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Award-winning Jazz Guitarist and Vocalist Allan Harris Delivers a Delicious Taste of Harlem on the Carpenter Center's Intimate Cabaret Stage March 2-3

*In his first and only West Coast appearance this season, Allan Harris and his band share songs from his new album *Kate's Soulfood—Harris's Homage to Harlem*—alongside jazz favorites*

LONG BEACH, California — Acclaimed jazz and soul vocalist and guitarist Allan returns to the Carpenter Performing Arts Center on the campus of California State University, Long Beach on Wednesday, March 2 and Thursday, March 3 at 7 p.m. performing songs from his latest album, *Kate's Soulfood*, complemented by favorite selections from the jazz songbook. The return performance takes place on the Center's Cabaret stage, a unique and intimate performance space with cabaret-table seating never more than 40 feet from the artist.

Kate's Soulfood is named for Harris's aunt's landmark luncheonette in Harlem, located around the corner from the Apollo—the restaurant is featured on the album cover of Jimmy Smith's "Home Cookin'." It was here, rubbing his young shoulders with such luminary patrons as Duke Ellington, Sarah Vaughan, and the Temptations, that Allan Harris absorbed the richness of the neighborhood and the soul and spice of jazz, soul and blues.

In addition to sharing the energy and vibrancy of his Harlem experiences, Allan Harris and his band also celebrate jazz favorites, including not-to-be-missed interpretations of Miles Davis's "So What?" and Nat King Cole's "The Very Thought of You." Harris's appearances with his band on March 2 and 3 are his only scheduled West Coast appearances this winter and spring and the last chance this season to groove to New York's jazz vocal king in this love letter to Harlem.

About Allan Harris

Allan Harris has been described by *The Miami Herald* as having "the warmth of Tony Bennett, the bite and rhythmic sense of Sinatra, and the sly elegance of Nat 'King' Cole." Called "My favorite singer," by Tony

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Bennett, Allan Harris has performed with or opened for Diana Krall, Natalie Cole, Al Jarreau, Michael Feinstein, Cassandra Wilson, and Wynton Marsalis, and has performed at Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, and the 2012 London Olympics. His many awards on over fourteen recordings include three New York Nightlife Awards for “Outstanding Jazz Vocalist,” a Palmarès Award, a DownBeat Critics Award as “Rising Star Vocalist,” and two New York Hot House Jazz Magazine Awards for “Best Male Vocalist.” Harris’ recordings are augmented by his many radio broadcasts including NPR’s *JazzSet with Dee Dee Bridgewater* and *Piano Jazz*; Michael Feinstein’s Series: *More Than a Song*; and *The Genius of Eddie Jefferson* live from Jazz at Lincoln Center. Throughout the pandemic, Allan Harris streamed live performances from his home in Harlem in his weekly “Harlem After Dark, Unplugged” series, lifting spirits in over 60 intimate shows.

Event Details

Allan Harris – *Kate’s Soulfood*

When: Wednesday, March 2 at 7 p.m. and Thursday, March 3 at 7 p.m. / Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Venue: The Cabaret Stage at the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center at 6200 E. Atherton St. Long Beach, CA 90815

Tickets: \$45-\$55, available at carpenterarts.org.

Additional ticketing information is available at carpenterarts.org/ticket-office.

Press photos are available at carpenterarts.org/press.

Presentations are made possible in part by Season Media Partner KPCC 89.3-FM.

Attendance Information

Vaccinations and masks are required. For details, see carpenterarts.org/faq.

About the Carpenter Center

Now celebrating its 26th season, the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center located on the California State University, Long Beach campus gracefully accommodates large and small productions, seating 1,054 patrons. Each season, the Carpenter Center showcases emerging and established musicians, dancers, actors, speakers, comedians, and visual artists, as well as other artistic, educational, and cultural experiences that enrich lives, promote lifelong learning in and through the performing arts and serve as a gateway between the university and the greater community.

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