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Contact: Linda Charlton 919-313-4162

Laugh It Up as Rickey Smiley Joins the Lineup at the Durham Performing Arts Center

DURHAM, N.C. (Aug 4, 2008) – Rickey Smiley, a favorite in the nation's top comedy venues, brings his familiar southern humor to the Durham Performing Arts Center (DPAC) on Friday, February 13, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. Establishing himself as a clean comic, Smiley's hysterical stand-up promises a laughfest for the entire family. Ticket prices range from \$37 to \$47 and goes on sale Friday, September 19 at 10 a.m. through the venue box office 919-680-ARTS (2787) or online at www.DPACnc.com or www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster outlets, including Macy's and Lowes Foods. DPAC Broadway Carolina season ticket holders get the first chance to buy tickets during a special pre-sale beginning September 15.

"Rickey Smiley has celebrated much success in his comedy career with his shows packing the largest theatres in the nation," said Linda Charlton, director of marketing for the Durham Performing Arts Center. "We are excited to present Smiley's hilarious comedy act, drawing diverse audiences from across the region."

A favorite for over twelve years on the nation's comedy circuit, Rickey Smiley's unique style of humor resonates with his audiences unlike any other comic on the road today. His style of comedy is recognizable, approachable, and best of all unforgettably funny. Best known as host of the 2000 season of BET's "ComicView," Rickey led the show to its highest jump in ratings in the show's ten-year history. During the 2001-2002 season, BET signed him to host "The Way We Do It," a show that went on to become one of the top five shows on the network. Rickey also made his mark in the feature film arena, appearing in New Line Cinema's "Friday After Next" in 2002 and "First Sunday" in 2008. Smiley carries a genuine love of performing and a true devotion to fans, making it a habit to personally greet his audiences as they are leaving the shows.

The Durham Performing Arts Center is currently under construction downtown in American Tobacco, adjacent to the Durham Bulls Athletic Park. On track to open this November, the 2,800 seat theatre is home to big shows, concerts, and Broadway Carolina, an authentic Broadway experience direct-from-New York. Performances are booked through an operating partnership between Professional Facilities Management and the Nederlander Organization. This spectacular cultural landmark will draw audiences to more than 100 shows each year with convenient access off I-40, I-540 and I-85, and more than 3,500 parking spaces within walking distance.

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