

131 County Circle
Hampshire House
Amherst, MA 01003
413.545.0100



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For further information, contact:
Christopher Daly, Individual Giving Officer
413.545.3372 csdaly@wfcrr.org

Capitol Steps performance to benefit WFCR & WNNZ programs

[Amherst, MA - 13 November 2007] Once again WFCR will present the award-winning Capitol Steps offering their unique brand of political musical satire to the area for two performances in December. Dates for the two performances are Thursday, December 6, and Friday, December 7, at 7:30 pm at Chapin Auditorium.



Famous for putting the "mock" in democracy, the Capitol Steps have become an annual area holiday season tradition. The irreverent group charms audiences on both sides of the aisle with its unique brand of political humor set to popular music. While the Capitol Steps are renowned for poking fun at occupants of the White House, no one is safe from their satirical barbs, from Democrats to Republicans and from Congress to the Supreme Court. Depending on the scandal of the day, the cast will perform selections from their current repertoire, which may (or may not) include appearances by George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, Hillary Clinton, Larry Craig, Rudy Giuliani, Al Gore, John McCain, Barack Obama, and those justices known as The Supremes.

The Capitol Steps began in 1981 at a Christmas party in the office of former Senator Charles Percy, when several staffers performed some parodies and skits based on the headlines of the day. Many members of the Steps have worked on Capitol Hill, some for Republicans, some for Democrats, and some for members who since have been placed under investigation. In fact, the Steps' current members have worked in a total of 18 Congressional offices and represent 62 years of collective House and Senate staff experience.

The Capitol Steps have performed for five U.S. presidents and recorded 27 albums, including their latest, *Springtime for Liberals*. They have been featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, and PBS and can be heard four times a year on NPR stations nationwide during their *Politics Takes a Holiday* specials. They were nominated for a 2007 Drama Desk Award for "Outstanding Lyrics."

Tickets are general admission and are priced as follows: Producers Circle: \$50 (which includes premium seating and post-event reception with the cast); Orchestra: \$35; Balconies: \$30 and \$25. Information is available at wfcrr.org, tickets are available in person at the UMASS/Amherst Fine Arts Center Box-Office, by telephone at 413-545-2511 or 800-999-UMAS, or online at [UMass Fine Arts Center.com](http://UMassFineArtsCenter.com).

The Capitol Steps performances are sponsored by Mount Holyoke College and the *Valley Advocate*. Proceeds from the performances benefit the programs and services of 88.5FM/WFCR, NPR News and Music for Western New England and 640AM/WNNZ, WFCR's AM broadcast station.

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