

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Lara Hughes • Marketing & Communications Supervisor • Media Hotline: (651) 288-4321 • Media Email: media@mnstatefair.org

Final Three Evenings of Entertainment Announced for 2018 Grandstand Concert Series

May 8, 2018

St. Paul, Minn. – The final three evenings of entertainment are confirmed for the 2018 Grandstand Concert Series sponsored by Sleep Number. Show details are as follows:

The Current's Music On-A-Stick featuring Trampled By Turtles with special guests Lord Huron and Lissie

6:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

Tickets: \$35 (general admission, plaza-level standing room only, no chairs; and reserved seating)

On sale: Noon Friday, May 11

Old Dominion with special guest Morgan Evans

7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 29

Tickets: \$48 (general admission plaza-level pit, standing room only, no chairs); \$35, \$25 (reserved seating)

On sale: 10 a.m. Friday, May 11

Hairball: A Bombastic Celebration of Arena Rock

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1

Tickets: \$15 (all general admission including plaza-level standing room only, no chairs; and plaza-level and mainstand seating)

On sale: 11 a.m. Friday, May 11

Photos: A gallery of high-resolution, downloadable Grandstand photos is available for media use at the following link:

http://gallery.mnstatefair.org/media/18_GS/index.html

Tickets will be available through Etix at etix.com or by calling (800) 514-3849. In addition, tickets may be purchased at the State Fairgrounds Ticket Office during a limited-time opening from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, May 11. For additional State Fair ticket information, call (651) 288-4427.

About Trampled By Turtles: Trampled By Turtles is from Duluth, Minn., where frontman Dave Simonett initially formed the group as a side project in 2003. He began piecing together a band, taking inspiration from bluegrass, folk and other genres. Simonett hadn't played any bluegrass music before, and he filled his lineup with other newcomers to the genre, including fiddler Ryan Young and bassist Tim Saxhaug. Along with mandolinist Erik Berry and banjo player Dave Carroll, the group began carving out a fast, frenetic sound that owed as much to rock & roll as bluegrass. Trampled By Turtles released its first record, *Songs from a Ghost Town*, in 2004. In a genre steeped in tradition, the album stood out for its contemporary sound, essentially bridging the gap between the bandmates' background in rock music and their new acoustic leanings. 2005's *Blue Sky and the Devil* and 2007's *Trouble* explored a similar sound, but it wasn't until 2008 and the band's fourth release, *Duluth*, that Trampled By Turtles received recognition by the bluegrass community. That album peaked at No. 8 on the Billboard bluegrass chart. When *Palomino* arrived in 2010, it was met with an even greater response, debuting at the top of the bluegrass chart and remaining in the Top 10 for more than a year. Two years later, the album *Stars and Satellites* landed the band at No. 32 on the Billboard 200 pop charts. Trampled's latest album, *Life Is Good On The Open Road*, was released on May 4, 2018.

About Lord Huron: Lord Huron was created by Los Angeles-based Ben Schneider. Born and raised in Michigan, Schneider drew inspiration from the Great Lakes, and after writing and recording two independent EPs (*Into the Sun* and *Mighty*) on his own, demand grew for Lord Huron to perform live. Schneider recruited friends Mark Barry (percussion), Miguel Briseño (bass) and Tom Renaud (guitar). Having first played music together at age 12, the group reunited to form a full-fledged band. The group released 2012's *Lonesome Dreams* and *Strange Trails* in 2015, which includes the Platinum hit "The Night We Met." The latest release, *Vide Noir*, is a sonically bold, bravely executed saga that pushes the band's sound in ambitious new directions. Lord Huron has toured extensively in North America and Europe, earning rave reviews and performing for sold-out crowds at some of the world's most prestigious venues.

