



DESIGNED BY FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

REMEMBERING RAY...

An Intimate Musical Tribute

8pm

————— Buckhead Theatre | 3110 Roswell Road Northeast | Atlanta GA 30305 —————

Remembering Ray...

An Intimate Musical Tribute

Event Purpose/Scope

In his sweet State of Georgia and in the beautiful City of Atlanta, a very special **fundraising tribute** will take place on June 10th for one of Georgia's most precious native sons! In honor of the 8th anniversary of his death, the children of the **Legendary Ray Charles** (*along with many celebrity participants, esteemed guests, VIPS and dignitaries*) will celebrate, in grand fashion, Charles' fascinating life, painful lessons and lasting legacy.

This Tribute will take place at the historic Buckhead Theatre in the prestigious Buckhead Area of Atlanta. This incredible red-carpet, **fundraising musical celebration** will benefit two organizations that exemplify Charles' private passions – Georgia Hands & Voices and The Atlanta Area School for the Deaf.



RAY CHARLES
Grammy Winning
Legendary Performer






About Ray...

Ray Charles Robinson was born Sept. 23, 1930, in Albany, Georgia. Ray later quit using his last name because there was already a famous Ray Robinson – the boxer Sugar Ray Robinson. Ray's father, Bailey Robinson, was a mechanic and a handyman, and his mother, Aretha, stacked boards in a sawmill. His family moved to Gainesville, Florida., when Charles was an infant. Ray Charles endured many challenges in his youth. Like many families during the depression, his family struggled with poverty. His younger brother drowned when Charles was 5 and by age 7 little Ray Charles had lost his sight. It has been speculated that it was as a result of glaucoma, but at the time there wasn't a specific diagnosis. Ray Charles was sent away to the state-supported St. Augustine School for the Deaf and the Blind, where he learned to read and write music in Braille. Blind kids study by reading the music with their fingers. Charles would read three or four bars of music with his fingers, and then play it. Unlike those with sight, a blind person can't just sit and play as they read the music. First they must learn the bars of music, practice it, play it and memorize it. Charles admired Clarinet player Artie Shaw and learned the clarinet as his first instrument. Later he learned piano, alto sax, trumpet and organ. When he was 15 his mother died. Charles left St. Augustine to pursue his musical destiny. Charles played at black dance halls around Florida, nearly starving at times. In 1948, Charles moved to Seattle where he met a young Quincy Jones and formed a lifelong friendship. Charles played a major role in the Jones 1985 recording of USA for Africa's "We Are the World." Charles' style was influenced by Nat "King" Cole. In 1949, he had a major R&B hit, "Confession Blues". During this early time he developed a dependency on heroin which continued until he stopped cold turkey in 1965. Charles has seldom talked about his heroin addiction, instead wanting the focus to always be on his music. Over the years, Ray Charles developed his own unique sound, a blend of blues, R&B and gospel. Charles' musical genius was noticed early. He had several record contracts and played at the Apollo, Carnegie Hall and the Newport Jazz Festival. In the 1960's, Charles started appearing in films and recorded soundtracks such as The Cincinnati Kid (1965) and In the Heat of the Night (1967). In 1978, Dial Press published his autobiography, "Brother Ray." In his autobiography Charles stated, *"I was born with music inside me. That's the only explanation I know of... Music was one of my parts ... like my blood. It was a force already with me when I arrived on the scene. It was a necessity for me, like food or water."*



About Ray... (cont.)

In 1980, Charles appeared in *The Blues Brothers* movie and scored a minor country hit for his duet with Clint Eastwood, "Beers to You," from the film "Any Which Way You Can". In 1989, Charles had his first major pop hit with "I'll Be Good to You," featuring himself and Chaka Khan. In the '90s, Charles appeared in commercials for Pepsi and was the subject of a PBS documentary. Charles won 12 Grammy Awards, winning his last Grammy in 1993 for Best R&B Male Vocal Performance, "A Song For You." Being born into the segregated south in 1930 Charles was aware of the evil of racial injustice. Charles also knew that since he wasn't able to know when to duck when bottles would be thrown at his head, that it was better for him to help raise money to fight racial injustice. Charles did this for Martin Luther King Jr. and other groups around the world. Commenting on being black and blind Charles said, *"I knew being blind was suddenly an aid. I never learned to stop at the skin. If I looked at a man or a woman, I wanted to see inside. Being distracted by shading or coloring is stupid. It gets in the way. It's something I just can't see."* One of Charles' most treasured awards is the 1976 "Man of the Year" Award from Beverly Hills Lodge of B'nai Brith. Charles said, *"If someone besides a black ever sings the real gut bucket blues, it'll be a Jew. We both know what it's like to be someone else's footstool."* On a personal note, Charles was a legendary ladies man with 12 children and 20 grandchildren. The last public appearance Charles made was April 2004 alongside Actor Clint Eastwood and Actress Cicely Tyson at his beloved Central Los Angeles recording studios. The city of Los Angeles honored his legend by designating his Edifice Complex an official city historic landmark. The Grammy winner's recording studios were built more than 50 years ago. The building, located at 2107 W. Washington Blvd, has served as his office and studio since being built in 1962. The Motion Picture "Ray" was released in October 2004, starring Actor Jamie Foxx playing the musical legend. Foxx won the Academy Award for Best Actor in his portrayal of the late, great Ray Charles.



