

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 21, 2017

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Kansas City Attractions Offer Summer Deals and New Experiences This Summer

(Kansas City, Missouri) – Several members of the Greater Kansas City Attractions Association (GKCAA), a not-for-profit organization that provides benefits and services to more than 70 attraction and tourism-related businesses in both Kansas and Missouri, are opening special exhibits or providing musical performances for visitors and locals during the summer season.

“Summer is a great time to visit Kansas City and experience everything it has to offer,” said Mike Vietti, Director of Marketing for the National World War I Museum and Memorial who serves as the 2017 President of the association’s volunteer-led board of directors. “Our attractions offer a variety of opportunities that visitors and locals alike will enjoy.”

The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art will open two exhibits during the month of June.

June 8– September 17, 2017: "Magnetic Fields: Expanding American Abstraction, 1960s to Today" introduces the work of more than twenty exceptional artists in conversation with one another for the first time.

June 16, 2017 – January 28, 2018: “Women to Watch | Metals” The museum will host this exhibition in cooperation with the Kansas City Chapter of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) which will feature works by five artists who explore metal as a medium.

Historic LeCompton Territorial Capital Museum

Now - October 14: "Lecompton and World War One" exhibit. See how the Great War affected this small Kansas community.

August 13: The LeCompton Reenactors will perform “Bleeding Kansas” at 1 p.m.

Audience participation is encouraged during this "Town Hall" meeting involving historical characters from the tumultuous Kansas Territorial time period. The event will take place at the Territorial Capital Museum in Lecompton, 640 E. Woodson and donations are requested. Visitors may tour Constitution Hall following the play and enjoy Lecompton's shops and restaurants.

For more information, visit lecomptonkansas.com.

Kansas City Zoo

Themed after the popular children’s book *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, The Kansas City Zoo has opened this brand new exhibit that adds a 5,000-square-foot playground for goats located just across the path from the children’s playground and next to the Discovery Barn. Two eight-foot-tall bridges connect two play yards, allowing the goats to clamber across the bridges above and at eye level with visitors. Wooden decks allow visitors the opportunity to immerse

themselves in the goats’ world. There is also a deck for the goats that extends into the visitors area, so “kids” can see each other eye to eye. Hand operated feeders will be

filled with morsels of goat food that will make any visitor a friend for life. The exhibit is included with zoo admission. Clay and Jackson County residents receive reduced zoo admission with proof of address. Tickets must be purchased on site. www.kansascityzoo.org

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts will host several touring artists for concerts in the Kauffman Center Presents series in summer 2017.

July 26: Mary Chapin Carpenter with special guest Sarah Jarosz

August 12: Herbie Hancock

September 5: YES featuring Jon Anderson, Trevor Rabin, and Rick Wakeman

For ticket information and to learn more, visit kauffmancenter.org

June 25: The 4th annual Future Stages Festival will take place from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 25. This free, family-friendly community event will feature more than 700 area performers, activities for the whole family, and more. RSVP for free at kauffmancenter.org/futurestages.

The Legends Outlets Kansas City will present its free outdoor concert series,

Legends Live, on Saturday evenings this summer featuring music ranging from pop, classic rock, and rock alternative to rhythm and blues, country, and more. Legends Live will feature live performances by local and regional talent through August 5 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Courtyard Fountain 1843 Village West Parkway, Kansas City, KS 66111. For more information, visit legendsshopping.com.

The concert series will conclude on August 5 with one of KC's

favorite family performers following the Legends Outlets' Back-to-School Bash and YMCA Healthy Kids Day featuring numerous activities, prize giveaways and back-to-school savings offers.

June 24: Run With It (Powerhouse trio built on a foundation of funk playing pop-rock hits from the '80s to now)

July 1: The Zeros (Kansas City's premier '80s tribute band playing new wave hit songs)

July 8: Rusty Laffoon (Soulful country band with high energy and strong vocals covering favorite country rock hits)

July 15: Perpetual Change (Rock band playing hits from the '80s, '90s and '00s, as well as a few original songs)

July 22: Rattle and Hum (Kansas City's premier U2 tribute band covering hits from the '80s to current)

July 29: Big Time Grain Company (Kansas City's premier country western and country rock band performing crowd favorites from many artists)

August 5: Mr. Stinky Feet & The Hiccups (family night - popular children's music)

In addition, the Legends are offering these special opportunities to all shoppers.

- VIP Club: Become a Legends VIP Club member and receive VIP Rewards worth more than \$500 in savings, plus be among the first to know about your favorite brands, upcoming events and in-store promotions. VIP Reward offers are available electronically and/or as a printed brochure. Register at LegendsShopping.com or stop by the Legends Outlets Customer Service Office. Guests visiting from out of state may show an ID or AAA Card to receive a copy of the VIP Rewards brochure without

registering as a VIP Club member.

