
Hosted by David Duchovny

Featuring performances by Corinne Bailey Rae, Judy Collins, Shawn Colvin, Amos Lee, Taj Mahal, Steven van Zandt, and Rennie Harris Puremovement

Also Honoring Recipients of the 2017 Kennedy Center Award for the Human Spirit Joan and Sanford Weill and Afa and Aaron Dworkin

(WASHINGTON)—In one of D.C.’s most anticipated social events of the year, the Kennedy Center pays tribute to musical icon John Lennon at the 2017 Kennedy Center Spring Gala on Monday, May 8, 2017, in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall. The evening’s program celebrates the legendary late singer’s indelible impact on musical history from his skyrocketing start with the Beatles in 1960 through his celebrated and sometimes controversial career as a solo artist until his untimely death in 1980. Hosted by actor David
Duchovny, the gala performance features Corinne Bailey Rae, Judy Collins, Shawn Colvin, Amos Lee, Taj Mahal, Steven van Zandt, and Rennie Harris Puremovement. The executive music director of the 2017 Spring Gala is T Bone Burnett, and the music director is David Mansfield. The event is Co-Chaired by Bruce and Joyce Gates and Jim and Heather Johnson.

Lennon’s musical influence transcends a single genre or generation, leaving us with visionary albums like John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band, Imagine and Double Fantasy, and timeless ballads such as “Give Peace a Chance,” “Working Class Hero,” and “Imagine.” From the commercial success of the Beatles to his celebrated songwriting partnership with Paul McCartney to his marriage to artist and activist Yoko Ono, Lennon’s sound was ever-evolving to reflect his rebellious nature as an artist, his wit, and his often provocative commentary on global politics. He was posthumously inducted into the Songwriters Hall of fame in 1987, and twice into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame—in 1998 as a member of the Beatles, and in 1994 as a solo artist.

The Spring Gala is presented as part of JFKC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy, a yearlong celebration of the Kennedy Center’s namesake and what would have been the 100th birthday of the 35th President of the United States in May 2017. JFKC incorporates five enduring ideals often ascribed to President Kennedy—Courage, Freedom, Justice, Service, and Gratitude—into the fabric of the Kennedy Center’s programming through a series of performances, educational initiatives, and free public events. John Lennon’s idealistic spirit, along with his use of activism to inspire both social justice and political change, reflects these ideals and President Kennedy’s lasting legacy of empowerment and civic engagement.

**Kennedy Center Human Spirit Award Recipients**
The Gala will also feature the second annual presentation of the Kennedy Center Award for the Human Spirit, commemorating the seminal contributions made by President John F. Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy to cultural life in the United States. The award recognizes two recipients who have had an enduring impact on the advancement of arts and
culture: the Distinguished Philanthropist Award honors a lifetime commitment to and advocacy for the performing arts, recognizing individuals who have had a substantial influence on the broader cultural life of their community and country through both personal commitment and philanthropy; the Citizen Artist Award recognizes leaders who present and produce the arts in their communities, and deepen the effect of the arts and arts education in a demonstrated, transformational way at the local, state, or national level. The 2017 recipients of the Award for the Human Spirit will be Distinguished Philanthropists Joan and Sanford (Sandy) Weill for their magnanimous generosity to performing arts institutions across the U.S., and Citizen Artists Afa and Aaron Dworkin for their work leading and founding the Sphinx Organization, a Detroit-based organization dedicated to transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts.

“We are honored to recognize these four individuals for their work to foster the arts in communities across the country,” said Kennedy Center President Deborah F. Rutter. “President Kennedy dreamed of an America that would recognize achievement in the arts and culture, and we are delighted, as his living memorial, to help fulfill his vision by acknowledging the achievements of the 2017 awardees.”

Dustin Yellin—artist and founder of Pioneer Works in Red Hook, Brooklyn—has been commissioned to create original works of art that will serve as the physical awards. The artist made a major exhibition of 12 Psychogeographies at the Kennedy Center in April of 2015, one of which is part of the Kennedy Center’s permanent art collection and currently on display in the Center’s Hall of States.

