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## CITY OF PALMDALE

### *NEWS RELEASE*

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#### **Legendary Motown Artists The Commodores to Perform at Summer Concert Series at The Palmdale Amphitheater**

PALMDALE – The City of Palmdale has announced that Motown legends The Commodores have been added to the lineup for its summer concert series and will take the Palmdale Amphitheater stage on Saturday, Sept 10 at 8 pm.

For three decades, The Commodores have remained a force in the music industry. They formed in 1968 the group while all the members were in college at Tuskegee Institute. After being discovered by Berry Gordy, the Commodores went on to sell over 60 million records for Motown. With hits like “Machine Gun,” “Brick House,” “Night Shift,” “Three Times a Lady,” “Just to Be Close to You,” and “Sail On”, the Commodores are proven artists.

Tickets are available at [www.palmdaleamphitheater.com](http://www.palmdaleamphitheater.com) and start at \$16. A limited number of VIP tickets are available for \$30.

Salt-N-Pepa with DJ Spinderella, who were scheduled to perform on July 9, have cancelled their appearance. Ticket holders for Salt-N-Pepa will automatically receive refunds for their purchases by June 14.

The Summer Concert Series, now in its 12th year, kicks off on Saturday, July 2 with a free “**Freedom Symphony**” concert performed by **West Coast Classical Orchestra**, followed by country star **LeAnn Rimes** on July 23, **Super Soul Saturday: A Party for the Decades** featuring **DJ Streak, Bump City and Stone Soul** on July 30 and **Get Jazzed at the Amp with The Herbie Kae & Tony Capko Band, Gina Eckstine and The Bill Fulton Band** on August 6.

The Saturday, July 2 “Freedom Symphony” concert will features songs that celebrate America performed by West Coast Classical Orchestra. Admission is free, but donations are gladly accepted to support future Independence Day celebrations at The Amp. Donations may be made at: [www.cityofpalmdale.org/Your-City-Hall/Palmdale-Community-Foundation](http://www.cityofpalmdale.org/Your-City-Hall/Palmdale-Community-Foundation) under Palmdale Amphitheater Concerts. Gates will open at 5 pm and the concert will be held from 6:30 to 8 pm. Attendees may bring outside food and non-alcoholic beverages with them, along with blankets, low back chairs and umbrella. No fireworks, alcohol, pets or EZ-ups.

Country star LeAnn Rimes takes the stage on Saturday, July 23 at 8 pm. Rimes has had 42 singles on the Billboard Hot Country Songs chart, 13 of which are Top 10 hits, and has scored numerous hit singles in her career, including “Can’t Fight the Moonlight” which went #1 in 11 countries, and “How Do I Live,” which is the second longest charting song ever on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. With more than 44 million albums sold, two Grammy® Awards, three Academy of Country Music Awards and 12 Billboard Music Awards, Rimes is also the youngest recipient ever of a Grammy® Award, and the first country recording artist to win in the “Best New Artist” category.

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Shifting gears from country to soul, the Palmdale Amphitheater will present **Super Soul Saturday: A Party for the Decades** on **Saturday, July 30** from 5 to 10 pm featuring the sounds of Motown, Funk, Disco and The King of Pop ... Michael Jackson. The line-up features **DJ Streak**, **Bump City** and **Stone Soul**.

Based out of San Francisco, and founder of the Supernatural Turntable Artists, **DJ Streak** is truly one of the greatest Scratch/Turntablist DJs recognized worldwide. Regarded as one of the fastest DJs to scratch, DJ Streak travels and performs across the globe, from spinning in Las Vegas/NYC/Los Angeles, to delighting crowds of thousands in the Mid-West, Asia and the most extravagant paradise locations.

“Booty-shaking party music” best sums up the inimitable **Bump City**. Rooted in improvisation, these all-star musicians, led by Drummer Tony Capko, have built an enthusiastic vibe on a long-standing musical tradition that dates back to the legends of funk, soul and blues. With extraordinary musicians and phenomenal vocals and harmonies, this band can throw down anything from old school to high energy — James Brown, Sly and the Family Stone, The Temptations ... to New Soul Vibes like Joss Stone, Alicia Keys and Lenny Kravitz — with flair, intensity and a stage presence that’s all their own.

**Stone Soul’s** spot-on renditions of timeless hits from legendary artists have brought them recognition as one of the best Classic Soul and Motown bands working today. Their talents have been called upon to support Stevie Wonder, The O’Jays, Diana Ross and BB King, as well as entertaining thousands at clubs, special events and

corporate parties all over Southern California and beyond.

Tickets are available at [www.palmdaleamphitheater.com](http://www.palmdaleamphitheater.com) and start at \$8. A limited number of VIP tickets are also available.