Venue

This **exclusive affair** will be held at the **5-star, 600-capacity beautifully renovated** event facility called **The Buckhead Theatre**. With more than 7,000 square feet, **The Buckhead Theatre** is one of Atlanta's **most elegant and historic venues** displaying an exotic and charming Spanish Baroque style with a luxe atmosphere. The updated technology and intimate scale of the theatre lends beautifully to corporate presentations, product launches, PR & musical events. Expansive bar areas, full catering capabilities and pristine entertainment space makes The Buckhead Theatre, the perfect venue that gives way to a unique, urbane setting for any private celebration!



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The Artistry

The Artistry aka event features will include, but will not be limited to, the following*:

- Searchlights
- LIVE Entertainment
- Surprise Presentations
- Video Messages & Sizzle Pieces
- Oversized Branded Stations
- Red Carpet VIP Entrance (w/managed paparazzi)
- Specialty Tribute Drink of The Night
- Gobo Lighting
- Upscale décor, flowing drapery, etc.
- Delicious mouth-watering, passed hors d'oeuvres
- Cigar Displays & Passed Cigars
- VIP Gifting Suite Experience
- ...and more!*



SPECIAL CELEBRITY/VIP GUESTS

**THE
RED
CARPET**

SPECIAL TRIBUTE PERFORMANCE BY:

Singer Shelia Raye Charles



Charles & Actor Jamie Foxx

&



Claudette King
Daughter of Blues Great,
B.B. King

SPECIAL TRIBUTE EMCEE:

Actor Clifton Powell

*“Ray”, “The Best Man”, “The Brothers”,
“Rush Hour”, “Friday”. “The Gospel”*



SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO & BY:

THE CHILDREN OF RAY CHARLES:

Rev. Robert Robinson
David Robinson
Raenee Robinson McClellan
Corey Robinson Den Bok
Sheila Robinson
Vincent Kotchounian
Robyn Moffett
Ray Charles Jr.

OTHER VIPs, CELEBRITIES AND DIGNITARIES INCLUDE,

BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

Ambassador Andrew and Carolyn Young
Media Executive Xernona Clayton
Governor Nathan Deal
Mayor Kasim Reed
Members of The Georgia State Assembly
Surprise Celebrity Oscar Winner TBA



About The Beneficiaries

Georgia



HANDS &
VOICES™

Hands and Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology. We're a parent-driven, non-profit organization providing families with the resources, networks, and information they need to improve communication access and educational outcomes for their children. Our outreach activities, parent/professional collaboration, and advocacy efforts are focused on enabling Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing children to reach their highest potential.

www.gahandsandvoices.org

ATLANTA AREA
SCHOOL
FOR THE DEAF

The Atlanta Area School for the Deaf meets the individual needs of deaf and hard-of-hearing students by empowering them to achieve their highest potential.

www.aasdweb.com



Co-Producers

ONE WAY UP ENTERPRISES, INC.

One Way Up Enterprises is committed to building on the love of good music and great musicians by providing succulent musical experiences both through live concerts and audio pleasing recordings. Anchored in the rich musical legacy of Ray Charles, his daughter explores enticing presentations of both her father's music while introducing her own acoustic jazz creations to inspire today's audiences.

Committed to the richness of performance provided by skilled musicians, One Way Up Enterprises is preparing to tour extensively throughout the United States in the fall and winter of 2012-2013. *Remembering Ray* serves as the preview presentation of this musical event.

Co-Producers



We thank you for the opportunity to serve you with superior marketing, results-driven promotions, effective publicity, flawless event production and meticulous event management. We are excited about providing you with an incredibly creative marketing, promotion and branding campaign that will brilliantly showcase your product and/or service in ways you never knew! Likewise, we pride ourselves in maintaining the highest level of integrity imaginable to our clients, sponsors, charitable entities and business partners. *It's just the way we do business!*

Over the years, we have been blessed to consistently deliver wildly successful, innovative and cutting edge campaigns, programs and special events to some of the country's high-end clientele, corporate executives and non-profit organizations. We leverage our entertainment and sports assets, alliances and relationships to produce ***maximum results for our clients, sponsors and charitable entities.***

Built on integrity, dependability and loyalty, it is Foxx Entertainment Group's customary intention to exceed every client's expectations. We look forward to exceeding yours!

WE PUT THE 'WOW' IN YOUR BRAND OR EVENT!

Foxx Entertainment Group is one of the nation's premier, full service sports and entertainment marketing, production and management agencies, specializing in personal brand marketing, special events and cause marketing initiatives & programs. Bringing together and maximizing sports, entertainment and cause!