

RUTH ECKERD HALL

RICHARD B. BAUMGARDNER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

PRESS RELEASE

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RUTH ECKERD HALL RANKED TOP TWENTY IN THE WORLD BY LEADING INDUSTRY TRADE MAGAZINE

January 19, 2010, Clearwater, FL – Entertainment industry trade publication *Pollstar* announced that Ruth Eckerd Hall ranked #18 in the world in venues having 5,000 seats or less in their 2009 year end ticket sales for the top 100 worldwide theatre venues. Within that same ranking, Ruth Eckerd Hall is #2 in venues having 2,500 seats or less. This ranking is based on concert and event gross tickets sale from January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009 with performances during that period. Ruth Eckerd Hall ranked higher than such prestigious venues as the Fox Theatre in Detroit, Fabulous Fox Theatre in San Diego, Chicago Theatre, Royal Albert Hall in London and the Carol Morsani Hall in Tampa.

In addition, *Billboard* Magazine announced in its 2009 year-end issue, that Ruth Eckerd Hall is ranked #9 in the world in venues having 5,000 seats or less. Within that same ranking, Ruth Eckerd Hall is #1 in the world in venues having 2,500 seats or less. Within the same issue, Ruth Eckerd Hall is ranked #8 in the world in venues with 5,000 seats or less for the Decade-End Top 10 ranking (from December 11, 1999 to November 21, 2009).

Ruth Eckerd Hall continues its stellar lineup of performances including Val Caniparoli's *A Cinderella Story* with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Vince Gill, Paul Anka, Bizet's *Carmen*, Harry Connick, Jr., Wilco and more.

Reserved tickets for all performances are available at the Ruth Eckerd Hall Ticket Office located at 1111 McMullen Booth Road in Clearwater, by calling 727.791.7400 or by logging onto www.rutherfordhall.com. The Ruth Eckerd Hall Ticket Office is open Monday through Saturday, from noon to 6 pm and one hour prior to showtime. Tickets will also available by logging onto www.ticketmaster.com.

Designed by the prestigious Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, Ruth Eckerd Hall is known for its 2,180-seat, acoustically perfect auditorium. Artists from America and around the world, ranging from classical, rock, opera, Broadway, jazz, pop and more are included in the stellar lineup of more than 200 performances a year.

Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Ruth Eckerd Hall Foundation are 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations.

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