FULL CIRCLE TOUR

(November 4, 2025, at Bass Performance Hall)

Step into **Black Violin's** Full Circle Tour, where GRAMMY®-nominated duo Wil Baptiste and Kev Marcus redefine the possibilities of music by merging classical depth with hip-hop's pulse. This tour captures the essence of returning to where it all began—transformed and reimaged. Each powerful performance invites audiences to reflect on their own journeys, discovering that even as we evolve, we're often drawn back to our roots with renewed purpose.

From high school orchestra classmates to groundbreaking artists, Black Violin's path reflects resilience, creativity, and the courage to challenge expectations. With their Black Violin Foundation reaching over 100,000 students each year, they're building a legacy that transcends the stage, inspiring a new generation to dream boldly. Join them for an unforgettable night that celebrates growth, music, and the beauty of coming full circle.

MARIACHI HERENCIA DE MÉXICO: A MARIACHI CHRISTMAS

(December 2, 2025, at Bass Performance Hall)

Celebrate the holidays with the heartwarming sounds of **Mariachi Herencia de México!** In this special Christmas edition of their world tour, **La Nueva Generación**, the **2x Latin GRAMMY®-nominated** ensemble delivers a holiday concert that honors both the magic of Christmas and the cultural vibrancy of Mexico. Experience an unforgettable night as they blend beloved holiday classics with mariachi traditions, creating an electrifying and unforgettable night of Mexican music and culture.

HOLIDAYS WITH THE UNT ONE O'CLOCK LAB BAND

(December 5, 2025, at McDavid Studio)

Jazz up your holidays with the **University of North Texas' One O'Clock Lab Band!** The Grammy®-nominated jazz ensemble returns to the intimate McDavid Studio for its annual "Holidays with the One O'Clock" concert. Celebrate the yuletide season as the One O'Clock's big band takes on all of your favorite holiday anthems.

RICHARD THOMAS IN MARK TWAIN TONIGHT!

(January 27, 2026, at Bass Performance Hall)

Emmy-Award® winning Actor **Richard Thomas** brings to life "the nation's one true comic genius" (*The New York Times*) in **Mark Twain Tonight!**, written and originally performed by Hal Holbrook. Join the millions who have cheered for the legendary one-man show, bursting with Twain's "uproariously funny" and "pungently wise" (*Time Magazine*) humor.

Most recently seen on Broadway in *Our Town*, on tour as Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, on Netflix's *Ozark*, and beloved to generations as John-Boy Walton, **Richard Thomas** is the first and only actor authorized to perform the play since the original.

UNT ONE O'CLOCK LAB BAND SPRING SHOWCASE

(May 1, 2026, at McDavid Studio)

Seven Grammy® nominations! Multitudes of great composers, performers, and educators all throughout the music world. Over 60 recordings and a tradition that just keeps swingin'...the **One O'Clock Lab Band** returns to McDavid Studio for their spring showcase to close out the series.

About Irwin Steel

An American Institute of Steel Construction-certified steel fabricator with a sophisticated paint endorsement, Irwin Steel LLC is a premier fabricator of structural and miscellaneous steel. With more than 65 years of experience building standard and specialized structures, from hospitals to football stadiums, with many large-scale projects in between, Irwin Steel excels at design coordination working in tandem with architects and engineers. With a focus on quality and excellence, the company's commitment to its customers, employees and continuous improvement has helped it become the one of the largest structural steel fabricators in Texas. For more information about Irwin Steel, visit www.irwinsteel.net.

About Performing Arts Fort Worth

For over 25 years, the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall has been a Fort Worth icon and nationally distinguished performing arts venue. Built entirely with private funds, the Hall's mission is to serve as a permanent home to the major performing arts organizations of Fort Worth and as a premier venue for other attractions to enhance the range, quality and accessibility of cultural fare available to the public; to promulgate arts education; and to contribute to the cultural life of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and the region.

Bass Performance Hall is the permanent home to the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Texas Ballet Theater, Fort Worth Opera, the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and the Cliburn. Each resident company operates independently from Performing Arts Fort Worth and manages its own programming schedule at Bass Hall.

Performing Arts Fort Worth, the nonprofit organization that owns and operates Bass Hall, also presents national touring Broadway productions under the Broadway at the Bass Series presented by PNC Bank, as well as intimate concerts, holiday specials and family entertainment in the Irwin Steel Popular Entertainment Series.

The 2,042-seat multipurpose Hall is characteristic of the classic European opera house form. An 80-foot diameter Great Dome tops the Founders Concert Theater while two 48-foot-tall angels grace the Grand Facade. Since the Hall opened in May 1998, the angels have become preeminent cultural icons of the Dallas-Fort Worth community.

In addition to Bass Performance Hall, Performing Arts Fort Worth also owns and operates the Maddox-Muse Center, a complex that includes McDavid Studio, the Van Cliburn Recital Hall and various facilities that support an array of performances and special events. With state-of-the-art acoustics and atmospheric lighting, McDavid Studio is a versatile studio space perfect for intimate concerts and performances hosting audiences of around 250-300. A multipurpose performance space ideal for hosting any number of events, the Van Cliburn Recital Hall was built in mind for the resident companies of Bass Performance Hall to utilize for rehearsal and commercial use.