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CITY OF PALMDALE

NEWS RELEASE

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Palmdale Announces Summer Concert Series, Family Movie Nights at 'The Amp'

PALMDALE – The City of Palmdale has announced the lineup for its summer concert series and Family Movie Nights at the Palmdale Amphitheater (The Amp).

Now in its 11th year, The Amp will kick off its summer concert series on Saturday, July 11 with an appearance by soft rock legends **Air Supply**, followed by classic Latin rockers **Los Lobos** on July 18, R&B and Pop divas **En Vogue** on July 26, and duranguense stars **Montéz de Durango** on August 1.

Celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2015, **Air Supply** members Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock met on May 12, 1975, at rehearsals for “Jesus Christ Superstar” in Sydney, Australia. They became instant friends with their common love for The Beatles and, of course, singing. In 1980, “Lost in Love” became the fastest selling single in the world, leaping to the top of all of the charts and was named Song of the Year. Seven top-five singles later, Air Supply at that time had equaled The Beatles’ run of consecutive top five singles. The albums *Lost in Love*, *The One That You Love*, *Now & Forever*, and *The Greatest Hits* sold in excess of 20 million copies. The trademark sound of Russell Hitchcock’s soaring tenor voice and Graham Russell’s simple yet majestic songs created a unique sound that would forever be known as Air Supply.

Los Lobos were already East L.A. neighborhood legends, Sunset Strip regulars and a Grammy Award winning band (Best Mexican-American/Tejano Music Performance) by the time they recorded their major label debut *How Will The Wolf Survive?* in 1984. Although the album's name and title song were inspired by a National Geographic article about real life wolves in the wild, the band — David Hidalgo, Louie Perez, Cesar Rosas, Conrad Lozano and Steve Berlin — saw parallels with their struggle to gain mainstream rock success while maintaining their Mexican roots. Perez, the band's drummer, once called their powerhouse mix of rock, Tex-Mex, country, folk, R&B, blues and traditional Spanish and Mexican music “the soundtrack of the barrio.” Three decades, two more Grammys, a worldwide smash single (“La Bamba”) and thousands of rollicking performances across the globe later, Los Lobos is surviving quite well — and still jamming with the same raw intensity they had when they began in that garage in 1973.

The all-female group **En Vogue** fuses style, sophistication, sass, and sex appeal, which have resulted in over eight million albums sold and a string of red-hot R&B and pop hits including “Hold On,” “My Lovin’ (You’re Never Gonna Get It),” “Giving Him Something He Can Feel,” “Free Your Mind” and “Whatta Man,” featuring Salt-N-Pepa. Since En Vogue’s 1990 debut, the ladies, who were the brain child of production team Denzil Foster and Thomas McElroy, set a standard for female R&B and pop acts like Destiny’s Child and the Pussy Cat Dolls.

Formed in 1996, **Montéz de Durango**, led by its founder and musical director, José Luis Terrazas, comprises a group of talented musicians who, like him, had a strong desire to succeed and make a difference in the Mexican regional music genre.

One of the pioneers of the duranguense style, Montéz de Durango's sound is deeply rooted in traditional Mexican music, but it is also influenced by the members' hometown of Chicago. They have produced 21 albums including the million sellers *Dry Branch*, *Your Look*, *De Durango A Chicago*, and *Live from Chicago*. Their stunning success has imposed a style in music, dance and fashion clothing.

"Variety and excellence —that's what this year's summer concert series is all about," said Palmdale's Recreation and Culture Director Keri Smith. "We have some of the biggest names in four different styles of music to offer something for everyone. And there is nothing quite like a live music concert on an Antelope Valley summer evening at The Amp!"

Tickets go on sale Tuesday, May 12 at 7:30 am at www.cityofpalmdale.org/amp. Tickets are \$10 for all ages for general admission seating.

A limited number of VIP tickets are available for \$20, which includes express entry and seating at the front of the stage, ensuring that VIP ticket holders can arrive just before the concert and still get one of the best seats in the house. VIP seating is theater style (first-come, first-served).

VIP and individual concert tickets will also be available beginning Tuesday, May 12 at the recreation and culture office, located at 38260 10th St. East, open Monday through Thursday, 7:30 am to 6 pm. Cash, Discover®, MasterCard® and Visa® are accepted. Tickets will also be available the day of each concert beginning at 4 pm on a cash-only basis.

Gates open at 6 pm and the concerts begin at 8 pm rain or shine. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Carry-in food, beverages, coolers, alcohol and pets are not permitted. Food, beer and wine will be available for purchase.

The summer concerts are generously sponsored by American Medical Response, AV Furniture & Mattress, Antelope Valley Mall, BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, Double D Cupcakes, Hilton Garden Inn, Logix Smarter Banking, Time Warner Cable News, Valleywide Dental, Ventura Graphix and Waste Management.

Sponsorships are available for the concert series and Family Movie Nights, which offer businesses the opportunity to reach potential customers in a unique setting that allows for personal interaction for greater impact. To learn more about either series of events, please contact Sponsorship & Marketing Specialist Stella Devine-Knight at 661/267-5120 or sknight@cityofpalmdale.org.

Previous performers at The Amp have included Blake Shelton, The Beach Boys, Lonestar, The Spinners, The Four Tops, Loverboy, The Temptations, The Guess Who, America, SheDaisy, The Rascals, Styx, REO Speedwagon, Chaka Khan, The Whispers, Mercy Me, Pablo Cruise, War, Euge Groove, The Rippingtons, Jeff Golub, The Village People, Starship featuring Mickey Thomas, Pam Tillis, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Bill Medley, Blind Boys of Alabama, Sugarland, Peter Noone and Herman's Hermits, Tracy Lawrence, Josh Kelly, Blue Oyster Cult, Blood Sweat and Tears, Clay Walker, Morris Day and the Time, Fifth Harmony, Banda Machos and Phil Vassar.

