**THE LATEST FROM VEGAS**

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**George Strait to Perform Exclusive Worldwide Concert Engagements at New Las Vegas Arena**

George Strait, the musical icon who has been reverently referred to as “The King of Country Music,” announced he will be among the first entertainers to perform at the new Las Vegas Arena scheduled to open in April 2016. The Country Music Hall of Fame inductee will thrill crowds with a series of exclusive worldwide concert engagements at the new venue April 22, April 23, Sept. 9 and Sept. 10, 2016. Opening for Strait will be GRAMMY, ACM and CMA Award-winning singer/songwriter Kacey Musgraves, who recently released her second studio album Pageant Material to critical acclaim. This announcement is the first of an exciting, prestigious lineup of incredible performers who will appear on the Arena’s stage. For more information, contact Scott Ghertner, MGM Resorts International, sghertner@mgmresorts.com.

**Las Vegas to Host 2016 Presidential Debate**

UNLV and Las Vegas will take center stage as one of four host cities for a debate during the 2016 election season. The Commission on Presidential Debates announced that Las Vegas will host the presidential candidates on Oct. 19, 2016. The debate will take place at the Thomas & Mack Center on the UNLV Campus. For more information, contact Jeremy Handel, LVCVA, jhandel@lvcva.com.

**Construction Begins at 100-acre SPEEDVEGAS Project**

SPEEDVEGAS, a 100-acre speed complex and supercar experience, officially broke ground on South Las Vegas Boulevard on Sept. 21. Steve Sisolak, Chairman of the Clark County Commission, board members, dignitaries and SPEEDVEGAS executives, Aaron Fessler and Tom Mizzone, dug their ceremonial shovels into the future “starting line” at SPEEDVEGAS. This event marked the start of construction on the $30 million motorsports complex that will feature a 1.5-mile supercar track, multilevel welcome center, large event center and much more. SPEEDVEGAS will become the southernmost major attraction in Las Vegas, just 10-minutes from the ‘Welcome to Las Vegas’ sign, Las Vegas Strip and McCarran International Airport. The destination will offer an entire speed experience with activities such as drifting, demonstrations, simulators and driving the world’s most sought-after exotic and muscle cars. SPEEDVEGAS is scheduled to open early next year and is currently taking reservations for March 2016. For more information, contact Allison Raskansky, SPEEDVEGAS, Allison@speedvegas.com.

**International Music Icon Lionel Richie To Perform "Lionel Richie - All The Hits" With Las Vegas Headlining Residency Show At Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino**

Multi-platinum-selling artist, four-time GRAMMY Award winner and music icon, Lionel Richie, will begin his Las Vegas headlining residency show, "Lionel Richie - All the Hits," inside The AXIS at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. The show, promoted by Live Nation and Caesars Entertainment, will feature a set list of Lionel's brightest and best anthems, including "All Night Long," "Hello," "Stuck on You," "Say You, Say Me," and "Dancing on the Ceiling." For more information, contact Talia Rothman, Caesars Entertainment, trothman@caesars.com.

**AEG Live and The Venetian Las Vegas Announce John Fogerty – Peace, Love and Creedence**

Legendary singer, songwriter and guitarist John Fogerty will bring back the golden age of rock during *Peace, Love and Creedence*, an eight-show residency at The Venetian Theatre inside The Venetian Las Vegas, Jan. 8 – 23, 2016. Produced by AEG Live, *Peace, Love and Creedence* will celebrate the music and culture of the 1960s, with a special focus on the year 1969. Through exclusive footage and personal stories, the intimate show will feature a behind-the-scenes look at the pivotal year Fogerty wrote and recorded three separate Creedence Clearwater Revival albums including *Bayou Country*, *Green River* and *Willy and the Poor Boys*. For more information, contact Devin Aaron, Kirvin Doak Communications, daaron@kirvindoak.com.

**Bellagio Announces New Restaurant: Harvest by Roy Ellamar**

Las Vegas chef Roy Ellamar will debut a farm-to-table restaurant, Harvest by Roy Ellamar, at Bellagio Resort & Casino in Dec. 2015. Delivering an innovative, market-driven concept at the AAA Five Diamond resort in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip, Harvest will feature regional American dishes that include sustainable and locally grown products. Chef Roy’s culinary philosophy was cultivated as a child in Hilo, Hawaii, where he was surrounded by farmers, foragers and fishermen, gaining a true appreciation for the provenance of ingredients and the relationship with the producers. Working at restaurants throughout Hawaii, Chicago, Beverly Hills – and as executive chef of Sensi in Bellagio – he has become a staunch advocate of local agriculture and sustainably produced proteins. For more information, contact Ashley Farkas, MGM Resorts International, afarkas@mgmresorts.com.

