

Society & The Arts

November 23, 2008

Nat King Cole Generation Hope BOCA'S CASEY AND TIMOLIN COLE HOST BENEFIT

Casey and Timolin Cole were only three-and-a-half years old at the time of their father Nat King Cole's untimely death from lung cancer at age 45 in 1965.

Neither Casey nor Timolin will forget their famous, beloved singer-pianist father, nor will their older sisters, singers Natalie and Carole (a brother is deceased).

The Cole sisters have established the Boca Raton-based Nat King Cole Generation Hope, Inc. foundation to benefit music education in Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach Counties. A first Nat King Cole Generation Hope Black

& White Gala will be held Saturday, Nov. 29 at the Forge Restaurant in Miami Beach. Celebrity guests include platinum-selling Boca Raton songwriter-producer Dennis Lambert, Grammy Award-winning, Oscar-nominated songwriter-producer Stedah Garrett, RIT favorite DJ Irie, and the Cole family and friends. The event is chaired by Forge founder Al Malmik and his wife Nancy.

"The Malmik's son is a classmate of my son at St. Andrew's School," explains Casey.

"When we told him about the foundation, he said he wanted to help in any way he could,"

says Timolin.

The Coles recruited some of the leading citizens of Boca Raton and all of South Florida as well as Los Angeles and Pennsylvania.

The Coles grew up with the greats of show business, and were infused with a love of music.

"Duke Ellington introduced us to piano," reveals Casey. "But we didn't stick with it."

"We dreaded our lessons with our teacher, Grace Severe," admits Timolin. "But our Los Angeles house was always filled with wonderful music: Ella, Harry Belafonte, John Williams (composer) was a dear friend."

Timolin was the first to move to Boca Raton 16 years ago with her husband. Casey followed in 2002. Once the sisters were reunited, they started talking about a foundation.

"Our children already are beginning to understand the impact of their grandfather," says Timolin. "We want our children to run the foundation. Everybody loved and respected dad. We believe every child should have music education regardless of race or economic position. That's why we are doing this."

Tickets are \$500. Visit www.natkingcolefoundation.org.



Timolin Cole, Al Malmik, Casey Cole