

Passage Theatre's 2024 Gala

April 6, 2024 | 6:00pm

Trenton Country Club

Wise Intelligent — The Poor Righteous Teachers

Wise Intelligent is an internationally known artist/activist, songwriter/producer and the front man of the critically acclaimed – legendary Hip hop trio known to the world as the Poor Righteous Teachers – pioneers of “conscious” rap music. PRT are from Trenton, New Jersey. Throughout his career Wise Intelligent has released a total of twelve studio albums and has collaborated and performed with world renowned artists such as: Lauryn Hill, Wyclef Jean, The Fugees, Mos Def, Public Enemy, KRS ONE, Ice Cube, Too Short, X Clan, Junior Reed, Ms. Jones, and many others.

Throughout all of Wise's work, he has espoused the virtues of community service and activism as embodied in the struggle of poor people around the world. Growing up in any under-resourced community in any place in the world is not an easy task – urban blight, joblessness, homelessness, racism, drugs and death are just a few of the obstacles too many youths must navigate to realize their full-potential. Wise has always been on the frontlines of the struggle to change this.

Apart from launching his own record label – Intelligent Muzik Group (2007) – for nearly 25 years, Wise Intelligent has leveraged his business sense and recognition as a Hip-Hop pioneer into social entrepreneurship, activism, youth advocacy, and the development of educational and entrepreneurship programs that train and inspire from the unique vantage point of Hip Hop culture.

In 2007 Wise established IntelligentMINDZ – an inner-city tutoring initiative focused on youth academic performance and achievement. In 2009 Wise partnered with award winning film director – Stacey Muhammad (*Queen Sugar, Black-ish, Guilty Party, Harlem, The Wonder Years, Queens, First Wives Club, For Colored Boys, I Am Sean Bell*) to launch IntelligentSEEDZ – a not for-profit youth media organization teaching middle and high-school children documentary film production, investigative journalism, and how film can be used to promote social awareness and change. Today, as President of The Rap Snacks Foundation and Director of the Foundation's Boss Up entrepreneurship initiative, Wise Intelligent is focused on financial empowerment, entrepreneurship and community economic development in over-extracted communities through various initiatives and sustainable economic models. Co-founder of social media FinTech platform StockBossUp, The Owlgorhythm, Innovation Café, Info Vote, and

TheCulture Studios. With MIT certification and applicable knowledge in Disruptive Blockchain Technology, founder/owner of Wise Lifestyle Apparel clothing. On November 23, 2020 Wise Intelligent released his debut literary offering 3/5 an MC: The Manufacturing of a DUMBED DOWN RAPPER – a critical analysis of the socioeconomic and political environment in which Hip Hop music and culture are embedded.