

For immediate release

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The Community Theatre of Greensboro Kicks Off TRIAD IDOL 2008

*Triad-wide talent search will culminate with the crowning of three "Triad Idols" on
March 9 at the Carolina Theatre in downtown Greensboro*

Greensboro, NC, January 7, 2008 – Building on the excitement of the first three seasons – when nearly 2,500 singers from the ages of 8 to 66 auditioned – the Community Theatre of Greensboro (CTG) and Bob Dunn Ford have launched the fourth edition of TRIAD IDOL. Once again, the singing contest is open to people in three age groups: 8-12 years old, 13-18 years old, and 19 and older.

This year, preliminary auditions will be held in Greensboro (Four Seasons Town Centre), Winston-Salem (Hanes Mall), and High Point (Oak Hollow Mall). Singers from across the region are invited to share their talents in this exciting contest.

"Who will be our Triad Idols in 2008?" wondered CTG Executive Director Mitchel Sommers. "I've been amazed over the past three years at the depth of talent we have in the Triad. Kids as young as 8 or 9, high school and college kids, young working people, and grandparents have wowed our judges and our audiences every year! And some of the most talented singers have never before performed anywhere but in the shower. With TRIAD IDOL, CTG has been able to give these people a chance to share their gifts with a large and appreciative audience. In fact, many TRIAD IDOL contestants have gone on to perform in CTG mainstage productions and professional productions across the Triad."

After participating in TRIAD IDOL, some contestants have become more engaged in the Arts as well as in the larger community. "Many contestants don't realize what a thriving Arts community we have in the Triad," Sommers explained. "After spending time with members of the CTG family – and visiting the Cultural Arts Center – they begin to take part in other Arts-focused events."

In order to be crowned the 2008 Triad Idols, contestants will go through four rounds of auditions:

- **Preliminaries: February 1-3, 2008**
 - Greensboro (Four Seasons Town Centre)
 - Friday, February 1: 6 - 8 pm
 - Saturday, February 2: 1 - 6 pm
 - Sunday, February 3: 1 - 6 pm
 - Winston-Salem (Hanes Mall):
 - Saturday, February 2: 1 - 6 pm
 - High Point (Oak Hollow Mall):
 - Sunday, February 3: 1 - 6 pm
- **Quarter-Finals:** February 15-17, 2008 at the Odeon Theatre at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex
 - February 15: 6 - 8 pm
 - February 16: 10 am - 1 pm
 - February 17: 12 - 2pm
- **Semi-Finals:** March 1-2, 2008 at the Odeon Theatre at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex
 - Ages 8-12: March 1, 2 pm
 - Ages 13-18: March 1, 7 pm
 - Ages 19 and older: March 2, 2 pm
- **Final Event:** 3 pm, March 9, 2008 at the Carolina Theatre, 310 South Greene Street, Downtown Greensboro

The winner in each category will receive a prize package including \$1,000 cash; the opportunity to perform as the opening act at an upcoming CTG production; a paid contract to perform at Castle McCulloch; and a gift bag including gift certificates and prizes from local businesses. The 2007 Triad Idols – Karen Mickens (who won in the 19 and older category), Trenton Durham (who won in the 13-18-year-old category), and Annanoa Kaufmann (who won in the 8-12-year-old category) – enjoyed a similar prize package.

TRIAD IDOL information, registration forms and contest rules may be downloaded at www.triadidol.org or picked up at CTG's office at 200 North Davie Street, Greensboro.

About the Community Theatre of Greensboro

For 59 years, the Community Theatre of Greensboro has been committed to providing theatre for the community...by the community. CTG knows that an appreciation for the Arts—honed by performing, volunteering backstage, or attending productions—is an important part of a well-rounded life...and an indicator of a vital community. CTG stages a variety of productions each season—from dramas to musicals to the annual production of *The Wizard of Oz* (now entering its 14th hit year). CTG believes that TRIAD IDOL fills an important need in our community: giving children, teens, and adults the opportunity to develop their performance skills through an exciting series of events.