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**HARRY CONNICK JR, HILLARY SWANK, AND MARISKA HARGITAY
JOIN [KREWE OF ORPHEUS](#) MONARCH LIST**

2012 Orpheus Mardi Gras Monarchs Also Include Bret Michaels and Cyndi Lauper

New Orleans, Louisiana – New Orleans’ favorite son, [Harry Connick, Jr.](#) will be accompanied by two of his leading ladies when he returns in 2012 to participate in the Orpheus parade he co-founded in 1993 with Captain [Sonny Borey](#).

Two-time Academy-Award winner for her roles in *Boys Don’t Cry* and *Million Dollar Baby*, [Hillary Swank](#), will be joining her *P.S. I Love You* co-star along with Harry’s new *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* love interest, [Mariska Hargitay](#), an Emmy and Golden Globe winning actress.

The three will be joining previously announced Celebrity Monarchs, rocker [Bret Michaels](#), pop diva [Cyndi Lauper](#), *Modern Family*’s [Sarah Hyland](#) and her boyfriend [Matt Prokop](#) of *High School Musical 3*.

Walton & Johnson and 2011 returning monarchs Jonathan Silverman and Jennifer Finnigan will also be featured in the super-krewe’s parade.

All of the monarchs will also be attending [Orpheuscapade](#) at the convention center after the parade. Orpheus encourages anyone who wants to attend to see them to purchase tickets quickly. The limited number of seats is going fast. 504-822-7200 or www.kreweoforpheus.com.

In addition to parading with the Krewe of Orpheus on Lundi Gras, the night before Mardi Gras, the Celebrity Monarchs will toast the King of Bacchus, [Will Ferrell](#), from the balcony of the Astor Crowne Plaza at the Orpheus Captain’s Party on Sunday, February 19th.

About the Krewe of Orpheus

Orpheus was founded in 1993 by Captain Sonny Borey and Harry Connick, Jr. It derives its name from the mortal Orpheus, son of the god Apollo and the muse Calliope. One of the city’s “super krewes”, Orpheus is consciously nonexclusive and is New Orleans most diverse krewe boasting 1,200 members from all walks of life. The parade rolls on Lundi Gras and culminates with the Orpheuscapade, a black-tie party that draws thousands of revelers to welcome the floats through the convention center as they are entertained by world-renowned musicians. ** Hi-res photography: Rene Maxwell – renee@kreweoforpheus.com**

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