**Wynn Las Vegas and Encore Announce a Selection of Luxury Suites Available to Guests for the First Time**

Wynn Las Vegas and Encore announced that the resorts’ exquisite apartments and villas are available for rent. The Wynn Fairway Villas and Encore Three Bedroom Duplex include a variety of amenities to enhance the guest experience. The 5,829 square-foot Encore Three Bedroom Duplex features a billiard room and private massage and exercise room surrounded by floor-to-ceiling views of Las Vegas. The duplex is anchored by a grand living room and dining area, which highlight a two-story cityscape and can comfortably seat sixteen guests. Along with a private bedroom, the first floor offers a formal dining table, work space, wet bar, separate powder room, butler’s pantry with refrigerator, and elevator to the second floor. The Wynn Fairway Villas offer private views of the Wynn Golf Course that is best enjoyed from the private balconies that are equipped for outdoor dining. Guests can relax in the private massage room, or the spacious living room with seating for eight featuring a 52’ LCD HDTV and a separate powder room. Fairway Villas include a work space, complimentary in-room high speed internet access, and a breakfast nook with a mahogany and granite wet bar. For more information, contact Shane Collins, Wynn Las Vegas, shane.collins@wynnlasvegas.com.

**Pitbull Launches Limited Las Vegas Engagement at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino**

Mr. 305 and Mr. Worldwide, known around the globe as Pitbull, is an internationally successful musician, performer, business entrepreneur, fashion icon and actor. His career sales have exceeded five million albums and 60 million singles worldwide, including his current album, Globalization. Pitbull has scored No. 1 hits in more than 15 countries, his videos have over seven billion views, and his world tours have sold out concerts in North and South America, Europe and the Far East. The final scheduled performance will be Oct. 7. For more information, contact Talia Rothman, Caesars Entertainment, trothman@caesars.com.

**Britney Spears Confirms Two-Year Extension of Headlining Residency Show at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino**

Legendary pop icon Britney Spears is answering the world’s plea to “Gimme More.” Britney recently announced on stage to a sold-out crowd that “I have some big news tonight … I am going to be in Vegas for two more years!” Britney will extend her headlining residency show, “Britney: Piece of Me” at The AXIS in Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino through Dec. 2017, with tickets for performances from Jan. through April 2016 on sale to the public. In addition, the show will soon undergo a substantial re-imagination, allowing the international superstar to deliver brand new, jaw-dropping elements and take her spectacular show to new heights. For more information, contact Talia Rothman, Caesars Entertainment, trothman@caesars.com.

**Siegfried & Roy Welcome Four Tiger Cubs to Their Home at The Mirage**

Siegfried & Roy introduced the world to the newest additions to their animal family with four six-week-old tiger cubs at Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat at The Mirage Hotel & Casino. Born on August 5 at the Secret Garden to mother Indira and father Svengali, these are the first tiger cubs to be introduced at The Mirage in five years. Animal lovers from around the world will be able to watch and follow the cubs’ journey using the Twitter and Instagram handle @SARMOTIcubs and on Facebook at Facebook.com/SARMOTIcubs. For more information, contact Christine Moorhead, Kirvin Doak Communications, cmoorhead@kirvindoak.com.

**Wahlburgers set to make Las Vegas debut at Grand Bazaar Shops at Bally’s Las Vegas in Late 2015**

The Wahlberg family’s famed Wahlburgers is coming to Las Vegas in late 2015 with its restaurant opening at Grand Bazaar Shops at Bally’s Las Vegas. The popular, fast-casual burger restaurant founded by brothers Mark, Donnie and Paul Wahlberg and subject of A&E Network’s Emmy-nominated reality show, will feature gourmet burgers and specialty drinks. The restaurant will bring yet another first-to-market, unique experience to Las Vegas’ newest outdoor retail shopping attraction. For more information, contact Michelle Monson, BRAINTRUST, michelle.monson@braintrustlv.com.

