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Media Contact:  
Savannah Whaley  
Pierson Grant Public Relations  
954.776.1999 ext. 225  
Jan Goodheart, Broward Center  
954.765.5814

## **THE LOVIN' FEELIN' IS BACK – THE RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS LIVE!**

*Blue-eyed soul pioneers perform at Parker Playhouse on January 17*

**FORT LAUDERDALE** – Blue-eyed soul pioneers **The Righteous Brothers** are back performing live at Parker Playhouse on **Thursday, January 17 at 8 p.m.**

With a string of No. 1 classics including the most played song in radio history, “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feelin’,” the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame duo of Bill Medley and Bobby Hatfield topped the charts in four decades. After Hatfield’s death in 2003, Medley continued to perform to sold-out crowds around the world, but fans and friends pleaded with him to keep The Righteous Brothers alive.

Says Medley, “No one could ever take Bobby’s place, but when I caught Bucky Heard’s show it all came together – I found the right guy to help me recreate the magic.” The concert experience features their biggest hits – “Lovin’ Feelin’,” “Soul & Inspiration,” “Unchained Melody,” “Rock and Roll Heaven,” Medley’s Grammy®-winning *Dirty Dancing* theme “The Time of My Life,” and more.

The Medley/Heard pairing came as something of a happy accident. Medley says it just seemed right noting, “I’d been friends with Bucky for years, but when I caught his show he just killed me! The next day it hit me – that’s the guy, someone I could sing hard with, laugh hard with, love and respect – on and off stage. He fits The Righteous Brothers live performance show perfectly. And, we’ve even recorded some new material together, I’m really excited!”

**Bill Medley** is truly one of the iconic figures in American music history. His instantly recognizable baritone voice has anchored some of the biggest recordings of all time. He’s won a Grammy, an Oscar, a Golden Globe and an American Music Award. The Orange County, California native began writing songs as a boy and had his breakout as a songwriter and singer when, in 1963, the Medley-penned “Little Latin Lupe Lu” became a regional hit for Medley and Hatfield as their first release as The Righteous Brothers. Other regional hits followed, “Justine,” “Koko Joe,” and “My Babe,” which led to a regular spot on ABC-TV’s national *Shindig!* broadcast. The show, featuring a cast of regulars, along with guest stars every week, catered to the teen audience, something new for TV at that time. *Shindig!*’s smash success coincided with The Righteous Brothers opening for both The Beatles and The Rolling Stones on their first US tours.

Soon, The Righteous Brothers caught producer Phil Spector’s attention and he signed them to record what would become, according to BMI, the most played song in the history of American radio – the Barry Mann/Cynthia Weil classic, “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feelin’.” A string of top hits followed until 1968 when Medley and Hatfield agreed to part ways to pursue solo efforts. Medley soon scored with top ten hits, “Peace, Brother, Peace” and “Brown-eyed Woman.” In 1974, the duo re-united and, within a few weeks, had yet another monster hit with “Rock and Roll Heaven.”

All dates, times, programs, artists and ticket prices are subject to change without notice.

From then, until Hatfield's passing in 2003, The Righteous Brothers never stopped performing to packed crowds. During that period Medley also recorded the chart-topping duet with Jennifer Warnes, "The Time of My Life," for the movie *Dirty Dancing* that went on to sell over 32 million copies worldwide. Then, shortly before Hatfield passed away, Righteous Brothers fan Billy Joel inducted the pair into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with a glowing seven-minute speech.

Always active and stretching his creative talents, Medley has also sung on the soundtracks or performed the theme songs for 33 movies and TV shows and, in 2014, released his memoir, *The Time of My Life*, published by Da Capo Press.

**Bucky Heard** is an Alabama native and Auburn University alum. He's been one of the most popular and versatile performers in America for several years, headlining countless shows in major venues. His reputation as a gutsy rock and roll singer, with an incredible vocal range, has garnered much critical praise and a legion of fans.

He's been hand-selected to share the concert stage with legends such as Andy Williams and Glen Campbell, and honored as "Male Vocalist of the Year" by entertainment publications. Credited with being one of the hardest working and in-demand performers, Heard has rocked his way across America with his 10-piece horn band, and also starred in numerous national production shows.

Multi-talented, and always seeking to expand his musical horizons, he recently created, wrote, and produced an original children's musical variety show called, *Rock U Mentally*, which headlined the American Bandstand Theatre for two consecutive summers.

Heard says teaming with Medley in The Righteous Brothers has been a wonderful gift. "Performing with Bill Medley is like getting your Ph.D. in show business," Heard says. "He is more than a legend; he puts everything into every performance, and really understands how to connect with an audience. He motivates me to be my best and I'm so grateful for this opportunity!"

Tickets are \$47.50–\$97.50. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of Parker Playhouse. Buy tickets online at [ParkerPlayhouse.com](http://ParkerPlayhouse.com) and [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com); by phone at 954.462.0222; in person at the Parker Playhouse box office Tuesday through Saturday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and at the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office.

The Parker Playhouse, located in Holiday Park at 707 N.E. Eighth Street in Fort Lauderdale, is an affiliated venue of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, which provides programming and management of the facility. The Broward Center 2018-2019 season is presented by the Broward Performing Arts Foundation.

For more information visit [ParkerPlayhouse.com](http://ParkerPlayhouse.com), like us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/TheParkerPlayhouse](https://www.facebook.com/TheParkerPlayhouse) and join the conversation on Twitter with [#ParkerPlayhouse](https://twitter.com/ParkerPlayhouse).

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#### ABOUT PARKER PLAYHOUSE

The neo-classical Playhouse Parker is one of Fort Lauderdale's first venues. Built by Dr. Louis Parker, the playhouse opened its doors on February 6, 1967 and is managed now by the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. This 1,168-seat, fully equipped theater plays an important role in the community by fueling economic development, while also bringing the community together with performances, activities and educational programming.

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