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For Immediate Release

2010-2011- Another Season, Countless More Reasons to Love the Harlem Wizards

Secaucus, NJ – The Harlem Wizards have a unique mission: create awe-inspiring events throughout the country. Whereas a NBA team’s success is measured in wins and losses, the Wizards victory lies in the millions of smiles they are responsible for and the millions of dollars raised for charitable organizations, schools, and foundations across the world. Since 1962, the Wizards have been making history with the happiness, fun, goodwill and excitement they bring. The Wizards are sure to continue their successful legacy both on and off the court this season.

At a Wizards game, fans will witness amazing basketball talent combined with hilarious comedy. Its two hours of family time where parents, grandparents, and kids can all laugh together. When you’re in the stands, you’re more than a spectator; you’re part of the show with loads of audience participation. Throughout the game, fans will experience a magical display of tricks, coordinated ball handling, fancy passing and aerodynamic athleticism combined with high-energy comedy and audience interaction. The experience can only be summed up in two words: Awe-Inspiring!

The Wizards experience extends beyond the game, as players often visit local schools prior to the game. These visits create special memories for the students, since they have a chance to interact with the Wizards and check out their showmanship and ball-handling Wizardry up close in an assembly setting. During these assemblies, the players share the dynamics of being a Wizard which includes healthy eating, fitness, teamwork, sportsmanship, and other character themes.

The theme for this season is the “Basketball and Beyond Tour.” The tricks that other teams wouldn’t dare try, the Wizards will execute. The slam dunk that the Wizards player shouldn’t even think of doing, they will do with authority. Dwayne “Swoop” Simpson, one of the Wizards player-coaches who loves to create and innovate said, “We had a big task, which was to remake the show. The show is entirely revamped and funnier than ever.” Eric “Broadway” Jones, a Wizards player-coach for the past 10 years, aims to create a whole new perception of what is possible on the court. He put it simplest when he said, “I want the crowd to be wowed and in disbelief of what they have seen.” Clearly, Wizards crowds can expect slam dunks and plays that you won’t even see in the NBA.

Every night, the opponent is different, the crowd is different, but the high level of excitement remains the same. The Harlem Wizards improvise and adjust to give the audience what they are looking for. A college opponent and crowd might want to see a true epic battle, while an elementary school crowd might get more of a kick out of their teachers being involved in a comedy skit. These hilarious antics often involve outrageous props, creative stunts, and visual comedy that makes fans’ stomachs hurt from laughing so much!

The Harlem Wizards perform their events on many different courts and stages. On the international scene, Harlem Wizards games are usually held in arenas, where they play celebrities, and professional teams. In the





USA, the Harlem Wizards perform for schools, charities, colleges, corporations, communities and private events. Millions of dollars have been raised for non-profit community organizations and charities, while providing amazing basketball entertainment for fans of all ages to enjoy.

While fun is paramount, the Wizards have a 3,500+ game winning streak that has included; a buzzer beater of a tied game, a comeback win in Hungary against their top pro players, a nail-biting win against Taiwan Beer, the Championship Professional Team in that country, and a win against former CBA champs, the Albany Patroons. The Wizards have toured worldwide to five continents and 22 countries. They have been the playground for some of the NBA's greatest legends. NBA Top 50 All-Time selections Connie Hawkins and Nate "Tiny" Archibald have both played with the Wizards. In total, over 20 NBA players have played with the Wizards and college greats and blacktop legends have also dotted the Wizards roster. Even though the Wizards founder, Howie Davis, passed away in 1992, his son, Todd Davis, has stepped onto the court to continue the legacy that his father created.

The new millennium has seen a Harlem Wizards team stronger than ever with a healthy combination of long-standing crowd favorites and new rising sensations. "Tojo" Henderson is an icon, still fooling Father Time, while thrilling audiences after over 40 years in show basketball! Current Wizards showstopper and player-coach, Eric "Broadway" Jones, is a former Harlem Globetrotter star and a World Scholar Athlete. Dwayne "Swoop" Simpson is a comedic genius and another player-coach of the Wizards. Donnie "Smooth" Seale is a former McDonald's All-American, North Carolina HS Basketball Player of the Year and ACC standout at North Carolina State University. Mike "M&M" Mathews, also known as Big Mike, played at Florida State University and is 5th all time in shot-blocking. Arnold "A-Train" Bernard received worldwide acclaim for his role in the Nike Freestyle commercials. Rashaan "Rocket" Barner breaks the mold as he surprises crowds with humor that is as high-flying as his dunks. "King Arthur" Lewis and James "Road Runner" Tyndal dazzle audiences with their speed and ball handling ability and show that even little men can dominate in a big man's game. David "DP" Paul set the all-time scoring record at the College of Staten Island and won the Metro NY Conference Player of the Year before donning a Wizards jersey. Other notable Wizards include dunking sensations Ron "Skycam" Ferguson, "Joey "Fast Break" Britto, and Timothy "TJ" Stukes, who all have won various slam dunk contests throughout their careers.

While these players are all impressive athletes and exceptional entertainers, they all are passionate about serving as positive role models for children. They deliver powerful messages during the Wizards assembly programs and many of the players serve as mentors and coaches for children and plan to continue when their playing days are over. The Wizards are also promoting exercise and nutrition to children and families across the world. Todd Davis, the Wizards President said, "I introduced the players to Dr. Joel Fuhrman, an accomplished doctor and author, who created a high nutrient diet combined with exercise as the route to success. After Dr. Fuhrman's lecture to the team, many of the players made significant dietary changes. We are hopeful that beyond the fun, that the Wizards special relationship with kids and teens can contribute to a change in how they eat."

This world class organizations brings theatrics, exciting tricks, humor, fitness and dazzling showmanship—just a few reasons to check out the Harlem Wizards this season!

