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News

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R&B, Pop, and Funk Music Icon Sarah Dash Becomes Music Ambassador to Trenton

Trenton, N.J. — Sarah Dash, the award-winning vocalist, songwriter, and actress who began her noteworthy career as a member of Patti LaBelle & the Bluebelles, has been appointed the city's first Music Ambassador, Mayor Eric E. Jackson announced today.

"I am honored and delighted to appoint Sarah to this inaugural position of Music Ambassador," said Mayor Jackson. "She has developed her incredible talent in the music scene over the last 47 years, and dedicated her gifts, achievements, and knowledge to Trenton as a way to expose our residents and children to the transformative power of the arts," said Mayor Jackson.

Ms. Dash, a Trenton native, will serve a two-year term to the newly created position, which will advocate for the expansion of musical performing arts and related cultural activities, and promote a better understanding of how music can impact and improve the lives of residents.

"Music changed my life," said Ms. Dash, a resident of the city's West Ward who continues to live in her childhood home. "I understand its potential to impact the intellectual, social, and emotional development of our city's children, and I want to use my God-given gifts to teach them how to embrace the life-changing power of music."

Despite her success in the music industry and her strong relationship to the rock band The Rolling Stones, Ms. Dash has always remained anchored to Trenton, where she was born in 1945. Also, she sits on the board of the Philadelphia Grammys and the New Jersey Capital Philharmonic Orchestra.

Sarah got her start with the New Jersey-based girl-group Del Capris, which consisted of contemporaries Nona Hendryx, Sandra Mingo and Shirley Newkirk. That relationship led to her co-founding and longstanding creative alliance with Grammy award-winning songstress Patti LaBelle in the group Patti LaBelle & the Bluebelles, which ultimately became LaBelle, recording the Number One seventies hit "Lady Marmalade." Ms. Dash has since performed with Keith Richards of The Rolling Stones and been involved in several television and film projects. In 1978, she released her self-titled debut album, which included the top-ten disco hit, "Sinner Man." Then in 1988, she was signed to Manhattan Records, (via EMI) and released the album entitled "You're All I Need."

"Sarah is truly a music legend," said Mayor Jackson. "We consider her a brilliant blessing for our city, whom we will enjoy working with in this new and exciting role."

A photo exhibition chronicling Dash's music career will be on display at City Hall beginning on October 3 to November 3.

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