**Renowned Japanese Artist Tatsuo Miyajima Marks U.S. Debut of ‘HOTO’ Art Installation in Las Vegas**

Tatsuo Miyajima, one of Japan’s most influential artists over the past two decades, debuted his work “HOTO” (2008) in the United States for the first time this week for an indefinite engagement at The Shops at Crystals in Las Vegas. The piece previously has been on display only in Japan and China. Inspired by Buddhist scripture, HOTO – meaning “treasure pagoda” – refers to a story about a monumental bejeweled tower that emerges from the ground, floats midair and covers half the world, symbolizing the importance of every human life. According to Buddhist teachings, life cannot be described without such an impossible story because life is nothing but a miracle. It was this scripture and the devastating events of September 11, 2001 that inspired Miyajima to create HOTO, which represents his belief that every life is important as well as his hope for inter-connectedness across the globe creating peace and community.To share his message, Miyajima created a remarkable mirrored pagoda measuring 18 feet high and more than six feet around, inlaid with 3,827 vibrantly colored LED numerical displays in varying sizes. The LED displays flash the numbers nine through one in a descending, continuous series and at varying speeds, representing the never-ending cycle of life, the universal language of numbers and how every life moves at its own unique pace. For more information, contact Kate Stowell, Kirvin Doak Communications, kstowell@kirvindoak.com.

**Las Vegas Museum Alliance Announces October as Las Vegas Museum Month**

Discover Southern Nevada’s thriving cultural community during Las Vegas Museum Month this October. Partnering for the second annual Las Vegas Museum Month, Oct. 1–31, the Las Vegas Museum Alliance (LVMA) and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA) offer residents and visitors a celebration of Las Vegas' unique cultural spirit with special promotions across the valley. For a list of special offers from participating museums, [www.vegasmuseums.org](http://www.vegasmuseums.org). For more information, contact Dawn Barraclough, LVMA, dawn.barraclough@lvvwd.com.

**Fremont Street Experience to Host Seventh Annual OktoberFrightFest**

Fremont Street Experience will once again transform itself for the seventh annual OktoberFrightFest, combining Oktoberfest and Halloween for the ultimate street party. The spooktacular nightly fun kicks off Sunday, Oct. 4 and continues throughout “Oktober,” ending on Halloween, Saturday, Oct. 31. The festivities include free performances from the popular stage production show “Frank & The Steins,” the Sixth Annual Fall Beer Festival at Golden Nugget and Halloween-themed Viva Vision shows set to musical favorites such as “Thriller,” “Ghostbusters,” “Monster Mash,” “Time Warp,” “Adams Family,” “Halloween” and “Nightmare on Elm Street.” For more information, contact Lauren Silverstein, Preferred Public Relations, lauren@preferredpublicrelations.com.

**"Sea Monsters Revealed" Debuts at Shark Reef Aquarium Inside Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino**

An “inside” look at some of the sea’s most magnificent inhabitants awaits guests with the Las Vegas premiere of *Sea Monsters Revealed* at Shark Reef Aquarium inside Mandalay Bay. The world’s largest exhibition of uniquely preserved sea animals features an 18-foot, 3,000-pound whale shark along with a 15-foot-long mako shark and giant sunfish among its more than 18 full-body sea creatures. Additional displays include 150 individual organs and smaller specimens such as tropical fish, crustaceans and octopuses. Located adjacent to Shark Reef Aquarium, *Sea Monsters Revealed* provides locals and visitors alike with a greater understanding of the world’s oceans and how mankind’s interactions and conservation efforts are vital to the health and preservation of these beautiful animals. For more information, contact Krista Gilbertson, MGM Resorts International, kgilbertson@mgmresorts.com.

**Papillon Group Announces New Grand Canyon West Air Tour**

Papillon Group's Grand Canyon Scenic Airlines is launching the brand new Grand Canyon West air tour, Native Explorer Tour with Legacy. This new air tour departs from the Grand Canyon West air terminal. Once airborne, guests experience breathtaking views above Eagle Point, home of the famous Skywalk glass bridge, Guano Point and other areas of interest within Grand Canyon West. In-flight narration in 16 languages provide interesting facts and the history of the Hualapai tribe and their land.

After returning to the terminal, the West Rim adventure continues aboard an air-conditioned motor coach for a self-guided ground tour of Grand Canyon West. The first stop is the Hualapai Ranch, where cowboys put on a show reenacting the old west gunfights. The next stop is Eagle Point where guests can marvel at the enormous eagle-like rock formation, as well as Native American dwellings from several tribes and enjoy cultural music and dancing. From there, the tour concludes at Guano Point for panoramic views of the Grand Canyon’s west rim. For more information, contact Marina Nicola, Vox Solid Communications, mnicola@wearevoxsolid.com.