The Spring Gala’s black-tie optional evening begins with a reception on the Roof Terrace level at 5:30 p.m. followed by an elegant dinner in the Atrium at 6:15 p.m. The Gala performance begins at 8:15 p.m. in the Concert Hall and the evening concludes with dessert and dancing at the ‘Til Midnight Party for all event sponsors on the Roof Terrace level. As one of Washington’s leading benefit engagements, the annual Kennedy Center Spring Gala provides critical funding to support the Center’s performances, education programs, and
outreach initiatives. To learn more about Spring Gala VIP packages, patrons can visit the Gala webpage, email springgala@kennedy-center.org, or call (202) 416-8338.

Concert-only tickets for the 2017 Spring Gala Come Together: A Celebration of John Lennon start at $45 and may be purchased at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online, or by calling Instant Charge at (202) 467-4600; patrons living outside the Washington, D.C. metropolitan calling area may dial toll-free at (800) 444-1324.

The Kennedy Center Spring Gala Premier Sponsor is Boeing, whose contributions play a crucial leadership role in supporting the presentation of the Kennedy Center’s artistic and educational programs throughout the year.

CORINNE BAILEY RAE
From Leeds, England, artist Corinne Bailey Rae released her self-titled debut album in 2006, debuting at number one in the UK and number 4 in the USA, featuring the global hits “Put Your Records On“ and “Like A Star.” With more than five million albums sold, Bailey Rae has been awarded two Grammy® awards including Best R&B Performance and multiple Grammy®, BRIT, MOBO, and BET nominations. She won her first Grammy® in 2007 for Album of The Year as a guest on Herbie Hancock’s River: The Joni Letters. The second album, The Sea (2010), was released to worldwide critical acclaim, and was nominated for the Mercury Music Prize. The subsequent EP Is This Love was awarded a Grammy® for Best R&B Performance in 2011.

She returned in 2016 with her third studio album, The Heart Speaks In Whispers, featuring “Green Aphrodisiac.” Bailey Rae stunned audiences worldwide in 2016 performing in the U.K., U.S, Europe, and Asia, including as special guest for Stevie Wonder at the BST Hyde Park London concert for a crowd of 100,000. Bailey Rae also has written music for film and television, including the theme song to Stan Lee’s Lucky Man. She recorded Coldplay’s “The Scientist” for the opening title sequence for Universal Pictures’ Fifty Shades Darker, which has peaked between number one and 40 in 33 countries at iTunes, and has elevated her to one of the top artists in the world on Spotify. Most recently, Bailey Rae was one of 13 models chosen by fashion designer Sophie Theallet’s New York Fashion week Spring campaign, representing a message of world diversity.

JUDY COLLINS
Judy Collins has inspired audiences with sublime vocals, boldly vulnerable songwriting, personal life triumphs, and a firm commitment to social activism. In the 1960s, she evoked both the idealism and steely determination of a generation united against social and environmental injustices. Five decades later, her luminescent presence shines brightly as new generations bask in the glow of her iconic 50-album body of work and heed inspiration from her spiritual discipline to thrive in the music industry for half a century.
Prolific as ever, in 2016, Judy recorded and released a DVD special: *Judy Collins: A Love Letter To Stephen Sondheim* in her hometown of Denver. Along with the Greely Philharmonic Orchestra, she dazzled the audience with Sondheim’s beautiful songs and her lovely, radiant voice. She also released a duets album in June 2016, *Silver Skies Blue*, with writing partner Ari Hest. The album was Grammy®-nominated for Best Folk Album, her first nomination in over 40 years. Ms. Collins, now 77, is as creatively vigorous as ever, writing, touring worldwide, and nurturing fresh talent. She is a modern-day Renaissance woman who is also an accomplished painter, filmmaker, record label head, musical mentor, and an in-demand keynote speaker for mental health and suicide prevention.

**SHAWN COLVIN**

Born in Vermillion, South Dakota, and raised in part in Illinois and Ontario, Shawn Colvin was already a well-traveled and seasoned performer by the time she won her first Grammy® Award for Best Contemporary Folk Album with her 1989 debut album *Steady On*. She has been a mainstay of the contemporary folk music scene ever since, releasing 11 superlative albums and establishing herself as one of America’s greatest live performers. She triumphed at the 1998 Grammy® Awards, winning both Record of the Year and Song of the Year for “Sunny Came Home,” from the platinum-selling album *A Few Small Repairs*. Her inspiring and candid memoir, *Diamond In The Rough*, which chronicles her struggles with depression and eating disorders, was published to strong reviews in 2012.