About Lissie: Lissie grew up in Rock Island, Ill., near the Mississippi River, speaking her mind and writing songs from an early age. Her 2016 critically acclaimed album *My Wild West* – the follow-up to 2010's *Catching a Tiger* and 2013's *Back to Forever* – peaked at No. 1 on the Billboard Heatseekers chart and Top 10 on the Independent Album chart. Her most recent album, *Castles*, was released in March 2018. Written predominantly from Lissie's new home in northeast Iowa, *Castles* is a portrait of an artist

who has always been on the move and is finally creating a sense of permanency – a chance to catch her breath and reflect.

About Old Dominion: Band members of Nashville-based Old Dominion saw early success come from writing hits for country mega-stars such as Kenny Chesney, Blake Shelton, Dierks Bentley, Luke Bryan, Keith Urban and Sam Hunt. Initially, the goal of their group was to showcase the songs they had written for other acts, but in 2007, they began to catch fire on the live circuit. Their first hit as a group, “Break Up With Him,” was No. 1, went Platinum and came off their debut album, *Meat and Candy*. Other hits off that Gold album include “Snapback” and “Song For Another Time,” which hit No. 1. Old Dominion recently released its highly anticipated sophomore album, *Happy Endings*, which debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Top Country Albums Chart and No. 7 on the Top 200. Old Dominion’s current single is “Written In The Sand.” Its previous single “No Such Thing As A Broken Heart” hit No. 1 on the country charts. Opening for Kenny Chesney, Miranda Lambert and Thomas Rhett, the band has learned to put on thrilling and impressive live shows.

About Morgan Evans: Australian country music singer and songwriter Morgan Evans released his self-titled debut album in 2014, which peaked at No. 20 on the charts in Australia. In May 2017, Evans relocated to Nashville and signed with Warner Music Nashville, which led to the release of his debut U.S. single, “Kiss Somebody,” which hit No. 16 on the U.S. country charts. His most recent single, “I Do,” was written about his wife, country music star Kelsea Ballerini. That feel-good hit reached No. 4 on the Hitseekers Singles charts.

About Hairball: Hairball is a rock & roll experience you won't soon forget. Vocalists Joe, Kris and Bobby lead the band through a mind-blowing and accurate homage to some of the biggest arena acts in the world, including Van Halen, KISS, Mötley Crüe, Queen, Journey and Aerosmith. Hairball prides itself on nailing some of the most memorable licks and chops of all time, while adding its own style and flare cultivated over decades of tireless performing. The group constantly adds more characters, more pyrotechnics, more lights, more sound, more props and more surprises. Each Hairball performance is a full-on, no-holds-barred, exciting, chaotic, fiery party that has to be experienced to be believed!

The following 2018 Minnesota State Fair Grandstand shows have already been announced: Niall Horan: Flicker World Tour 2018 with special guest Maren Morris (Thursday, Aug. 23), Sugarland: Still The Same 2018 Tour with special guests Frankie Ballard and Lindsay Ell (Friday, Aug. 24), Earth, Wind & Fire with special guest Sinbad (Sunday, Aug. 26); The Beach Boys with special guest The Righteous Brothers (Monday, Aug. 27), Good Vibes with Jason Mraz and Brett Dennen (Tuesday, Aug. 28), truTV Impractical Jokers Starring The Tenderloins (Thursday, Aug. 30); 311 & The Offspring with special guest Gym Class Heroes: Never-Ending Summer Tour (Friday, Aug. 31); MSF Amateur Talent Contest Finals (Sunday, Sept. 2) and Life Tour featuring Boy George and Culture Club, The B-52s and Thompson Twins’ Tom Bailey (Monday, Sept. 3).

A Fireworks Spectacular, sponsored by Mazda, follows all Grandstand shows, weather permitting.

About the Minnesota State Fair: The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world, attracting nearly 2 million visitors annually. Showcasing Minnesota’s finest agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minnesota Get-Together is always 12 Days of Fun Ending Labor Day. Visit mnstatefair.org for more information. The 2018 Minnesota State Fair runs Aug. 23 - Labor Day, Sept. 3.

-MSF-