

Dante Hall Theater Relives Atlantic City Heyday of Swing with Dave Damiani's 'Midlife Crisis'

Old Photos of Atlantic City's 500 Club Show the Musical Prime of the City

For Immediate Release; photos courtesy of Paulajane D'Amato with captions on [Flickr](#)

Thursday, August 13, 2015

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Galloway Township, NJ - Atlantic City's historic 500 Club will relive a few nights of its legendary past launching greats like Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and Martin and Lewis, with two amazing nights of swing and retro cool.

Stockton University presents Dave Damiani's "Midlife Crisis" on **Aug. 21-22 at 8 p.m.** at Dante Hall Theater, located at 14. N. Mississippi Ave. in Atlantic City.

Tickets are \$25 and can be ordered online at www.stockton.edu/dantehall or by calling the Box Office at 609-626-3890. Group rates and discounts for seniors and children are available. The event is sponsored by Citibank. Citi Card holders will receive VIP seating, a meet and greet with the performers and complimentary cocktails; use the Code 500CLUB when ordering tickets.

Take a trip back to the iconic days of Skinny D'Amato's 500 Club in Atlantic City with a special tribute to The Rat Pack, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, and more.

Dante Hall Theater Manager Stephanie Clineman and Paulajane D'Amato, daughter of 500 Club owner Paul "Skinny" D'Amato, present a top tier lineup including Damiani and the No Vacancy Orchestra, and movie and recording star, Renee Olstead.

Damiani, formerly of Cherry Hill, returns to the Jersey Shore to celebrate Atlantic City's musical history and bring back the "Golden Age of Swing." He will perform hits from his latest release, "Midlife Crisis."

The South Jersey native sought out Clineman, who manages Stockton University's Dante Hall Theater, wanting to be part of the cultural rebirth of Atlantic City.

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Together, Damiani and Clineman reached out to Paulajane D'Amato, who lived above the club as a child.

Paulajane shared with Damiani the club's history, telling tales of her first kiss on the cheek at age 5 from Dean Martin, to Frank Sinatra serving as a pall bearer at her dad's funeral, with thousands of amazing nights of legendary rat pack music in between.

The 500 Club had its legendary run from the 1930s through 1973, when the club burned down. Artists including Nat King Cole, Liberace, and more performed and honed their skills on the famous stage.

Damiani and Clineman hope to continue the 500 Club's legacy. Next summer, they plan to launch a "500 Club Series." The series will offer classic supper club shows with top notch entertainment on the classic stage of Dante Hall Theater.

Damiani visited Atlantic City institutions such as Tony's Baltimore Grill and Dock's Oyster House to learn more about pre-casino Atlantic City. He aims to keep the city's amazing past thriving long into the future.

"Some people look at the past tribulations of Atlantic City as a problem," Damiani said. "I see them as part of a rich history of a town with irreplaceable character and a long legacy entertaining the world. The rebirth is just beginning."

Damiani also met with owners and employees of other famous Atlantic City stops, such as the Whitehouse Sub Shop, Barbera's Seafood Market, Angelo's Fairmont Tavern, Angeloni's II, The Ducktown Tavern, and more, discussing ways to celebrate Atlantic City's great history and how to build into the future.

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