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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

90 Years and Riding Strong, Sons of the Pioneers Come to Weinberg Center



FREDERICK, MD, February 15, 2024 — [The Sons of the Pioneers](#), who galloped onto the music scene in 1934 and forever transformed cowboy music with their thrilling harmonies and poetic images of the West, will be at the Weinberg Center for the Arts in Frederick, Maryland, on Sunday, March 17 at 3:00 PM.

Tickets start at \$25 and may be purchased online at WeinbergCenter.org, by calling the box office at 301-600-2828, or in person at 20 West Patrick Street. Discounts are available for students, children, military, and seniors.

Celebrating its 90th year of continuous performing, The Sons of the Pioneers is still the standard for Western music today. Originals like *Cool Water*, *Tumbling Tumbleweeds*, and *The Timber Trail*, forever rooted in Western lore, are stirring new audiences. When Roy Rogers (then Leonard Slye) and gifted songwriters Bob Nolan and Tim Spencer began developing their trademark 'Pioneer sound' in the early '30s, little did they realize they were launching a juggernaut that would become perhaps the longest-lived group in American music history.

Through the years, gifted singers and instrumentalists have rotated into the group to keep the Pioneers' musical campfire burning brightly. "These songs are masterpieces and are just a part of who we are as Americans," says Tommy Nallie, the current leader and only the fourth 'trail boss' in the group's history. "We stay true to the music, and audiences are hungry for it." In addition to Nallie, who sings the 'middle' part in the Pioneers' vocal trio and plays lead guitar, the group's other four members are: Ken Lattimore (tenor and lead vocals, fiddle), John Fullerton (baritone and lead vocals, rhythm guitar), Paul Elliott (lead fiddle, harmony vocals), and Chuck Ervin (string bass, harmony vocals).

The Pioneers' songs have been recorded by an astonishing range of performers, including Bing Crosby, the Boston Pops, Diana Ross and the Supremes, Frankie Laine, Johnny Cash, Riders in the Sky, Michael Martin Murphey, and even the Muppets. The Pioneers are the most decorated group in Western music, winning honors such as the Country Music Hall of Fame, the Western Music Association Hall of Fame, the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, the Texas Swing Hall of Fame, and the Hollywood Walk of Fame, to name a few. The group's renditions of *Tumbling Tumbleweeds* and *Cool Water* have been inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame, and the Smithsonian Institution has named the group one of America's 'National Treasures.' "No other group had as profound an effect on the history of Western music," writes music historian Douglas B. Green, also known as Ranger Doug of Riders in the Sky. "Their lyrical musical portraits virtually define the romanticized West ... painting its colors as no one had done before or has done since."

For your convenience below are links to photos the artists and their website.

<https://bit.ly/Sons-of-the-Pioneers-pics>

<https://sonsofthepioneers.org/>

A complete listing of artists and performers scheduled for the 2023-24 season can be found at

WeinbergCenter.org.

ABOUT THE WEINBERG CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Weinberg Center for the Arts is one of the region's premier performing arts presenters, offering film, music, dance, theater, and family-focused programming. Located in the historic Tivoli movie theater in downtown Frederick Maryland, the Weinberg Center strives to ensure that the arts remain accessible and affordable to local and regional audiences alike. Weinberg Center events are made possible with major support from the City of Frederick, the Maryland State Arts Council, Plamondon Hospitality Partners, and other corporate and individual donors.