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Contact: Liberty Peralta
Email: lperalta@pbshawaii.org
Phone: 808.973.1383

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Jimmy Borges: ‘I’m living my dying’

‘Jimmy Borges: Faced It All’ premieres Jan. 21 at 8:00 PM on PBS Hawaii

HONOLULU, HI – Entertainer Jimmy Borges, who is battling stage four lung cancer, performs on a new PBS Hawaii special, **Jimmy Borges: Faced It All**, premiering Thursday, January 21 at 8:00 PM.

“Faced It All” is a phrase from the classic song “My Way” that Borges is often asked to sing. The performance, taped last month, also featured Bruce Hamada (upright bass), Mike Lewis (horn), Dan Del Negro (piano) and Noel Okimoto (drums).

Borges introduced his performance by telling his audience of 50 handpicked friends and family that he is dying. “My cancer is back, and this time, it doesn’t look like it’s planning to go away,” Borges said.

But Borges made it clear – this was a time of celebration, not mourning. Between songs, Borges shared funny anecdotes and heartfelt insights.

“I’m living the life I have chosen to live,” Borges said. “Tonight is not about ‘poor Jimmy.’ Tonight is about sharing my music with all of you. Tonight we are telling someone out there that we care enough to invest in their future.”

Borges was referring to future recipients of a University of Hawaii vocal music scholarship that his friends have established in his name. Borges said he hopes it encourages Hawaii teens to pursue their dreams, just as he has done during his 60-year music career. “There’s no such thing as a stop sign,” Borges said. “Just speed bumps.” ###



Jimmy Borges shares a moment with longtime friend, actor Jim Nabors, during a rehearsal prior to taping **Faced It All**.

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