Colvin’s most recent solo endeavor, *Uncovered* (2015), is the long-awaited follow up to fan-favorite *Cover Girl, Uncovered*. Its 12 tunes include masterful interpretations of songs by Bruce Springsteen, Paul Simon, Tom Waits, Stevie Wonder, Robbie Robertson, and Graham Nash. In June 2016, she and longtime friend Steve Earle united to release, *Colvin & Earle*, their acclaimed self-titled duo album. Colvin was recently recognized for her career accomplishments when she was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Trailblazer Award at the 2016 Americana Honors & Awards Show. Shawn has been a resident of Austin, Texas since 1994.

**DAVID DUCHOVNY**

Born and raised in New York City, David Duchovny attended Princeton University and received his master’s degree in English literature from Yale. He was on the road to earning his Ph.D. when he caught the acting bug. Subsequently Duchovny emerged to become one of the most highly acclaimed actors in Hollywood. The star of Fox Television’s monster hit *The X-Files*, he was nominated for an Emmy® for Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series, and, in January 1997, he won a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor in a Drama Series. He has been nominated for a total of three Golden Globes, three Screen Actors’ Guild awards, and a TV Critic’s Award for Best Actor in a Drama Series.

Mr. Duchovny added the role of director to his already extensive list of accomplishments when he wrote, directed, and starred in three critically acclaimed episodes of *The X-Files*, titled “The Unnatural.” Other directing credits include the Fox hit series *Bones*, as well as six episodes of *Californication*, a long-running series in which he starred until 2014. His passion for renegade films has brought him critical acclaim for his performances in the feature films *Kalifornia*, in which he starred opposite Brad Pitt, and *The Rapture*, a controversial film directed by Michael Tolkin in which he starred opposite Mimi Rogers. He also starred in the Miramax ensemble comedy, *Full Frontal*, and made brief returns to television including *Life With Bonnie*, for which he was nominated for an Emmy® in 2003. His first novel, *Holy Cow*, was released by Farrar Straus and Giroux in February 2015 followed by his second novel, *Bucky F……Dent*, both of which hit *New York Times* Best Sellers’ list. In 2015, Mr. Duchovny completed his first studio album for ThinkSay Records titled, *Hell or Highwater*. He just completed his U.S. Tour and his second album will be out in Fall 2017.
RENNIE HARRIS PUREMOVEMENT
Artistic director, choreographer, and director Dr. Lorenzo Rennie Harris has brought these "social" dances to the concert stage, creating a cohesive dance style that finds a cogent voice in the theater. At the turn of the century alongside Princess Grace Kelly and Dr. Julius Erving, Harris was voted one of the most influential people in the last one 100 years of Philadelphia history. He’s been compared to 20th-century dance legends, Alvin Ailey and Bob Fosse. He has been awarded three Bessie Awards, three Alvin Ailey Black Choreographers Awards, an Ethnic Dance Award, and the Herb Alpert Award in the Arts for choreography, as well as nominated for a Lawrence Olivier Award (U.K.). In addition he has received the coveted “Philadelphia Rocky” award, Governors Artist of the year Award and the USA artist award for choreography, and voted one of Philadelphia’s Creative Ambassadors.

In 2010, he received an honorary doctorate from Bates College in Lewiston Maine and a second honorary Doctorate from Columbia College in Chicago. Touring Egypt, Jordan, Palestine and surrounding countries Rennie Harris served as one of four Ambassadors for the United States as part of President Obama’s cultural exchange program, Dance Motion USA, which was led by former Secretary of the State Hilary Clinton. In 2013, Mr. Harris founded a third company Rennie Harris Grass Roots Project based in Denver, Colorado. He and three companies—Rennie Harris Puremovement, Rennie Harris Awe-inspiring Works, and Grass Roots—and their infectious brand of movement have toured around the globe. Rennie Harris is atop the Hip Hop heap as its leading ambassador.

AMOS LEE
Over the course of more than a dozen years and six studio albums, Amos Lee has continued to evolve, develop, and challenge himself as a musician. A native of Philadelphia, Lee’s decision to pursue a full time career in music came after completing his degree in English at the University of South Carolina, where he attended in the mid-90s. Influenced by soul, jazz, and folk music, Lee got his break opening on tour for Norah Jones in 2003. Jones’s bassist, Lee Alexander, produced Lee’s first album, Amos Lee, which hit number two on the U.S. Billboard Top Heatseekers chart upon its release in 2005. Lee’s chart-topping album, Supply and Demand, came out the next year, followed by Last Days at the Lodge in 2008. His fourth album, Mission Bell, was recorded in 2010 and found him collaborating with music greats such as Willie Nelson and Lucinda Williams, and hit number one on the Billboard 200 and Top Rock Album Charts.

