

Clifford Celebrates at the Cole

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What better way to celebrate the beloved Big Red Dog's 50th anniversary, than to see him live on stage at the Cole Auditorium. Scholastic's Clifford The Big Red Dog®, in conjunction with his 50th anniversary celebration, comes to life on stage in an all-new family musical, **Clifford The Big Red Dog LIVE!**

Clifford, the runt in a litter of puppies, was chosen by a city child named Emily Elizabeth as her birthday present. No one expected him to grow, but Emily's love for her tiny red puppy changed him dramatically. Before long, he was over 25 feet tall, forcing the Howard family to leave the city and move to the open spaces of Birdwell Island.

"I am excited about Clifford's arrival. The musical will be fun, educational and entertaining for the entire family," said Cole Auditorium Director Joey Bennett.

In this new musical adventure, Clifford and Emily Elizabeth will take audiences on a journey to Birdwell Island with their friends Cleo, T-Bone, Charley, Jetta, and Mac. Together they will learn about Clifford's BE BIG!™ Ideas -- *Share, Play Fair, Have Respect, Work Together, Be Responsible, Be Truthful, Be Kind, Help Others, Believe In Yourself and Be A Good Friend*. Clifford's Big Ideas came out of the curriculum developed for the award-winning animated television series *Clifford the Big Red Dog*, based on the books by Norman Birdwell that airs on PBS KIDS®.

"Having toured a children's show in the US and Canada for twelve months as technical director several years ago, there is a special place in my heart for this type of show and for the cast and crew that work so hard to present it. I am looking forward to being a part of this show and bringing quality family entertainment to the folks in our area," said Cole Technical Director Gary Short.

Two one-hour performances will be presented on Saturday, April 21, at 4:00 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. at the Cole Auditorium as part of the 2012 Cole Community Series. The series and this show are open to the general public.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Cole Auditorium Box Office at (910) 410-1691 or by visiting the Cole Auditorium on the RCC campus at 1042 W. Hamlet Ave, Hamlet, N.C. Cash, check, VISA and MasterCard are accepted. Tickets will be available on the day of the show.

A family pack of tickets is available for \$40.00. The family pack consists of four admission tickets, which may be used for any adult/child combination. The family pack is only available until Friday, April 20. Single tickets are \$12.00. Tickets on the day of show are \$15.00. All children, regardless of age, are required to have a ticket for admission.

An activity book and video excerpt is available on the Cole Auditorium portion of the Richmond Community College website at www.richmondcc.edu

The Cole Community Series is funded in part by a grant from the Cole Foundation. The series has featured a wide variety of performances including children's shows, classical performers, and country musicians.

Updated information about events at the Cole can be found on the Cole Auditorium section of the Richmond Community College website, by visiting www.facebook.com/coleaud, www.twitter.com/coleaud or by registering for the e-mail program.



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