



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KMFA Launches *Icons of Broadway*

Mela Dailey to host new weekly program spotlighting artists of the Great White Way. The show debuts Saturday, July 11 at noon on 89.5 FM and www.kmfa.org

Austin, Tex., June 25, 2015 – The sounds of Broadway will join the lineup of locally produced programs on KMFA Classical 89.5 this summer in *Icons of Broadway*, a new one-hour show to debut Saturday, July 11 at noon.

“Icons of Broadway pays tribute to some of the greatest American musical artists who have ever lived,” says host Mela Dailey, “We owe them such gratitude for the way their music touches our hearts and souls, and it’s exciting to bring them to life on KMFA.”

Hosted by popular Austin singing actress Mela Dailey, the new series, available exclusively on KMFA, celebrates some of the greatest artists ever to be associated with the Great White Way. Each music-filled episode spotlights an iconic performer or personality who has defined classic American musical theater. From Judy Garland to Audra McDonald, Brian Stokes Mitchell to Stephen Sondheim, each weekly episode of *Icons of Broadway* will feature great recordings of some of the most magical moments in music history, examining the course of artists’ roles and careers.



Icons of Broadway Host Mela Dailey

As an added highlight, each program will feature Dailey and other top Austin singers performing a classic Broadway song in the KMFA studios.

“KMFA has played great orchestral Broadway music for many years in its daily programming. So the idea of a Broadway show is a natural extension of that, and something our listeners have been asking for,” said KMFA President & General Manager Ann Hume Wilson. “The innovative concept of this Broadway show is that it is artist-focused – a wonderful idea that came from Mela Dailey, as did adding a live performance to complement the recorded versions. This is another way that KMFA can bring the amazing talents of Austin’s musical artists to wider audiences.”

Icons of Broadway will air Saturdays at noon, and can be heard at 89.5 FM. The program can also be streamed and replayed on demand at no charge at www.kmfa.org.

[Additional info below]

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Additional Info:

About Mela Dailey

Mela (*mee-la*) Dailey is an acclaimed Austin-based singer and actress. She has received recognition in a wide variety of musical genres including opera, oratorio, art song, musical theater, vocal jazz, gospel, country, and popular music. She performs regularly with Conspirare, and sang on its 2015 Grammy-award-winning recording, *Sacred Spirit of Russia*. She has performed with Austin Opera and the Austin Symphony Orchestra, and has taught vocal technique in the Theatre and Dance Department of the University of Texas. More information is available at www.meladailey.com.

About KMFA Classical 89.5

KMFA Classical 89.5 is a nonprofit, listener-supported radio station which recognizes that classical music inspires and restores the human spirit. KMFA handcrafts exceptional classical music experiences on-air, online, and in community. Since 1967, KMFA has enhanced the region's cultural environment as an educational and cultural institution. For more information or to listen online, visit kmfa.org.

Season 1 Schedule

1. Judy Garland Pt. 1
2. Judy Garland Pt. 2
3. Mandy Patinkin
4. Barbra Streisand Pt. 1
5. Barbra Streisand Pt. 2
6. Stephen Sondheim Pt. 1
7. Stephen Sondheim Pt. 2
8. Audra McDonald
9. Liza Minnelli
10. Brian Stokes Mitchell
11. Rodgers and Hammerstein Pt. 1
12. Rodgers and Hammerstein Pt. 2
13. Barbara Cook *or* Patti LuPone, tbd
(programs subject to change)