



**FIRST FARMERS UNDERWRITES COLUMBIA STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2009-2010 PERFORMANCE SERIES**

COLUMBIA Tenn., (September 23, 2009) – First Farmers & Merchants Bank has stepped to center stage and will be the title sponsor of the Columbia State Community College 2009-2010 Performance Series.

In the past, the series has featured an assortment of renowned national and international theatrical and musical performances with groups and individuals from Russia, Ireland, Canada, and a number of U.S. cities. The Nashville Symphony, Cumberland Playhouse and even the Platters have been a part of the cultural showcase, held at the Cherry Theater on the College campus.

“We’re proud to help bring great artistic performances to the community through Columbia State’s Performance Series,” said M. Harvey Church, Maury County President, First Farmers Bank. “The Performing Arts round out the life of a community and the gift of this series from Columbia State provides citizens entertainment they sometimes might not get to enjoy. With our commitment to community service, underwriting the season for the benefit of all Middle Tennesseans just seemed a natural for us.”

In addition to the just-completed first show of the series, *Legends of Motown starring HORIZON*, the season will feature the *Showtime at First Baptist – The Women of Ivy Gap Return* on Thursday, October 29, *Christmas Pops* on Tuesday, December 8, *Toe Roaster* on Thursday, February 25, *I Musici de Montreal* on Thursday, March 18 and the annual Columbia State Spring Musical – show TBD – on Saturday, April 24.

More information on is available at www.columbiastate.edu/performance-series.

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About First Farmers & Merchants Bank

Founded in 1909, First Farmers & Merchants Bank (Member FDIC) is one of the most successful independent banks in Tennessee, with total assets of approximately \$917 million and deposits in excess of \$758 million. An additional \$2.7 billion in assets is held by its Trust & Financial Management Department. Headquartered in Columbia, Tenn., the bank operates 17 offices in a seven county area in Middle Tennessee that includes Maury, Lawrence, Marshall, Hickman, Giles, Dickson and Williamson counties. It is distinguished by its commitment to traditional, personal banking relationships that incorporate state-of-the-art technology to provide the highest possible level of service. For additional information, visit www.fandmbank.com or call the main office at 931.388.3145.