The next several years found Lee touring around the world and releasing the EP As the Crow Flies in 2012; the full-length album Mountains of Sorrow, Rivers of Song in 2013; and the concert album Live at Red Rocks in 2015. Along the way, he has performed on late night television shows Jimmy Kimmel LIVE!, Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, and the Late Show with David Letterman, and has been a featured performer on CBS This Morning, The Bachelor, The Tavis Smiley Show, and the live performance webcast Live from Daryl’s House, hosted by Daryl Hall. In 2011 he was a featured performer at the third annual Salute to the Military USO Concert, which was held at The White House on July 4 of that year. In August 2016 Lee released Spirit, his sixth full length album. On this project Lee served as his own producer for the first time, and incorporated heavy influences of R&B and pop into his folk roots. Driven by expansive production, elegant keys, and his unmistakable soulful delivery, this album immediately enchants and signals a bright new chapter in Lee’s career.

TAJ MAHAL
In September 2014 Taj Mahal was honored with what he called “one of the most powerful and wonderful things that could ever happen in my life.” The two-time Grammy®-winning singer, songwriter, film composer, guitarist, and multi-instrumentalist was presented with the Lifetime Achievement for Performance Award at the 13th Annual Americana Honors and Awards, which
celebrated decades of recording and touring that have nearly singlehandedly reshaped the definition and scope of the blues via the infusion of exotic sounds from the Caribbean, Africa, and South Pacific.

That night marked another extraordinary year for Mahal, which began with a performance at the Gregg Allman Tribute Concert in Atlanta; performing as part of the Bonnaroo Superjam on a bill featuring Derek Trucks with Chaka Khan, Eric Krasno from Soulive, renowned R&B/blues session drummer James Gadson, David Hidalgo from Los Lobos and Susan Tedeschi. He also played and recorded with Van Morrison in Dublin.

Since the release of 2008’s Maestro, which received a Grammy® nomination for Best Contemporary Blues Album, Mahal has been busier than ever touring and recording at a whirlwind pace. In 2010, after being nominated for Entertainer of the Year by the Blues Foundation, he joined Jimmy Fallon’s Late Night studio band, The Roots, as a special musical guest on the Rolling Stones classic “Shine a Light.” He also opened in Lake Tahoe for Bob Dylan. One of the highlights of the following year was performing a special opening solo set for Eric Clapton and Wynton Marsalis at Lincoln Center.

STEVEN VAN ZANDT
Steved Van Zandt is a musician, performer, songwriter, arranger, music producer, music supervisor, TV producer, actor, director, international DJ, activist, historian, teacher, member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and is recognized internationally as one of the world’s foremost authorities on both contemporary and traditional Rock and Roll.

After creating the “Jersey Shore” sound with the Asbury Jukes he became a founding member of Bruce Springsteen’s E Street Band, and went on to become a successful solo artist in his own right, recording and performing solo with his band Little Steven and the Disciples of Soul. He is currently working on his first new album in over 15 years returning to his Rhythm and Blues roots. His songs have been performed by artists such as Jackson Browne, Pearl Jam, Jimmy Cliff, Damian Marley, Gary U.S. Bonds, Darlene Love, Nancy Sinatra, Brian Setzer, Black Uhuru, and more. Van Zandt co-produced the seminal Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band albums, The River and Born in the U.S.A. He has also produced albums for Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes, Gary U.S. Bonds, Ronnie Spector, Demolition 23, Majek Fashek, and more. He arranged and produced Introducing Darlene Love, the critically acclaimed new album for the legendary Darlene Love, star of the Oscar winning documentary, Twenty Feet From Stardom.

T BONE BURNETT
With 50 years of experience in music and entertainment, T Bone Burnett has earned an unparalleled reputation as a first-rate innovative artist, songwriter, producer, performer, film and concert producer, record company owner, and artists’ advocate. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Burnett grew up in Fort Worth, Texas where he first began writing songs and making records. He was traveling the country as a free-lance record producer when he was asked by Bob Dylan to play guitar in his band on the now-legendary Rolling Thunder Revue tour, leading Burnett to form the Alpha Band with David Mansfield and Steven Soles. He made three acclaimed albums with the group before making a string of solo records in the 1980s, at the end of which he began to work in film, beginning with Roy Orbison’s A Black and White Night.

