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*TIME TO LET YOUR FREAK FLAGS FLY AS HIPPIEFEST TOUR  
RETURNS THIS SUMMER TO CELEBRATE ONE OF GREATEST ERAS IN MUSIC*

**DANCE TO THE MUSIC  
AS THE LEGENDARY GROUP THE FAMILY STONE  
HEADLINES HIPPIEFEST TOUR 2015  
WITH RICK DERRINGER, MITCH RYDER & THE DETROIT WHEELS  
AND BADFINGER FEATURING JOEY MOLLAND**

**FORT LAUDERDALE** – To say that it will be "hot fun in the summer time" and a "family affair" would be an understatement, as the legendary group, The Family Stone, headlines **Hippiefest 2015** with Rick Derringer, Mitch Ryder & The Detroit Wheels and Badfinger featuring Joey Molland.

On the exact weekend of the historic Woodstock concert, this 3½ hour concert extravaganza highlights the best of the memorable hippie era and takes place **on August 14 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Au-Rene Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

"Flower power" returns as Hippiefest takes its seventh tour in 10 years on a psychedelic journey across the United States. If you've attended a Hippiefest show in the past decade, you know what to expect... an incredible evening full of good time, on your feet, rock and roll. If you haven't, it's time to turn on, tune in, and see what it's all about and celebrate an incredible era in music and American culture.

The Family Stone, featuring original founding members Jerry Martini, Cynthia Robinson and Greg Errico, will be performing the music of Sly & The Family Stone, including such classics as "I Wanna Take You Higher," "Everyday People," "Hot Fun in the Summertime," "Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Agin)," "Family Affair," "Everybody is a Star," "Stand!" and "Dance to the Music." The group recently welcomed Phunne Stone, daughter of Sly Stone and Cynthia Robinson, as its new female vocalist leading them into their 50th Anniversary in 2016. Powerful lead vocalist, Alex Davis, musical director and bassist Blaise Sison and lead guitarist Nate Wingfield perform with The Family Stone in Hippiefest.

The Family Stone initially hit the scene in 1966 and was the first major American rock band to have an "integrated, multi-gender" lineup. In 1993, Sly & The Family Stone were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, which would eventually cite two of their songs, "Dance to the Music" and "Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Agin)," among The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's 500 Songs that Shaped Rock and Roll. In 2001, they were awarded the R&B Foundation Pioneer Award and, in 2004, *Rolling Stone* ranked them 43rd on their list of the 100 Greatest Artists of All-Time.

It's doubtful that anyone will be sitting down when Rick Derringer breaks into his well-known rock anthem, "Rock and Roll, Hoochie Koo." Forty-plus years after its release, the song continues to be a staple on classic rock radio and was featured in several movies including *The Spirit of '76*, *Rush*, *Stag*, *What A Girl Wants* and the cult classic, *Dazed and Confused*. It's a little known fact that years before his

success as a solo artist, Derringer had a band at age 17 called The McCoys that had a #1 hit in 1965 called, "Hang on Sloopy." The song would eventually be knocked out of the top spot by The Beatles' "Yesterday." A year after the song's release, The McCoys would find themselves as the openers for the Rolling Stones American tour.

Although "Rock and Roll, Hoochie Koo" was written and recorded a few years earlier with friend Johnny Winter, it would be Derringer's solo version in 1973 that would propel him into the stratosphere of rock. In 1977, he would appear on the last Led Zeppelin North American tour. In the years to follow, he would perform with such artists as Alice Cooper ("Under My Wheels"), Steely Dan ("Show Biz Kids" and "Chained Lightning"), Todd Rundgren, Richie Havens, Edgar Winter, Johnny Winter and Weird Al Yankovic, among others. In 2011, Derringer toured as a part of Ringo Starr & His All-Starr Band just prior to embarking on that year's Hippiefest tour. In recent years, he has performed on the popular Rock'n'Blues Fest tour that has included Edgar and Johnny Winter.

