

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS
& CULTURAL CENTRE
SOCIETY
9201 Corbould Street, Chilliwack BC V2P 4A6



Contact: Ann Goudswaard, Marketing
Manager
T: 604.392.8000, ext.103
E: ann@chilliwackculturalcentre.ca
W: www.chilliwackculturalcentre.com

January 26, 2014

High Resolution photo: [DalRichardsOrchestra.jpg](#)
Photo Description: Dal and his band bring out husky romantic tunes from eras past for a very special Valentine's Day performance.
Photo Credit: N/A
Written by: Dessa Bayrock

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BIG BAND, BIG HEART: DAL RICHARDS IN AN EXTRAORDINARY VALENTINE'S CELEBRATION!

Valentine's Day is well on its way, and the amazing Dal Richards knows exactly how to celebrate with a special slate of romance, jazz, swing, and old classics in a special concert at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre!

The Dal Richards Orchestra will fill the HUB International Theatre with their perfect harmonies and favourite swinging songs on **February 14 at 7:30pm**. With the talented musicians of his band backing him up, Dal brings out husky romantic tunes of eras past for a Valentine's Day like no other.

After all, with seven decades of musical experience under his belt, no one knows romantic music like Dal - who has a gorgeous selection of Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong, and more picked out to celebrate the most romantic day of the year.

Dal has been a pillar of Vancouver's music scene for seventy years, and he's not thinking about quitting any time soon. He got his start in high school bands, and with a healthy helping of talent and determination hosted wildly popular dances and concerts at "The Roof" in Vancouver. At the grand old age of 97, he's entertained audiences at the PNE for more than seventy consecutive years - and he's still going strong and sharing his love of all things musical to those around him.

"I love playing these shows, and I absolutely look forward to it every time," Dal says with a grin. "And once the curtain goes up, it's that old story about the old horse that still gets out of the barn. I still get up there and have a good time!"

Dal brings back the glory days of dance and rock and roll with a brilliant line-up of tunes from all decades - ranging from Glenn Miller's "In the Mood" to Louis Prima's "Jump, Jive, an' Wail."

The band has a list of about 70 songs picked out, and they'll try and fit 20 or so into the concert. Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong, and Bruce Springsteen all make appearances on the list - a wide and hugely varied selection of music from the last seven decades!

"We'll probably open with 'In the Mood,'" Dal says. "It's was a popular opening number all those years ago, a good opening number, and it still is. People love it to start - it sets the tempo for the whole evening."

His wife Muriel fondly describes the concert as a throwback to the good old days when Valentine's Day saw Dal play in ballrooms as part of the romantic celebrations.

"It's funny about Valentine's day, because it used to be that Dal had a dinner and dance every Valentine's day - he'd be booked into some big hotel," she says fondly. "But now not as many places do dances, so it's a bit of a different idea to do a concert that night - and we're really looking forward to it!"

Dal says he's especially excited to return to this side of the Valley - to a town that he has decades of history with.

"We used to play pretty regularly in Chilliwack in the 40s," he fondly recalls. "We'd come out every year for the Cherry Carnival, I think it was called. That was a lot of years ago! So we have a long history with this city."

"And Dal used to go see the Jazz Festival all the time," Muriel adds. "There's just a lot of great young talent out in Chilliwack! We were hoping Bria Skonberg might be in town - she's a lovely musician who used to sing with Dal, and we'd love to see her again."

Dal has collected accolades from all over for his soulful singing and superb saxophone skills. He's a member of the British Columbia Entertainment Hall of Fame, was appointed to the Order of Canada, and holds the keys to the City of Vancouver. All of his accomplishments reflect his giant heart and his passion for his home province - and he'll be bringing both to the stage this Valentine's day with his trademark pizzazz.

"You know, a few years ago I thought 95 was a pretty old number," says the now 97-year-old. "But I don't feel that way any longer because I don't feel any different. I'm still blowing my horn. I'm still rehearsing. And I'm always looking forward to it."

"If you find something you like doing in life, pursue it with your heart," Dal counsels. "That's what I've done with music. I found it was my love, so it enveloped my life totally."

This Valentine's Day marks a concert extraordinaire for all ages with the best of jazz, dance, and rock and roll from one of the most experienced musicians in Vancouver. This matchless concert with the Dal Richards Orchestra will be filled to the brim with heart, soul, and passion - just what the doctor ordered for a romantic holiday you'll remember for years to come.

The Dal Richards Orchestra takes to the stage at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre on Saturday, February 14 at 7:30pm. Call the Centre Box Office at 604-391-SHOW (7469) or visit chilliwackculturalcentre.ca to reserve your seats: tickets are \$35 for students, \$37 for seniors, and \$40 for adults.

Valentine's Day with the Dal Richards Orchestra is proudly and generously sponsored by Nestle Waters Canada, Bathe Plumbing, the Chilliwack Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, the City of Chilliwack, The Chilliwack Progress, the British Columbia Arts Council, the Province of British Columbia, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Additional Information

[Dal Richards Orchestra website](#)

For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

Ann Goudswaard, Marketing Manager

T: 604.392.8000, ext.103

E: ann@chilliwackculturalcentre.ca

Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Owned by the City of Chilliwack, the Cultural Centre houses two unique performance venues, an art gallery, music instruction studios, arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms, offices, and is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music and the Chilliwack Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 188,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding \$2,600,000. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City, and boasts The Chilliwack Academy of Music, The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association, The Chilliwack Players Guild, The Chilliwack Symphony Orchestra, and the Chilliwack School of Performing Arts as partners.

Chilliwack Cultural Centre highlights:

- 597 seat performance theatre
- 168 seat recital hall / rehearsal space / dance studio / meeting space
- Chilliwack Art gallery (22-foot high display area)
- 21 music instructional rooms
- Arts and crafts studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Board of Directors

Dave Stephen - President

Doug Wickers - Vice President

Jordan Forsyth - Secretary

Mark Paxian - Treasurer

Directors at Large

Janet Carroll

Neil Clark

Michael Hamilton-Clark

Nigel Lennie

Jacque Simpson

Joy St. John

Ex-officio

Sam Waddington

Gord Pederson

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Partners

City of Chilliwack

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society

Chilliwack Academy of Music

Chilliwack Players Guild

Chilliwack School of Performing Arts

Chilliwack Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

Chilliwack Visual Artists Association

The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society is registered under the British Columbia Society Act as a not-for-profit society (society number S-54973), and is a registered Canadian charitable organization under the Canadian Charities Directorate. (charity number 805742897 RR0001)

#

If you wish to be removed from this email list, simply reply to this email.