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**Kansas City Attractions Unveil New Offerings for Spring and Summer Visitors
and Area Residents**

(Kansas City, Missouri) – As visitors begin planning for upcoming vacations, several members of the Greater Kansas City Attractions Association (GKCAA), are planning special events, opening special exhibits, unveiling new additions to their line-up of activities, and scheduling festivals, celebrations, and performances for visitors and locals during the summer season. GKCAA is a not-for-profit organization that provides benefits and services to more than 70 attraction and tourism-related businesses in communities near Kansas City on both the Kansas and Missouri sides of the State Line.

“As the weather warms up and summer approaches, visitors should know that the next several months are a great time to visit Kansas City and experience everything it has to offer,” said Mike Vietti, Director of Marketing, Communications and Guest Services for the National World War I Museum and Memorial, who serves as the 2018 President of the association’s volunteer-led board of directors. “Our members offer a variety of opportunities that visitors and locals alike will enjoy over the next few months.”

May

Worlds of Fun

New Nordic Chaser (coming opening day on April 21)

Guests of all ages will board mini ships that rotate speedily around a circuit to capture the imaginations and give the feeling of the open ocean. Worldsoffun.com

New Timber Wolf (coming late spring)

The park's first wooden roller coaster gets a new finale with a high-speed over-banked 70-degree turn that twists riders nearly sideways. Worldsoffun.com

Kansas City Zoo

Stingray Bay (opening May 2018)

How do you think a stingray feels? Dip your hands into a shallow pool and discover the unique texture and movement of cownose and southern stingrays. Small bamboo sharks will also be part of the new exhibit. Entrance to Stingray Bay is free with regular Zoo admission. Open early this summer at 8 a.m. daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Kansascityzoo.org

The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures

“May the 4th Be With You” Night for Grown-ups

Friday, May 4, 2018 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Come to T/m, you will! Visit your museum not so far away for an epic outer space adventure on May 4. Don your outer space garb, learn the ropes of space battling, meet your favorite characters, and graduate from an exciting experience that will qualify you to decide who shot first. This is not a trap-- visit with your friends and family 18+ to enjoy out-of-this-galaxy snacks and drinks, and to celebrate May the 4th Be With You Day. At \$5 per person and free for museum members, it is your destiny. All special events are included with museum admission.

toyandminiaturemuseum.org

Midwest Genealogy Center

Midwest Genealogy Center Family Fun Day

Saturday, May 19, 2018 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Come to the Midwest Genealogy Center to create some family memories by trying something new. Take part in our creation takeaways and exploration stations, all mixed with a little family history. Be sure to help yourself to a cold summer treat! Free admission. Register at

mymcpl.org/events

Kansas City Royals

Royals Legends: Fans know the Royals heroes by heart, so from May 19-20 when the Royals host the New York Yankees, the club will reflect, re-live greatness and honor those that have given us unforgettable moments.

Saturday, May 19 vs the New York Yankees: George Brett Pine Tar Bobblehead: The first 20,000 fans can get a special George Brett Pine Tar bobblehead, *courtesy of KCP&L*. Tickets: royals.com

Sunday, May 20 vs the New York Yankees - Jersey Giveaway: The first 15,000 fans will get a Royals legends' replica jersey, courtesy of Papa John's Pizza. Tickets: royals.com

Crown Center

Trivial Pursuit®: A 50-State Adventure

May 26 – September 3, 2018

Open Monday – Friday, 10am to 6pm; Saturday, 10am – 7pm; Sunday, 11am to 6pm. Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, 10am – 5pm.

This pretend trek across the U.S.A. features an activity for every state and the District of Columbia. Ride a mule in the Grand Canyon, celebrate New Year's Eve in Times Square, hit a home run at Fenway Park, and guide your sled dog team on the Iditarod Trail, to name just a few! More than 70 hands-on learning opportunities address key academic standards for school-age visitors and highlight our nation's geography, history, music, pastimes and iconic tourist destinations; hundreds of U.S. trivia questions at interactive game stations encourage a little friendly competition; and photomurals feature of some America's most beautiful and iconic destinations and lots of fun facts. Free. Visit crowncenter.com or call 816-274-8444.