Wrapping up the concert series will be **Get Jazzed at The Amp** on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 5 to 10 pm with **The Herbie Kae & Tony Capko Band, Gina Eckstine and The Bill Fulton Band.**

Sharing the stage with the biggest names in jazz including Ric Braun, Peter White, and Jessy J and Jazz Attack, the **The Herbie Kae & Tony Capko Band** is an Antelope Valley staple. After backing major artists most of their careers, Herbie and Tony have joined forces to blend their musical talents, becoming a favorite at jazz festivals, concerts and amphitheaters. The group will showcase selections from their latest release, *Drive Time*, including traditional jazz, smooth jazz, funk and R&B in the style of artists such as Grover Washington, David Sanborn, Richard Elliott, Gerald Albright and Kenny G.

**Gina Eckstine** began singing professionally at age 7, performing in her father's nightclub act. As a child, she was inspired and guided by household guests that included Quincy Jones, Sammy Davis Jr., Sarah Vaughan, and The Four Tops. The daughter of legendary jazz singer Billy Eckstine and model/actress Carolle Drake, Gina has traveled the world opening for Count Basie, Sammy Davis, Jr. and Bill Cosby. Following an appearance on *The Tonight Show*, she developed her own nightclub act and spent a decade performing at every major hotel and casino in Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas, where she continues to perform, most recently at the Mirage. She performs a tribute to her legendary father at many Los Angeles jazz hot spots, and has recently

released a new album, *All I Have Is Yours*.

California native Bill Fulton is a pianist, composer, arranger and producer. During his career, he's written music for Warner Bros, Hanna-Barbera, Cartoon Network, Nickelodeon, and many TV shows and commercials. In 2002 he founded the **Bill Fulton Band**, which has played in many LA venues, including the prestigious Playboy Jazz Festival.

Tickets are available at [www.palmdaleamphitheater.com](http://www.palmdaleamphitheater.com) and start at \$8. A limited number of VIP tickets are also available.

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](mailto:sknight@cityofpalmdale.org).

### **Family Movie Nights**

Friday nights at The Amp are "Family Movie Nights," with four blockbusters on tap: **Tangled**, July 15; **Star Wars: The Force Awakens**, July 29; **Avengers: Age of Ultron**, Aug. 5; and **Minions**, Aug. 12.

In **Tangled**, starring the voices of Mandy Moore and Zachary Levi, when the kingdom's most wanted and charming bandit Flynn Rider hides in a mysterious tower, the last thing he expects to find in it is Rapunzel, a spirited teen with an unlikely

superpower: 70 feet of magical golden hair! Together, the unlikely duo sets off on a fantastic journey filled with surprising heroes, laughter and suspense. Rated PG.

Three decades after the defeat of the Galactic Empire, a new threat arises in **Star Wars: The Force Awakens**, starring Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher and Mark Hamill. The First Order attempts to rule the galaxy, and only a ragtag group of heroes can stop them, with the help of the Resistance. Rated PG-13.

Robert Downey, Jr., Scarlett Johansson and James Spader star in **Avengers: Age of Ultron**. When an attempt is made to jump start a dormant peacekeeping program, things go horribly wrong and it's up to Earth's mightiest heroes to stop the villainous Ultron from enacting his terrible plans. Rated PG-13.

**Minions**, starring the voices of Sandra Bullock, Jon Hamm and Steve Carell, tells the tale of super-villain Scarlet Overkill who, alongside her inventor husband Herb, hatches a plot to take over the world, with Minions recruits Stuart, Kevin and Bob. Rated PG.

Each movie will feature free kids activities from 6 to 8 pm while supplies last. Costumes, impromptu dance parties and parades are encouraged at all Family Movie Nights.

Admission is \$4. Kids 12 & under are admitted free. Gates open at 6 pm, movies begin at dusk. Food and non-alcoholic beverages in coolers are welcome at Family Movie Night events. All bags and coolers will be inspected at the gate. Alcohol and pets are not allowed. Snack vendors will be on-site for your convenience. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Children 12 years and younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

For more information on the concert series and movies, please visit [www.palmdaleamphitheater.com](http://www.palmdaleamphitheater.com) or call 661/267-5611.

The concerts and Family Movie Nights at Palmdale Amphitheater are generously sponsored by American Medical Response, AV Furniture & Mattress, Antelope Valley Mall, BJ's Restaurant Brewhouse, Hilton Garden Inn, Lancaster JetHawks, Time Warner Cable News, Valleywide Dental, Ventura Graphix and Waste Management.

### **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.

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, Air Supply, Newsboys, Peter Noone and Herman's Hermits, Tracy Lawrence, Josh Kelly, Blue Oyster Cult, Los Lobos, Montez de Durango, Blood Sweat and Tears, Clay Walker, Morris Day and the Time, Fifth Harmony, Banda Machos and Phil Vassar.

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