Burnett is an Academy Award® winner, a Golden Globe winner and 13-time Grammy Award®-winner. He’s worked and collaborated with musicians across many genres including Elton John, Robert Plant, Alison Krauss, B.B. King, Tony Bennett, k.d. lang, Elvis Costello, The Civil Wars, Taylor Swift, Ryan Bingham, Steve Earle, and Leon Russell. Burnett’s first major foray into film was his
collaboration with the Coen Brothers on *The Big Lebowski*, and has since held multiple titles for numerous films including *The Big Lebowski, O Brother, Where Art Thou?, Cold Mountain, The Hunger Games, Walk The Line, Inside Llewyn Davis,* and *Crazy Heart,* which he also produced. He also has multiple credits in television including as the executive music producer and composer for the HBO series *True Detective,* and he was executive music producer and composer for the first season of the ABC television series, *Nashville.* He is currently producing and narrating an animated series with Drew Christie called *Drawn and Recorded.*

**DAVID MANSFIELD**

David Mansfield is an award-winning film and television composer. His score for the A&E mini-series *Broken Trail* was nominated for an Emmy®. His first film score was for the controversial epic *Heaven’s Gate.* It led to collaboration on four films with director Michael Cimino, and a Golden Globe® nomination for *Year of The Dragon.* Other long-standing relationships are with Mexican auteur Arturo Ripstein and Maggie Greenwald (*Ballad of Little Jo, Songcatcher*). His score for Ripstein’s *Deep Crimson* won Best Musical Score at both the Venice and Havana Film Festivals.

Mansfield is also a world-renowned musician, coming to national attention at age 19 as part of Bob Dylan’s Rolling Thunder Revue. He subsequently formed The Alpha Band with T Bone Burnett and Steven Soles. Later, he was one of the founding members of Bruce Hornsby and The Range, receiving an RIAA platinum album and a Grammy® for “The Way It Is.” His credits read like a veritable who’s-who of popular music, from the late Johnny Cash to Sting, and most recently, with Bobby McFerrin as part of his “SpiritYouAll” project. Other recent projects include producing Loudon Wainwright III’s latest record, *Haven’t Got The Blues (Yet),* and composing the score for Maggie Greenwald’s new film, *Sophie And The Rising Sun.*

**AARON P. DWORIN**

Named a 2005 MacArthur Fellow and President Obama’s first appointment to the National Council on the Arts, Aaron P. Dworkin serves as dean of the University of Michigan’s School of Music, Theater & Dance, where he also teaches courses in arts entrepreneurship and leadership. The founder of *The Sphinx Organization,* the leading national arts organization for transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts, he is also a multimedia performing artist, author and a social entrepreneur.

Through his non-profit Serafina Arts, he now serves as host of the weekly video mentoring show, *AaronAsk,* which empowers people to live a fulfilling creative life. His memoir *Uncommon Rhythm: A Black, White, Jewish, Jehovah’s Witness, Irish Catholic Adoptee’s Journey to Leadership* was released through Aquarius Press.

Dworkin has been featured in *People Magazine,* on NBC’s *Today Show* and *Nightly News,* CNN, and NPR’s *Performance Today.* He has been the subject of articles in *The New York Times, Washington Post,* *Chronicle of Philanthropy,* *Emerge* and *Jet* magazines, having been named one of *Newsweek*’s “15 People Who Make America Great.” He is the recipient of the Royal Philharmonic Society Honorary Membership, Harvard University’s Vosgerchian Teaching Award, National Governors Association 2005 Distinguished Service to State Government Award, and others.

**AFA SADYKHLY DWORIN**

One of *Musical America’s* Top 30 Influencers and *Detroit Crain’s* 40 Under 40, Ms. Dworkin is President and Artistic Director of the Sphinx Organization. She has developed a comprehensive national roster of musicians of color, launched partnerships with more than 100 global partners and led the organization’s most successful fundraising campaign.