National World War I Museum and Memorial

Images of the Great War: America Crosses the Atlantic

Now through May 13, 2018

Focusing on the final two years of the Great War with the emphasis on American involvement, Images of the Great War: America Crosses the Atlantic features works by French, British, German and American artists who attempted to capture the harsh realities of the incredibly brutal war. [Theworldwar.org](http://theworldwar.org)

Posters as Munitions

Through September 30, 2018

Soon after the outset of World War I, the poster was recognized as a means of spreading national propaganda with unlimited possibilities. Posters as Munitions, 1917 showcases the depth and breadth of the collection through a series of works on exhibition for the first time at the Museum. Posters from France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, the United States and more are featured, providing a sense of the global nature of this form of communication.

Theworldwar.org

Crucible 1918

April 3, 2018 – March 10, 2019

For the Doughboys on the Western Front, 1918 was their year. It was the crucible where the American land forces forged their fighting force. They fought alongside their main allies: the British Empire, French, Italians, Czechs and the White Russians from Cantigny to Belleau Wood to the Champagne Region, the Piave River to the Marne to St. Mihiel to the Meuse Argonne to Vladivostok. This exhibition is not an illustration or timeline of how the 1918 battles were fought, rather it focuses on individuals and their lives and deaths in the crucible of 1918.

Theworldwar.org

Memorial Day Weekend

Friday, May 25 – Monday, May 28

As the commemoration of the Centennial of World War I (2014-19) continues, the National WWI Museum and Memorial serves as a fitting place to honor and recognize the men and women who sacrificed their lives while serving their country during Memorial Day weekend. Admission to the Museum and Memorial is free for veterans and active duty military personnel, while admission for the general public is half-price all weekend (Friday-Monday, May 25-28). The Museum and Memorial offers several events during the course of the weekend for people of all ages and interests, including a free public ceremony at 10 a.m. on Memorial Day. More information at the worldwar.org/memorialday.

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

A Conversation with Mark Bittman

Wednesday, May 23, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

Mark Bittman is the author of more than 20 books, including the best-selling, award-winning *How to Cook Everything* series. Formerly a New York Times columnist and writer, he now devotes his time to cookbooks, teaching, and food-related advocacy. Bittman appears at the Kauffman Center in support of his upcoming cookbook, *How to Grill Everything: Simple Recipes for Great Flame-Cooked Food*. This event is presented in partnership with Rainy Day Books. Each admission package includes one performance ticket and one hardcover copy of *How to Grill Everything*. Tickets: \$43.50 plus applicable fees.

Ticket link: <http://tickets.kauffmancenter.org>

Sporting KC

Sunday, May 27 vs. Columbus Crew

Sporting KC Retro Night at Children's Mercy Park, featuring a variety of throwback merchandise and stadium experiences on Memorial Day Weekend. Tickets: sportingkc.com

Unicorn Theater

Hir

May 30 – June 24

Chaos reigns supreme in this hilarious reinvention of the classic American family drama. When Isaac returns home from Afghanistan to help take care of his ailing father, he discovers a household in revolt. His mother, Paige, has been liberated from an oppressive marriage, and with the help of her newly “out” transgender teen is passionately dismantling the patriarchy. But in Taylor Mac’s shocking and subversive comedy, even the most radical changes can’t always free you from the past. Tickets: unicorntheatre.org

June

Midwest Genealogy Center

Midwest Genealogy Center's 10th Anniversary Celebration

Friday, June 1 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Join the Midwest Genealogy Center as we celebrate 10 years in our current location! Enjoy refreshments and reminisce about the history of MGC. Learn about upcoming projects and programs, and listen to live acoustic music performed by The Frosty Morn Trio. Register at mymcpl.org/mgc10.

Territorial Capital Museum

Saturday, June 2 10:00 a.m.