**Food Tours of America-Las Vegas Launches New Tour**

Chocolate lovers can rejoice and indulge in a new tour dedicated solely to all things dark, milk and semi-sweet with the expansion of Food Tours of America to Las Vegas. Beginning Monday, Oct. 5, the Vegas Celebrity Chocolate Walk will begin guiding visitors through the decadent Las Vegas chocolate scene. The first of a variety of walking tours that Food Tours of America will offer, the Vegas Celebrity Chocolate Walk is available seven days a week, with one tour per day at 3 p.m. Advance tickets are required for all tours and can be purchased online at [www.foodtourslv.com](http://www.foodtourslv.com). For more information, contact Michelle Wilmoth, PR Plus, michelle@prpluslv.com.

**Chateau Nightclub & Rooftop at Paris Las Vegas Launches Weekly LGBT Event**

A new king has arrived in Las Vegas as Chateau Nightclub & Rooftop at Paris Las Vegas announces the launch of the only LGBT night on the Strip, Roi Sundays on the Rooftop. Following the success of the official PRIDE Parade after-party, the club has partnered with promoter Eduardo Cordova, and Pacifico Entertainment to bring a night dedicated to celebrate equality. ROI “King” is a weekly event with royal French themed dancers and special guest performers. For more information, contact Tara Woodall, Wicked Creative, tara.woodall@wickedcreative.com.

**Las Vegas Natural History Museum Declared a Federal Repository for Southern Nevada by the Bureau of Land Management**

The Bureau of Land Management has declared the Las Vegas Natural History Museum a federal repository for all archeological and paleontological finds in Southern Nevada. Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums since 2013, the Las Vegas Natural History Museum will house excavated materials to be used for research and learning purposes as well as to be included in archeological exhibits. More than 750 boxes of various archaeological artifacts made their way home to the Las Vegas Natural History Museum on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2015, after previously being housed at the Harry Reid Center of Excellence at the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV). The collection, containing items such as ancient pottery shards and authentic woven baskets, has been collected over the past 40 years and span more than 10,000 years of history. For more information, contact Emma Williams, Preferred Public Relations, emma@preferredpublicrelations.com.

**Bellagio’s Conservatory & Botanical Gardens Guides Guests Through Enchanted Fall Forest**

Showered in fall foliage, Bellagio’s Conservatory and Botanical Gardens will take guests on an enchanted journey through its new autumn display, now through Nov. 30. Crisp leaves, gigantic pumpkins, mythical creatures and a talking tree will delight the senses and awaken the spirit of the vibrant harvest season. The experience begins with a 33-foot-long vine-covered bridge welcoming guests into the Conservatory. The cobblestone walkway creates a path through the East Garden as large, acrylic leaves flutter above and float to the ground below. The bridge, guarded by four 16-foot root- engulfed trees speckled with wild mushrooms, brings the raw beauty of nature to life. Beyond the bridge, in the West Garden, visitors will find the custom centerpiece of the autumn display; an ever-wise talking tree standing at the base of a countryside-inspired watermill. For more information, contact Emily Olson, MGM Resorts International, eolson@mgmresorts.com.

**Autumn Arrives at The Palazzo Las Vegas**

Autumn has arrived inside The Waterfall Atrium and Gardens of The Palazzo Las Vegas. The current seasonal display, inspired by nature, took six months to plan and fabricate by the resort’s floral and horticulture teams. Sixteen-foot-tall cattail sculptures are the main feature and were crafted out of 70 percent recycled steel. The display also features a total of 8,000 pounds of pumpkins, with the largest pumpkin weighing in at 930 pounds. The installation is an encore to the atrium’s summer display, which artfully evolved throughout the season. Nearing the end of the summer, the seasonal art installation began to show hints of autumn, both in content and color palette. The full transition into autumn was recently completed, taking a crew of 14 team members working 10 hours overnight. Guests can experience fall at The Palazzo through Nov. 16. For more information, contact Rosalind Congleton, Langdon Flynn Communications, Rosalind@langdonflynn.com.

**Big Ern's BBQ to Open Second Location at Fiesta Rancho**

Big Ern’s BBQ is set to open its second location in early October at the Fiesta Rancho in Las Vegas. The new restaurant will be located just off the casino floor, with country barn and picnic table decor mirroring that of Big Ern’s BBQ’s first location at Downtown Container Park. In addition to the original menu available at Big Ern’s BBQ’s first location, the second location will feature an expanded menu with several new side dishes, including macaroni and cheese, collard greens with smoked ham hock, fried okra, sweet potato fries, potato salad, as well as bread pudding for dessert. The new menu items will also be available at the original Container Park location. For more information, contact Aimee Stephens, Station Casinos, aimee.stephens@stationcasinos.com.

**Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Las Vegas Unveils New Center Bar**

The highly-anticipated new Center Bar is now open at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Las Vegas. Located within the heart of the resort, the bigger and better Center Bar gives off an energetic vibe with its upgraded look, new lounge area, expanded cocktail menu and spectacular panoramic views of the casino floor. The new design, made out of beautiful white spring granite and silver paneling, maintains the raised and circular form of the original Center Bar that many know and love. An LED light fixture hangs above the glowing tower bottle display and serves as the new focal point in Center Bar’s domed ceiling. It also features innovative video capabilities that allow it to stream colors that match the music videos playing on the surrounding high-definitions TVs. For more information, contact Amanda Brophy, Kirvin Doak Communications, abrophy@kirvindoak.com.

**Jabbawockeez Announce Premiere Date at MGM Grand Hotel & Casino**

World-famous dance crew Jabbawockeez announced its highly anticipated new show will debut inside the intimate, newly renovated Jabbawockeez Theater at MGM Grand Hotel & Casino Monday, Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. Jabbawockeez will mesmerize and entertain audiences with its dynamic mix of awe-inspiring choreography, pulse-pounding music, and stunning special effects in its new show at MGM Grand Las Vegas. This high-tech production will bring the audience up-close-and-personal to the group as it performs the intricate dance moves that have positioned Jabbawockeez as the world’s most influential dance crew. Voted “Best Family Show” and “Best All Ages Show” for three consecutive years, Jabbawockeez is cutting edge entertainment at its best. For more information, contact Jeff Klein, PR Plus, jeff@prpluslv.com.

**Madame Tussauds Las Vegas Unveils World's First "Hangover" Wedding Chapel**

Now available only in Las Vegas: the world's first wedding chapel inspired by "The Hangover." Jägermeister shots; Elvis as the minister; "Phil" and "Alan" as witnesses for the wedding and more are now available for daring couples looking for a raucous way to say "I do." The chapel can accommodate weddings up to 30 people. This wedding locale is now the centerpiece of the attraction's newest themed room, The Hangover Experience, based on Warner Bros. Pictures’ “The Hangover.” Before guests enter the chapel, they can meander in the notorious hotel room that includes a roaring tiger in the bathroom (surprise!) and "Phil" (played by Bradley Cooper in the films). Outside the chapel doors awaits Zach Galifianakis as “Alan,” appropriately styled in his iconic “Human Tree” T-shirt, white jeans, sneakers, and of course his famous satchel. Just for good measure, there is also an actual Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department vehicle. For more information, contact Marina Nicola, Vox Solid Communications, mnicola@wearevoxsolid.com.

**Belgium's Manneken Pis Makes a Splash at the D Las Vegas**

Brussels’ most famous troublemaker is making his mark on Las Vegas as the city’s newest headliner. Weighing in at 500 pounds with a penchant for public nudity, the new star is ready to expose himself to Downtown Las Vegas and will likely become one of its most sought-after celebrity sightings. During a unique disrobing ceremony, the D Las Vegas CEO Derek Stevens introduced the newest addition to his hotel and casino: Manneken Pis, a large-scale bronze replica of the beloved 17th century statue in Brussels, Belgium. the D has entered into a 100-year contract with Manneken Pis as the official greeter of the property, making him the longest entertainment residency in Las Vegas history. Dutch for “Little Man Pee,” Manneken Pis is a bronze statue of a young boy cheerfully “relieving” himself into a fountain’s basin. For more information, contact Kara Rutkin, Kirvin Doak Communications, krutkin@kirvindoak.com.

**Shake Shack Opens Second Location in Las Vegas**

Double the Shacks, double the fun! Shake Shack will open its second location in Las Vegas on Oct. 7 at 11 AM at Downtown Summerlin in the Dining Arroyo at 10975 Oval Park Drive. Shake Shack is a critically acclaimed, modern day “roadside” burger stand known for its 100% all-natural, antibiotic-free Angus beef burgers (no hormones added ever), griddled flat-top dogs, fresh-made frozen custard, crispy crinkle cut fries and more. A fun and lively community gathering place with widespread appeal, Shake Shack has earned a cult-like following around the world. For more information, contact Alissa Kelly, PR Plus, Alissa@prpluslv.com.

**Red Rock Resort Adds Comedy Legend Rita Rudner to New Comedy Rocks Series**

Comedy legend and longtime Las Vegas headliner Rita Rudner has been added to the newly-announced *Comedy Rocks* series at Rocks Lounge inside Red Rock Resort. Tickets for Rudner, who will perform Saturday, Oct. 17 are now on sale. For more information, contact Jeff Klein, PR Plus, jeff@prpluslv.com.