- Hot Deals: Visit LegendsShopping.com for the latest in-store "Hot Deals" available from Legends Outlets stores, restaurants, hotels and entertainment venues. Visit legendsshopping.com/hot-deals for updated information.
- Military Discounts: More than 65 Legends Outlets merchants offer in-store savings for service members and their families. For a complete list of military discounts, visit the military discounts listing at legendsshopping.com/hot-deals.

MTH Theater – Crown Center will present three different shows sure to please a variety of musical tastes.

Now – June 25: *The Who's Tommy* - This

five-time Tony Award-winning musical based on the iconic 1969 rock concept album, *The Who's Tommy* is an exhilarating story of hope, healing and the human spirit. The story of the pinball-playing, deaf, dumb and blind boy who triumphs over his adversities has inspired, amazed and puzzled audiences for more than 40 years.

June 26 – 27: *Musical Monday & Tuesday, Too* - Celebrating musicals

nominated for Tony Awards in 2017, This show will provide an evening of live musical

theater and cabaret starring Kansas City's finest performers and musicians and celebrating musicals nominated for 2017 Tony Awards.

August 10-27: *An Evening with George Gershwin* is an original revue about the life and music of one of the 20th Century's most significant composers, written and hosted by George Harter. The show includes some of Gershwin's most popular songs including "Summertime", "Porgy and Bess", and "An American in Paris."

MTH Theater is presenting a special discount of \$4 off each ticket on opening weekend when mentioning "Opening Weekend Special" at time of purchase. Excludes Musical Monday/Tuesdays. For more information visit musicaltheaterheritage.com

The National World War I Museum and Memorial currently features four special exhibitions as well as a host of programs each month. Highlights include:

Posters as Munitions, 1917 – Soon after the outset of WWI, the poster, previously the successful medium of commercial advertising, was recognized as a means of spreading national propaganda with unlimited possibilities. The exhibition showcases the depth and breadth of the collection through a series of works on exhibition for the first time at the Museum.

Vive l'Amérique! French Children Welcome Their American Ally - When the U.S. entered WWI in April 1917, a school teacher in the Montmartre district of Paris asked his students to write essays and express in drawings how this would affect their lives. A century later, the Le Vieux Montmartre Historical Society loans 30 of these drawings and two essays on this subject for a special exhibition at the Museum.

Fields of Battle, Lands of Peace: The Doughboys, 1917-1918 – Michael St Maur Sheil's portraits of WWI battlefields are featured in an outdoor photographic exhibition which tells of the healed scars of the First World War through our only remaining living witness: the fields of battle

themselves. Once places of devastating violence, we now see landscapes of great beauty, testament to peace and remembrance.

Revolutions! 1917 – The exhibition showcases the incredible events that occurred worldwide from America’s official entry into the war and Russia’s upheavals from an Imperial state to Bolshevik rule. The stalemated battles on the Western Front and in other theaters and troubles on the home fronts also led to societal changes, mutinies and revolts. Provided on loan from the National Archives, President Woodrow Wilson’s original War Proclamation is on exhibit to the public for the first time in more than 50 years.

Town Center Plaza in Leawood, Kansas is holding a special Free Family Concert Series this summer. On the evening of each show, the fun begins at 6:00 p.m. with music beginning at 7:00 p.m. Concerts are held outdoors in the north parking lot of Town Center Plaza and will include inflatables, face painting and other activities, plus food and beverage available for purchase courtesy of Hereford House to benefit Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Concert goers are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets, but not coolers. For more information, visit towncenterplaza.com.

June 22: 10,000 Maniacs with Katy Guillen & The Girls

June 29: Better Than Ezra with School of Rock

The Greater Kansas City Attractions Association, founded more than 20 years ago, includes members from many of the region’s top attractions, ranging from sports teams including the Kansas City Royals and Sporting KC, museums like The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, and National Museum of Toys and Miniatures to arts organizations including Starlight Theatre, Kansas City Ballet, and Theater League, theme parks like Worlds of Fun/Oceans of Fun, plus historic sites, major retail centers, and outdoor experiences.

About the Greater Kansas City Attractions Association

The GKCAA is a not-for-profit member organization dedicated to enhancing the success of member attractions through the strategic initiatives of collective marketing, membership services, networking and educational programs, advocacy as a collective voice, and providing opportunities to connect with local businesses interested in supporting the Greater Kansas City area's tourism industry. For a complete list of members and to learn more, visit attractionskc.org or facebook.com/AttractionsKC.