The Lecompton Historical Society has recently received a major gift of an extensive barb wire collection belonging to the late Mr. Don McAfee. Mrs. June McAfee and the family have made the gift to the Lecompton Historical Society to be displayed at the Territorial Capital Museum. Come join us and the McAfee family in the unveiling of this wonderful exhibit. The display shown is a small portion of the complete exhibit. No admission fee is charged. Donations are appreciated. LecomptonKansas.com

Sporting KC

Sunday, June 3 vs Minnesota United FC

Local Night at Children's Mercy Park, serving as an ode to Kansas City and its communities throughout the metro area when the club faces Minnesota United FC. Tickets: sportingkc.com

The College Basketball Experience

Slam Dunk Summer

June 5 – August 19

Open daily. Information and tickets: collegebasketballexperience.com

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

National Geographic Live: Between River and Rim – Hiking the Grand Canyon

Tuesday, June 5, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

In an effort to share the Grand Canyon's uncharted glory and shed light on the myriad threats it faces, writer Kevin Fedarko and photographer/filmmaker Pete McBride set off on an audacious and demanding adventure: to transect the length of the canyon on foot. This trek is not the pair's first adventure together, but it may be the toughest. Enjoy a rare look at the Grand Canyon through their eyes, in all seasons, as few have seen it before.

Tickets: \$24 - \$60 plus applicable fees. Tickets: <http://tickets.kauffmancenter.org>

David Byrne: American Utopia Tour

Thursday, June 7, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

Best known as the singer and driving force behind the pioneering new wave band Talking Heads, David Byrne also works as a solo artist, film director, author and photographer.

Byrne's hits with Talking Heads include "Psycho Killer," "Burning Down the House" and "Once in a Lifetime." He has won accolades for a range of work, including an Academy Award for his score to the film *The Last Emperor*, and induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with the Talking Heads. Tickets: \$54 - \$194 plus applicable fees.

Tickets: <http://tickets.kauffmancenter.org>

5th Annual Future Stages Festival

Sunday June 10, 2018 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Join the celebration and experience the arts in Kansas City! The FREE one-day festival invites youth and families to experience a diverse range of performances and interactive arts activities. Future Stages Festival is a free community event that showcases youth in the performing arts and is an extension of the Kauffman Center's Open Doors Spotlight on Youth program. Featuring a variety of performing arts organizations and arts activity partners, the festival provides fun for all ages! Tickets are not required, but registrants will receive updated details regarding the performance and activity schedule in the weeks leading up to the festival. Admission is free. Information: kauffmancenter.org

Diana Krall: Turn Up The Quiet World Tour

Saturday, June 16, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

Multiple GRAMMY Award-winning jazz pianist and world-renowned singer, Diana Krall brings her *Turn Up The Quiet World Tour* to the Kauffman Center. The tour features material from Krall's stunning new album, *Turn Up the Quiet*, as well as fan favorites. Diana Krall is the only jazz singer to have eight albums debut at the top of the Billboard Jazz Albums chart. To date, her albums have garnered five GRAMMY Awards, eight JUNO Awards and have also earned nine gold, three platinum and seven multi-platinum albums. Krall's unique artistry transcends any single musical style and has made her one of the most recognizable artists of our time. Tickets: \$45 - \$185 plus applicable fees. Tickets: <http://tickets.kauffmancenter.org>

The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures

Kansas City Marble Tournament and Free Museum Admission Day

Saturday, June 9, 2018 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Experience the thrill of marble competition! Contestants ages 9-15 will play at least two games of marbles in the tournament and take home special prizes.

Each “mibster” (marble player) must submit an entry form by email, mail, or at the museum’s information desk. Space is limited to 64 mibsters; entry forms will be available starting March 1, 2018. The tournament begins at 9am.

