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**Tony Bennett Performing Live at Mesa Arts Center
One Night Only Performance by Multiple Grammy Award Winner
Saturday, August 23**

For Immediate Release

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Mesa, AZ – Mesa Arts Center proudly presents **Tony Bennett**, the 17 time Grammy Award-winning musician whose music spans over six decades on Saturday, August 23 at the Ikeda Theater. Tickets range from \$60 to \$155, and can be purchased now through the Mesa Arts Center Box Office, mesaartscenter.com, or at 480-644-6500.

“...the epitome of what entertainers were put on earth for. Tony was born to take people’s troubles away, even if it’s only for an hour. He loves doing it; he’s a giver.” – Judy Garland

Sony Legacy just released *Tony Bennett: The Classics* which showcases a compilation of selections from Tony’s recent series of Duets CDs as well as solo versions of many catalog favorites.

With worldwide record sales in the millions, and dozens of platinum and gold albums to his credit, **Tony Bennett** is a musician who touches the hearts and souls of audiences with his legendary vocals and charming stage presence. His long list of achievements, spanning over 60 years, includes seventeen Grammy Awards, including the prestigious Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, making this artist a true international treasure. His signature tunes, such as “Steppin’ Out With My Baby” and “I Left My Heart In San Francisco” form part of the fabric of American music culture. Often billed as the world’s most boyish octogenarian, **Tony Bennett** is a vital musical artist at the peak of his powers.

Tony Bennett’s daughter, Antonia Bennett has been touring with her father and will open the performance with a collection of jazz/pop standards. Antonia Bennett is a graduate of the prestigious Berklee College of Music.

Tony Bennett celebrated his 85th birthday in 2011 with the release of *Duets II* and made music history by making Tony the oldest artist to ever have a #1 CD on the Billboard album charts. *Duets II*, followed up *Tony Bennett Duets: An American Classic* CD, released in 2006. 2012 marked the 50th anniversary of the singer's signature song, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" as well as the release of a new documentary film, *The Zen of Bennett*, created and conceived by Tony's son and manager Danny Bennett. Bennett also released his fourth book, *Life is a Gift: The Zen of Bennett*, in 2012 and it entered *The New York Times* Best Seller list.

Tony Bennett is also a talented painter. He has exhibited his work in galleries around the world, and three of his original paintings are part of the permanent collection in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC.

Throughout his career, **Tony Bennett** has put his heart and time into supporting humanitarian concerns and joined with Dr. Martin Luther King in the historic Selma march in 1965. His many charitable works include raising millions towards Diabetes, and lending his artwork to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. In 2007, he was honored by the United Nations.

Together with his wife, Susan, **Tony Bennett** established the charitable organization, Exploring the Arts (ETA) to support arts education in public high schools. Tony founded the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts, a NYC public high school in his hometown of Astoria, Queens, and ETA now supports 14 additional public high schools throughout New York City and has expanded to support three public arts high schools in Los Angeles.

***"We aren't likely to see a recording career like this again."* - The New York Times**

Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa. Tickets are available through the Mesa Arts Center Box Office at MesaArtsCenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500.

Editor's Note: Images are available for download via Mesa Arts Center's online Press Room at <http://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/misc/about/press-room/login>. Password is macmedia.

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ABOUT MESA ARTS CENTER

The Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.

For More Information On Tony Bennett Please Visit:

www.tonybennett.com

www.exploringthearts.org