



Samantha Le <samantha@venuestoday.com>

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Venues Today <linda@venuestoday.com>
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A WEEKLY PUBLICATION FROM VENUES TODAY

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Greetings Samantha,

Congratulations to our own Jessica Boudevin, who is now in corporate communications at Spectra Ticketing & Fan Engagement after managing communications at Western Fairs Association for two years in Sacramento. It's such a small industry. And now Chris Pickering, who freelances for Venues Today, is taking Jessica's job at WFA. WFA Executive Director Steve Chambers said he liked to hire people trained in communications by *Venues Today*. I had to laugh. Check out our fantastic video of the week featuring Tim Leiweke and shot by our own Jay Nguyen. [Click here to view the video.](#)



The University of Iowa's Hancher Auditorium, Iowa City. (Photo credit: Miriam Alarcon Avila)

Iowa's Hancher Auditorium Opens

By Lisa White

University of Iowa's new \$175 million performing arts center, Hancher Auditorium, opened with an hour-long dedication ceremony Sept. 9. Construction for the 191,977-square-foot building in Iowa City began in May 2013, and the building will host about 50 performances annually.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“When Rupp was first opened in 1976, Elvis Presley and Conway Twitty brought a guitar and a little bit of production equipment hung from the ceiling.” – *Bill Owen, president and CEO of the Lexington (Ky.) Center Corporation, on older, simpler times at Rupp Arena*

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Third generation of the Aguilar dynasty Leonardo and Angela Aguilar fed giraffes at the Santa Barbara Zoo Sept. 13 after donating \$5,000 with Nederlander Concerts to support the thriving giraffe exhibit. The Aguilar children will perform with their father, nine-time Grammy award-winning artist Pepe Aguilar, at the Arlington Theatre in Santa Barbara Sept. 29, presented by Nederlander Concerts.



Photo credit: Juan O’Campo

VIDEO OF THE WEEK





Lantern Light Festival Debuts in Miami

By Brad Weissberg

Lantern Light Festival is debuting at Miami-Dade County Fair Expo Center, Nov. 30-Jan. 8, produced by Pinnacle Production Group. The festival will feature over 40 lantern scenes and will also have traditional Chinese music, face painting, and authentic Chinese food.

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Minnesota State Fair Hosts Nearly 2 Million Guests

By Chris Pickering

The Minnesota State Fair, Saint Paul, saw 1,943,719 attendees during its Aug. 25-Sept. 9 run, which was a nine percent increase from 2015. The fair has been known as 'The Great Minnesota Get-Together' since the 70's. [READ MORE >>>](#)



AEG And ESL Form Longterm Alliance

By Linda Deckard

AEG and ESL are partnering on a new joint venture, announced Sept. 8, that plans to produce more esports bookings for AEG Facilities and growth of the event as a major new sports booking for venues worldwide. The first event under the new pact will be ESL One, Oct. 1-2 at Barclays Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., [READ MORE >>>](#)



Wisconsin State Fair and Sponsors Grow Together

By Chris Pickering

The 165th Wisconsin State Fair, West Allis, Aug. 4-14, saw its fourth year of over a million people attending the event. This year’s fair saw 1,015,883 attendees, less than a 2% drop from the previous year’s 1,033,053.

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Rupp Arena Makes "Quantum Step" into New Tech

By Greg Lehman

Now entering its 40th year of operation, Rupp Arena in Lexington, Ky., integrates new AV elements, a 44,000-pound center-hung video scoreboard array and more to its current \$15 million renovation efforts.

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OC Fair Officially Off The Market

By Brad Weissberg and Linda Deckard

OC Fairgrounds is not for sale. California governor Jerry Brown signed AB 1907 into law Monday officially ending years of uncertainty about the status of a 2009 plan to sell off California state-owned properties including many fairgrounds. [READ MORE >>>](#)

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Kiss Sells and Marc Anthony Has a Surprise Guest Duet

Kiss's Freedom to Rock tour brought in \$2.04 million with five shows across eastern America, while Marc Anthony fans found him singing with ex-wife Jennifer Lopez August 27th at Radio City Music Hall in New York, the first of five performances at the world-famous venue.