Explore the museum with an exciting scavenger hunt, then enjoy marble activities in the galleries and marble races on the lawn. All special events are included with museum admission. toyandminiaturemuseum.org

Little Adventures

June 13 – August 11 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Little Adventures is back—with new adventures and expanded hours! With a different theme each week, discover something new in the collection with a guided tour, and then craft a toy or miniature in the hands-on workshop. Little Adventures takes place Wednesdays and Saturdays, with the exception of the first week of July, when it will be Thursday, July 5 and Saturday, July 7 due to Independence Day. Become a member to enjoy all ten weeks for free.

Recommended for ages 6 and up. All special events are included with museum admission. toyandminiaturemuseum.org

MTH Theater at Crown Center

CATS - THE MUSICAL, by Andrew Lloyd Webber. June 7-24. For tickets, visit www.mthkc.com

Musical Mondays & Tuesdays

June 25 - 26, July 30 - 31.

An evening of musical theater and cabaret starring KC's finest performers. Tickets: www.mthkc.com

Kansas City Royals

Family and Fan Traditions: During Father's Day weekend celebrations against the Houston Astros (June 15-17), the Royals will honor the unique and timeless traditions of Royals fans while celebrating those Royals players who shared the special bond of sharing a last name and also a franchise name.

Saturday, June 16 vs the Houston Astros: 50th Season Baseball Hat: Fans can pick up a special edition Royals hat featuring the 50th season logo on June 16, *courtesy of Price Chopper & Pepsi*. Tickets: royals.com

Sunday, June 17 vs the Houston Astros: BBQ Tongs: In honor of Father's Day on June 17, the first 10,000 males will receive 50th Season Royals branded barbeque tongs, *courtesy of Price Chopper*. Tickets: royals.com

National World War I Museum and Memorial

For Liberty: the American Jewish Experience in WWI

June 29 – Oct. 28, 2018

The exhibition explores how three key events of 1917—America's entry into World War I, the Bolshevik Revolution, and the issuing of the Balfour Declaration, in which Great Britain indicated support for a Jewish homeland in Palestine—brought about political, cultural, and social changes that dramatically reshaped the United States' role in the world and provoked its most stringent immigration quotas to date. Among many objects, visitors have the rare opportunity to view two original drafts of the Balfour Declaration, the Medal of Honor posthumously awarded to Jewish WWI soldier William Shemin, Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis's judicial robes, a postcard written by a young Golda Meir, a page from the original Johnson-Reed Act of 1924, and much more. theworldwar.org

Taps at the Tower

June 17-23 at sunset (approximately 8:45 p.m.)

Linking the beauty and simplicity of the Taps bugle call with the symbolism of America's official WWI memorial, the National WWI Museum and Memorial presents the fifth annual Taps at the Tower each evening at sunset (8:45 p.m.) from Sunday, June 17 – Saturday, June 23, 2018.

People are invited to come and use the grounds each evening, have a picnic, play games and enjoy the outdoors. At sunset, people will gather at the Tower (Liberty Memorial) to experience Taps being played during a brief, moving ceremony. More information at theworldwar.org/taps

Union Station

Maker Faire

Saturday and Sunday, June 23-24

Maker Faire is a gathering of fascinating, curious people who enjoy learning and who love sharing what they can do. From engineers to artists to scientists to crafters, Maker Faire is a venue for these "makers" to show hobbies, experiments, projects. We call it the Greatest Show (& Tell) on Earth - a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity, and resourcefulness. Glimpse the future and get inspired! Information and tickets: kansascity.makerfaire.com

Mesner Puppet Theater

Go, Dog. Go!

June 26-July 15 at MTH Crown Center

Big dogs, little dogs, yellow dogs, blue dogs. Dogs at work, dogs at play, dogs in hats, dogs in cars! It's an all out dog party in this colorful hilarious adaption of P.D. Eastman's beloved book. Come and unleash your inner dog! Performance tickets purchased through Central Ticket Office, 816-235-6222 or online at mesnerpuppets.org.

