

Press Release: Uptown Music Collective kicks off performance season with a tribute to Steely Dan & The Doobie Brothers

Who: The Uptown Music Collective (a non-profit school of music)

What: Reelin' In The Years: The Music of Steely Dan and The Doobie Brothers

Where: The Community Arts Center (220 West Fourth St. Williamsport, Pa 17701)

When: December 4th & 5th, 2020 at 7:30 pm & December 5th, 2020 at 2 pm

Tickets: \$20.00 in advance & \$25.00 at the door via the Community Arts Center Website & Box Office

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On December 4th and 5th, the Uptown Music Collective and the Community Arts Center will team up to bring the community *Reelin' In The Years: The Music of Steely Dan and The Doobie Brothers*. The performance, the first of its kind in the area since March, will feature the music of rock and roll hall of fame inductees Steely Dan (2020) and The Doobie Brothers (2010). There will be limited tickets available for three live performances as well as a ticketed live stream of the Saturday night performance. This show is sponsored in part through a partnership with Hudock Capital Group. All CDC and state health recommendations and procedures will be adhered to for this event.

Rolling Stone Magazine called Steely Dan "the perfect musical antiheroes for the Seventies". In an era of big stage shows and the birth of the classic "rock star". Steely Dan stood apart from the bands of that period, choosing to focus more on their songwriting, recording, and production than constant touring and stage performance. Founded in 1972 by core members Walter Becker (guitar/vocals), and Donald Fagen (keyboard vocals). Steely Dan blended rock, jazz, Latin, R&B, and Blues and combined it all with a sophisticated understanding of studio production. Their unique blend of styles produced hit after hit, including Rikki Don't Lose That Number, Hey Nineteen, Peg, Do It Again, Reeling in the Years, Deacon Blues, Josie, and many more.

The Doobie Brothers were founded in 1970 by vocalist/guitarist Tom Johnston and vocalist/guitarist Pat Simmons. Starting as a mainstream rock and roll band that incorporated aspects of Folk, Country, and R&B in their sound. The band found success right away with hit songs like Long Train Runnin', Black Water, and China Grove. In the mid to late '70s, the band took a turn that led them in a funkier R&B pop direction with the addition of vocalist/keyboardist Michael McDonald. The McDonald era led to more success for the Doobie Brothers with hit songs like What a Fool Believes, Real Love, One Step Closer, Minute by Minute, Takin' it to the Streets, and It Keeps You Runnin'.

In 1981 Steely Dan called it quits, followed in 1982 by the Doobie Brothers. Both bands have reformed with a combination of past and new members many times over the last 40 years to record new music to go on tour.

"Nothing stops the music", said Dave Brumbaugh, executive director and founder of the Uptown Music Collective. "We have been planning our return to the stage since last spring. Creating protocols to keep our students and the audience safe, and working with the CAC to determine the best time and the best way to make a concert happen. As you can no doubt imagine, our students are extremely excited to take the stage again, and their little music as challenging as Steely Dan, or as fun and exciting as the Doobie Brothers to have the opportunity to do it with."

Reelin' In The Years will feature Collective students who have been diligently preparing for this event for over two months. Along with the music, there will be a professional grade light and sound show organized by the students themselves. As with all Uptown Music Collective performances, the students are not only the performers but also direct the show. There is also a group of younger students, called "Tech Monkeys" who will serve as stage technicians and spotlight operators. The cast for the show is drawn from the Uptown Music Collective's much-heralded Special Performance Group 1.

This show is directed by Uptown Music Collective Seniors Izzy Brumbaugh (WAHS), Gavin Paulhamus (Hughesville Area H.S.), and Dominic Fredin (Montoursville Area H.S.) as well as Tyler Noaker. The show's leadership committee UMC students Leah Batman (Laurel Springs), Molly Chapman (Montoursville Area H.S.), Isabella Cole (Loyalsock Township H.S.), Gabreon Godin (WAHS), Andrew Head (Montoursville Area H.S.), Anthony LaCerra (Loyalsock Township H.S.), Emma Luke (Loyalsock Township H.S.), and Cassidy Lutz (Loyalsock Township H.S.).

"This new lifestyle we've had to adapt to over this year has not been the easiest transition for the majority of us here at the Collective," said show director, Izzy Brumbaugh. "We are so excited to be able to perform this upcoming show. It's been almost a year since I've played music with my friends in front of an audience on the beautiful CAC stage and it feels great to be back! Myself, as well as my other fellow SPG1 members, have been diligently working and preparing for this performance, you don't want to miss it."

Additional partners and sponsors for this performance include Pennsylvania College of Technology, UPMC Susquehanna, Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships, Lycoming College, The Williamsport Sun-Gazette, Woodlands Bank, and Mickey & Jennifer Locey. Media sponsors include Lamar Advertising, 92.1 WSQV, NorthCentralPa.com, The Graphic Hive, Engage Media, 99.3 FM WZXR, and all of Backyard Broadcasting.

Tickets for the performance are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 on performance nights. Tickets for the live stream are \$15.00. Advance and streaming tickets are only available through the Community Arts Center (Box Office & Website). For details about the show visit uptownmusic.org or call 570-329-0888. Also, check out Collective's official Facebook page, as well as other Collective social media outlets for teasers, previews, behind the scenes info, and more from the performance.