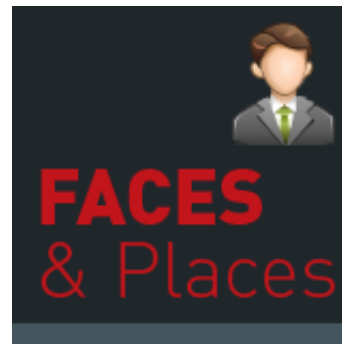
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IAVM, New York Media Festival and IFEA

IAVM Area Management Conference, Tampa (Fla.) Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Sept. 18-20, New York Media Festival, The Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York, N.Y., Sept. 26-29 and IFEA Convention & Expo, JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa, Tucson, Ariz., Sept. 27-29 round out Sept. calendar.

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Boudevin Moves To Spectra Ticketing; Sullivan Moves To Singapore

Jessica Boudevin returns to her Southern Calif. roots taking a position with Spectra Ticketing & Fan Engagement; Peter Sullivan relocates to run Singapore Sports Hub. [READ MORE >>>](#)

SHORT TAKES

Louder Than Life

The third annual Louder Than Life Festival, which celebrates the world's top bourbon, music and gourmet food, will be held at Champions Park, Louisville, Ky., Oct. 1-2. The annual destination festival celebrates the region's culture and cuisine and features award-winning bourbons, spirits and craft beer. This year, bands Slipknot and Avenged Sevenfold will be headlining together for the first time ever.

Contact: Kristine Ashton-Magnuson, (818) 996-2496

Champion Tennis At Royal Albert Hall, U.K.

Five-time Olympian Mark Foster and tennis legend Tim Henman launched this year's charity partnership between

Champions Tennis at the Royal Albert Hall and SportsAid, an organization providing financial support and recognition to the next generation of British athletes. The tournament will take place Nov. 30- Dec. 4 at Royal Albert Hall. John McEnroe, Pat Rafter, Juan Carlos Ferrero, Fabrice Santoro, Younes El Aynaoui, Mansour Bahrami and Henman will compete.

Contact: Julie Holman, (077) 100-2363-0

Vendini Hits \$2 Billion


Vendini, a San Francisco based ticketing software and services company, announced it has hit the \$2-billion mark in gross sales, only 17 months after reaching \$1 billion. It took the growing vendor 14 years to reach the first-billion milestone.

Contact: Amy Hesser, (312) 933-8324

Nets Get New Look

The Brooklyn Nets are unveiling a new look with their Brooklyn Remix uniforms, which the team will debut at its home opener on Friday, Oct. 28 vs. the Indiana Pacers at Barclays Center. The Nets will wear the alternate uniforms for an additional three home games and eight road games. Designed in collaboration with Adidas, the new look is inspired by the Nets' uniforms worn from 1984-1990.


Contact: Stuart Bryan, (718) 942-9574



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Publisher, Editor-in-chief, Linda Deckard | 714-378-5400, ext. 22 | linda@venuestoday.com
Resource Guides Manager, Rob Ocampo | 714-378-5400, ext. 27 | rob@venuestoday.com
Hot Tickets | Monique Potter | 714-378-5400, ext. 31 | hottickets@venuestoday.com
Staff Reporter, Greg Lehman | 714-378-5400, ext. 24 | greg@venuestoday.com
Staff Reporter, Brad Weissberg | 714-378-5400, ext. 28 | brad@venuestoday.com
Circulation Coordinator | Kimberly Wolfe | 714-378-5400, ext. 21 | kimberly@venuestoday.com

For advertising information, contact:

Western U.S., Northeast, Intl. | Rich DiGiacomo | 310-429-3678 | rich@venuestoday.com
Texas, Eastern U.S. | Jim McNeil | 207-699-3343 | jim@venuestoday.com
Marketing Director | Samantha Le | 714-378-5400, ext. 23 | samantha@venuestoday.com

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