

# MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Two Additional Shows Announced for 2022 Grandstand Concert Series Counting Crows and REO Speedwagon & Styx

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St. Paul, Minn. – The Minnesota State Fair is pleased to announce an additional two Grandstand shows for the 2022 Grandstand Concert Series sponsored by Sleep Number. Visit [mnstatefair.org/grandstand/](http://mnstatefair.org/grandstand/) for Grandstand information. Show details are as follows:

**Counting Crows: Butter Miracle Tour with special guest The Wallflowers**

7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26

Tickets: \$51, \$41, \$34 (all reserved seating)

On sale: 11 a.m. Friday, April 22

**Live & UnZoomed 2022: REO Speedwagon & Styx with special guest Levon**

7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1

Tickets: \$51, \$41 (all reserved seating)

On sale: noon Friday, April 22

**Media Photos:** A gallery of high-resolution Grandstand photos is available for media use at: [mnstatefair.org/get-involved/media/media-gallery-grandstand-artists/](http://mnstatefair.org/get-involved/media/media-gallery-grandstand-artists/)

Tickets are available through Etix at [etix.com](http://etix.com) (use this URL for the hyperlink - [https://www.etix.com/ticket/v/8597?partner\\_id=2008](https://www.etix.com/ticket/v/8597?partner_id=2008)) or by calling 800-514-3849. For additional State Fair ticket information, call 651-288-4427. Please note that the State Fairgrounds Ticket Office will not be open for in-person sales. Currently, tickets will be sold online and by phone only.

*About Counting Crows:* Counting Crows has enchanted listeners worldwide for more than two decades with its intensely soulful and intricate take on timeless rock ‘n’ roll. Exploding onto the music scene in 1993 with the multi-platinum breakout album, “August and Everything After,” the band has gone on to release seven studio albums, selling more than 20 million records worldwide, and is revered as one of the world’s most preeminent live touring rock bands. In 2004, Counting Crows recorded the chart-topping “Accidentally in Love” for the animated motion picture “Shrek 2.” The instant success of the track earned the Counting Crows an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Song at the 2005 Academy Awards, a Golden Globe nomination for Best Original Song, and a GRAMMY® Award nomination for Best Song Written for a Motion Picture, Television or Other Visual Media. Over the last 30 years, the masterful songwriting from frontman Adam Duritz put the band at No. 8 on Billboard Magazine’s 2021 Greatest Of All Time: Adult Alternative 25th Anniversary Chart. The group released its newest record, “Butter Miracle,” featuring the hit single “Elevator Boots,” in April 2021. [countingcrows.com](http://countingcrows.com)

*About The Wallflowers:* Rock ‘n’ roll is often hard to define, or even to find, in these fractured musical times. But to paraphrase an old saying, you know it when you hear it. And you always hear it with The Wallflowers. For the past 30 years, led by founding singer, songwriter and guitarist Jakob Dylan, The Wallflowers has stood as one of rock’s most dynamic and purposeful bands – dedicated to and continually honing a sound that meshes timeless songwriting and storytelling with a hard-hitting and decidedly modern musical attack. That signature style has been present through the decades, baked into the grooves of smash hits such as 1996’s “Bringing Down the Horse,” as well as more recent and exploratory fare such as 2012’s “Glad All Over.” The band released “Exit Wounds” in July 2021, marking its first new

material in nine years. And while the wait was long, the much-anticipated record features the band's signature sound – lean, potent and eminently entrancing. True to its title, the studio album as an ode to people – individual and collective – who have, to put it mildly, been through some stuff. For Dylan, “Exit Wounds” is the next chapter in a career devoted to chasing – and capturing – rock ‘n’ roll magic. “I came up in an era of great rock ‘n’ roll bands making great music, and it’s the way I always imagined I would do it one day,” he says. “That’s always been my vision with The Wallflowers – to be a great rock ‘n’ roll band. And I’ve worked on it for 30 years now and I still have a lot to say. It’s something I started a long time ago, and it’s far from finished.” [wallflowersmusic.com](http://wallflowersmusic.com)

*About REO Speedwagon:* Formed in 1967, signed in 1971, and fronted by iconic vocalist Kevin Cronin since 1972, REO Speedwagon is a band where the main constant over the decades is a never-ending desire to give its all to its fans, year in and year out. In the 1970s, the band’s unrelenting drive and non-stop touring and recording jump-started the burgeoning rock movement in the Midwest. Platinum albums and freeform FM radio staples such as “Ridin’ the Storm Out” followed, setting the stage for its ninth studio album, 1980’s explosive “Hi Infidelity,” which spent 15 weeks at No. 1. The album has received Recording Industry Association of America®’s (RIAA) 10X Diamond Award for surpassing sales of 10 million in the U.S., fueled by massive hit singles such as “Keep On Loving You” and “Take It On the Run.” All these years later, “Hi Infidelity” still remains a high-water mark for rock bands. In all, REO has an RIAA-certified 22 million albums sold in the U.S. and 40 million around the globe, with a string of gold and platinum records and international hit singles, including “Roll with the Changes,” “Time for Me to Fly,” “Can’t Fight This Feeling,” “Back on the Road Again” and others.

In 1994, when many rock bands of their era had broken up or were feeling like their days were numbered, the REO team came up with a co-headline tour concept that breathed new life into the world of touring. The Can’t Stop Rockin’ amphitheater tour featuring Fleetwood Mac, REO and Pat Benatar was a huge success and blazed the trail for the very popular co-headline tours of today. REO has since embarked on incredibly successful tours with STYX, .38 Special, Ted Nugent, Chicago, Def Leppard and Don Felder, among others.

