

Historic Hemet Theatre

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Susan Carrier (951) 551-5363 susan@valleyhappenings.com



HHT ANNOUNCES FIRST FOUNDATION GALA

It has been an exciting four years watching the Historic Hemet Theatre come back to life in downtown Hemet. The start was slow (agonizingly slow at times), but word began to spread that there was something going on down at the old movie house and they came to see...

Many have lived in the valley for decades and have never been inside the theatre. You can spot them as they walk into the auditorium and their jaw drops. This landmark is not just one of the oldest movie houses in the nation, but it is also one of the most adorable venues you will ever see.

Many grew up in the valley and have fond memories of movie classics and "Old Man Martin," the theatre's watchful owner. They all have stories of first jobs, special dates, and memorable films, one youngster laughing so hard that he broke a tooth(?)... So many memories...

At the end of the evening you can stand in front of the theatre and hear the comments from the crowd... "fantastic performers!"... "amazing acoustics and sound!"... "we will definitely be back!"

And the crowds grew, with lines that filled the street. And the awards began to filter in... 2015 Nonprofit of the Year from the Hemet San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce... 2016 Business of the Year from the San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce... 2017 Best Live Venue from Inland Empire Magazine... Business Woman of the Year for CEO Susan Carrier from the American Business Women's Association.

Now, 200 events and 25,000 patrons later, the verdict is in. This old vintage theatre has something really special and very powerful to offer this community. And the time has come to secure the purchase of the building so that the Historic Hemet Theatre Foundation can continue to preserve this landmark, enrich the valley with the arts and stimulate the redevelopment of the historic downtown district.

On December 2, 2017, HHT will host its first annual Foundation Gala to benefit the Building Fund of the Foundation. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be served, leading up to an unforgettable concert event. Dozens of raffle prizes will add to the festivities, including gift cards, trips, concert tickets and Disney Hopper Tickets.

"Vintage Vegas" will feature a tribute to the "Rat Pack," (Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. and Frank Sinatra.) Straight from Las Vegas, "The Pack" performs a show filled with the music, comedy and personality of the classic Vegas trio. It's a ball of fun from beginning to end, with great comedy, great songs and real singers that are also look-alikes!

Seth Abrahms (Dean Martin) has worked in nearly every aspect of entertainment, including commercials, off-Broadway, and soap operas. Bruce Hammond (Frank Sinatra) has toured the

country portraying Dean Martin in a variety of shows, including a one-man show, Sinatra Live! Kenny Jones (Sammy Davis Jr.) is an ultimate performer, performing in casinos and theaters around the world in tribute to "Mr. Showmanship." Together they create a show that is non-stop, high-energy entertainment. This is one event the valley will be talking about for years!

Tickets for "Vintage Vegas" are \$75 each, available at the Box Office or online at PurplePass.com.

Over 50 local volunteers are working behind the scene on this extravagant event. If you would like to help or sponsor the event with a donation or gift basket, call the Box Office.

For a full line-up of shows, visit the theatre website at www.HistoricHemetTheatre.com or stop by the ticket office Monday thru Friday 11am - 6pm or call (951) 658-5950. A weekly email blast of upcoming events is available by enrolling on the theatre's website, www.HistoricHemetTheatre.com.