



Media Release

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Harlem Wizards: 2007 Season is Underway

The world famous Harlem Wizards are one of the best show basketball teams ever to “lace ‘em up and let it fly.” Year after year the Wizards entertain packed gyms and arenas from New York to Beijing.

What makes the Harlem Wizards so popular the world over?

The Wizards neighborhood spirit builds magic on the courts and in the stands all over the globe with world-class athletes and entertainers who honor their fans’ devotion with unflinching appreciation and dedication.

Delighted fans say it’s beyond the trick shots, slam dunks and on court antics. No two shows are alike. The players engage the audience directly allowing for spontaneity and suspense that keeps the show fresh and the fans coming back. Whether they face the toughest competition or funny foils, the Wizards roll between comedy routines and serious ball with championship ease.

Since 1962 the Harlem Wizards have spread good will through entertainment basketball, partnering with thousands of communities to raise millions of dollars by creating awe-inspiring and wildly successful events.

History

The Harlem Wizards was founded in 1962 by Howie Davis -- a determined sports promoter -- inspired by the legendary Harlem Globetrotters. Davis brought his fire and creativity to the tradition of show ball, and by the time of his passing in 1992, the Wizards had carved out a legacy in a field once dominated by the ‘Trotters.

Todd Davis took up where his father left off and -- with the help of the top talent in show-biz b-ball -- continues to fulfill the team’s mission of creating a joyous, breathtaking basketball adventure for everyone. The Wizards have played over 6,000 games in both

the United States and abroad with a current winning streak exceeding 3,000 games, and miles of smiles.

Competition

The Wizards' opponents are different every night and so is the crowd. When a good opponent stokes up the competitive fires, the Wizards run their magic stunningly. One night's epic battle with a college alumni team, might be followed by a good-natured crew of elementary teachers participating in a Wizards' improvised comedy game to the glee of parents and students.

Players

The Wizards has been the playground for some of the NBA's greatest legends like NBA Top 50 All-Time selections Connie Hawkins and Nate "Tiny" Archibald along with Hawthorne Wingo, who became a New York Knick. Over 20 NBA players, college greats and playground legends have dotted the Wizards' roster. Over 30 Wizards' players are listed in Slam Magazine's top street-baller historical retrospective.

Current Wizards' show stoppers Eric "Broadway" Jones and Arnold "A-Train" Bernard are former Globetrotters. Chris "Handles" Franklin is one of the world's greatest trick dribblers. "Tojo" Henderson is an icon, still wowing audiences after over 40 years.

Third generation Wizard fans remember Lawrence "Magic Man" Gable, "Puggy" Bell, "Showboat" Dumpson, "Pickles" Murphy, Larry "Butterfly Man" Cheatham and Bobby "Zorro" Hunter.

With old crowd favorites and young rising sensations, 2007 promises to be our best season ever with eye-popping skills and exhilarant spectacle.

Community and Fans

The Wizards' skills and thrills deliver "buckets of fun". The heart of their popularity is their bond with the fans and the guarantee of wholesome family entertainment that never rests on reputation. The players and organization continuously innovate and produce surprising twists and challenges that keep fans coming back year after year.

The Harlem Wizards perform on many different courts and stages. Around the world, Harlem Wizards go up against celebrities, freestyle ballers and professional teams. They perform for schools, colleges, corporations, communities and private events.

Millions of dollars have been raised for non-profit community organizations and charities, including high-profile fundraisers with Russell Simmons, Malcolm Jamal Warner, Luke Perry, sports commentator/writer Peter Vescey and WFAN's Chris "Mad Dog" Russo.

If you're looking for a unique community fundraiser -- a spirit raising amazing world-class event -- bring on the Harlem Wizards.