After an 11-year break from recording, REO Speedwagon released “Find Your Own Way Home” in 2007, marking the band’s 15th studio effort. Its 16<sup>th</sup> album, “Not So Silent Night ... Christmas with REO Speedwagon,” was released in 2009. [reospeedwagon.com](http://reospeedwagon.com)

*About Styx:* Styx draws from more than four decades of barn-burning chart hits, joyous singalongs and hard-driving deep cuts. From the progressively sweeping splendor that is “The Grand Illusion,” to the hunker-down fortitude of all that is the “Blue Collar Man,” from the majestic spiritual love for a special “Lady,” to the seething indictment of preening, primping pageantry for pageantry’s sake of “Miss America,” from an individual yearning for true connection as a “Man in the Wilderness,” to a soul-deep quest to achieve what’s at the heart of one’s personal vision in “Crystal Ball,” from the regal reach-for-the-stars bravado of “Come Sail Away,” to the grainy all-in gallop of that rugged “Renegade” who had it made, the band draws on an unlimited cache of ways to become immersed in their signature sound.

A new era of hope, survival and prosperity comes calling with the release of “Crash of the Crown,” Styx’s new “masterpiece” studio album, which was written pre-pandemic and recorded during the pandemic. The multi-platinum rockers – James “JY” Young (lead vocals, guitars), Tommy Shaw (lead vocals, guitars), Chuck Panozzo (bass, vocals), Todd Sucherman (drums, percussion), Lawrence Gowan (lead vocals, keyboards) and Ricky Phillips (bass, guitar, vocals) – released their 17th album June 18, 2021, on the band’s label, Alpha Dog 2T/UMe, as clear vinyl, black vinyl and CD on digital platforms at [styx.lnk.to/crashofthecrownPR](http://styx.lnk.to/crashofthecrownPR). They released more new music on Sept. 17, 2021 – “The Same Stardust” EP originally sold as part of Record Store Day (June 12, 2021) – is available on blue 180-gram 12-inch vinyl only and features two brand-new songs on side one (“The Same Stardust” and “Age of Entropia”); side two includes five live performances of some of Styx’s classic hits previously heard during their “Styx Fix” livestreams that have been keeping fans company during the pandemic on the band’s official YouTube page – “Mr. Roboto,” “Man In The Wilderness,” “Miss America,” “Radio Silence” and “Renegade.” “The Same Stardust” is available worldwide on all digital platforms at [styx.lnk.to/thesamestardust](http://styx.lnk.to/thesamestardust). [styxworld.com](http://styxworld.com)

*About Levon:* The cross-generational appeal of this soulful country-rock trio draws from past and present, with a harmony-driven style built around compelling lyrics and memorable melodies: music with a timeless quality. Levon

consists of three best friends: Northbrook, Ill., native Michael David Hall (guitar and lead vocals with a soaring five-octave range); Jake Singleton of Sumter, S.C. (harmonies, bass and percussion); and Camden, Tenn., native Ryan Holladay (guitar, mandolin and harmonies). A few of the trio's musical roots are suggested by its name, an homage to the talents of The Band's Levon Helm, as well as Elton John and his song "Levon." All in their 20s, Levon's members nonetheless share a collective musical passion for the 1970s and the artist-songwriter generation whose lyrics and melodies have remained relevant long after their time on the charts. Levon's influences also include a range of artists whose careers have become synonymous with stellar songwriting, musicianship and harmonies: The Eagles; Creedence Clearwater Revival; Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young; Keith Urban; Pure Prairie League; and others.

The Nashville-based band's résumé spans an ever-growing array of festival dates and opening slots for such artists as Florida Georgia Line, Lady Antebellum, Willie Nelson, Kelsea Ballerini, Alabama and many others. The band's debut album, "Levon LP," was released in 2017. *levonthemusic.com*

The following 2022 Grandstand shows have already been announced with tickets still available: Alice In Chains and Breaking Benjamin with special guests Bush (Aug. 25); Pitbull – Can't Stop Us Now Summer Tour 2022 with very special guest Iggy Azalea (Aug. 28); Jim Gaffigan: The Fun Tour (Aug. 30); Zac Brown Band: Out In The Middle Tour with special guest Robert Randolph Band (Sept. 2); and Diana Ross with special guest Naturally 7 (Sept. 3). Additional Grandstand artists will be announced periodically between now and the 2022 fair. State Fair fans and music enthusiasts are encouraged to sign up for the State Fair's e-news at [mnstatefair.org](http://mnstatefair.org) to receive concert announcements before tickets go on sale.

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

Other tickets currently on sale: Kickoff to Summer at the Fair, sponsored by Paddle North, returns May 26-30 and includes food, brews, live music, shopping and family fun at the fairgrounds. Visit [mnstatefair.org/kickoff-to-summer/](http://mnstatefair.org/kickoff-to-summer/) for more information. Pre-fair discount gate admission tickets are currently on sale for the 2022 Great Minnesota Get-Together. Visit [mnstatefair.org/tickets/admission-tickets/](http://mnstatefair.org/tickets/admission-tickets/)

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world. Showcasing Minnesota's finest agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minnesota Get-Together is 12 Days of Fun Ending Labor Day. The fair is self-supporting and has not received state government funding since 1949. The 2022 Minnesota State Fair will run Aug. 25 through Labor Day, Sept. 5. Visit [mnstatefair.org](http://mnstatefair.org) for more information.

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