The hits began for Mitch Ryder & The Detroit Wheels at the tail end of 1965, with the release of their first hit single, "Jenny Take a Ride!" In 1966, they recorded and began to perform a medley featuring Little Richard's "Jenny Jenny" and Chuck Willis' classic R&B song, "C.C. Rider." The song would quickly enter the Top Ten charts, setting the stage for what was to come that year. Mitch Ryder & The Detroit Wheels would follow up their initial hit with two more in 1966 including a rendition of the Righteous Brothers' "Little Latin Lupe Lu" and the song that would, ultimately, be their biggest hit, "Devil with a Blue Dress On/Good Golly Miss Molly." A year later, in typical Detroit fashion, Ryder and the band kept the pedal to the metal and delivered another Top Ten song called "Sock It to Me-Baby!" Shortly after his success with The Detroit Wheels, Mitch Ryder would experience a Top 40 hit as a solo artist with "What Now My Love."

At the end of 1979, Bruce Springsteen would pay tribute to the band by performing the "Detroit Medley," a selection of the band's greatest hits including "Devil with a Blue Dress On/Good Golly Miss Molly," "Jenny Take a Ride!" and "C.C. Rider" for the *No Nukes* live concert album. In 1983, Ryder released an album titled, *Never Kick a Sleeping Dog*, produced by John Cougar Mellencamp that thrust Ryder back into the spotlight with the Prince-penned song, "When You Were Mine." Ryder has recorded over two dozen albums in his illustrious career and continues to tour all over the world.

Classic rock songs such as "Come and Get It," "No Matter What," "Day After Day" and "Baby Blue," highlight the Hippiefest performance of Badfinger featuring Joey Molland. A veteran of past Hippiefests, Molland returns with the music he helped make famous. At the end of 1969, he auditioned for a band called The Iveys that would soon be renamed Badfinger. As they say, the rest is history. From 1970 to 1972, the band would experience four consecutive worldwide hits. Joey departed in 1974, quickly forming another band called Natural Gas that would go on to tour with Yes and Peter Frampton. In the years to follow, Molland would perform with various incarnations of Badfinger in addition to putting out a few solo projects.

Due to its use in the finale of the hugely popular TV show, *Breaking Bad*, "Baby Blue" has had a recent resurgence. On March 31 of this year, a song Molland wrote years ago titled, "Sweet Tuesday Morning," was released on iTunes to benefit WhyHunger ([www.whyhunger.org](http://www.whyhunger.org)), a grassroots support organization started by the late, great Harry Chapin. Recorded by Mary Ramsey (10,000 Maniacs) and a new songstress by the name of Savannah, the song features Molland on guitar and harmony vocals.

Great music and tie-dye never go out of style so bring your parents, bring your grandparents and bring your kids.

Tickets are \$19.69 to \$79.49 with LAN & TAM Airlines Club Level tickets available at \$89.50. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated

venues. Buy tickets online at [BrowardCenter.org](http://BrowardCenter.org) or, [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com); by phone at 954.462.0222 or TTD/TTY at 800.359.2525; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. We CANNOT PROVIDE REFUNDS OR CUSTOMER SERVICE for tickets purchased from unauthorized sites, brokers or secondary ticket sellers.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

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All dates, programs and artists are subject to change.

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**CALENDAR BRIEF:** The band, known today as The Family Stone, brings its infectious brand of high-energy funk to the **Broward Center for the Performing Arts on August 14 at 7:30 p.m.** for **Hippiefest 2015**, along with Rick Derringer, famous for "Rock and Roll, Hoochie Koo" and "All American Boy"; Mitch Rider & the Detroit Wheels delivering the classics "Devil with a Blue Dress" and "Sock it to Me"; and Badfinger rounding out the star-studded lineup with the hits "Baby Blue," "Day after Day" and "Without You." Tickets are \$19.69 to \$79.49 with LAN & TAM Airlines Club Level tickets available at \$89.50. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at [BrowardCenter.org](http://BrowardCenter.org) or [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com); by phone at 954.462.0222 or TTD/TTY at 800.359.2525; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

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#### About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is one of America's premier performing arts venues. Presenting more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, the Center showcases a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events, and offers one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, serving more than 150,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit [BrowardCenter.org](http://BrowardCenter.org).

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.