Following the concert series will be the popular "Family Movie Nights," coming to The Amp on four consecutive Friday evenings beginning July 31.

The movies are: **Frozen**, Friday, July 31; **Jurassic Park**, Friday, Aug. 7; **Monster's Inc.**, Friday, Aug. 14; and **Guardians of the Galaxy**, Friday, Aug. 21.

The Academy and Grammy Award winning 2013 Disney animated film **Frozen** tells the story of the newly crowned Queen Elsa who accidentally uses her power to turn things into ice to curse her home into infinite winter. Her sister, Anna, teams up with a mountain man, his playful reindeer, and a snowman to change the weather condition. Movie attendees are invited to join in on a "Let It Snow" dance party before the movie.

Jurassic Park, directed by Stephen, was a 1993 science fiction blockbuster film. Paleontologists Alan Grant (Sam Neill) and Ellie Sattler (Laura Dern), and mathematician Ian Malcolm (Jeff Goldblum) are among a select group chosen to tour an island theme park populated by dinosaurs created from prehistoric DNA. While the park's mastermind, billionaire John Hammond (Richard Attenborough), assures everyone that the facility is safe, they find out otherwise when various ferocious predators break free and go on the hunt.

Starring the "voices" of Billy Crystal and John Goodman, **Monster's Inc.** is a 2001 computer animated comedy film centering on two monsters employed at the titular Monsters, Inc. — top scarer James P. "Sulley" Sullivan and his one-eyed partner and best friend Mike Wazowski. Monsters, Inc. employees generate their city of Monstropolis's power by targeting and scaring children, but they are themselves afraid that the children may contaminate them. When a child enters their city, Mike and Sulley have their world disrupted and must return her.

Guardians of the Galaxy, a 2014 Academy Award winning hit movie based on the Marvel Comics superhero group of the same name. Brash space adventurer Peter

Quill (Chris Pratt) finds himself the quarry of relentless bounty hunters after he steals an orb coveted by Ronan, a powerful villain. To evade Ronan (Lee Pace), Quill is forced into an uneasy truce with four disparate misfits: gun-toting Rocket Raccoon (Bradley Cooper), treelike-humanoid Groot (Vin Diesel), enigmatic Gamora (Zoe Saldana), and vengeance-driven Drax the Destroyer (Dave Bautista). But when he discovers the orb's true power and the cosmic threat it poses, Quill must rally his ragtag group to save the universe.

Tickets for Family Movie Nights are \$2, with kids 12 and under admitted free. The gates will open at 6:30 pm, and movies will start at dusk. Moviegoers are allowed to bring a picnic dinner and non-alcoholic beverages to Family Movie Nights.

Family Movie Nights are sponsored by American Medical Response, Logix Smarter Banking, Time Warner Cable News, and Valleywide Dental.

For more information on the concert series and movies, please visit www.cityofpalmdale.org/amp or call 661/267-5611.

About The Amp

The Amp at Marie Kerr Park is the Antelope Valley's premier outdoor entertainment venue, providing audiences with a blend of high-energy concert performances and community-based programming. Its convenient location, great sight lines and comfortable, grassy seating areas are complemented by Saturday evening concerts and Friday evening Family Movie Nights presented during summer months.

For many years, the City of Palmdale hosted the Starlight Concert Series on a baseball field at Marie Kerr Park, and guests would come as early as 3 am to set out their blankets and stake their spots to watch entertainers perform on a portable stage. There were often smaller events held prior to the concerts, like Family Western Days, Taste of the Valley and the Fourth Saturday Cruise. Soon, however, the concerts were bursting at the seams with guests, and it became clear that a larger venue was needed.

In 2005, after Palmdale residents voted for a bond measure to provide funds for the construction, the Palmdale Amphitheater was opened at the newly expanded Marie Kerr Park site, ushering in a new era. The new amphitheater featured amenities that were not available at the old site, such as permanent restrooms, areas for food vendors, and a green room for the entertainers.

This year, The Amp will host several events in addition to the summer concert series and movies including:

GraceFest AV

Dating back to August 2007, GraceFest AV has become the Antelope Valley's Premier Music and Message festival. GraceFest returns to the Palmdale Amphitheater in Sept. for two amazing nights of music and fellowship. Tickets and info will be available at www.gracefestav.com. For more info, please call 661/722-6112.

G-Com Benefit Concert

The third annual G-Com Concert benefitting will be held in October to benefit the Wounded Warrior. It is a family friendly event that will include food and great live music. Info: gcomservices@outlook.com.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk

Saturday, Oct. 18. Registration begins at 7 am. Walk starts at 8 am. Hundreds of walkers are expected to gather for the national crusade to raise awareness and funds to fight against breast cancer. To learn more about the American Cancer Society or how to form a team for the event, call 1/800-227-2345 or contact Marissa Toth at AntelopeValleyCAStrides@cancer.org or 951/300-1208.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall for the AV

Point Man Antelope Valley and the City of Palmdale will present the Mobile Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall for the Antelope Valley (AV Wall) on display in Nov. around the Veterans Day holiday. The public will have 24 hour a day access to the AV Wall while it is on display, and a series of events surrounding the display. For more information, please call 661/524-6408 or visit www.avwall.org.

To learn more about The Amp, please visit www.cityofpalmdale.org/amp, or call 661/267-5611.

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