



**PBS
45 & 49**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBS 45 & 49 and the Kent Stage to host “A Doo Wop Celebration!”

Stars to perform their classic hits “The Lion Sleeps Tonight,” “Blue Moon,” “Under the Boardwalk” and more at live concert on May 5

KENT, Ohio — March 19, 2007 — Tickets are now on sale for “A Doo Wop Celebration!” to be held on Saturday, May 5 at The Kent Stage in downtown Kent. Three of the best-loved vocal groups of the doo wop era will headline two benefit concerts, to be held at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. The event stars The Drifters featuring Charlie Thomas, The Tokens featuring Jay Siegel and The Marcells.

Tickets are \$30 each, and a limited number of Gold Circle tickets are available at \$65 each. The Gold Circle level includes best-in-house seats, plus a private dinner reception and meet-and-greet session with members of the groups at PBS 45 & 49. The reception will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at PBS 45 & 49. The station is located just 10 minutes from the Kent Stage, south of the Kent State University campus, at 1750 Campus Center Drive.

“For even the most casual doo wop fan, this is a fabulous line-up,” said Lisa Martinez, vice president of marketing and development at PBS 45 & 49. “The music of The Drifters, The Tokens and The Marcells is an important part of our American musical heritage. Each group contributed major hits that are still loved today, including ‘The Lion Sleeps Tonight,’ ‘Blue Moon,’ ‘Under the Boardwalk,’ and ‘There Goes My Baby.’ We are excited to present this great concert experience in a historic local setting.”

The Kent Stage, located at 175 E. Main St., has 600 seats and offers an intimate venue for this event. To order tickets, call PBS 45 & 49 at 1-800-554-4549 or order online at www.pbs4549.org.

Doo wop has enjoyed a recent resurgence in popularity, thanks to PBS. In December 1999, the national broadcast of **Doo Wop 50** took the nation by storm with the premiere release of the first-ever celebration from 20 of the greatest doo wop vocal groups and their biggest hits. This success gave birth to two sequels, **Doo Wop 51**, which united an additional 30 doo wop legends, and **Rock, Rhythm and Doo Wop**, which historically preserved and presented even more legends from rock 'n' roll's Golden Age — the 1950s and early 1960s.

“Whenever we air a doo wop special, the station gets an overwhelmingly positive response from our viewers,” said Martinez. “Because of this, we decided to host our own concert so that we could bring this great music directly to local people who enjoy it.”

Proceeds from the concert will benefit PBS 45 & 49 and the Kent Stage, both nonprofit organizations.

About the Kent Stage

Constructed as the Flannigan and Steele Theater in 1927, the Kent Stage is the only remaining downtown theater of its kind in Portage County. The building opened as a vaudeville and movie theater and has entertained audiences in Kent for 80 years. The Western Reserve Folk Arts Association opened up the Kent Stage in 2002, continuing a tradition of providing quality entertainment in downtown Kent. More information is available at www.kentstage.org.

About PBS 45 & 49

PBS 45 & 49 is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, PBS 45 & 49 uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. The only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio, PBS 45 & 49 is available to 1.8 million households and 4.6 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average week, over 530,000 households (about 30 percent in the region) tune in. Through funding from eTech Ohio, the organization provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 257,400 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about PBS 45 & 49, visit www.pbs4549.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

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