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**SINGER FRANKIE AVALON SET FOR  
ANNUAL BARRY PRICE CENTER FUNDRAISER  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

Brookline, MA--The Barry L. Price Rehabilitation Center has just announced that greater Boston's 18th annual Barry Price Center Fundraiser and Concert will feature singer **Frankie Avalon** on Saturday, November 1 at the Holiday Inn Brookline. The Holiday Inn is located at 1200 Beacon Street, Brookline, Massachusetts; it is wheelchair accessible.

Funds raised will benefit the Barry L. Price Rehabilitation Center, Inc., a non-profit organization with facilities located in West Newton, Brookline, and Dedham, Massachusetts. The Price Center provides support services to adults with developmental disabilities. At the Center, individuals are provided with opportunities in community-based work as well as treatment and living environments aimed to enhance self confidence and to maximize independence.

**Tickets** starting at \$150.00 each are available now by calling Franktix at (781) 239-1480 or The Barry L. Price Rehabilitation Center, Inc. at (617) 332-7477. Tickets may also be purchased by mail by sending a check or money order for the total amount of the tickets to be purchased, [made out to the Barry L. Price Center Fundraiser] to The Barry L. Price Rehabilitation Center, 38 Border Street, West Newton, MA 02165.

All Price Center donors will enjoy the show featuring Frankie Avalon at 7:00 P.M. in the hotel ballroom. A full buffet dinner featuring fine cuisines of all kinds, caviar, cocktails, wines, coffees, and delicious desserts will follow in the hotel lobby and atrium, beginning at 8:30 P.M. The rhythm & blues group **The G Clefs** will provide upbeat entertainment during the buffet.

For information and tickets, Call Franktix at (781) 239-1480.

# FRANKIE AVALON

from Wikipedia, Fox Entertainment and YouTube.com

**Frankie Avalon** (born Francis Thomas Avallone, September 18, 1939 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) is one of America's most popular entertainers. Frankie Avalon went from '50s teen idol to a national and international star.

Born in Philadelphia, Frankie had his early trumpet playing career end abruptly when a family friend named Bob Marcucci heard him sing and signed him to a recording contract. His first song, "De De Dinah" became a smash hit and his recording of "Venus" was one of the biggest selling hits of the era. He had many followup hits such as "Bobbysocks To Stockings," "Gingerbread," "Just Ask Your Heart" and "A Boy Without A Girl." Avalon is also credited with having the last number one record of the '50s with "Why" reaching that status in December 1959.

In 1959, his songs "Venus" and "Why" both went to number one on *Billboard* magazine's Hot 100. Avalon had 31 charted *Billboard* U.S. singles during his career from 1958 to late 1962, with most of the hits written and/or produced by Bob Marcucci, head of Chancellor Records. In 1964, he was one of the artists to help open the Circle Star Theater in San Carlos, California.

In his acting, he was best known for his starring roles in the teenage Beach Party film genre, though he also had straight dramatic parts in films such as *The Alamo* as well as *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea*. Avalon also appeared in nearly two-dozen TV episodes, including a role in *The Patty Duke Show* titled "A Foggy Day in Brooklyn Heights," appearing as himself (Frankie Avalon). Later, he became the U.S. national television spokesperson for Sonic Drive-In.

The 1980 film *The Idolmaker*, written by Gene Kirkwood and directed by Taylor Hackford, was a thinly-disguised biography of Frankie Avalon (called "Tommy Dee" in the film) as well as 1950s teenage star Fabian (called "Caesare" in the film), as well as songwriter/producer Marcucci (called "Vinnie Vacarri" in the film). In the movie version, Tommy Dee clashes frequently with the producer and younger singer Caesare, whom he feels threatens his career as an upstart. Eventually, both "Dee" and "Caesare" quit the label, but both their record careers collapse, just as the British Invasion begins. The real-life Fabian threatened a lawsuit at the time of the

film's release, though the filmmakers insisted that the film presented only fictional characters (though Marcucci was a paid consultant on the film). Avalon later denied most of the movie's events in interviews.

Frankie Avalon married Kathryn Diebel on January 19, 1963. She was a former beauty pageant winner, and Avalon met her while playing cards at a friend's house. He told his friend that Kay was the girl he was going to marry. His agent warned Avalon not to marry, as it would spoil his teen idol mystique, but Avalon ignored his advice. Still together, the couple has eight children—in order of age, they are Frankie Jr., Tony, Dina, Laura, Joseph, Nicolas, Kathryn and Carla. They also have 10 grandchildren. Frankie Jr. is a drummer and Tony, the second oldest son, currently plays guitar and teaches at the Paul Green School of Rock; both still tour and perform with their father.

In 1987 Avalon and Annette Funicello returned to the movies, with the aptly titled *Back to the Beach*. Not long afterwards, Funicello was diagnosed with MS, and retired from acting.

With the fading of his music and acting career, Avalon has turned to marketing, and has created Frankie Avalon Products, a successful line of health supplements, pain and cosmetic products. Avalon personally promotes his products live on the Home Shopping Network, along with veteran host Bob Circosta.

He regularly guest stars in stage productions of *Grease* in the role of Teen Angel (a role he played in the popular 1978 film adaptation) and *Tony n' Tina's Wedding* as a characterized version of himself. Additionally, in 2007, he performed the song "Beauty School Dropout" with the four remaining female contenders (Kathleen Monteleone, Allie Schulz, Ashley Spencer, and winner Laura Osnes) for the role of Sandy on the NBC television reality show *Grease: You're the One that I Want!*. Also, his first son, Frank B Avalon Jr., frequently plays the drums on tour with his father.

## Songs

- "Cupid"
- "[Venus](#)"
- "[Why](#)"
- "Dede Dinah"
- "You Excite Me"
- "Ginger Bread"
- "What Little Girl"
- "I'll Wait for You"
- "Bobby Sox to Stockings"
- "A Boy Without a Girl"
- "Two Fools"
- "Just Ask Your Heart"
- "Beauty School Dropout"
- "Swinging On A Rainbow"
- "Don't Throw Away All Those Teardrops"
- "Where Are You"
- "Tuxedo Junction"
- "Don't Let Love Pass Me By"
- "Togetherness"
- "The Puppet Song"
- "A Perfect Love"
- "All of Everything"
- "Who Else But You"
- "True, True Love"
- "You Are Mine"

## Filmography

- *Jamboree* (1957)
- *Alakazam the Great* (1960) (voice in English version)
- *Guns of the Timberland* (1960)
- *The Alamo* (1960)

- *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea* (1961)
- *Sail a Crooked Ship* (1961)
- *Panic in Year Zero!* (1962)
- *Operation Bikini* (1963)
- *The Castilian* (1963)
- *Drums of Africa* (1963)
- *Beach Party* (1963)
- *Muscle Beach Party* (1964)
- *Bikini Beach* (1964)
- *Pajama Party* (1964)
- *Beach Blanket Bingo* (1965)
- *I'll Take Sweden* (1965)
- *Ski Party* (1965)
- *How to Stuff a Wild Bikini* (1965)
- *Sergeant Dead Head* (1965)
- *Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine* (1965)
- *Fireball 500* (1966)
- *The Million Eyes of Sumuru* (1967)
- *Skidoo* (1968)
- *The Haunted House of Horror* (1969)
- *The Take* (1974)
- *Grease* (1978)
- *Blood Song* (1982)
- *Back to the Beach* (1987)
- *Troop Beverly Hills* (1989)
- *Twist* (1992) (documentary)
- *The Stoned Age* (1994)
- *Casino* (1995)