July

Worlds of Fun

The Harlem Globetrotters

Saturday and Sunday, July 21-22 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

During a 20-minute show performed twice each day near International Plaza, guests of all ages will be entertained by the Globetrotters ball-handling and shooting skills, crowd interaction, and unique brand of comedy. The Globetrotters shows are included with Worlds of Fun admission. Tickets: Worldsoffun.com

Sporting KC

Saturday, July 7 vs Toronto FC

Fourth of July Fireworks at Children's Mercy Park, taking place at the end of Sporting KC's match against defending MLS Cup champion Toronto FC. Tickets: sportingkc.com

Kansas City Royals

Giveaways & Entertainment: From T-Shirt Tuesdays and Summer Fireworks to Bobbleheads and Buck Nights, giveaways, special events and entertainment make baseball unique. While the Royals are on the field against the Minnesota Twins (July 21-22), the club will celebrate the fun things that surround the game we love while also paying tribute to the two All-Star games Kansas City has hosted over the last 50 seasons.

Sunday, July 22 vs Minnesota Twins: 50th Season Coffee Mug: The first 10,000 fans will have the opportunity to pick up a powder blue mug *courtesy of Subway*. Tickets: royals.com

August

MTH Theater at Crown Center

THE PRODUCERS, by Mel Brooks

August 9-26.

For tickets, visit www.mthkc.com

Kansas City Royals

World Series Champions: From “No outs to go!” to “It’s over, they’ve done it!” 1985 and 2015 will be forever cherished in Royals history. These two historic championship teams will be celebrated August 11 and 12 when the club hosts the Cardinals.

Saturday, August 11 vs St. Louis Cardinals: Replica 1985 World Series Trophy: The first 15,000 fans will get a replica 1985 World Series trophy. Tickets: royals.com

Sunday, August 12 vs St. Louis Cardinals: Replica Champions Gold Threads Jersey: The first 15,000 fans will receive a replica “Gold Threads” jersey commemorating the unique look worn on-field following the Royals 2015 World Championship season, *courtesy of FOX Sports Kansas City*. Tickets: royals.com

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

A Paranormal Evening with Alice Cooper

Monday, August 6, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

Alice Cooper topped album sales charts worldwide with his 2017 album, *Paranormal*. Cooper is known for pioneering a grandly theatrical brand of rock. Known as the architect of shock rock, Cooper – in both the original Alice Cooper band and as a solo artist – has rattled the cages and undermined the authority of generations of guardians of the status quo. After the band’s 1972 Top 10 track “School’s Out,” Cooper’s solo career skyrocketed in the late 1970s with a succession of hit singles, including the ballad “You and Me.” Join Alice Cooper for a paranormal evening that includes the dark and horror-themed theatrics he’s known for.

Tickets: \$49 - \$109 plus applicable fees. Tickets: <http://tickets.kauffmancenter.org>

Happy Together Tour 2018

Sunday, August 19, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

Relive the countless solid gold hits of the 1960s and 1970s with the Happy Together Tour. The tour crosses the country for its ninth consecutive year this summer, featuring six headline artists who delivered the biggest hits of the era: The Turtles, Chuck Negron (formerly of Three Dog Night), Gary Puckett & The Union Gap, The Association, Mark Lindsay (former lead singer of Paul Revere & The Raiders), and The Cowsills. This all-star ensemble brings classic tunes to the stage, including "Happy Together," "Joy To The World" and "Never My Love."

Tickets: \$49 - \$89 plus applicable fees. Tickets: <http://tickets.kauffmancenter.org>

The National Toy and Miniature Museum

Farewell to Summer Free Day: Time Travel

Saturday, August 18, 2018 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Say goodbye to summer with free admission at T/m. Explore the galleries with a brand new time-traveling scavenger hunt adventure, and visit a craft workshop to make a take-home treasure. All special events are included with museum admission.

toyandminiaturemuseum.org

Sporting KC

Saturday, August 25 vs Minnesota United FC

Sporting Salutes at Children's Mercy Park, serving as an immersive military appreciation night for servicemen and servicewomen throughout the United States. Tickets: sportingkc.com

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