Ms. Dworkin is a frequent speaker at International Arts & Ideas Festival, Chamber Music America,
National Association for Schools of Music, League of American Orchestras, ICSOM, Americans for the Arts, Association of Canadian Orchestras, and others. She has served as an adjudicator for the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Association of Performing Arts Presenters, 3Arts Awards, the National Endowment for the Arts, Charlotte Arts and Sciences Council, Independent Sector’s American Express NGen awards, Florida, Indiana and Oklahoma State Arts Council grants, and Atlanta Symphony’s Talent Development Program. As a writer, she has contributed to Strings Magazine, Polyphonic.org, and the Michigan String Teachers Association magazine.

Ms. Dworkin serves as faculty for Roosevelt University’s Master’s Program in Performing Arts Administration. She is a Trustee for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and CultureSource.

A pupil of the former Soviet conservatory training, Ms. Dworkin graduated with High Honors from the University of Michigan with bachelor’s and master’s degrees in violin performance. She may be heard as an electric violinist on a CD entitled Bar-Talk. She previously served as a tri-lingual interpreter and Executive Assistant to the President at ARCO, The International Oil and Gas Company in Baku, Azerbaijan.

JOAN H. WEILL
Joan Weill is a tireless supporter of cultural, philanthropic, and civic endeavors, and commits a great deal of her life to public service and education. She worked as a volunteer in the psychiatric ward at Bellevue Hospital, served as President and board member of Citymeals-On-Wheels, and was a member of the executive committee and board of Women in Need.

Ms. Weill is the past Chairman of Paul Smith’s College of the Adirondacks. She served as Chairman for five years and was on the board for 20. She is Co-Chairman of the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall, which promotes music education around the world. She recently retired as Vice Chairman of Weill Hall and the Green Music Center at Sonoma State University after five years.

In addition, she is Chairman Emerita of Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation, having served on the board for 20 years and been Chairman for 14. She serves on the Ailey board and is widely acknowledged as a driving force in the growth of the entire organization over the past two decades. Her dedication to health led to her appointment as Co-Chairman of the New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine’s Women’s Health Symposium. She was recently appointed to the Board of Overseers of UCSF.

Ms. Weill and Sandy, will celebrate their 62nd anniversary this June. They are recipients of the 2009 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy Award. Joan has received honorary degrees from Paul Smith’s, SUNY Purchase, Bank Street College, Fordham, and Sonoma State. She is a graduate of Brooklyn College.

SANFORD I. (SANDY) WEILL
Sandy Weill is Chairman Emeritus of Citigroup and CEO of Casa Rosa Ventures. In 2014, he was named to CNBC’s First 25, a list of 25 people who have had the greatest influence in global business over the past quarter century. He is a former director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Hamilton Insurance (Chairman), United Technologies, AT&T, DuPont, and Koc Holding in Turkey. He was the recipient of Financial World Magazine’s CEO of the Year Award in 1998 and received the same honor from Chief Executive Magazine in 2002.

Long a proponent of education, Mr. Weill is Founder and Chairman (since 1980) of the National Academy Foundation (NAF), which oversees more than 96,000 students in 675 career-themed academies in 36 states and the District of Columbia. He is also Chairman of the Executive Council at
UCSF, Chairman of the Lang Lang International Music Foundation, and Honorary Chairman of the Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy.

In 2015, he retired as Chairman of Weill Cornell Medicine after 20 years and is now Chairman Emeritus. He also retired as Chairman of Carnegie Hall in 2015 after serving for 24 years and assumed the role of President. He recently retired as Chairman of Weill Hall and the Green Music Center at Sonoma State. Mr. Weill is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has received honorary degrees from Bank Street College of Education, Howard, Hofstra, the University of New Haven, Sonoma State, and the Technion. He is a graduate of Cornell.

This program is part of JFKC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy

In the year leading up to the centennial of John F. Kennedy’s birth on May 29, 2017, the Kennedy Center, the living memorial to President John F. Kennedy, is re-imagining the very mission of the institution created in his name. Inspired by some of the key ideals he championed—Courage, Freedom, Justice, Service, and Gratitude—the Center is featuring special programming through the end of 2017 that explores, challenges, and reflects the contemporary spirit of America. Guided by JFK’s legacy of idealism, hope, and empowerment, the Kennedy Center will serve as a creative catalyst and meeting place, inviting members of the public to engage directly with artists and ideas, and actively participate in the civic and cultural life of their country. For more information visit www.kennedy-center.org/jfkc

Support for JFKC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy is provided by Altria Group, Ambassador Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Chevron, The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation, and Target.

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